

## Letters

### Cobb abroad

Dear Comrades,

We are a German weekly newsagency, something like Liberation News Service is in the States. I'm sending you this letter because we printed one of Ron Cobb's cartoons on nuclear power plants without asking for your permission.

Nuclear power plants have been a public issue in Germany for 2 years now, ever since hundreds of wine-farmers occupied the grounds of a future nuclear power plant in 1974. We've been running articles on the subject for 2½ years almost weekly. The issue will heat up in the next couple of months, because of a new plants to be built. Many more initiatives against them are being started all over Germany.

We've just had a second meeting of all the independent German papers (most of which have just started and are very small) and we agreed to work together, so that each month a common subject will be covered by every paper on a regional and national basis. The first go at this will be in December, and the subject will be nuclear power plants.

Judging from this, I assume that Ron's cartoon, as well as others, older ones, will appear all over Germany.

Solidarity,  
Georg for the  
ID-collective

Editor's Note: Our German colleagues have a good idea in uniting the resources of what they call "independent" papers. If the alternative publications here in the U.S. adopted this gangbuster approach, our potential power could be tremendous.

### Wholey Mackerel

Dear Editor,

Perhaps the most important problem for mankind today is the maintenance of health: how to stay well throughout a reasonably long life, without ending it in pain, in a hospital.

There are two paths humanity can take. One is the broad and "easy" path of *materia medica*, with its drugs and surgery, in the vain belief that these will keep and make one well, in the vain belief that one can abuse the body with all kinds of bad habits, and yet

go scot free, regaining health with pills, drugs, injections and surgery.

The other path is the narrow one, and fewer find and take it. It is *caring* for the body through a wise use of the "seven essentials"—fresh air, good food, pure water, sunshine, exercise, rest, and peace of mind. It is *not putting* into the body what was never intended to enter it—alcohol, tobacco, food with chemicals, drugs, polluted air, impure water, tension, hatred, emotional disturbances and unbalance. True, in modern city life, all these elements are not easy to avoid, nor their opposites easy to attain or find—such as pure air. There are so many adverse conditions in the world today that good health is no easy attainment. However, every attempt must be made to live as simple a life as possible, abusing the body as little as possible.

Today the big story is the SWINE FLU IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM, being operated by the U.S. government. Millions are going down this broad, (easy?) path, believing the government that there is a danger of a swine flu epidemic, believing the government that the publicly dispensed vaccine will save America from such an epidemic, believing the government that the vaccine is safe and effective.

We do not have the space here to tell you all the facts. Come to the FALL FESTIVAL OF HEALTH—HEALING THE WHOLE PERSON, two full days—Nov. 12 and 13—at the Congress Hall, 906 Francisco Street, downtown Los Angeles. Ida Honorof, who will speak on "Is Inoculation Really Prevention?" (Saturday at 3:15 p.m.) Modest donation. For further information, call H-E-A-L, 392-7953 or 390-S104, or write P.O. Box 5688, Santa Monica, CA 90405, for a brochure. Blanche A. Leonard  
Southern Cal Vegetarians



## SPECIAL GIFT OFFER

Bah! Humbug! It's that time of year again! Christmas! Next thing you know, people are going to be foisting all kinds of junk on you that you don't need.

But at least you don't have to cave in and give them junk in return. You can give them something that will benefit them all year long...

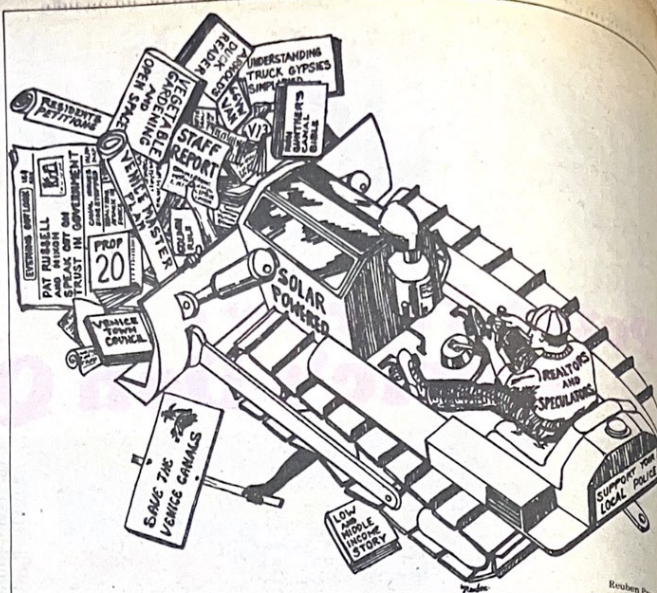
...You don't really need to hear the rest of this song and dance. It's in every periodical around this time of year. But who wants just any periodical?

You've been reading the LOS ANGELES VANGUARD, and by now, you know it's...well, if not a cut above the rest, at least an entirely different cut.

This Christmas, Chanukah, solstice, or whatever, you can send someone you love (yourself included) a one-year subscription to the L.A. VANGUARD for the bargain rate of \$5. (Regularly \$6.) So...Seize the time!

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## Don't Watch What We Say

### Surprise?

### Men still get more

ZNS—Men are still collecting fatter paychecks than most women.

This is the word from the U.S. government's commerce department, which reported that families headed by males had a median income of \$13,347 this year, compared with female-headed households, whose salaries averaged about \$6,500 each.

One out of 10 women workers heads a family in the United States, the commerce department states. Despite this, the department reports, "The average woman worker earns less than three-fifths of what a man does, when both work full-time year round."

### Porno: try it, you need it

ZNS—Two Purdue University psychologists are reporting that pornography has the greatest influence on the very people who are most likely to ban it.

Doctors William Fisher and Donn Byrne report they gave a battery of tests to 31 married couples, and then showed them a 10-minute flick depicting a man and woman making love.

Fisher and Byrne state that those couples who reacted most negatively to sex—that is, had reported fear, guilt and religious taboos against sex in their upbringing—were the ones who increased their sexual activity after seeing the film.

The two doctors report that the liberal couples, who considered sex very important in their lives, were apparently not even influenced by the movies.

Fisher and Byrne conclude that those who have negative attitudes toward sex are afraid of pornography because they are most likely to channel their feelings—after seeing a blue movie—into action.

### L.A.'s elderly: bodies for sale

ZNS—An investigator for the Los Angeles District Attorney's office is reporting that nursing homes in the L.A. area are engaging in the buying and selling of elderly patients to fill their extra bed spaces.

According to Jeffrey Castner, a criminal investigator, nursing homes lose money from medical

and Medicaid payments they have empty beds. As a result, some pay "bounty hunters" to find patients.

Castner's investigation reportedly led to the uncovering of a ring dealing in elderly patients. One member of the ring, posing as a representative of a local alcohol rehabilitation program to the Los Angeles courts, reportedly had some elderly alcoholics released from him for treatment. Then, according to Castner, the turned around and sold many of the elderly people to a chain of nursing homes for \$125 a head.

Attorneys representing the elderly victims state when their clients asked to leave the nursing homes, they were given a powerful psychiatric tranquilizing drug and were often beaten and locked up to prevent them from leaving.

As a result of this case, the district attorney's office in Los Angeles has established a "nursing home abuse squad" to investigate forced drug use, and the buying and selling of patients in Southern California.

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Jim Horwitz, Dave Lindorff, Ron Ridenour, Dorothy Thompson, Tom Thompson; Jim Horwitz, associate publisher.



Continued from cover)  
 "as PT&T had claimed  
 the practice was first  
 revealed. He confessed that  
 primary users of the  
 were "investigative  
 agencies."

Indeed, when police groups  
 learned that the state was being asked by  
 the P.U.C. to write new regula-  
 tions limiting the availability  
 of unlisted information (there  
 are no rules at all now), they  
 were people in from all over  
 the state at taxpayer expense to  
 get each police spokesperson,  
 prepared statement, said  
 the primary need for the access  
 was "speed investigations."  
 The one mentioned emergency  
 cases. In fact, after the state  
 had publicity, PT&T claimed  
 to have reduced its "access"  
 from 105 agencies to "14  
 of agencies." All those  
 were police investiga-  
 tions. The crisis centers  
 were other genuine emergency  
 units. The bombshell testimony at  
 the hearings came at the end of  
 the third day from a surprise

June Ishikawa is a middle-  
 aged woman who calls herself,  
 on advice of PT&T's battery of  
 legal counsel, a "staff clerk."  
 In practice though, she said  
 she is one of the 12 women  
 in the Los Angeles PT&T Secur-  
 ity Office who spend all day  
 "listening" to the police and others  
 "listing."

Ishikawa was called to the  
 stand because her name had  
 appeared in the first Vanguard  
 story about the security depart-  
 ment's unlisted numbers  
 operation.

She began her testimony  
 stating flatly, "We do not  
 give out credit information."

But the questioning con-  
 tinued, and under oath she  
 admitted, not to giving out  
 credit information, "but to the  
 specific items, which together  
 might appropriately be called  
 credit information. Not only  
 that, she also confessed that  
 the security office was pro-  
 viding police and other agen-  
 cies with another kind of data—  
 records of toll calls.

This was a particularly  
 damaging admission. The  
 whole hearing room was  
 shocked following her surprise  
 statement. Data about toll  
 calls, provided without sub-  
 poena, means that any investi-  
 gator on a "fishing expedition"  
 can discover any and everyone  
 who have talked to outside of  
 your local calling area!

In fact such permissive  
 practices by PT&T, a major  
 subsidiary of the national Bell  
 Telephone system and its  
 parent corporation AT&T

## Wanna sue?

CAUSE, which filed the com-  
 plaint against PT&T for its  
 abuse of unlisted phone  
 numbers with the P.U.C., is  
 seeking persons who know the  
 phone company released un-  
 listed information about them,  
 or gave out credit information  
 or toll call records to outside  
 agencies or individuals. If  
 you happened to you or to  
 someone you know, come for-  
 ward. CAUSE and its attorneys  
 hope to prepare a damage suit  
 against PT&T and/or General  
 Telephone and Electronics  
 which could be played out in  
 the courts instead of a Public  
 Utilities Commission hearing  
 room. Call CAUSE at 383-9863.

## Phone Co. releases credit records

# Ma Bell is now Big Brother

(American Telephone and Tele-  
 graph), could be in violation of  
 Federal Communications Com-  
 mission regulations, the 1972  
 Credit Act, and the Privacy Act,  
 not to mention any state  
 statutes.

You may wonder what dif-  
 ference it would make if police  
 had to simply obtain subpoenas  
 to get the information. In terms  
 of the police, it would have  
 minimal impact (though pre-  
 sumably the courts would at  
 least ask that some evidence  
 of "probable cause" be pro-  
 vided first that a crime was or  
 would be committed). The  
 major effect would be on access  
 to this information by non-  
 police agencies, such as private  
 investigators, Interpol, and  
 credit bureaus.

Numerous unnamed sources  
 have told the L.A. Vanguard  
 that these kinds of outfits can  
 get information from the phone  
 company indirectly by culti-  
 vating personal contacts in  
 agencies with access. For  
 instance, investigators in the  
 Venereal Disease program,  
 which was cut off from the  
 access list in July as a result  
 of the publicity, now get the  
 information through the L.A.  
 County Sheriff's Office via low-  
 level contacts between in-  
 vestigators in both depart-  
 ments.

Ishikawa's testimony came  
 just in time. P.U.C. hearing  
 examiner Phillip E. Blecher  
 had just scolded CAUSE at-  
 torney Jonathan Greenspan for

**"Any investigator can discover any and  
 everyone you have talked  
 to outside your local calling area!"**

asking what Blecher considered  
 to be irrelevant questions—  
 questions which in fact were  
 designed to set up Ishikawa for  
 the tough ones later on. And  
 Blecher had been yawning  
 nearly all day.

Throughout the hearing, it  
 was clear that the P.U.C.,  
 which in theory is supposed to  
 be a watchdog over the phone  
 company as well as the other  
 utilities, was dragging its  
 feet. P.U.C. staff and attorneys  
 appeared content to let the L.A.  
 Vanguard, CAUSE, and its  
 volunteer attorneys, Green-  
 span and Scott J. Tepper, do all  
 the investigative work. But  
 Ishikawa's testimony was  
 something no one could ignore.

Blecher sat up immediately  
 when she spilled the beans.  
 Scarcely 15 minutes later, at  
 5 p.m., he said, "It is obvious  
 that we are going to need more  
 time." He set a new date,  
 December 1 through 3, for  
 further hearings. "We will  
 begin on December 1 with more  
 testimony from June Ishi-  
 kawa," he said.

"That's the way they oper-  
 ate," said CAUSE co-ordina-  
 tor Tim Brick after the hearing  
 ended for the day. "They don't  
 really want to go after the  
 phone company. The P.U.C.'s  
 job is to keep things quiet."

The significance of Ishi-  
 kawa's testimony was not lost on  
 CAUSE attorney Tepper. While  
 she was talking, he leaned  
 over and sketched something  
 on a piece of legal paper. It  
 was a picture of a smoking  
 gun with the words "Testimony



Ira Mansfield, who heads up PT&T's California Security Office, may have committed perjury in his testimony before the public Utilities Commission last week when he said the phone company does not give out credit information.

of June Ishikawa" engraved on  
 it. Tepper held the picture  
 aloft and showed it to the  
 audience behind him—an audi-  
 ence composed mostly of  
 PT&T officials, with a sprink-  
 ling of police agents and  
 representatives of neighbor-  
 ing General Telephone, the  
 nation's largest "independent"

have to keep on wondering,  
 at least for now.

Although the phone company  
 keeps records of what it calls  
 its "interface" with "public  
 safety agencies," it does not  
 voluntarily inform its subscrib-  
 ers when one of these organi-  
 zations requests or receives  
 personal information. Mans-  
 field testified that it was  
 company policy to notify a  
 customer only if the customer  
 asks first, but he added,  
 "unless the agency specifically  
 requests us not to inform the  
 customer."

In other words, it is highly  
 unlikely that you will ever know  
 if your name, address, unlisted  
 phone number, credit informa-

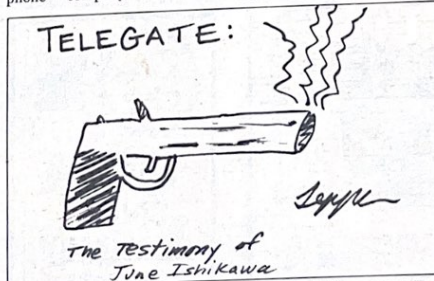
(L.A., San Diego, Sacramento,  
 San Francisco and San Jose)  
 are providing the infor-  
 mation, and that while "about  
 30" people were giving out  
 the numbers by phone, "they  
 also have other responsi-  
 bilities, so there are only the  
 equivalent of six full-time  
 people engaged in that  
 activity."

Ishikawa, one of these  
 allegedly fragmented many-  
 hatted persons, contradicted  
 Mansfield. She said her sole  
 responsibility was providing  
 the unlisted and credit infor-  
 mation, 40 hours per week, along  
 with 11 other women in the L.A.  
 office alone.

tion or toll call records were  
 given out.

Irv Sarnoff, once chairman of  
 the Los Angeles anti-Vietnam  
 War Peace Action Council,  
 and possessor of a so-called  
 "unlisted number," testified  
 that he had written William  
 Bowran, head of PT&T's L.A.  
 security office, asking which  
 agencies had requested and  
 received his unlisted infor-  
 mation.

"The first time I wrote, they  
 sent me the list of agencies  
 eligible to get the numbers,"  
 he said. "When I wrote  
 again, by certified mail, to  
 ask for specifics, I got the  
 return receipt signed by Bow-  
 ran, but no answer." Probably  
 whatever agencies had asked,  
 also asked that Sarnoff not be  
 notified.



As phone company security office employee June Ishikawa confessed that she and other "listing agents" routinely gave credit information and toll call records to police and other organizations, CAUSE attorney Scott Tepper penned this sketch at the attorney's table in the P.U.C. hearing room.

who had been smiling smugly  
 through most of the three  
 day proceeding. They were  
 no longer smiling.

You may be wondering now  
 whether your unlisted number  
 or address has been requested  
 by any agencies, or whether  
 your credit or toll call history  
 has found its way into unsavory  
 hands. Unfortunately, you'll

It wouldn't be the first time  
 Mansfield tried to be mis-  
 leading. He has also claimed  
 under oath that "only six  
 girls" statewide were employed  
 to give out the unlisted infor-  
 mation.

Under pressure from Tepper,  
 Mansfield corrected himself.  
 He acknowledged that there are  
 five central security offices

After the hearing, attorney  
 Tepper noted that the state  
 statutes provide for a maxi-  
 mum \$500,000 fine for provid-  
 ing perjurious information to a  
 government agency, "and  
 there is the possibility perjury  
 was committed because of  
 PT&T's written submission to  
 the P.U.C. made prior to the  
 hearing, which claimed that  
 unlisted information was only  
 given out to agencies after  
 receipt of written requests for  
 the information."

Under cross-examination by  
 Tepper, Mansfield admitted  
 under oath that the policy  
 PT&T claimed it followed to  
 the commission in its written  
 submission was not PT&T's  
 real policy. In his testimony  
 he admitted that in practice  
 the vast majority of requests  
 came in over the phone.

PT&T and General Tele-  
 phone in California were not  
 the only phone systems in-  
 volved in the unlisted infor-  
 mation racket disclosed last May,  
 and it can be safely assumed  
 that all Bell System subsidiaries  
 nationwide (as well as all the  
 smaller phone companies) are  
 doing their utmost to assist  
 the national police network  
 with credit and toll call infor-  
 mation too.

A PT&T operations manual  
 presented as evidence at last  
 week's PUC hearing carefully  
 explained to local security  
 office agents how to efficiently  
 handle requests for unlisted  
 information received from the  
 Bell subsidiary in Washington  
 D.C. And as John Whitman,  
 assistant director of security  
 operations for the New York  
 Telephone Company in Man-  
 hattan, said, "It is the policy  
 of all subsidiaries of the Bell  
 System to give out unlisted  
 information to approved  
 government agencies."



## FIGHT BACK

# Worker Control: Who needs the boss

Mary Lou Johnson

Recently I was at a party and wound up in a heavy political discussion in the kitchen. People kept coming into the kitchen to replenish their drinks, which involved the use of a very sophisticated refrigerator with one of those doors which service you with ice water, crushed ice, etc. from outside the door. You know the kind. You push your glass against a lever and, like magic, your glass is filled. Someone remarked, "There's a little man in there shoveling out that ice!" To which some-

one replied, "How do you know it's not a woman?" To which I replied, "Man or woman, it's only got twelve minutes to live!" because that is the rate at which a worker dies from an accident or industrial connected disease in this country.

There was a moment of shocked silence as the realization that our kitchen appliances, automobiles, clothing, furnishings, and all those things that comprise the everyday life of a consumer in our affluent society are provided at the expense of the health and safety of the worker.

At that moment, we were all struck with the invisibility of the worker in our society. About the only time the worker enters our consciousness is when there is a strike. The ensuing reaction is generally resentful of the demand for higher wages which will be passed on to the consumer in higher prices.

The excessive profits and exploitive working conditions of the corporations are seldom introduced into the public consciousness, while the seemingly excessive demands of the worker are given full play.

The giant corporations have pursued a policy of industrial negligence which kills 14,000 workers and permanently disables 900,000 more every year.

There are literally tens of thousands of untested chemi-

cals put on the market each year and the worker is the guinea pig. If these chemicals produce symptoms similar to asthma or the flu, that's what the company doctor decides you have! For that minority of workers who belong to a union, there is some protection but that protection is enforced by a government agency which depends upon data provided by the company producing chemical in the first place! Catch 22!

Let's talk about unions a bit, and at this point I'd like to present my qualifications. I was chief steward in my plant and a member of the contract and a member of the committee, a member of the Executive Board of my local, and a delegate to both our regional conferences and International convention. I went from starry-eyed organizer to totally disillusioned

So we form an uneasy alliance with the people who live off our sweat, blood and lives for the purpose of protecting us from the people who live off of our sweat, blood and lives! Guess who's uniting with whom? The union is a hired gun available to the highest bidder.

The point is that you don't need the union. And the reason you don't need the union is that you don't need the boss. This is most commonly articulated as "the workers owning the means of production."

Somehow or other by some sort of magic, the person with a degree or more money is adjudged to know more about production than the person who builds it, puts it together, makes it work. Every company

and he relates to the primarily as numbers to be foisted off on instances the division of this is what happens new one appears on the Your supervisor brings over to you and says, "Lou, this is Don and he's new manager." At this point his arm around shoulder and says, "Mary Lou has been with for five years and has everything there is to about these units." — squeeze of shoulder — honey, I want you to teach everything you know to our product." You need him.

Many economists foresee coming capital drain from country as large multinationals corporations invest overseas, leaving without enough capital to develop new technology and replace aging factories. It seems to me that this provide the ideal situation the American worker to provide for their communities through management of their places. Money would have to come from guaranteed by the government, but there are precedents for that. The federal has been made available past to guarantee loans otherwise bail out bankrupt corporations. Democratic controlled economic institutions already exist in scattered communities across the In case after case employees have been all to take over basic decision making operations previously exercised by management owners, the results have startling, with efficiency productivity soaring beyond all expectations.

I am firmly convinced the invisible worker who presently imprisoned doomed can take control of her own destiny by altering the current economic system which rewards obedience, conformity, and dependence and penalizes creative thinking, criticism, and independent judgment. This corporate system has plunged our country into its present state of economic chaos, destroyed the lives of millions of families and threatened the very survival of the Republic. Let us worship at its shrine and sacrifice ourselves to the Golden Pig.

Marylou Johnson is a member of the Free Venice Alliance and a good friend of the Los Angeles Catholic Worker community. Marylou worked in factories since 1940.

**"We worship at its shrine and sacrifice ourselves to the corporate pig."**

dissenter in five years. My ultimate conclusion was that the union was but one more parasite on the collective body of the laborer.

I was pulled off the convention floor and subjected to figurative arm-twisting and brow-beating because I refused to vote for a \$5,000 a year increase in salary for the International Executive Board at a time when the rank and file in our plant was making less than that amount per year. The manipulation and exploitation of the rank and file which was openly discussed at our local Executive Board meetings would have made Joe Hill demand his withdrawal card!

Basically, the union (and I don't think mine was atypical) is a system designed to perpetuate a hierarchy which has wrested power from the worker. Obviously this is a perversion, but in the minds of most workers a necessary evil. "Better a bad union than no union at all." Sort of like bad breath!

has its natural engineer, who invents, designs, improves and constructs the product at about half the salary of the engineer with the degree who gets all the credit.

This monster has no life without you. You don't need it. The corporation is a fantasy, a chimera, a mass hallucination if you will. Can you imagine that we have allowed ourselves to be mesmerized into accepting the legality of the business corporation as a person and, furthermore, allowing it to have rights?

O.K. So you still think that somehow, somewhere there's someone in the hierarchy that is essential to efficient and equitable operation. The industrial engineer, for instance. The Industrial Pimps, I call them, and this category includes time study people, quality control, operations officers, directors of industrial relations, stockholders and the chairman of the board and his directors. (I make no apology for the designation of chairman of the board, as chairwoman of the board are conspicuous by their absence.)

The industrial engineer designs a work area for someone in an area he's never worked with, at a rate of speed he's never worked at, and he's 6'1" while you're 5'2". Sheer nonsense! You don't need him.

Let's take the division manager. He's there to super-

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Worldwide police net: closer than you think

# Interpol runs amok in California

Ridenour

...rampant police organizations by federal enforcement and intelligence bureaus has become "old to most Americans. But how about an international private cabal of police? That phrase aptly describes Interpol, the International Criminal Police Organization, whose tentacles are reaching around the world to reach even Los Angeles from the "old back" stupor.

California Criminal Justice Committee, led by liberal Alan Sieroty, is convinced to look into privacy abuses of Interpol, by the pressure from the National Commission on Law Enforcement and Social Justice (NCLE)—sponsored by the Church of Scientology—which has researched Interpol for two years.

Sieroty and Assemblyman Torres conducted a hearing last week in Los Angeles as part of a possible ongoing investigation into the police kingdom: Sieroty has concluded that a credibility gap exists between Interpol and the U.S. government (through its National Central Bureau housed in the offices of the U.S. Treasury and staffed by agents from the Secret Service, Customs, Drug Enforcement Administration, and Bureau of Tobacco, Alcohol, and Firearms) say and do. Sieroty wants the U.S. Congress to force Interpol to reveal all Americans what it has in two million files or to sever relations with the 122 member organization.

Some rather startling information came out of the hearings. Pierre Roland Dupuy, a 41-year-old father of six children. The former motorist, businessman, sportsman, and ship-salvager almost lost his livelihood, and even because of Interpol (which was first established in Austria in 1923 to "ensure and promote the widest possible mutual assistance between all criminal police authorities within the limits of the laws existing in the different countries").

Dupuy, a Tarzana resident, was harassed by the El Salvador government and denied permission to leave the country because of an investigation by Interpol into his ship-salvaging operation there last month.

Dupuy bought a grounded boat from Carlos Santiago (Jimmy) Ruiz and flew down to repair it enough to bring it to California.

I noticed I was being photographed when we stopped in Guatemala. Then when my wife and me were together in El Salvador, a crewman got arrested for "passport problems." Jimmy, who is a well-known businessman, got it tightened out. But then he came to me worried. He said Interpol agent questioned me about me and the boat."

Dupuy testified that he came to be thought of as a Mafioso. Interpol agents pursued him further, boarding his boat and taking pictures. When

Dupuy was ready to sail out of the harbor, he was not granted permission. The American Embassy was implicated. Dupuy went to the head of the Navy, a Colonel Achilles, who told him he'd be glad to let him leave when the US embassy and/or Interpol gave him the OK.

"The Colonel thought I was being investigated for gun-running. Now, you know that's a serious matter. They don't treat you down there the way they do here. The charge was absurd. I had no criminal record and I flew to the country

at the navigator's head and the trigger was pulled. Unbeknownst to him, it wasn't loaded. After spending 15 days in jail, he was finally released and told by the American Consul that "the reason we had all been arrested was because Interpol had been suspicious of our boat for some time and thought that it might be involved in drug trafficking."

Assemblyman Torres said, upon hearing of these cases, "It may be that Interpol needs to add arrest statistics to justify its existence."

**"You hear a lot about an international  
dynasty of police spies.  
Well there is one..."**

legally on a commercial airline."

Eventually Dupuy was allowed to leave after he threatened the US embassy with adverse publicity.

"Now my business partner in El Salvador is under suspicion with his government and it cost me my reputation, time and money, as well as mental anguish. It was all a matter of false record."

Louis Sims, a US Secret Service agent who doubles as head of Interpol's N.C.B. in Washington, claims that the only purpose Interpol has is to transmit criminal record information on suspects who travel from one country to another. Both Interpol's charter and the US Congress, which appropriates the dues for Interpol membership (\$140,000 for 1976), forbid any political, racial, religious, or intelligence gathering and dissemination of information.

What is to prevent a country's police force from falsifying requests? "Trust," according to Sims, who says it is his job to screen all requests. But there are no guidelines, nothing to substantiate the validity of an Interpol request. And what is in the files at the current Interpol headquarters, St. Cloud, France? The public has no way of knowing. It is a private organization not subject to any suits or freedom of information acts. Only Interpol knows what is in the files. And people such as Dupuy have no way of correcting whatever erroneous information may be included.

There are hundreds of thousands of information exchanges between Interpol offices throughout the world each year, yet it can only account for 18 arrests per year per country. Many of these arrests are like the following one.

A San Diego tuna boat navigator (who wished to remain anonymous for now) was arrested with his skipper and two women passengers on a yacht last March in Caba San Lucas. Mexican soldiers boarded the boat claiming there was cocaine aboard. Even though none was found, the navigator and his skipper were beaten and shocked with cattle prods. A gun was placed

Despite the US government's and Interpol's denial of any intelligence connections, the US government has refused to disclose any CIA documents concerning Interpol, or any links between the two. U.S. Attorney James Stotter claimed in Los Angeles that "Since disclosure of the documents would reveal that this government had cooperated with Interpol in the collection of intelligence, the possibility of maintaining that relationship, or others like it vital to the national security would be impaired. Additionally, the other government in this case would be embarrassed, and our foreign relations with that government consequently disrupted, if it were officially acknowledged that it cooperated with the CIA."

The right hand does not know what the left hand is lying about from day to day. At a subsequent court hearing Stotter claimed he'd made a terrible "mistake" when he wrote that statement.

Another ominous aspect of Interpol now coming to the fore is its relations to private profit-making business and the use of private agents.

Lt. Dan Cooke, Los Angeles Police Department spokesperson, said, when asked the frequency of contact between Interpol and the LAPD, "You hear a lot about an international dynasty of police spies. Well, there is one but we don't have much to do with it. We don't keep records of the contacts and there is no central person who acts as a liaison. They go to the branch concerned with what they want to know."

How?  
"Lots of it is by phone, some direct (personal) contact when they come to town."

Where do they come from?  
"Anywhere in the world."

Now that can't mean that these 10 identified and approved Interpol-US government agents out of Washington are the only ones contacting the LAPD (or other law enforcement units in this country). Somebody is lying, and somebody is criminally violating laws and rules.

At least two private members/agents of Interpol have been discovered in Los Angeles.

The first man's name will remain anonymous for now. But it can be said that he is a former United States Air Force intelligence officer who works on a free-lance assignment basis for Interpol.

He also works for private banks setting up their security, running security checks and establishing security rules and manuals. He told this to Heber Jentzsch, regional director of the National Commission on Law Enforcement and Social Justice.

The First Vice-President and manager of the Los Angeles branch of the Swiss Credit Bank, Victor Krugle, confirmed that he worked for them. The agent also showed Jentzsch a shield badge with the words "Interpol Special Agent" inscribed. The Santa Monica resident-cum-agent contends there are 10,000 others like him in the world. He would neither confirm nor deny his Interpol role for this reporter.

Martial Lester, a vice-president of a Los Angeles stock certificate printing company, Jeffries Banknote, claims to be a "civilian

ing Interpol; he in no way represents Interpol."

However, Interpol has admitted that it does conduct intelligence operations for private persons and corporations, called "investigative requirements." During 1975, there were a total of 641 such requests which the US N.C.B. sent to 77 countries (the majority are totalitarian and/or fascist led) and "4572 investigative requests to U.S. law enforcement agencies/departments and certain financial and/or other commercial institutions." (emphasis added.)

When pressed, Interpol officials contend these links to banks and businesses are purely criminal in nature—the stealing and exchange of money or fraud. Then why is it not handled like any other crime, directly through authorized Interpol police officers who work for the individual country and are called upon by the N.C.B. to provide criminal data on a suspect? (The FBI and the Treasury's elaborate computerized files are also available to Interpol). Why



member of Interpol." He said he pays dues to the St. Cloud headquarters and acts as a graphic arts expert on stock certificates fraud. He also told a NCLE researcher Jim Ward that he had seen the files at Interpol.

Sims angrily denies that Lester, or anyone, is a private member. "There is no such thing. Lester is misrepresent-

are there private citizens running around claiming to be Interpol agents or members, whatever that means?

Interpol's operations were expanded in the 1930s and 1940s by the Nazi party of Germany. So many questions about it arise today that it may be its Nazi heritage is not simply history.




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## Throwing money to the wind

# Group swaps services

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You cat needs a shot, your car demands a tune-up, and you could use a home-cooked meal. All those things cost money—that diminishing unnatural resource. What to do?

Don't despair. A new organization has been devised for people like you. Without spending an inflated cent—except for materials—cat, car and stomach can be taken care of. With a little commitment from you, of course.

Free Sig is a labor cooperative based in West Los Angeles which provides free services to its members. First organized as an affiliate of Mensa, the society for high IQ people, Free Sig (Special Interest Group) opened to the public in Los Angeles six months ago. Now more than 100 members offer 150 services. Free.

The list of services is impressive. They include: accounting, child care, insurance advice, house painting, piano lessons, plumbing, household repairs, swimming instruction, TV repair, veterinary medicine, yoga instruction, and scores of others.

The system is simple. Members commit a number of hours per week to the labor pool. There is no minimum or maximum amount of time required; that decision is individual. On the average, though, most members commit between 2 and 6 hours weekly.

When contacted to provide

services, members give their time freely and without obligation. If direct cost is involved—such as duck for home-prepared Duck L'Orange—then the recipient pays for it. But the provider prepares the dinner at no cost.

**"Not reaching  
the poor  
is a problem."**

If a member receives more requests for services in a week than he is committed for, his name is removed from the list of current providers. After working off his "backlog" he is re-listed. The co-op publishes monthly supplements so that such information is available.

Since many of the services are professional, someone has to judge who is qualified to offer such assistance—and who isn't.

That someone is Richard Johnson, member of Greater Los Angeles Mensa and organizer of Free Sig.

Johnson says he patterned Free Sig on the Labor Gift Plan, a group active in New York during the early 1960s.

Johnson administers Free Sig from his apartment (11-P, 1623 Granville Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90025). To those who send stamped, self-addressed envelopes, he sends information sheets and applications. He also updates the directory and supplements which are mailed to members. Johnson says his administrative labors are donated.

One responsibility is making sure that providers of professional services are qualified.

"I do reserve the right to refuse membership," he says.

Johnson is more concerned, though, about possible commercial exploitation. "To the extent that commercial aspects are involved, Free Sig is either not involved or any involvement would be optional for members," he says.

Thus a Free Sig writer may not make money on a book, say, edited by another member—unless they agreed on a prior financial arrangement. Or, a therapist who provides crisis counseling may not propose long-term therapy at \$25.00 per hour. If the recipient



requests it, then it's okay. But, as one member says, "If you're in the co-op for monetary reasons, then you've missed the point."

Why join a labor co-op?

Carmenza Leshar, a writer who offers Spanish translations and instructions in designing caftans, says, "I believe in sharing." Ms. Leshar has not called—or been called—for services. But she was contacted by a member (whom she already knew slightly). He suggested that she might benefit from his real estate advice. She did.

A certified accountant, Sandy Ostiller has been a member of Free Sig for about six months. He has been contacted for tax or investment advice about a dozen times, but has not called anyone for services. He is planning on requesting both bio-feedback and sailing instruction "in the near future." Like Ms. Leshar,

Ostiller joined because he enjoys offering a service.

Another member, Cleveland, talks about the "nature" of the services. "Some of them are essentially and relatively vague," he says. He cites tarot card reading as an example. Cleveland offers flight instruction, has been called 20 times for specialized skills but has been "too busy" to request services.

Cleveland also worries about legal protection in case possible law suits were filed. However, the Free Sig membership application does have a waiver clause (drawn up by Free Sig attorney) which requires that all persons accept such services without demerit and hold harmless the person or persons who form the service, and the FREE SIG, its administrators and agents, with respect to claims, demands, or liabilities arising directly or indirectly from the service provided. "This protects members from law suits." But Cleveland is convinced.

The mostly professional nature of the services and the members—who appear to be well-salaried, intellectually and successful—raises an issue. Such an organization may attract the more affluent those with a comfortable style which allows for free hours. But would a wife with three toddlers, 5 years old and an unemployed husband realistically have time—and energy—to help? Says Mary Hughes, treasurer: "Not reaching the poor is a problem."

And, admittedly, not offering any "mental" help, Hughes, who has a condition, says she appreciates some house help. But, so far, no one in the directory offers any.

Johnson, however, is optimistic about Free Sig's growth. "The more services and the better the services, the better Free Sig will be." The organization is going national; Free is now represented in 10 cities (one member in each). Johnson has a New coordinator, Ruth Stidger, handle East Coast inquiries. Johnson plans on a national and mail-order directory, the latter for people who want to be contacted by mail. (He had handwritten analyzed this way.)



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## INFORMED SOURCES INFORMED SOURCES

### 1984: just an ink away?

Sometimes an official's joke can turn out to be a lot about the way they're thinking about the future.

Robert Armstrong, in charge of the Police Department, was speaking at a Public Utilities Commission hearing in Los Angeles last week, urged the commission not to impair police access to unlisted information from the phone company.

In his argument (which he refused to write under oath), the good lieutenant said, "Criminals are becoming more technologically oriented. The crime rate is rising so fast that soon we may have to vastly expand our criminal justice system, not for the criminals, but to hold the decent citizens, who we can protect them from the criminals."

That might sound like hyperbole. But remember the notorious "strategic hamlets" tactics used by the U.S. military in Vietnam? Separate the people from the communists, the idea went. Soon they were talking about mass forced relocation of the southern half of South Vietnam's population.

Could Torrance's finest be envisioning a Gulag-like string of strategic hamlets for us?

Dave Lindoff

### Venice pollutor fined, warned

A Venice oil and natural gas production company was fined \$1,875 last week (October 20) after pleading guilty to six criminal charges listed by the Environmental Protection Section of the Office of City Attorney Burt Pines.

Sunset Oil Co., was charged with violating a California Health and Safety law by "unlawfully discharging air contaminants and other pollutants which caused injury, harassment, nuisance and annoyance to a considerable number of persons in the public, and which endangered the comfort, repose, health, and safety ... of the public ..." on six occasions this year.

The case stems from more than 100 complaints lodged with the Southern California Air Pollution Control District by people living and working in the vicinity of the company's oil production facilities at 40 West Horizon Street, Venice.

The complaints began following the story in the L.A. Vanguard and the circulation of pamphlets by an irate irascible resident of Horizon near the offending firm.

Individuals stated that noxious odors coming from the facility were causing headaches, nausea, breathlessness, and dizziness.

In addition to fining the Stinnett Oil Company, Municipal Court Commissioner Meyer Newman put the firm on 2 years' summary probation during which time it must not commit any further violations of air pollution laws, rules or regulations, or face stiffer penalties.

### Buddhists decry nuclear bombs

The likelihood of nuclear holocaust has increased thanks to technological advances, Los Angeles peace activists were told last week.

The activists met with heads of a Japanese Buddhist peace sect who outlined a concerted campaign for world nuclear disarmament. The Japanese monks, leaders of Japan's Buddhist Sangha, visited here on a return trip from the United Nations where they met with Sec. Gen. Kurt Waldheim and other officials to arrange a special disarmament session of the General Assembly in 1978.

Technological progress has produced nuclear bombs small enough to be used interchangeably with conventional ones, explained the Rev. Gyosai Sato, who added introduction of these new weapons in "nuclear warfare" could easily result to a major conflagration.

Sato said third-world nations find disarmament of increasing importance because recent anti-nuclear proliferation treaties prevent them from using nuclear weapons but do

not prevent major powers from using such weapons against them.

The monks were led by sect founder, the Most Venerable Nichidatsu Fujii, 92, an associate of Mohanda Gandhi and leader of the pre-World War II Japanese anti-war movement.

A new disarmament petition drive was announced by Dr. Richard Saxon who hosted the meeting. Called "Individuals Against the Crime of Silence, the campaign is modeled after a similar anti-Vietnam war drive and demands that the United Nations and all governments outlaw manufacture and possession of nuclear weapons.

More information on the campaign may be obtained by writing Box 35385, Los Angeles 90035.

Carl Neiburger

### Police bug lawyers' beeps

Phones aren't the only thing the police are tapping and monitoring these days.

A private attorney in Fresno learned recently that his private "beeper alert" system was being monitored by the Fresno Police and possibly by the state Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement, too.

Attorney James "JV" Henry has filed a complaint with the state's Public Utilities Commission, claiming that the company providing him with the system—Cooks Communication Service—turned his private frequency over to the police.

Henry said he first learned of the surveillance when attorneys in a case he was not a part of asked for and received records of police surveillance of their client. "Included in the records they obtained," said Henry, "was our mobile paging frequency with Cooks."

The still-surprised attorney said he had already taken depositions from Donald Cook, head of Cooks Communications, and had been told that "they thought we were doing something illegal, so they gave some equipment identical to ours to the police department's Special Enforce-

ment Service—that's Fresno's secret police."

But Henry said the case, despite its importance as a potential constitutional issue, would probably not go beyond the P.U.C. hearing room. "I don't have the time or resources to take on the police department," he said. "I'm just not in a position to waste three years in superior court, only to be awarded a dollar in damages."

He explained, "Suing the cops is no fun—it comes down ultimately to a citizen's word against the cops, you're dead."



Of course, if the police were violating the attorney-client relationship, that could constitute a criminal offense, and the police could then be taken on, not by a private citizen, but by the Fresno District Attorney, or the state Attorney General, in principle.

However, Fresno D.A. William A. Smith refused to say whether his department planned to investigate the possibility, and in fact he indicated a degree of complicity in the eavesdropping. "It's something we can't talk about," he said, "because there is an ongoing investigation into a large narcotics operation involving the use of these beepers."

Dave Lindoff



Cecilia White

Disabled veterans and supporters ended a one week occupation of Senator Tunney's West Los Angeles office Monday. Protesters were demanding total and unconditional amnesty for draft resisters and deserters, improved V.A. benefits and reconciliation with and reconstruction of North Vietnam. Tunney aide Harvey Shapiro is pictured with occupation organizer Ron Konic.

ment Service—that's Fresno's secret police."

Henry said, "Cooks also provides paging services to the city, and that's a bigger customer than we are. I guess they just wanted to cooperate with the bigger customer. It all kind of spooks you."

Cooks denies Henry's charges. "The police were monitoring some people," he said, "but it was not him. They were monitoring some people he was handling in a drug case, but not him. He should get his facts straight." He added that his firm had filed a motion with the P.U.C. to have the case dismissed—a routine tactic taken by defendants before that regulatory agency.

Henry said that in addition to violating P.U.C. regulations, the alleged monitoring activity could constitute serious violations of the 1934 Federal Communications statutes, the federal Privacy Act, as well as federal and state regulations relating to the confidentiality of an attorney-client relationship. Monitoring an attorney's conversations with his or her

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Dead witness left video testimony

# Assassination footnote

Jeff Cohen

When the House Select Committee on Assassinations investigating the John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King assassinations begins calling witnesses, it will be unable to call Dallas Deputy Sheriff Roger Craig. One of the most important witnesses in the Kennedy case, Craig died of an apparent suicide in May 1975, at the age of 39.

Fortunately, Craig's "testimony" has been preserved in a videotape documentary co-produced by Mark Lane, and narrated by John Henry Faulk. Entitled *Footnote to the Assassination*, the 90 minute documentary is based on lengthy interviews with Craig recorded in his last year. (It previewed this September at the American Film Institute in L.A.) The producers hope to syndicate *Footnote* on television early next year, but they are not overly optimistic. If aired, it would be the first documentary on TV that did not accept the Warren Report's lone assassin conclusion.

The film is composed of segments from the Craig interview intercut with supporting

material from Warren Commission documents and other witnesses. The following is Roger Craig's "testimony":

Craig was standing in front of the Sheriff's office, a half-block from Dealey Plaza, when the shots rang out. He ran to the Plaza and quickly bumped into an important eyewitness, Arnold Rowland, and his wife. Rowland told Craig that he saw two men on the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository. One had stood with a rifle in the southwest corner window, 15 minutes before the first shot was fired.

If the statement Rowland made spontaneously to Craig in the aftermath of the event, and which Rowland repeated to the FBI and Warren Commission, is correct, then the Warren Report is not. Oswald's alleged perch was the southeast corner window—on the other end of the building. At about 12:15PM, when Rowland observed the gunman on the first floor.

Fifteen minutes after the assassination, Dep. Sheriff Craig was standing in Dealey Plaza when he heard a shrill whistle, turned and (along with a corroborating witness) saw a man run down the grassy knoll to join a "dark-complected" driver waiting in a

Rambler station wagon. The Rambler proceeded down Elm Street past the Triple Underpass before Craig could get across the street to stop the vehicle. Later that day, Craig identified Lee Harvey Oswald as the man who ran down the knoll. But at the time Craig saw his "running Oswald", the Warren Report placed Oswald in a cab riding to his rooming house.

If not Oswald, who did Craig see fleeing the scene? Roger Craig was just one of many eyewitnesses who claimed to have seen Oswald at a place in time when the Warren Report established Oswald to be somewhere else. This pattern has given rise to speculation in numerous articles and a book about "the second Oswald".

A recent *Village Voice* article, "Is the 'Second Oswald' alive in Dallas?" (Aug. 23, 76), quoted a Treasury agent who admitted that he had arrested (and released) an Oswald look-alike in Dallas on a firearms violation charge just days before the assassination. The Oswald double was an activist in the rightwing Minutemen organization, an associate of anti-Castro Cuban exiles, had traveled in and out of Mexico, and had practiced constantly at a Dallas rifle range in November 1963, where witnesses had mistaken him for Oswald. The agent described the Minuteman as "an absolute dead-ringer for Oswald—identical build, weight, coloring, facial features, hair. They were like identical twins; they could've passed for each other."

Craig's chronicle picks up again on the steps of the School Book Depository. There, Craig says he ran into a man who identified himself as a Secret Service agent. After the "agent" took Craig's rushed report about the fleeing man in the Rambler, Craig went on his way hunting for more evidence.

(Craig would later learn two disturbing facts: 1) At the time he talked to the "agent", there were no Secret

Service personnel in Dealey Plaza. None had been assigned. 2) When Dallas police officer Joseph Smith confronted a man in a business suit behind the grassy knoll, the suspect produced Secret Service credentials. Two other Dallas cops, Harkness and Weitzman, claim to have conversed with Secret Service agents in Dealey Plaza, when none was there.)

Craig was one of the first officers to arrive at the sixth floor of the depository. Beneath the "Oswald window" on the floor, Craig noticed three spent shells which he described as lying neatly in a row, all pointing in the same direction. Since shells eject from a rifle haphazardly, Craig speculated that someone had to have planted the shells in that fashion. The FBI would easily link the shells to Oswald's 6.5 Mannlicher-Carcano rifle.

The rifle found on the sixth floor was not Oswald's Carcano, according to Craig. Craig and another deputy sheriff discovered a rifle behind some boxes, and they were soon joined by Homicide Chief Will Frits and Dep. Constable Seymour Weitzman. According to Craig, "We all saw stamped on the rifle—'7.65 MAUSER'."

Craig's claim is supported by the affidavit of Seymour Weitzman, who worked part-time in a sporting goods store and was very familiar with weapons. Weitzman's affidavit states in no uncertain terms: "This rifle was a 7.65 Mauser bolt action equipped with a 4/18 scope, a thick leather brownish-black sling on it."

Two recently declassified CIA memos raise more questions about the weapon found on the sixth floor. A Nov. 25, 1963, CIA report states that the murder weapon was a Mauser, and a Nov. 28th CIA memo says the murder weapon was incorrectly reported to be a Carcano.

Although Craig turned out to be one of the more alert, almost ubiquitous, of Dallas police officers that day, Craig states that deputy sheriffs were instructed to be spectators along the motorcade route and "to take no part in security."

*Footnote to the Assassination* goes beyond the Craig allegations to raise questions about the FBI's role in the JFK case. For instance, why is there no transcript of the 12-hour interrogation of Oswald that seven FBI agents took part in? If

the FBI had an active Lee Oswald file in connection with the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, and the Bureau has admitted it conducted "intensive coverage" of that group, why was Oswald not on the Secret Service's list of one million potential threats to the President? Could this be because Oswald was an FBI employee?

*Footnote* contains revealing TV footage, never featured on network news, from the House judiciary subcommittee hearings that probed the FBI's destruction, on Nov. 24, 1963, of an allegedly threatening note written by Oswald. FBI agent James Hosty, whose name and unlisted phone number appeared in Oswald's Dallas Bureau Chief J. Gordon Shanklin ordered him to be destroyed. "Oswald is a trial. Get rid of this note."

The documentary presents an important interview with a new witness, Bob Price, an ex-nightclub owner in Houston who was an acquaintance of Dallas club owner Jack Ruby. In April, 1963, Price claims that he, Ruby, Lee Oswald, and two Louisiana men had a lengthy chat in Price's club.

*Footnote to the Assassination* winds down with Roger Craig chronicling a series of misadventures related to his eyewitness testimony. Because of Craig's allegations, especially concerning Oswald fleeing in the Rambler, the deputy sheriff was often hounded for interviews by journalists. Dallas Sheriff Bill Decker eventually ordered Craig to cease answering questions about the case. "You didn't see anything, you didn't hear anything," Craig ignored the advice and was subsequently fired on July 4, 1967.

From his Nov. 22nd statement for the Sheriff's Department to his testimony before a Warren Commission attorney to his last comments before the videotape camera, Roger Craig refused to change his story about what he saw and heard. Because it has taken Congress thirteen years to respond to the desire of the American people for a serious investigation, Craig and many other witnesses are no longer around to testify.

(Jeff Cohen has lectured and written widely on assassinations, including a study of the Martin Luther King case for *Signet's Government by Gunplay*

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Changing the body to change the mind

# Women's power is physical

Sharon Milan

In every group seeking liberation, the movement toward equality yields a growing sense of being strong and proud, self-determined and capable. Within the Women's Movement, one of the most dramatic forms of this growth has been physical.

Since birth, we women have known our bodies are very important, just as the cosmetic and clothing industries have known that we know. Traditional American rearing taught us to regard our frames as the major means by which we could attract and hold a man who, in exchange, would provide us with marriage, protection, and financial security—or so the myth went. What mattered about our physical self was how it appeared, a criterion that invites illusion, pretense, artifice.

The inescapable consequence of this view is alienation from one's self. "My body," a woman recently confided, "has been the primary source of my feeling good or bad about myself; it was something to be manipulated. I had to fit myself into the 'in image.' When I succeeded, I felt acceptable. When I failed, I was nothing. After all, if you don't have the right kind of look, what the hell do you have?" She grinned. "It's not like that anymore. I've discovered whole new worlds within my body. I just wish I'd known all this before."

Women are learning that superficial physical appearance is not the sum total of what we are. To recognize this is to become free to explore other dimensions of our physical selves and to feel a new regard for, and relationship to, our bodies. We are getting in touch with dimensions that no longer focus on pleasing others: our health, our sexuality, human sensuality, the expression of positive and negative emotions through body movement. Our power.

Physical power is the most crucial of the new dimensions because it is so fundamental to

one's sense of safety and security. The fastest and most permanent way for a woman to break the barrier of alienation from her own body and to get in touch with her physical abilities is to take a course in self-defense.

While there is competent martial arts instruction in the Los Angeles area, it is far better that a woman take at least her initial training with a feminist.

an indispensable element in coming to terms with women's powerlessness. You need to change your mind in order to change your body. Generally, martial arts instructors don't offer this kind of consciousness-raising and self-awareness.

As we women relate to ourselves on levels deeper than mere appearance, we are no longer dependent upon someone else for our sense of value.

how to fight effectively. Add to this the reluctance to hurt a "man's ego" and traditional female queasiness over physical violence, and you have a victim.

Good self-defense training changes this. You learn to locate physical exits at all times. You learn to "take your space"—that is, to consider your body and the immediate area around it as something you have the right to control. You always—but always—carry a police whistle. You practice "verbal karate" tactics—loud, startling commands such as "Beat it!" and more complex warnings. You learn the most sensitive, vulnerable parts of the human body. You know how to break a finger, a kneecap, or a nose; how to inflict various degrees of pain to stop someone from harming you. Most important, you learn that you have the moral right to use whatever means are necessary to defend your life.

Following self-defense instruction—which ranges from a one-day workshop to an eight-week course—many women want to learn a specific martial art. This is an excellent way to develop strength and speed as well as practicing additional defensive techniques. (Most self-defense courses are a combination of holds, breaks, and blows drawn from the different martial arts, verbal self-assertion techniques, and plain survival or "street" tactics.)

The most common of the martial arts are:

**Karate** (also kenpo, okinawa-te), meaning "empty hand." A Japanese form of fighting that consists of kicking, striking, and defensive blocking with one's arms and legs.

**Kung fu** (also gung fu), an older, Chinese form of karate using a series of hand and foot blows in continuous movements called forms (as opposed to karate, which uses single blows).

**Jujitsu** (also jiu-jitsu, jutsu, yawara), meaning "art of suppleness." A Japanese martial art used by 16th-century samurai who were disarmed or were fighting unarmed persons. Jujitsu is a general name that covers many kinds of fighting now utilized in judo, karate, and aikido: choking, kicking, kneeling, hitting, throwing and using holds. **Judo** (also kodokan judo), meaning "gentle way." A Japanese fighting art that seeks to throw, pin, or apply pressure to another's arm joints or neck. Like jujitsu, it is designed to turn one's own advantage, rather than directly oppose that strength.

From the study of self-defense is born a new sense of self. Learning to effectively contend with threats to one's physical safety results in greater calm and an enormous increase in self-confidence. Trained women feel less threatened and more at home in the world, thus they relate to their society and themselves with a greater strength and sense of self worth. All of this results in an experience of freedom that is the only genuine foundation of human dignity.

For information on self-defense instruction, contact the Women's Building (221-6121), the local chapter of the National Organization of Women (NOW) or the nearest Y.W.C.A. To get information on courses taught by Betty Willis Brooks, call Women Against Sexual Abuse (868-3783).

Good self-instruction books include: *Self-Defense for Women: A Simple Method*, by Tegner and McGrath; Thor Publishers, P.O. Box 1782, Ventura, CA 93001 and *Self-Defense for Girls and Women* by Tegner and McGrath, also Thor Publishers. However, nothing beats a live one-day workshop or course taught by a feminist!

## SELF DEFENSE is a right.



My own self-defense instructor, Betty Willis Brooks, is the epitome of what women can do for other women: she is warm and accepting and knows where her students are coming from because she's been there. At the same time, she exhibits a dazzling sense of power, an unmistakable ability to take care of herself and to defend to the last limits if that is what it takes. By who she is, Brooks gives her students permission to throw off the crushing mantle of women's traditional passivity.

Learning to use your body for self-protection is highly exhilarating, but it is also damn serious work. A climate in which one's inhibitions are recognized and confronted is

The severance of this dependency leads to an emotional recognition of certain rights. One of the most basic of these is the right to physical safety. Not that women haven't believed in it. We have, but someone else—father, husband, brother, lover, police—was supposed to provide it for us. Prior to self-defense training, when confronted with someone wanting to use her body against her will (from unwanted physical intimacies on a date to the demeaning horror of rape), many women were either afraid to say no or didn't know

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## EDITORIAL

The newspapers and electronic media these days have been filled with stories about Henry Kissinger's belated efforts to salvage the reputation of the United States among emerging black African nations in southern Africa (Mozambique, Angola, Zimbabwe, Namibia).

After decades of openly supporting the colonial powers (Germany, France, Great Britain, Portugal, South Africa), the U.S. has been forced to admit that the tide has turned—colonialism is dead.

Not imperialism, though. And U.S.-based corporations are assuring that American imperialist power dominates Africa, regardless of any public relations ploys which would depict the U.S. as an impartial arbitrator between African nationalists and white rulers.

The ad on this page, part of an ad published recently in a South African newspaper, the *Rand Daily Mail*,

U.S. and its friends in the U.N. Security Council, the colonial powers of France and Great Britain, joined recently in vetoing a plan to take economic sanctions against South Africa. But away from public scrutiny, U.S. corporations have billions of dollars invested in South Africa, and they support the repressive white regime of ex-Nazi John Vorster. Kissinger's recent talks with Vorster were pointedly hailed as a "South African Victory" in a banner headline in the *Johannesburg Star*. And Chevrolet's ad speaks for itself.

The ad is reminiscent of General Motors and Ford ads which appeared in Nazi German military magazines during World War II, at a time when the big U.S. auto firms were building most of Germany's military trucks and numbers of its warplanes—with profits accruing to U.S. stockholders. One such ad, appearing in a 1942 edition of *German Air Force*, reads: "With the Wehrmacht...Ford is there...Ford Motor Works, Cologne." At the end of World War II,

## SUPPORT THEM AND WIN YOURSELF A CHEVROLET

They're our South African soldiers. One of them may be your son or your husband. Or the boy next door.

Nation-wide, Chevrolet Dealers believe we can never do enough for them. So in conjunction with the South African Army Fund, we are launching the 'Esprit de Corps' campaign.

This is what happens to your Rand when you buy a ticket. It will help the Fund

look after the future for South African soldiers. It will provide security for their families should the unexpected happen. And financial assistance if they're injured or disabled. It will help the Fund build rest and rehabilitation centers so they can relax when they come home on leave. And help them with further education.

Chevrolet Dealers have also added another reason for

taking part in the campaign.

Every time you buy a ticket you have the chance of winning a brand new Chevrolet. A prestige Caprice, a luxurious Golden Anniversary 4100, or the exciting new Nomad.

Tickets will be on sale by approved sellers and at all Chevrolet showrooms.

These men never say 'No' when called upon—and you?

In association with 241 South African Chevrolet Dealers

This ad by Chevrolet, part of the transnational General Motors Corporation (GM) ran recently in a major South African daily, the *RAND DAILY MAIL*, below a picture of some of the white soldiers who must protect the overlords of that racist state from its oppressed black majority.

shows what side America's corporate rulers are on.

The "unexpected" referred to in the ad is a war between black liberation forces and their white colonial rulers—as during South Africa's intervention in Angola, or at home, where four million white South Africans face increasing unrest and rebellion from the 18 million blacks who suffer under that country's system of "apartheid" (forced racial separation and subjugation), and who have virtually no rights.

Last month's black uprising against white supremacy in South Africa resulted in the massacre of 174 blacks and the wounding of 1,000 others—according to government figures. Black South African leaders claim many thousands of blacks were killed. Many a few whites died crushing the protests.

South Africa's government has been condemned by the United Nations as "illegitimate," and American leaders publicly criticize apartheid (though the

U.S. Congress gave GM \$33 million and Ford \$1 million for bomb damage done by allied planes to the companies' German plants—plants that were building weapons for the Nazis! It's a lesson in corporate patriotism.

And now it's South Africa. What will the American government do when the owners of Chevrolet and other corporations demand U.S. military intervention to save their investments from a black liberation struggle against apartheid? All the signs are that such a battle is not far off.

It pays to remember what a recent president of General Motors once told Congress. In a confirmation hearing for a cabinet post, he said, "What's good for General Motors is good for America."

Things have obviously not changed much. What will such a supposed identity of interests lead to next, here and in Africa?

## A ROCKY'S SUNSET



**RANDOM THOUGHTS:** The rumor keeps popping up about missing art masterpieces from World War II. The story goes that top American generals had advance parties that ripped-off Europe's art treasures during the allied advances in the latter stages of the war. The art treasures are supposed to have been hidden all over the world and a few sold from time to time to raise cash.

Los Angeles entrepreneur Dr. Armand Hammar just bought a Rembrandt for \$3-million from Admiral Mitterdorf of Germany. Could one of the masterpieces be surfacing? And where did he get the money to buy his farm at Gettysburg?

The most fascinating book I have read in ages is *Shogun*, by James Clavell. Although it is some 1200 pages, I have not been able to put it down. Each page is dotted with gems of oriental wisdom and insights into the Japanese culture. As the story unfolds, one is treated to the kind of intricate political and military tactics that characterize the truly heroic leader. The reader is tempted to try to out-think the author, but surprises abound and the twists and turns of the plot are such that one must finally submit and relax and enjoy it.

The wonder is that such imaginative thinking can be maintained for such a lengthy novel, but it is. I hope that someday I might meet James Clavell. Few minds are capable of such a tour de force as *Shogun*.

The crazy weather that we've been having all across the U.S. can be directly traced to the military's efforts to flood out North Vietnam by seeding the clouds there for ten years. It is im-



Jim Horwitz

## MEMORIES OF '48

Political writers spend a great deal of time recalling that Thomas Dewey, with a seemingly insurmountable lead over Harry Truman, lost the 1948 presidential election due to overconfidence. According to Tris Coffin of *Washington Spectator*, who covered that campaign, it wasn't overconfidence that sunk Dewey. "Whenever the official train stopped for a speech, I would get off and circulate among the crowd to catch the reaction of the voters. It was in the Midwest I began to find the defection. Dewey was a small, prim, neat man with a District Attorney manner and the voice and diction of a trained radio announcer. When Tom Dewey began speaking, the level of enthusiasm dropped and the voters began to look at each other uneasily. He was talking down to them. King Louis XVI addressing the peasants."

By 1948, the Midwest, normally Republican, had swung back to the party fold after voting FDR in 1932, 1936 and 1940. It had been ready to embrace Tom Dewey. But, according to Coffin, "he failed to persuade them that he was interested in their well being. Harry Truman, while he had made some mistakes, was from Middle America. Midwesterners felt he would not deliberately sell them down the river, as they feared Dewey might."

WHEN IS A FREE PRESS  
NOT A FREE PRESS

Roll Call, a Washington D.C. Capitol

possible to screw up the whole ecology in one section of the globe without having disastrous effects in another. Karma.

In 1899, the electrical wizard Nikola Tesla, inventor of the polyphase motor and developer of alternating current, succeeded in transmitting energy wirelessly and lighting a bank of 200 light bulbs at a distance of 26 miles.

The captains of industry, J. P. Morgan, etc., were astounded and immediately funded the continuation of the project. But in six months' time they withdrew their support. Why? Because they couldn't figure out a way to charge for it. Or control it. The process simply demanded a small aerial on top of each house to "tune in" the energy much as one tunes in a radio. The best thing about Tesla's wireless energy system is that through the use of the Tesla Coil, energy was "magnified," e.g. tremendous voltages were built up from an initially small amount of power through the action of resonance.

The system would be perfect for today's energy needs—if we could find out about it. Tesla kept most of his secrets in his head. Upon his death, the FBI swooped down and collected all his materials and sealed them in the National Archives.

You can see a demonstration of a Tesla Coil at the Griffith Observatory. For more information on Tesla, write to the Citizen Intelligencer, PO Box 2262, Los Angeles, 90051.

ITT just finished sponsoring a seminar through California State University at Northridge on corporation ethics. For an outfit that used the CIA to overthrow a democratically-elected government in Chile, among other things, to sponsor such a seminar is a little like having Richard Nixon give a seminar on law and order.

Hill gossip sheet, uses its editorial space to report the legislative and social activities of members of congress and their staffs. Its income is derived from advertisers frequented by those same legislators and their staffs. Publisher Sidney Yudain recently made plans to name the ten most and the ten least effective freshman congresspersons. The first project went off smoothly. *Roll Call* named Robert Krueger (D-Texas) as the most effective. No one raised a fuss. But then word was leaked to the ten congresspersons scheduled the next week to be named the least effective. Concerned with the repercussions back home, the ten legislators met with House Majority Leader Tip O'Neill and members of the freshman executive committee. With O'Neill's consent the delegation met with publisher Yudain. Yudain yielded to the pressure, and promptly killed the story. *Roll Call's* public explanation was, "Well, it's an election year, you know."

**BITS AND PIECES** Look for Assemblyman Jack Fenton (D-Montebello) to be appointed to a judgeship by Governor Brown, next year. A further step in the deal will be heavy Democratic support for Ralph Ochoa, assistant to Speaker Leo McCarthy, as Fenton's successor... Senator Alan Cranston has introduced a bill to help insure the survival of the California gray whale and the bowhead... The magazine *New Times* is charging that Henry Kissinger played an instrumental role in the wiretapping of 17 newsmen and governmental officials during the early years of the Nixon Administration... LA School Board Member Howard Miller, who hosts the *At One With* show on KNBC-TV, ought to invite consumer advocate David Horowitz as his guest. Then we could try to guess which is which?

1976 Valley Publications Feature



# Dory Previn: going it alone

When you see her (and you will because you'll have to) and when you hear that song about The Hindenburg and her father (a hymn to live, a concerto that rises from the female gut) you'll know that Dory Previn is really the child of Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald. It will hit you when you see her (and you must; this balladeer, troubador, poet and torch singer)—you'll hear her in her nakedness with that soft, feathery Afro and those life-shouting eyes ("my God, its burst into flame") that touch magic and despair, wonder and lust.

I knew it when I saw her. Scott and Zelda all rolled into one, that crazy Sunday, May Day. Save Me the Waltz romanticism that is so American and so sad and wonderful and God it hits you like a poem by Blake.

She told me, sitting there at Franco's on that strip that "yes, a British critic had once compared her with Janis Joplin and said that Janis was the smart one because she kissed it off and I... I just survived."

I laughed. We both laughed. Of course the daughter of Zelda and Scott would survive. We confessed our nervousness. I set my machine down in a small band of sunlight. The waiter forgot to bring us coffee. All her songs were pounding in my blood. Finally the shrimp arrived and the wine. "I don't mind a pipe," she told me, "but I'm terribly allergic." I stuffed the pipe, lit, into my pocket.

Thank god, I thought, she hadn't listened to that asshole critic.

I asked first about screaming. "I want to get it straight," Dory told me "it wasn't primal screaming, it was just screaming. I had it happen a couple of times. Once I was screaming and there was a guy in the car next to me. He gave me the c sign. I think he recognised me. Now I see people screaming all the time."

We dipped into our shrimp. "Do you know the guy who wrote *Is There Life After High School*? Well, he did another one called *We the Lonely People*. I'm in both books. In the second book he said that there is a cult of people, as a result of my song 'Twenty Mile Zone' who call the car the therapy van."

We talked about therapists. "You see," she told me, "you can't scream in your house because someone might call the cops. Therapists? Well... I have a wide emotional range. It took me a while to realize I was growing, that I wasn't sick."

"My funniest songs are about things that frighten me the most. 'My Daddy Says I Ain't His Child,' is one of those, very light but... and 'The Obscene Phonecall.' Are we really alone on this little planet? 'Did Jesus Have a Baby Sister?' Many of those are the most important topics to me."

I thought about her dark moods. Her black periods. Funny, the word has many meanings, period. "I wrote a song about a woman who was



having her period and talking to a general. I was trying to talk to him obliquely about the difference between the flow of blood and the spill of blood. Soon after that there was an article by Germaine Greer questioning when a woman would write about menstruation. I thought, 'I've already done that.' "Poets are usually the first," I said.

Previn smiled. Half smiled. "But a lot of times nobody knows it. I was really low at that time. It was my father's death, the earthquake and my divorce had just come through and my analyst for twenty years said 'I can't treat you anymore.' I was lost. What I was saying (in 'Doppelgänger') was that if we take credit for Mozart being a human being, then we have to take the rap for Hitler. The other night I went down to see the laser show at the planetarium. I was looking up and saying to myself 'how incredible that man can do that.' But then the laser can kill too. It is a doppelgänger. The light and the dark."

I didn't pursue the subject of her marriage to Andre. It seemed wrapped up in old newspaper scraps. I knew she had done with it. I was more interested in the light and dark of Dory Previn.

"The Hindenburg" is a journey on the road of life and a sudden disaster changes

everything." That was enough. Well said. "We burn out like a star, then we are ashes. I saw that ship with my father. He said it was absolutely safe and then it blew up. That was an end of innocence for me."

A night in New Jersey with the radio screaming "this is one of the worst catastrophes in the world... all the humanity all the..."

But the father... we touched upon it. How he had built a stage for her in the house and started her on her dancing career only to deny her in the end, to seal off the house (all the subject of her amazing new book "Midnight Baby.")

When I began to write about it, her eyes dipped a little, "my heart pounds and my stomach turns. But after the emotional impact is over the craftsman takes over." Who said that before? Blake? "I shape it and then get very objective."

I wondered how she shared such angst. "I have no shame about that," she reflected. "Everything that I've done including screaming and mental illness has made it easier for other people to deal with those things. A friend told me when I wrote 'Twenty Mile Zone,' 'I won't let you reveal that about yourself.' But I had to. I went through it. I wanted to take the responsibility of making it public."

I mused about Hart Crane,

about Berryman, about Plath. They would understand this woman. Scott Fitzgerald could sit right down and put his arm around her in the amber sunlight and know her as his own.

"The problem with the scream, of course, is that in five years it becomes a cliché. Maybe in two."

I asked Dory Previn about the deeply personal material of her songs and compositions: the father songs, the song about her marital breakup. She told me she wrote for herself, that when she first wrote several of her songs she did not intend them to be published. I wonder if Berryman really wanted *The Dream Songs* to be published when he first wrote them. I wonder if Crane wanted "The Broken Tower" published.

"I was writing them as therapy when I was ill," Previn said. "When I got better I put those verses away... but then I began to realize that I wasn't ill when I wrote those songs. In an article written about my work a writer quoted R.D. Laing in saying that I had been on a voyage and come back with information that was necessary. I guess it is a heightened sense of reality. The father songs were always an attempt to understand and justify his feelings."

The waitress finally came by with coffee.

It was Hollywood out there and I asked about the Holly-

wood sign. Dory ordered more coffee. I lit my pipe then put it out. "I have a friend who lives over in that area. All the time I had been out in L.A. I would see the Hollywood sign. It's very illusive. You see it just getting off the freeway, then you turn around and you can't find it. It always fascinated me. One night I was going up to a friend's house in the early evening when it was still light. I started climbing up the hills in my car and I kept seeing that sign. When I got out of my car it was at eye level across from me. I said to my friend, 'this is going to be a very short dinner, because I have to go home and write about that sign. It looked to me like a pop art Stonehenge. I flashed on this whole thing about the Vestal Virgin starlet sacrificed on the altar of filmdom. I had heard the story as apocrypha, and the two things melded in my mind. I knew I had to write about that.'"

Previn made swirling circles in her coffee cup.

Outside, along the strip, the Hollywood pushers, the rockmen and the money men made their way through another Hollywood day.

We talked about what it was to be Irish or German or Jewish. "I think," said Previn, "that countries are into role playing. The games countries play... I think they can switch roles. Perhaps more positive roles can emerge. Our role was that of the aggressor in Vietnam and people lost faith in us. Perhaps we learned from that experience."

I asked her about her politics. "I'm a humanist, I'm not political. I'm political in the sense that my stand is humanity. I think the creative artist should stay away from partisan politics. What lasts in a work of art is the human element; art is the human element; the particular politics of the day fades. The wars that went on in the times of Shakespeare are of little consequence now; but the predicament of Hamlet is vital because that is the human element."

We talked about "Love Story" and Previn's song "The New Enzyme Detergent Demise of Ali McGraw." "The bloodless demise... my reaction to that film was that I wanted to cry during the ending and I said 'son of a bitch I am not going to be taken in by this sham.' I could see the manipulation, but it was strong enough to make me feel anger toward the falseness of that story. I don't understand why there is no love story of any consequence where the heroine does not die. That disturbs me and offends me and frightens me."

But of course the endings are secure when the heroine dies. That brought me back to the remark by the British critic. "A lot of people resented the fact that I pulled through. The critic had an Irish name."

We discussed the Irish propensity for martyrs. We both drank our coffee thinking Irish thoughts, the waitress circling with the pot. I thought that would be a good place to pause.

Ben Pleasant



## FILM

# Shying from simple propaganda

"Union Maid" filmmakers Julia Reichert, Jim Klein, and Miles Mogulescu, bring a lively spirit to their topic—women labor organizers of the 1930s—that heightens our understanding of this period in labor history. By viewing their subject through the eyes of three women who were catalysts for change, the filmmakers infuse ideas with emotion; the synthesis is a documentary which speaks to our feelings as well as our intellect.

The three women—Sylvia, Stella, and Katherine—take us on a personal journey through a Chicago stockyard, a laundry, and a factory where each began her organizing work. The filmmakers capture these women with candor and warmth, and it is the spontaneous energy of their comments that makes this history lesson so effective.

When Sylvia explains that a white woman was brought into the laundry to be the "floor lady," even though black women had more experience than she did, we share her indignation.

This immediate, personal aspect is what makes "Union Maids" so powerful, complemented by carefully-chosen documentary footage and an equally appropriate sound-

track. Mogulescu has said "We're political filmmakers, in the sense that we want to make films about the important social forces shaping people's lives, but that doesn't mean we want to make crude propaganda. Films have to be well made, too."

And "Union Maids" is. The editing is particularly



well done, establishing a rhythm that allows the women to talk about their lives without ever getting stuck in a long, extraneous place. The filmmakers are economical, and careful to keep "Union Maids" from sinking into too many words or too many old photographs: there is a balance to their coverage, a sense of when it is time to move on to another point.

As important as the style is the content of "Union Maids"; here again, the filmmakers have shied away from simplistic propaganda and investigated not only the labor movement of the '30s, but its effect on unions today. We learn not only about three women's organizing attempts, but about racism within union ranks, about their problems as women seeking to be heard and the bond between union women, about their criticism of conservatism in today's union structure, and about their relationship to the current feminist movement.

The result of this careful preparation is a film that is more moving, information that is more accessible, than a heavier hand could have delivered. When the words work, then words are used. When a picture stands alone—as in the shot of a woman who, having broken away from the police, suddenly turns defiantly instead of fleeing—the filmmakers recognize its strength, and the strength of a message delivered to the heart as well as the mind.

The Socialist Media Group is showing "Union Maids" at various locations in L.A. Or, for rental information, call 663-5872.

Karen Stabiner

## THEATER

# 'False Promises' drama rings true

The mighty Mime Troupe came through LA on a rare tour, played four nights, and made the Cincinnati Reds look like the Mudville Quarksnarl-ers. In their fifteenth consecutive year on the boards (and mainly in the parks of San Francisco), the Mime Troupe swept through its own magnificent play about class struggle, *False Promises/Nos Enganaron* (We've Been Had), to a sustained standing ovation from a packed house at Fritchman Auditorium.

The play succeeds amply as a stark, narrative drama. Not even the Los Angeles Times reviewer could deny its "historical" value nor the fact that the Troupe has the writing and acting ability to "make politics fun." But most important is the profound care and attention the Mime Troupe gives to those lives—so like our own—compressed and brutalized by capitalism. For this play is on the side of the working class from the get-go, and claims no less than a vision of total victory for the international working people over capitalism and imperialism as its most passionate hope.

*False Promises/Nos Enganaron* weaves a miner's strike (based on the real events of the Coeur d'Alene, Cripple Creek, and Morenci, Arizona strikes of the 1890's) into the Rough Rider imperialism of the wars against Spain in Cuba and the Philippines. But it is in no way merely agitprop, or a play about "ideas." The real personae who people the class struggle are developed with deftness and even genius in several cases.

The key examples of these personae are Maria Robledo, Montana Belle Hayward (!), Harry Potter, and Ed Casey. Washington Jefferson is an unemployed black worker who joins the army and eventually is used to smash the strike. But as he does so, he observes that the rulers merely use some of the slaves against the rest, expressing amazement that the strikers didn't have their shit more together. Just as he goes over to the miners' cause, offering to lead them through the cordon of troops surrounding the town, several white soldiers burst in and murder him. Montana, a black saloon owner, becomes a fierce, anti-racist fighter. Robledo and Hayward are militant union women. The first, a Mexican miner's widow, who overcomes

her hatred of white workers (a white worker was next to her husband when he was crushed by falling rocks; the worker yelled, "get some Mexicans, instead of helping"), becomes a leader. Belle Hayward (what a hall singer who marries a miner and eventually tries to stop him from scabbing. Harry Potter is her miner-husband, a racist and a vacillator who personifies the petty and the fickle. Ed Casey is the socialist worker, aware of racism (the single cause for the miners' defeat) but not of the necessity to fight it all out, all the time. Yet it is Casey who sees the "whole picture," the necessity for revolution and working class power instead of the reform of capitalism, in each "little" fight.

What a panorama and yet particularization of struggle, power, and consciousness. President McKinley as a flutulent Christian racist and stooge for J.P. Morgan, Morgan as a profiteer interested in markets through conquest of the "savages" in Cuba and the Philippines. Teddy Roosevelt as the "bully" spirit of imperialist war; all are broadly but flawlessly drawn.

So many necessities are clarified: the need for unity among workers, the need to fight racism, the need for women as equals (one scene reveals the union women beating back a trainload of scabs), the need to dump all sellout leaders, the need for revolution instead of reform. The brutality of capitalist state power is depicted so graphically there is no way we can make it out the "establishment" or the "status quo."

The San Francisco Mime Troupe receives no grant or foundation money. It demonstrates not only that "political" or "committed" theatre is possible, but also that it's a necessity to bring artistic vision to the political struggle, and that in certain hands, it works. If artists in all disciplines are to move past strictly inner concerns, self-aggrandizement or abasement, a worship of technique or art as "act," they must look to forces like the Mime Troupe for instruction. The Troupe is what the movement toward a revolutionary art is all about.

Roger Rauss

## Welsby films parallel environment

Chris Welsby had an evening screening at the Theatre Vanguard. His films are elegant landscape studies, in which the filming always complements the environment it records. Changes in the English countryside are reflected and paralleled by modifications in the camera set-up: the simplest example uses a wind-controlled camera (invented by Welsby), where the speed at which the film runs through is dependent on and automatically controlled by the wind velocity and direction. When the wind blows, the cradle being photographed rocks and the camera recording speed decreases, making it appear to rock faster. In another case Welsby attaches a camera to a tree, so the wind movement is reflected in camera movement at the same time as we see it in the rhythmic movement of other trees.

GW: You seem to find corollaries for the filmmaker's tools in the natural world: a windmill as an extra shutter, a tree as a tripod, clouds as filters. But you don't seem to shun technological machinery, using an equatorial starttracking stand, usually reserved for the

astronomy lab., in your film "Seven Days". What is the relation between the technical and the natural in your work?

Welsby: I have a certain attitude towards technology and a certain attitude towards thought and modes of thought—they are carried, I think, into my films. It's not that these attitudes are made explicit in the films, but that they are implicit in the way that they are structured. My films do not start from closed logical systems imposed on an open and more chaotic situation, but the ideas behind the films and the environments in which they are made are seen as two open systems.

GW: Can you describe this process more specifically, perhaps with respect to one of your films? How about "Seven Days"?

Welsby: The structure of that film I divide into two halves—one half, which is governed by the rotation of the earth, is predictable, and I would call it clock-like; the second side of the structure has to do with the amount of cloud coverage, and is not

predictable—I would call that cloud-like. My own position as filmmaker is to mediate between these two situations.

"Seven Days" alternates between two scenes either the shadow of the camera remains in the center of the frame as the day passes quickly by; or the sun, hidden by clouds, occupies the same place, and the clouds rearrange themselves in a compressed time-span.

The stand the camera was mounted on rotates at the same speed as the earth, so the sun remains in the same place in the frame. However, when the sun was shining its heat would have burned a hole through the back of the camera so, "for convenience", Welsby says, he turned it around to face its own shadow. Hence the predictable—the inevitability of one of two images—and the unpredictable—the random movement of clouds. The film is a moving alliance between filmmaker and landscape, in which changes in the cinematic image are in part dependent on artistic decision, and in part on natural phenomena.

Graham Weinbren





## BOOKS

### Pre-school dilemma

# Probing the roots of sexual identity

What does a sensitive, aware pre-school teacher like Stephanie Waxman of Venice do when she carefully removes all toys and books stereotyping girls as passive and dumb and boys as aggressive and smart, and then discovers that the children's sexist behavior just continues?

What does she think when the ringleader of the class girls corners her and asks, "Teacher, will I always be a boy?" Or when a little girl insists with fierce pride that she "will too be a Daddy" when she grows up?

Another teacher might have seen pre-schoolers being their true, ignorant selves. After all, sex discrimination ("I hate girls!") and "No boys allowed in the playhouse!" is as common in pre-schools as milk mustaches. Waxman, however, read the experiences differently. Suddenly, she recognized the difference between sex identity and sex role. One related to self concept; the other related to a set of behaviors. She realized her well-meaning attempt at sexuality hadn't touched the root of the problem—confusion over sexual identity.

Waxman began to see that the children's spoken and unspoken questions on sexuality didn't necessarily have to do with reproduction or social role. They were as basic as, "What is a girl? What is a boy?"

Sex education in her classroom began with a chalkboard drawing of a boy and girl, including the parts that differentiated the two. Children then drew themselves on large pieces of butcher paper. They inspected different nude paintings and sculptures in art books. And then Waxman looked for books on gender, written specifically for young children. There were shelves of how-babies-are-made books, but nothing emphasizing the simple fact of sex differentiation. So she took pen and camera and composed one, herself. She called it, "What is a girl? What is a boy?", using explicit photographs and simple, direct questions and answers:

• What is a boy? Some people say a boy is someone with short hair. But Mimi has short hair. And she's a girl.

• Some people say a girl is someone who plays with dolls. But Noah is taking care of his doll. And he's a boy.

• Then, what is a boy? A boy is someone with a penis.

• If you are a boy, you will grow up to be a man. Every man has a penis.

That was two years ago. While they were waiting to find a publisher, she and her husband, Dennis (also an early childhood education specialist), and several teacher friends used the book in their classrooms.

Dennis Waxman remembers the first time he read it to his class. They continued talking about it for 40 minutes, an unusual span of attention for first and second graders.

Ruth S. Pearce, Director of the Dubnoff Center for Child Development and Educational Therapy in North Hollywood, claims, "There is no other book on the market that deals with gender identity in a lively and forthright way." She found "every child who has read this book has asked to read it again and again."

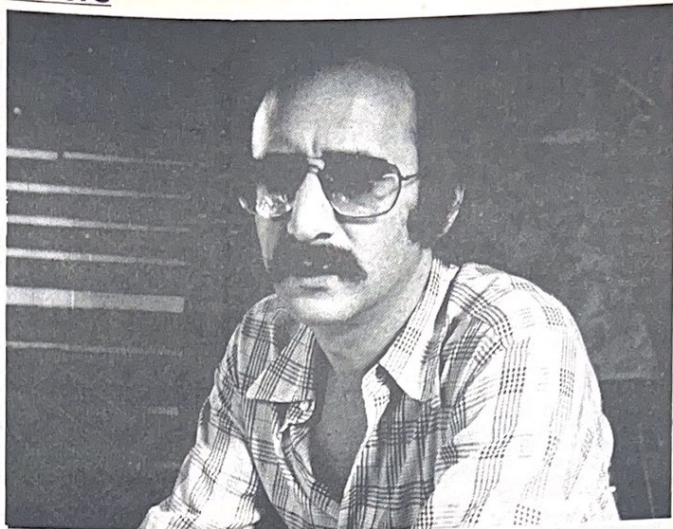
It seems understandable that a child even four years old would have inhaled our culture's near-crazy atmosphere of dual messages: sex is nasty, bodies are dirty; sex is the ultimate high, bodies are for exposing. The children have to deal with all the myths they get from older siblings and adults, as well. No wonder they are fascinated by a book that plays the body game straight. But "What is a girl? What is a boy?" goes beyond who owns and keeps the penis and vagina. Stephanie Waxman found that "when the children got the information they needed, they didn't have to exclude and stereotype each other to form a secure sexual identity. They felt good about their bodies and about being girls or boys." And the sexist classroom behavior disappeared.

This is Waxman's first published work, although she has a shelf-full of children's stories, articles and plays. She looks forward to being taken more seriously by publishers and editors now that there's a book to her credit. While planning a sequel to "What is a girl? What is a boy?" she is mothering Jessica, 5, and Tessa, 9 months and teaching T'ai Chi Ch'uan.

"What is a girl? What is a boy?" is published by Peace Press, a worker-owned and worker-run publishing collective in Los Angeles. It includes an afterword and a list of activities children enjoy doing in conjunction with the book. It costs \$3.95 paperback, \$6.95 hardcover and is available now at The Book Store in Ocean Park, 2915 Main Street, Ocean Park.

Carolyn Reuben

## MUSIC



### Peter Yarrow's quest:

# To reclaim the real music

Let the music industry take heed; a Don Quixote has set forth to vanquish it.

And the music-marketing establishment is not the lone target of Peter Yarrow's lance. For Yarrow, formerly one-third of Peter, Paul and Mary, sees music as the magic weapon which can bring about a populist takeover of the entire American system.

Music, he explains, is the force that can transform an idea into a movement, the force which gave the civil rights and anti-Vietnam war movements the impetus to change national policy.

"The entire genesis of the energy and the form of all the ideals and attitudes were first and most pointedly examined in music," said Yarrow.

"The music said it in a non-threatening way, an understandable way," said Yarrow. "It was music that carried the message."

The music Yarrow speaks of is what he calls "real" music, folk music and the "topical" music that succeeded it. "It is not written to satisfy a market need; it's music that's written from the heart. It's also written about real things, real life rather than synthetic events. Or if it's written about synthetic events it exposes them," he explained.

But just as music heralds the development of grass roots uprising, it suffers and wanes under repression. That, he said, is what happened under Nixon.

"Nixon and the people who worked with him, the Kent State murders, immobilized the campuses and broke the back of the movements. They

lost the sense of connection, the reason for singing," Yarrow continued.

So folk music was eclipsed by acid rock, music that consisted of "screaming ideas—'I'm here! I'm here!' Ideas became hardened, frustrated and withdrawn," he added.

A further setback at the close of the '60's was the takeover of music by big business conglomerates which bought out small, idealistic record publishers. These businessmen, said Yarrow, are interested in money alone, not music and not ideals. To maximize their profits, they strip music down to the lowest common denominator, judging groups by record sales, and denying new writers and performers the chance to be heard.

But Yarrow is preparing a counter-attack. Along with Song Registration Service (SRS), a two-year-old association "dedicated to the protection and education of songwriters," he is seeking to "establish a parallel system to the business of big music, a cooperative system."

"We want to reclaim music," he explained. "There's music of great value, great beauty, great significances being written that's not terribly different from the music of the '60's. It exists now; it's just not getting out there."

To permit the new writers to be heard, Yarrow and SRS are sponsoring a series of "Festivals of New Music," the second of which will be at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 11 at Hollywood High School. The first such festival, held last May, drew a sell-out crowd.

Performers were selected from audition tapes "evaluated

on the basis of honesty, ability to share an idea of human or social value, originality, song-writing craft and sincerity of performance."

Yarrow dreams of a publishing cooperative which will compete with and circumvent the big-business establishment which now controls music, a spawning ground for songs which will catch the imagination of the American people.

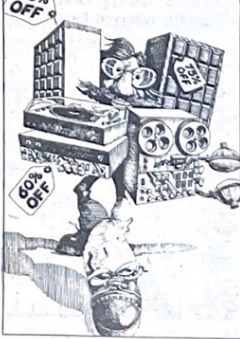
"The consciousness of the '60's is not gone," he said. "It simply is regrouped and articulated in a different form."

Carl Neiburger

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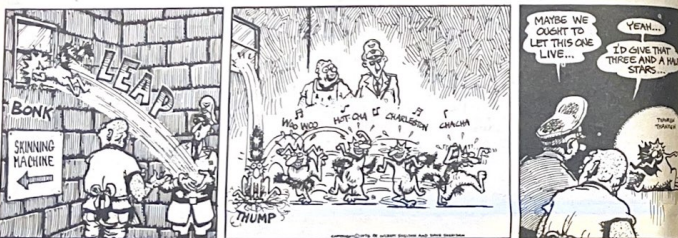




# The RIP OFF COMIC PAGE

## FAT FREDDY'S CAT in "ANIMAL CAMP"

by SHELTON & SHERIDAN



TO BE CONTINUED

# Los Angeles Vanguard

25¢

NOV. 19 - DEC. 15, 1978

LA's last alternative paper

## Is this the end of the line?



## No, but the fight's on

Difficult times are ahead for the only non-partisan progressive newspaper in Los Angeles. The LOS ANGELES VANGUARD is facing a financial crisis. Beginning immediately, we are cutting back our operation to a monthly format. We are making this temporary move for two reasons. The first is to put ourselves in the black. As a monthly, we will be producing our paper on whatever revenues we can raise and on a strictly voluntary basis.

But more importantly we will be operating at this level with a goal in mind—the goal of becoming a non-profit, tax-exempt, educational organization. Achieving this status in the eyes of the state and the IRS will open up new sources of funding, through tax deductible contributions.

For the past nine months and 31 issues, the VANGUARD tried to operate in standard newspaper fashion. With the help of co-owner and associate publisher Jim Horwitz, who paid all expenses as they arose, volunteers who worked long hours, and a skeleton staff of editors who worked on subsistence

incomes, we tried to develop paid circulation and advertising to support the paper.

Circulation and advertising have risen steadily, but not enough to offset more than a fourth of our publishing costs, minimal as they were.

We recognize that many small, local businesses feel reluctant to support us because of our irreverence for the capitalist Establishment. Many failed to realize that our criticism of monopoly capitalism and large corporations was not a criticism of them; that in many ways we share the same enemies.

But we are more disappointed that the progressive community in L.A., while constantly bemoaning the lack of progressive, alternative voices in Los Angeles journalism, has not seen fit to give us its whole-hearted support.

A dynamic, effective, progressive publication cannot survive in Los Angeles unless it receives concrete support from the community it serves. In its nine months, the VANGUARD has at best received lip-service support from most local activist groups.

For example, some of these groups bought ads in the L.A. TIMES, during the recent election, despite the TIMES' repudiation of their causes, but only the Peace and Freedom Party was willing to spend ad money to help keep alive the VANGUARD, which was providing the only decent coverage of those groups' campaigns. But more important than advertising, most progressive groups have failed to support us in other necessary ways—subscription drives, distribution, editorially, etc.

We recognize that this is only one example of a nationwide problem. In the past month alone, several major alternative, anti-establishment publications have gone under—the DETROIT SUN, the WASHINGTON, D.C. alternative paper NEWSWORKS, LIBERATION magazine, and most unfortunately, the GREAT SPECKLED BIRD of Atlanta, the nation's oldest and consistently anti-establishment, non-partisan (and readable) paper.

We don't intend to follow in their footsteps. Even if it

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## "Doc" Holiday murder trial

How the government is covering up by destroying evidence. Page 7

## Why Boycott DelMonte?

Multinational exploitation, profiteering provide some answers. Page 4

## L.A.'s feminist press

Recipes and centerfolds take a back seat to issues. Page 6

## City officials map slum strategy

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## Ansel Adams

Rapping with the timeless genius of photography. Page 15

## Who's watching the phone company?

The P.U.C. isn't doing its job. It remains for people's groups to take on the company. Page 10

## Venice Blues

A Carolina bluesman calls Venice home now. Page 12

