

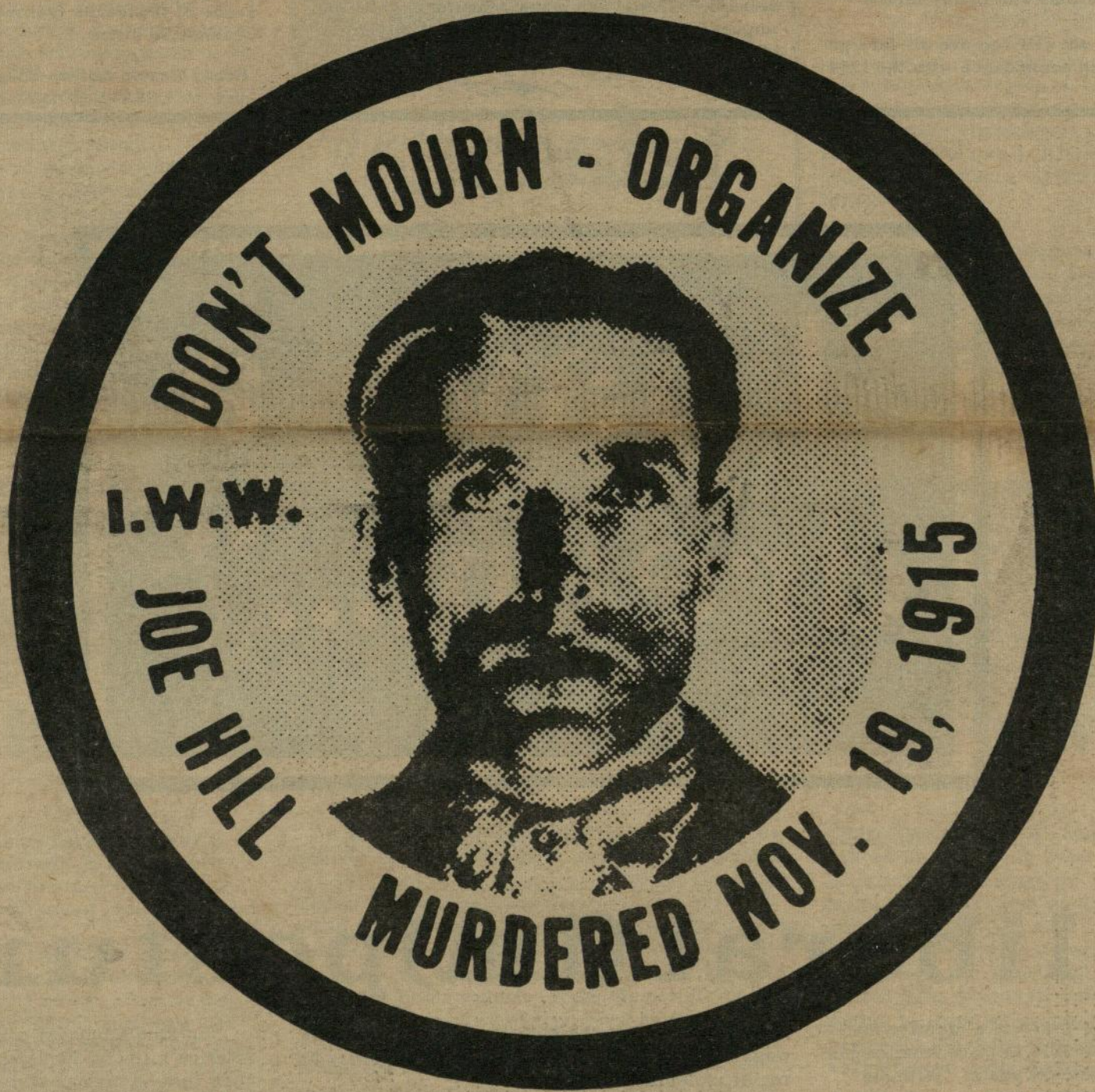


GREAT SPECKLED BIRD



Volume One, Number Three

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MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

APRIL 4, 1968

SOMEHOW THIS MADNESS MUST CEASE

Somehow this madness must cease. We must stop now. I speak as a child of God and brother to the suffering poor of Vietnam. I speak for those whose land is being laid waste, whose homes are being destroyed, whose culture is being subverted. I speak for the poor of America who are paying the double price of smashed hopes at home and death and corruption in Vietnam. I speak as a citizen of the world, for the world as it stands aghast at the path we have taken. I speak as an American to the leaders of my own nation. The great initiative in this war is ours. The initiative to stop it must be ours.

1. End all bombing in North and South Vietnam.
2. Declare a unilateral cease-fire in the hope that such action will create the atmosphere for negotiation.
3. Take immediate steps to prevent other battlegrounds in Southeast Asia by curtailing our military build-up in Thailand and our interference in Laos.
4. Realistically accept the fact that the National Liberation Front has substantial support in South Vietnam and must thereby play a role in any meaningful negotiations and in any future Vietnam government.
5. Set a date that we will remove all foreign troops from Vietnam in accordance with the 1954 Geneva Agreement.

As we counsel young men concerning military service we must clarify for them our nation's role in Vietnam and challenge them with the alternative of conscientious objection.

In 1957 a sensitive American official overseas said that it seemed to him that our nation was on the wrong side of a world revolution. During the past 10 years we have seen emerge a pattern of suppression which now has justified the presence of U.S. military "advisors" in Venezuela. This need to maintain social stability for our investments accounts for the counterrevolutionary action of American forces in Guatemala. It tells why American helicopters are being used against guerrillas in Colombia and why American napalm and green beret forces have already been active against rebels in Peru. It is with such activity in mind that the words of the late John F. Kennedy come back to haunt us. Five years ago he said, "Those who make peaceful revolution impossible will make violent revolution inevitable."

A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death.

As I have walked among the desperate, rejected and angry young men I have told them that Molotov cocktails and rifles would not solve their problems. I have tried to offer them my deepest compassion while maintaining my conviction that social change comes most meaningfully through non-violent action. But they asked--and rightly so--what about Vietnam? They asked if our own nation wasn't using massive doses of violence to solve its problems to bring about the changes it wanted. Their questions hit home, and I knew that I could never again raise my voice against the violence of the oppressed in the ghettos without having first spoken clearly to the greatest purveyor of violence in the world today--my own government. For the sake of those boys, for the sake of this government, for the sake of the hundreds of thousands trembling under our violence, I cannot be silent.

From Martin Luther King, Jr., "Beyond Vietnam." ESSAYS TODAY 6, 1968.

"I have a dream..."

NICKELL

the liberal (im)posture

Martin Luther King's dream of a creative non-violence which would be able to move America has been slowly dying for several years. With his death the dream has probably died as well--killed not by some poor white Southerner, but by American liberals.

Watching the television coverage on the night King was shot, it seemed that white America might be shaken into some positive action. One of the most striking images was that of Chet Huntley on NBC, genuinely shaken by the shooting, speaking again and again of how the rest of the world must think that the United States is a nation of killers.

Next day, however, Huntley was back to his old self, as was white America. The front-page editorial by Eugene Patterson in the ATLANTA CONSTITUTION stated, "It is now that he must depend on the people he loved and died for to honor his life by living its lesson and not forsaking him for the violent men he fought. That is the great memorial Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. most wanted his people to raise. Let him not have lived in vain."

At the same time Ralph McGill attacked poor white racists, burdening them with the responsibility for racial violence.

These men and their brothers have buried King's dream. Martin Luther King was not the simple, gentle, riot-preventing moderate these men would have us believe. Nor is the racial crisis in the U.S. a conflict between poor white racists and Black Power advocates.

King was a gentle man who spoke of love and of non-violence, but he spoke even more often of the deep sickness gripping this country. Throughout his struggle King tried with mixed success to maintain a militancy which spoke to the heart of the problem while allowing whites opportunity to respond creatively. He tried to serve as a bridge between the younger militants and the "concerned" white community. His success may be measured by the statement made by Stokely Carmichael following his death that King was the only man in the older generation of Negroes that his generation would listen to.

But King's biggest problem was the attempt by America's liberal leadership to make him one of their own--a "responsible" leader. They tried to do this by emphasizing King's non-violent approach to rather than his critique of the problems in America and his programs to change the country. While King was alive he was able to elude their grasp by speaking forthrightly about racism and other problems. To the distress of the Patterson-McGill liberals he opposed the Vietnam war, which he viewed as the basic stumbling block to peaceful and non-violent change.

But now that Dr. King is dead, his dream is smothered by those who have been making pious sermons on non-violence, gentleness and heart-searching, but who offer no meaningful programs to end the burning and the killing both in America and in Vietnam. Their assumption of non-violent posture without King's critical understanding of the American sickness is a blasphemy on his name.

--gene guerrero jr

★ DUKE ★ STUDENT ★ ACTION

The assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King precipitated massive student protest on the posh campus of Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. 450 students marched into one of Durham's exclusive white suburbs to the thirteen bathroom mansion of Duke President Knight. They demanded that Knight sign a statement for publication in local newspapers identifying and condemning white racism as the root of the racial crisis in this country; that he clarify the University's policy against use of segregated facilities by campus groups, and that he immediately cancel his membership in an overtly racist local country club.

The students also demanded that Knight recognize Duke Local 77, a predominantly black union of Duke's non-academic employees, and grant an across-the-board salary increase to campus employees to \$1.60 per hour. The local union has attempted for three years against bitter opposition to obtain recognition and bargaining rights from the University.

By Friday night one hundred students were sitting-in in the home of President Knight while 300 others canvassed door-to-door in the neighborhood raising the issues of racism and exploitation of the poor and collecting money for the placement of the yet-to-be-signed condemnation of racism. The sit-in continued throughout the night while unfruitful negotiations were conducted with Knight.

On Saturday the ranks of the student demonstrators swelled to four hundred in response to a statement by Knight in which it became clear that he was unprepared to act on his expressed liberalism. The demonstrators moved to the campus quadrangle and continued throughout the week-end.

Monday brought strong support from new quarters. The campus cafeteria workers walked out en masse demanding recognition for their union and an end to the exploitation of workers by the university. Non-demonstrating students supported the strike by refusing to patronize the campus eateries, with only 100 students showing up at the cafeterias.

As we go to press, more than 1,000 students are gathered on the Duke quadrangle and the campus employees strike remains solid. Support for the protest has begun pouring in, including telegrams from Senators Eugene McCarthy and Robert Kennedy. Students and workers alike express their determination to hold out until their demands are met. Meanwhile, communications with Knight have broken down completely and rumors grow of plans to take over Harkness Hall, the Administration Building.



750 resist

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 3 (LNS)--About 750 men turned in or destroyed their draft cards in nationwide demonstrations for the third day of Resistance to the draft today. The biggest action by far occurred in Boston, where 236 new members of The Resistance emerged and a massive rally of 12,000 persons converged on the city's Common.

The new resisters bring the national total into the vicinity of 4,000, which may be unprecedented in the history of the nation's draft laws.

S.N.C.C. MILITANT convicted of draft evasion SNCC convicted of DRAFT evasion

ATLANTA, Ga., March 28 (LNS)--Just after dismissal of his assertion that draft boards in South Carolina and Georgia discriminate against blacks, SNCC's Cleveland Sellers was convicted of draft refusal here today. He will be sentenced on April 27.

U.S. District Judge Newell Edenfield ruled that the case could be argued only on the issue of whether Sellers was legally inducted and then refused, thereby ruling impossible any argument on the basis of discrimination. Sellers says that 0.53 per cent of South Carolina draft boards are Negroes, while 30 per cent of men drafted are. His draft board is in Bamberg, S.C., but he refused to go May 1, 1967 in Atlanta.

During the trial, a board clerk was called forth who proceeded to give self-conflicting testimony (on March 27); when the verdict came today, it in effect made Sellers an example of the discrimination he charges. Sellers stated March 27 he "will not raise a finger to support a machine that colonizes in Latin America, Southeast Asia, and Africa, and I support black nations in their struggle for liberation... Let us resist the machine and join the black army." The clerk also said the FBI had been into Sellers' file.

Atlanta SNCC headquarters considers the conviction "just another attempt to silence Cleveland," according to Ethyl Minor, an editor of Aframerican News Service. When Sellers was feared dying in jail (he was arrested in the Orangeburg massacre), more charges were made against him in New Orleans to keep him further incarcerated, based on alleged offenses committed about a year ago. (from Atlanta SNCC and friends.)

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Around the South students have responded to the murder by holding memorials to Dr. King—vigils, church services—and to his work—demanding local action on the problems of racism and exploitation.

MEMPHIS—Friday morning 150 ministers and community people took a resolution to the Mayor demanding that he settle the strike. Four of them stayed; they are still there fasting, and say that they will stay until the strike is settled. The four are Rev. Richard Moon, campus minister at Memphis State University; Ted Carter, an MSU student; Richard Gillom, MSU professor; and Sister Adrienne Marie of Siena College. Students are planning a fast in sympathy.

Students at Southwestern at Memphis are organizing student support for the march on Monday. They plan to hold a student caucus after the march to discuss local labor issues and student action.

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY—Seventy people held a vigil on the campus in memorial to Dr. King and leafleted, calling on people to confront racism in Mississippi. It was the first demonstration in the history of the campus. A memorial service was held in the campus chapel Sunday night. The group is now developing programs for the campus and surrounding community on racism and ways to deal with it.

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS—Between five and six hundred people held a memorial rally on the steps of the library.

NASHVILLE—Seven hundred people (300 whites from the college community) marched to a memorial service, then to the County Court House to see the Mayor. At first, the Mayor's aides said that he would speak to the marchers. After several minutes they announced that he would not meet with them. Nashville has been the scene of sporadic violence since Dr. King's murder. There are now 4,000 National Guardsmen in the city. They have moved to seal off Nashville's major ghetto, particularly the Tennessee State University, a black campus and scene of last spring's insurrection. The entire city has been under a curfew from 7:00 pm to 5:00 am, and a ban has been issued on the sale of firearms, ammunition, gasoline, and liquor.

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA—The weekly peace vigil on the campus was called as a memorial to Dr. King. About 225 people attended. Friday afternoon three hundred people marched on the campus. A memorial service was held in front of the Tuscaloosa County Court House.

RICHMOND—Students around Virginia have collected money to support the students at Richmond's black Virginia Union University. Students have been on strike for eight days and say that they will stay out until their list of 52 demands are met. Approximately five hundred students have taken control of the campus. A memorial service was held Sunday afternoon in front of the state capitol. Further action is being planned today at a state-wide contacts meeting.

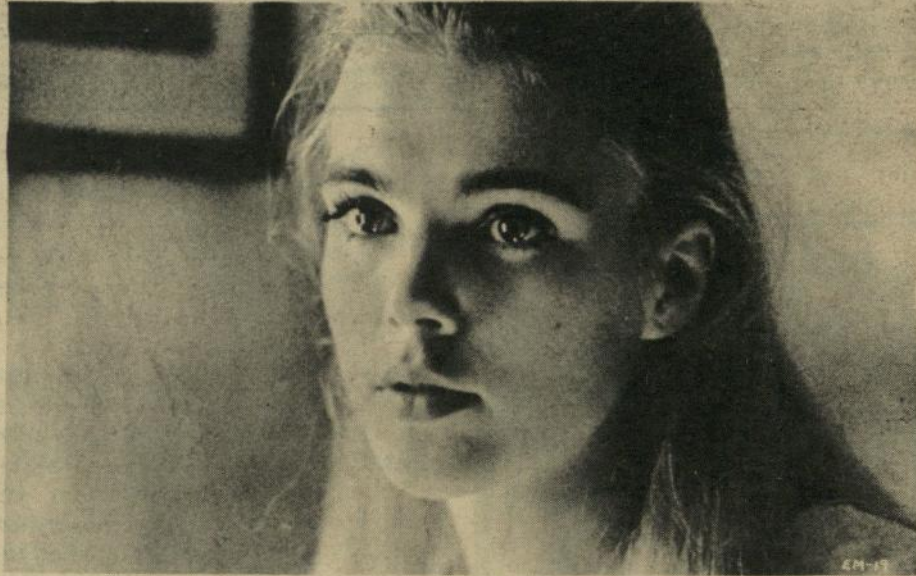
TUSKEEGEE INSTITUTE, Alabama—Students at Tuskegee Institute held twelve of the college's prominent trustees hostage for approximately thirteen hours Saturday. This protest action continued a militancy which had most students out of classes March 25 demanding better education and the elimination of compulsory ROTC. One of the trustees, retired Gen. Lucius Clay was allowed to leave earlier in order to catch a plane. Administrators have kept the college closed following King's assassination to avoid further incidents.

ATLANTA UNIVERSITY—Following an all-night meeting, 1000 students from the Atlanta University complex marched through the Hunter St. area. Atlanta's Mayor Ivan Allen was not allowed to march with the students. Reports reaching the GSB staff indicate that most of the sporadic violent incidents in the Hunter-Ashby-Fair Street area around Atlanta U. was done by students rather than by ghetto residents.

EMORY UNIVERSITY—About 425 students and faculty marched one mile to Dr. King's funeral and joined the larger march to Morehouse College. Included were students from Ga. Tech, foreign students and ministers. A collection is being taken for Mrs. King and her children.

(compiled by Southern Student Organizing Committee, Nashville, Tennessee.)

Elvira Madigan



--miller francis, jr.

"Perhaps the most beautiful movie in history" ... "Exquisite is only the first word that surges to my mind as an appropriate description of this exceptional film" ... "May well be the most beautiful movie ever made" - these are only a few of the comments attributed to reviewers of B. Widenberg's *Elvira Madigan*, now playing at the two new Mini-Cinemas, at the Ansley Mall and Peachtree Battle shopping center.

Well, what about it? Actually, *Elvira Madigan* is what would happen if a Salem television commercial were lengthened to an hour and a half and supplied with a scenario by "Mother David." It is *A Man and A Woman* for hippies. *Elvira* superimposes some of the worst elements of the hippie ethic over one of the most vapid, puerile love stories ever placed on film.

The hero and heroine are two "drop-outs" who spend all their time eating berries, drinking wine, chasing butterflies, gambling in the woods, playing cute games, and - in case you've forgotten that this is an "art" film - making love anytime and anywhere. (In one ludicrous scene, they are in the woods, he is shaving off his beard so that he will not be recognized as a deserter, she is holding a mirror, and suddenly, for what seems like the hundredth time, he looks at her as if seeing her for the first time, and, mid-shave, they engage in a lathery tumble in the leaves.)

When the hero is discovered by a former friend who has the intention of shaming him into returning to his wife and children, he explains to his incredulous friend that through *Elvira* - though he doesn't explain why - he has, to put it in modern terms, "turned on" to life. When you look at a blade of grass, he explains (an "in" joke for the Pot Generation?) the rest of the world looks blurred. The hero, it is clear, prefers to look at the blade of grass and forget the world.

What about that ecstatically praised cinematography? You've seen it before in magazines and on television, except that there lovers only go out into the green, sunlit woods to smoke menthol cigarettes. All that arty cutting looks terribly familiar, and if you trace it back to where you first saw it, you'll probably find that it was used expertly by a disciplined director in a much less "exquisite" and certainly not so commercially successful a film as *Elvira Madigan*. There isn't an "ugly" scene in the movie and that may be just what's wrong, everything is so goddam "pretty" to look at. Even the scene where the heroine, either dying from malnutrition or suffering morning sickness (this is never made specific), pukes all over the ground is so "beautiful" that if you've seen it, I'll bet you think I should have said "regurgitates." Can you imagine a Vogue fashion model throwing up in the woods? The people responsible for *Elvira Madigan* ask this concession, and I simply can't make it. After the first half hour I felt so saturated with all that "beauty" that I felt like throwing up myself.

The acting? Pia Degenmark won the Cannes

Festival. Best Actress award, you say. Well, the Cannes audience usually prefers artiness to art - they loved *A Man and a Woman*, they gave the Golden Palm to *La Dolce Vita*, but they hissed and booed when *L'Aventura* was screened. Pia Degenmark is certainly "pretty," but both she and her lover, as presented in this film, belong to that elite group we call "the beautiful people," and they possess the fatal quality of that group - they are intolerably dull.

What about the "Lyrical" musical score? It's not a score at all. It's a musical composition which I liked; but what does playing a canned musical piece in the background as images are flashed on the screen have to do with an intelligent use of music as one element in the total composition of a film? If you like the music, the film just gets in the way of your enjoyment of it. You resent hearing it every time the lovers look at each other, a la "Theme from Summer Place."

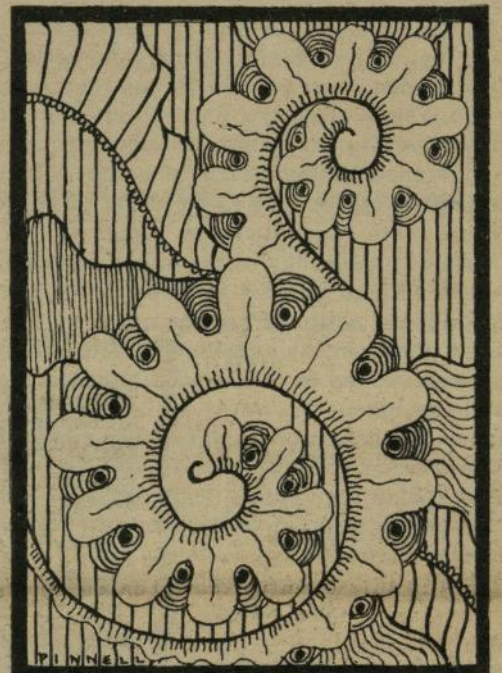
In addition to the folly of merely letting the same theme play while the action on the screen progresses, *Elvira Madigan* also suffers from inept sound cutting. Half of the time the sound is abruptly chopped off as the scene changes; the rest of the time the musical sound tract continues through the change of scene. I found both of these techniques annoying because instead of integrating sound and image, they work against each other.

Is there anything good about *Elvira Madigan*? There are three interesting elements, two of which are mishandled. In one scene, the lovers are eating berries dripping with cream. Pictorially this is a highly evocative scene, but it went on and on and on, making me wish it had merely been a flash on the screen. Too much of a good thing. The second scene takes place when *Elvira* borrows some thread from a woman at an inn. The woman is fat, of the working class, she has misshapen teeth, but in the opposite meaning of the word as interpreted in this and many other films of its type, the woman is beautiful. She explains that she is the cook, the washerwoman, and carries out most of the odd jobs at the inn. Someone has to do the work, she explains. She can't lie in bed all day - like *Some People We Know*. Later this character is transformed into a revolting stereotype - she was too real, I suppose.

The third element is the handling of the very last scene. I won't spoil the ending for those who wish to see it, but in this last scene, for once, sound and image and theme work together for a single statement. But it's asking a lot of someone to sit through an hour and a half movie only to be rewarded by the very last scene.



sun
in the dogwoods
bloomed
another spring
in the dogwoods
another spring
why
are you so good
sounds
of a city
in spring
sounds
in the dogwoods
tangled sounds
why
are you so good
a ten year old
bounces
a ball
alone
sun
in the cottenwoods
seed
in the air
in the sun
sand plums
in red shale
short grass
why
are you so good



wind
in the hedgeapples
i roam
a creek
explore
vast
sun
in a valley
sudden shower
over a town
in a valley
a river
why
are you so good
they touch
unsure
wet
sun
on the windows
no shadows
traffic fumes
honk
we walk
cement
spring
in the city
Philip Kimball

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VINE CITY

voices
VOICES
VOICES

In the articles below two residents of Vine City, a ghetto near the Atlanta University Center, express themselves on the death of Martin Luther King Jr. Otis Cochran's remarks were given in a memorial service for Dr. King April 5. Lee Seabran's article is reprinted from the Vine City VOICE.

HOW LONG

How long does white America rehearse its tragedy? How long do we allow white America that rehearsal?

How much do we need a new experience, a new land, and a new reality?

That how long and how much will determine what we make of the sad truth that the man Martin Luther King, Jr. is dead. Yes, M. L. King is dead and 22 million of his black brothers and sisters must continue. We have sought in our different ways--some violent, some non-violent, but all caring and all wanting a new land, a new experience, and a new reality.

Not all of us marched with Dr. King, some of us were troubled with that approach. But we all loved him. And the testimony of that love must be measured in whether we find new solutions to troubles that surround the black presence in this country--Martin Luther King believed in himself, his people, his world, and his God. I wish I could in full measure echo that sentiment, but I am too weak: Weak from the fattening hunger of Vine City, weak from the starving enlightenment of a pseudo-education, and weak from the choking tentacles of white acquiescence.

Finally, the sad reality of the assassination at Memphis is that all people must realize that there is a mania in this country that creates an atmosphere that can spell open season on black people.

We black people screamed of hunger, of need, of want--We have watched our cities store arsenals of Stoner rifles, of mace, and of tanks. White America is this your tribute to M. L. King's life? Black America will you allow such a sad and tragic response?

This is an hour of meditation and this is an hour of challenge.

J. Otis Cochran

A DREAM

These are some of the thoughts of one man, on the brutal assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

On April 4, 1968.

Dr. King to me was a philosophical optimist.

Dr. King had a dream, and to me it was just that. A dream. To me a dream is something that happens when one is asleep, something that one doesn't expect to come true and in reality is utter-

ly surprising if it does come true.

Dr. King had faith in the white man and in America. I am sorry that I can't truthfully say the same thing about myself. I definitely do not. The racist society in which we live is the most unjust society in the world because the Constitution of the United States guarantees freedom for all but that doesn't exist for the black man. The white racist society in which we live is even worse than that of South Africa because their constitution states that the black man must be segregated and discriminated against. This country does it without the legal right under the constitution. From the very beginning of this country the white man was wrong. He committed genocide to acquire this country in the first place.

Then with black slave labor, he acquired untold wealth that he has used to exploit every country that would fall for his smooth talk.

Take Cuba for instance. Before Castro and his revolution the American white man was exploiting the hell out of Cuba. He owned the sugar refineries and was working the natives for little more than slave labor. But when Castro took over he said Cuba for Cubans and confiscated their wealth and said get the hell out. The almighty white racist couldn't take this so he broke all relations with Cuba. That's when Cuba went communist. It was the white man's fault. The officials of this country are giving the average citizen a big snow job about the war in Asia. It isn't to protect this country from communist aggression but to protect big business in Asia. Johnson can't stop the war in Asia because big business has control of this country and the big business men say fight while they profit on the lives of the little fish that are either forced to fight and kill or to go to jail.

The white man is the most vicious animal on this planet. During slavery he would carry on forced affairs with black slave women and then sell his own flesh and blood for the price of a slave. I am wondering if the racist white man hasn't made a sad mistake in killing Dr. King. He was the most powerful force in this country as far as non-violence is concerned. I think now that he is dead there will be a re-evaluation on the part of the masses of black people. If the racist white man can kill a man that says to his black brothers let them turn their hoses on you and their dogs; even let them club you to the ground and don't strike back; I think that there have to be changes in the black man's thinking.

I don't think that there will come a time in this racist society that the black man will be accepted as a first class citizen, because the white racist will not change the social structure of this country.

This country has the best colleges and universities in the world and some of the smartest and best trained minds come out of these halls of learning each year. Why do these problems still exist? Because nobody wants to attack the system.

The President's Commission on racial violence reported that white racism was the cause. Any illiterate backwoods farmer from the cotton patch of Mississippi could have told the President that and saved the tax payers that million dollars the Commission was paid.

Black people have to get together and not think in terms of the individual but in terms of about 25 million. They must become just as disturbed and just as concerned about some racist cop in some

A few of the HUNDREDS of staff members (and sympathizers):

howard romaine paige pinnell
gene guerrero jessie fleury
jim gwin stephanie coffin
wayne scott jr joe celko
don speicher nan guerrero
david simpson jane fleury
tom coffin jay bowman
stephen urbanski jane urbanski
ann romaine harvey clemens
eric bonner ron ausburn
ted brodek gary chuse
charlie cushion david simpson
dennis jarrett steve cheatham

STAFF

slum killing some youngster as they are about the racist white man that killed Dr. King.

It is a fact that whites are itching to kill. They are mobilizing their National Guard which is almost entirely white and they have gas, tanks, and weapons of all kinds, even some of the same weapons they're using in Asia, to use against black people this summer. To the white racist, when they break into churches, kidnap black women and rape them, or lynch forty-six people in Mississippi with only one indictment and no convictions, that isn't crime in the streets. Only the black men can commit crimes. I say this to you. There comes a time in one's life, as it did in Patrick Henry's life, where you say, give me liberty or give me death.

And again I say that any man that is afraid to die for what he believes is right isn't fit to live. I could say that I have lost faith in America, but being born in a slum myself and knowing that 80% of roughly 25 million people are still living in the slums, being denied jobs, and going to schools that are overcrowded and segregated.

I could say that I have lost faith in America but that would be a lie. I've never had any faith to lose. A revolution is sure to be in this racist country because a racist society that refuses to change is doomed. If you read your history, every revolution in every country, including this one, was brought on by social injustice. Wake up, racist society. It's later than you think.

lee r. seabran

SUPPORT

NEW YORK, April 1 (LNS)--A new group called White Americans to Support Black Liberation, whose director is Abe Weisburd, has wired Maryland Governor Spiro T. Agnew, urging him to drop charges against H. Rap Brown.

The telegram cited the recent government report on the Cambridge, Md., riots, noting, "This report shows that the white power structure of Cambridge and the state of Maryland were themselves guilty of the crimes which they attributed to H. Rap Brown."

Brown is being held in a New Orleans jail for alleged bond violation.

The Black Action Federation of Cambridge, Md., also signed the telegram.

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THE MATCHBOX

echoes...

Non-violence is dead. Thursday, April 4th it took its last futile breath. Buried with the abortive philosophy is America's final hope for a bloodless revolution... some said it was already too late anyway... now there is no doubt...

"And I looked, and beheld a pale horse: and his name was Death and hell followed with him. And the power was given to them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth." Rev. 6:8

White racists called him "Martin Lucifer Nigger"... Black radicals called him "Tom". The truth being somewhere between the two conjectura. To the majority of Afro-American youth, to the drop-out middle class, discontented, confused white youth, he was the method between apathetic fear and bloody despair.

"And I beheld, and lo, a black horse; and he that sat upon him had a pair of balances in his hand." Rev. 6:5

Now the Middle Way is blocked to us. The corpses of Mack Parker, Medgar, Malcolm, a hundred other forgotten martyrs, and now Martin Luther King are the barrier. We agreed with Rap and Stokely, yes, America is corrupt, yes, America is oppressive, America is cancerous and blind with hate, but we insisted, there is another way... Death rattles, the world over, belied that hope...

"Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornications, nor of their thefts." Rev. 9:21

This nation was founded on a genocidal premise. We are the only nation to have had extermination of the aboriginal populace as a national policy... we have experienced war in every decade since our inception... of the thirty million black men and women wrested from their African home only half that number survived our violence... we are the only nation to have used atomic weapons... we utilize chemical and biological weaponry daily with impunity... our folklore, indeed our history, is both brutal and homicidal... we have chosen to suppress that history deep within the subconscious of our civilization, but it remains as the undercurrent of our every action, our "secret", our guilt, defended to the extent of mass murder, rather than accepted.

Non-violence has failed because we are not a non-violent people, because we have neither the spiritual maturity nor the historical integrity to admit our transgressions against our own species... we are fat children defending the empty cookie jar...

* "There was a time that I went blind,
It was the darkest day I ever saw,
It was the day that I went blind,
I moaned the day that I went blind,
I moaned the day that I went blind,
Oh, Lord, tell me how long,
Am I always to be blind?"

"You can call 'Bloody murder' when yo wants me out yo way, that's all right, man, you gwine-a need my help some day.

If your house catches on fire, and there ain't no water round,
If your house catches on fire, and there ain't no water round,
Throw your trunk out the window and let that shack durn down."

* Traditional blues as collected in "The Meaning of the Blues" by Paul Oliver.

Non-violence has failed... that is certain... but some, myself, will always abhor violence as a way of life, even though it be the only way, even though it be the very essence of life... and where does that leave us? ... mourning both black and white graves, unable to condemn white violence in the face of black violence, unable to look on black faces and say "Asaalam aliecam"... unsure of white brothers or black brothers, unable to stem the flow of blood because my philosophy, my ideology is impotent...

So the revolution will come... and... go... and... come again, we have taken this evolutionary experiment too seriously, perhaps we were doomed to failure from the outset and like all species will pass on in biologic procession to the godlike... maybe it is just a metabolic hallucination to think we could be both gods and men... in passive harmony with the universe... Ironic that man has protected and isolated himself so well from inter-specific aggression that now he must vent his own natural aggressions in this suicidal manner.

Same Old, Same Old

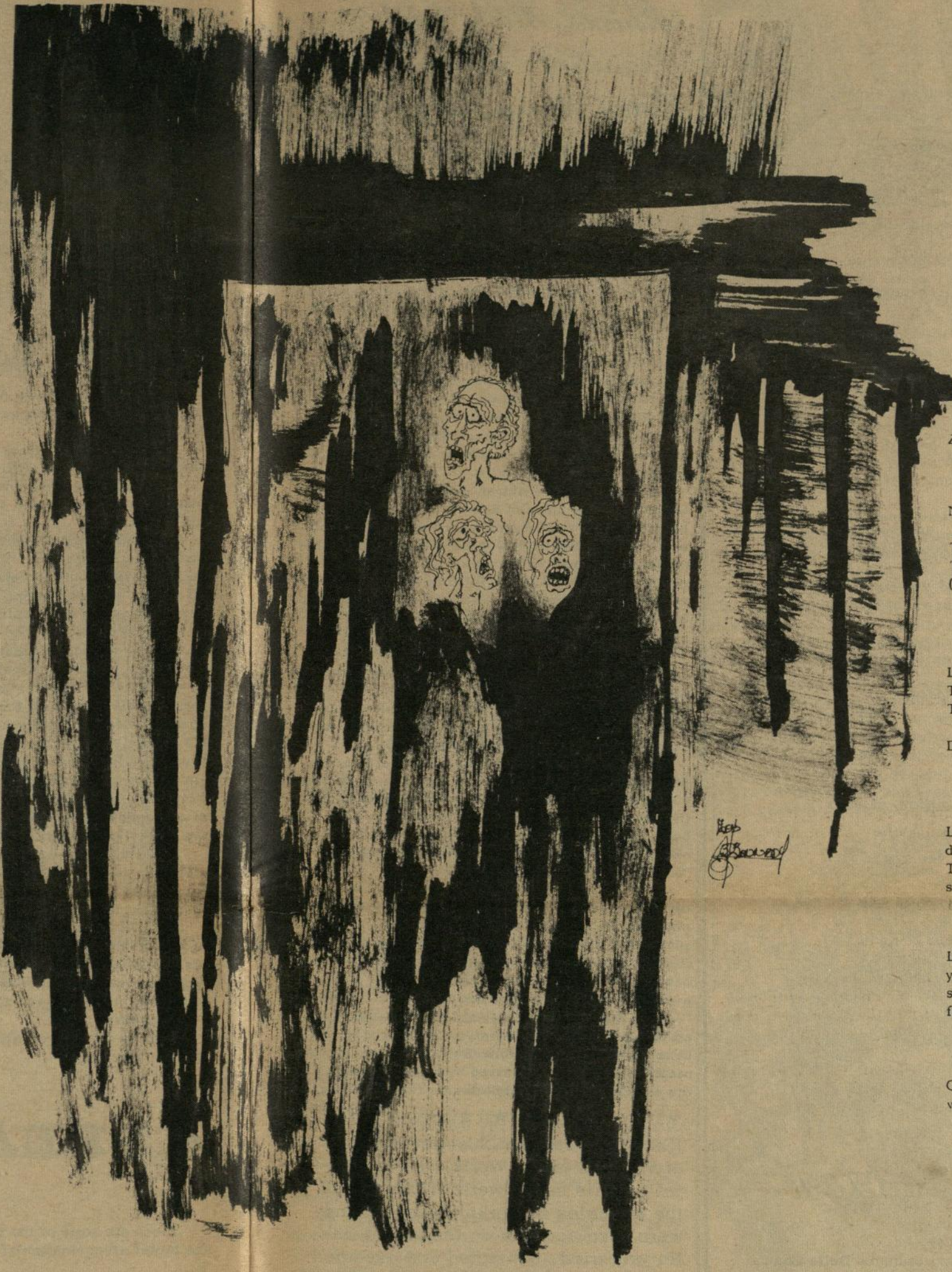
you are black, right?
what black is it
that shines so violently
illuminating even some grey cats
who ain't exactly fashionably freaky
behind this shithouse confinement.

biologically impossible, improbable,
or just excused by ratio?
The revolution storms and the cancer be damned;
but there are survivors, sole survivors
for now...
and they generate according to cosmic geometrics
Keep on Keepin On,

till you are white, right?
what white is it,
that shines so violently
illuminating even some black cats
who ain't exactly fashionably freaky
behind this shithouse confinement
The revolution... etc... etc... etc...

Jim, the species is a stagnant detail
all but inviting the evolution
of an incompatible insect or virus
or
some three-headed-striped avenger.

-eric bonner-



ZEBRAPOWER

For the Late Dr. Martin Luther King

Newark: July, 1967

The panther has not fed in a long time
They will hunt him on the rooftops and incinerator firescapes.
(Joe Stoot, Joe Pulaski and Bob Callamini have their guns
cocked already)

Listen! the jackel sirens whine in the city
The shadows are full of the hunters and the hunted
Tarzan Mighty Thor Batman KingKong and the IncredibleHulk are
abroad tonight
Dormant monsters, wheaties-fatted, sprung out of the tube onto
ourstreet

Listen! The jackel sirens whine out of the cities
down the routes of access and into ourtown
The panther has passed this way already
several times, through the back yard - down by the playgym

Listen! it is not too late to turn off the commercial.
you and I shall divert the whitehunters
so that the panther can lick his wounds
feed his children and sate his incredible hunger

COME ON ALL YOU ZEBRA PEOPLE OUT OF THE SHADOWS
we are visible, now, altogether: whinney

We are not afraid of Joe Pulaski
We have no enemies named Bob Callamini
Come on Joe Stoot wanta buy our skin
genuine installment striped psychedelic?
we are too many for a pride of panthers

whose tongues
are swollen with coal
Blackpalmed, blackpinioned on the roofs
of Newark

Bay the whitehunters harrowing out hoofbeats
Sing although coal burns down between cheek
and bone

Go limp there, roll over, hooves up, Zebrapeople!
WHITEBLACKBLACKWHITEREDABITWHITEABITBLACKABITREDALLOV

Come on you Zebrapeople out of the shadows
you have nothing to lose but your skins.

Annis Pratt
New York/Atlanta

...zebrapower



A play by Peter Weiss
Directed by Clarence Felder
At Theatre Atlanta

--a review by morris brown

Peter Weiss, the author of *Marat/Sade*, has given up the theatre to practice the art of the editor. From the war-crimes trials in Germany he gleaned quotations which he has condensed and put in the mouths of his characters to give a description of the Nazi death camps as experienced by those who survived them. Those too young to remember and too lazy to read may now have part of the English version (Pocket Books, 95¢) read to them in a variety of accents at Theatre Atlanta (\$3.50), directed by Clarence Felder.

In *THE INVESTIGATION*, Weiss appears to have intended an alienation-effect production. His purpose like Brecht's is to induce thought rather than a bath of emotion in the audience. Katherine Hocking remains the only local director able to deal with this mode. Her stark production of *THE MEASURES TAKEN* using teen-age actors, was the only artistically successful production of a Brecht play ever presented in Atlanta.

However having actors unable, in one direction or the other, to deal with emotion on stage, Mr. Felder has overlaid the play with an incomprehensible board game. In the struggle to comprehend the rules of this game the minds of the audience would indeed be distracted from too close an involvement with the remembered suffering on stage were there any realistic danger of that.

The actors, save three, are clothed in merciful anonymity: those three have been thereby ill-used.

The play opened the last night of Martin Luther King's life. If it has any message it is that a minority in a death-dealing society must be individually strong and selfish to survive; that the meek get shot in the head, gassed and tortured; and that every rank amongst the majority may be expected to cooperate in this enterprise. This is a premise well worth the thought of Americans these days, and much thought about by blacks in the past week.

If a Theatre Atlanta audience is going to think about such things any further than Pershing Point, they are going to have to be faced with a play (played by people and not polyglot chessmen) which deals with Germany's sickness alive in America today with the institutions we are erecting to accomplish the same result: and with our own soldiers, industrialists and sadists who will accomplish our own "final solution."

The Names

1
An unfinished mouth, & already
too much said. Say
Our names are. dead.
Star, where-
ever, come
down, & light the moon.
Let the face see.
Or song
come, where-
ever in the dark.

2
You move thru the dark like
whispers. I
listen for a name.

3
I sit at the desk, and suddenly
all the words of beautiful script
leave me.
I think that inside you your baby wears
handcuffs, & I know cops are at yr. door.

Girl, your name in script,
girl with blue eyes at the blue window,
wake
from the window,
keep
well--

4
Two wake in a window of stars,
or bullet-holes.
All comes real.

The song:

keep well, keep
well.

The names, what
came comes
back.
Let it, let it
go, also.

Let the mouth finish.

Joe Nickell

A!! LETTER

Dear Crucified Good Lay:

Max, Mama Fifi and Laurence Della Castro
want to humbly and respectfully submit their fruits
of wisdom of...of...

God is alive---and he's a sick Christian Scientist.
God is alive---and he's Southern White Trash.
God is alive---and he's going to vote for George Wal-
lace.

God is alive---and he's a member of the Georgia
legislature.

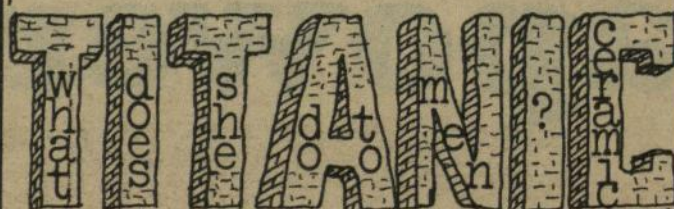
God is alive---and his wife is on birth-control
pills.

God is alive---and he wears contact lenses.
God is alive---and he works for Theater Atlanta.

Max, Mama Fifi and Laurence Della Castro
would like to submit wisdom periodically to the
GREAT SPECKLED BIRD.

Max

(Welcome, baby. Keep it clean.--ed.)



Rhinos, Riots and
Priorities: Sleep On
Paces Ferry, The Black
Prince Comes

The Atlanta Junior Civitan Club has recently completed a project of soliciting funds to acquire a rhinoceros for the Atlanta Public Zoo. Within the past month the campaign went over the top as regards the animal's price of seven thousand dollars having been raised through radio pleas and civic donations. This is the first rhinoceros to be acquired by a public zoo in the southeastern United States.

"The City of a Million Plus" will remember the summer of 1968 as an uneasy period. Fridays and Saturdays at Lenox Square will be tense and rumors will spread quickly over troubles: actual and imagined. People's Town, Pittsburg and Dixie Hills will be patrolled more intensely with the coming of June, adding to the already volatile situation.

Atlanta school children donated milk money to the as of yet unnamed animal while the various social and service organizations were played off each other competitively in an effort to raise the unpledged amount. The junior Civitans placed receptacles shaped in the form of miniature rhinoceroses and painted an attractive shade of pink in convenient downtown locations for pocket-change contributions.

Rap will be heard to be in town every weekend. The South's showcase for racial harmony and progressive leadership will be deserted downtown after dark for fear the summer's violence will not be contained to geographically and racially separate sections of town.

The Atlanta radio stations have had daily reports on the animal's size, shape and color complemented by actual grunts and strainings from the quadruped in question. A decision is now being made to select an appropriate name for the animal from among the numerous entries in a "Name the Rhino" contest.

Night game attendance at the Stadium will be off and those who do venture to see "our Braves" play will do so at the risk of slashed tires and stolen batteries. Female employees at the State Capitol Building will be sent home early on many occasions to avoid any situations arising from events of the summer's course.

The Atlanta Junior Civitan Club has embarked on a project to raise money for a pair of zebras for the Atlanta Public Zoo, the first such matched pair to be acquired by a public zoo in the southeastern United States.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

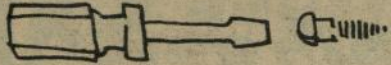
JOE HILL was a Wobbly (International Workers of the World) and a songwriter. His songs were written out of the struggles of working people, and were used as tools on the picket line. He was tried, convicted and executed in 1915 by the state of Utah on a trumped-up charge of murder. 30,000 people marched to his funeral.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

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Screw the Draft



The U.S. National Student Association recently launched a draft resistance and counseling program. NSA president Ed Schwartz stated: "The National Student Association urges every student, whether he plans ultimately to serve or to resist, to appeal reclassification of the I-A as far as he can through the selective service system. We urge particularly that personal appearances before local boards be used to convey to those who sit on them our growing frustration with the current dangerous directions which foreign and domestic policies have taken."

The student association announced plans to provide regular information, through a newsletter, on legal aspects of Selective Service for lawyers, students, and the public. It is providing all member campuses information sheets describing appeals procedures.

NSA also announced that it has "developed a pool of speakers on the draft, including especially those students who have decided to refuse induction, in order to demonstrate to campuses and to the public that those who have decided to resist are young men of considerable conviction and enormous courage, willing to risk reputation and careers in support of their beliefs."

The student association recently brought suit against General Lewis Hershey for alleged use of the Selective Service System to punish anti-war demonstrators. The court maintained that it exercised no jurisdiction over what was a non-legal matter. NSA is appealing the ruling.

Local NSA member campuses include Clark, Morehouse, Spelman, Emory and Agnes Scott.

ANTIWAR

DEMONSTRATION!

In conjunction with protest action in major cities across the nation, the Atlanta Alliance for Peace will hold a demonstration here on Saturday, April 27th. At meetings of the Alliance on April 4th and 6th, it was decided to begin the action with massive picketing of the complex of government buildings between 7th and 8th streets on Peachtree Street. The picketing will begin at 1:00 PM, and will terminate with a march to Piedmont Park for a peace fair with entertainment and a speaker, probably either Carl Oglesby, past president of Students for a Democratic Society, and leading spokesman for the New Left, or Vincent Harding, Chairman of the History Department at Spelman College and a Black Power spokesman.

The demonstration will be a part of the International Days of Protest, April 20 - 30, which will also include a nationwide student strike on April 26, in which many Atlanta students will participate.

In New York, Martin Luther King, Jr. was to have been the main speaker, along with Jean-Paul Sartre, the French philosopher, playwright and author, who recently served as one of the three presidents of the International War Crimes Tribunal held in Stockholm, Sweden. (CLC)

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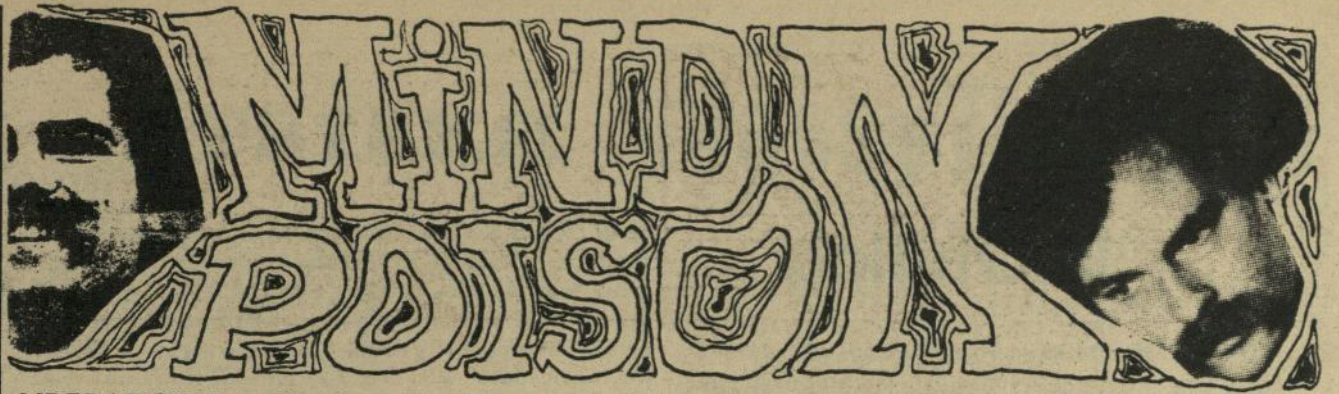
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LIBERATION News Service--The Village Voice

Many of my friends expected to be in concentration camps by the end of summer. Some expected to be gunned down dramatically in the streets of Chicago in August while yippee-ing at the Death Convention. These visions lead to caution, and one sometimes feels like he is living in Russia in the early part of the century.

There is a knock at the door. It could be the agent with our number up, and it could be a messenger bringing the news that McCarthy and Kennedy are going to fight it out for leadership of the anti-war movement: What a fucked-up country--we expected concentration camps and we got Bobby Kennedy.

I am more confident of our ability to survive concentration camps than I am of our ability to survive Bobby. Concentration camps capture our bodies temporarily but set our spirits screaming; Bobby injects a nerve gas into our veins, putting our body and spirit to sleep. The media overwhelms us with the reality of Bobby and Gene, and drugs us into identification with THEIR thoughts, arguments, trips, crusades.

Elections in America are a mind poison.

The energy for a mass, people-movement in which we begin to trust our own ideas and impulses, depend on our own strength, face the dilemma of making our own world... that energy is oozed out of us as we become voters, door-to-door vote salesman, and spectators in the country's greatest theatrical event: the elections.



Elections are authoritarian; the subjects elect their kings.

What's wrong with America is that her total institutions overwhelm her people into impotence and isolation. We all live the dream of the celebrity-candidate. Yet only massive populist revolution can liberate the imprisoned soul of the people of America. Revolution is not a result, but a process. In revolution man liberates himself and becomes free, creating and discovering his own identity.

Elections are modeled after the sports world. That's why they are so mind-capturing. Candidates compete in contests which build up drama and suspense as The Day approaches. We are all baseball fans who vote for our team. The winner! The loser! The front pages read like the sports pages. We the masses do not participate; we give consent; we argue; we root; we take sides; but we are little more than bystanders in a mass athletic spectacle and it's called democracy.

The twinkles in Bobby's eye competes with the dark brows of McCarthy's face competes with

LBJ's large nose competes with the uncompleted sexual act of JFK competes with Dick the Car Salesman competes with Johnny Carson competes with... is this what the Founding Fathers intended?

The most aware attitude toward the elections is (1) not to vote; (2) to vote for yourself, a national "Vote for Me" campaign; (3) to vote for a close friend. The yippees may nominate a 300-pound pig for president. His program is garbage. After nomination we will eat him and all become the candidate. The only answer to an absurd system is absurdity and laughter, followed by anger, and then absurdity and laughter. Anything else is playing by their rules, and their rules are oppressive and fixed-in-advance.

I ran as a candidate for mayor of Berkeley last spring and fell almost unconsciously under the drug of the election-system. In order to answer the streetcorner question: "Are you serious?" --sort of a pre-condition for people listening to you--I had to concentrate on the commodity, soap-disguised-as-votes. I should have said I wasn't serious. I should have dropped out of the race a week before the election and encouraged people to vote for themselves.

The purpose of political life is to free the spirit and energy of man. Vietnam is a symptom of the American disease: the war is a symbol of violence and domination less dramatic. Vietnam is the mirror to understanding Detroit and South Africa. Our goal is to transform the quality of American life, the distribution of power, the content of the culture, the forms of decision-making the top-heavy organization of institutions, and the tiny influence individuals have over their own lives.

Dealing with repression is far easier than dealing with toleration and sweet bureaucracy. In reaction to the LBJ madness, America may be due for a national regeneration, the new FDR-type period, the end of wild rule by guys like Hershey and Hoover, and the triumph of public relations-liberal parents-dollar capitalism. This will mean a crisis for the repression-atrocity-oriented movement. For whites the alternative is a national youth underground with new values and life-styles--the pot cigaret its symbol--an underground exploding in creation but badly seeking definition.

In the end, however, reform will lead to revolution. America proposes to us, but she cannot complete her promises. Reform creates hope, widens expectations, and then an inch demands a mile. JFK was a creator of the New Left. Bobby is going to invite us over for dinner and we are going to sleep with his wife, give his kids pot, and steal his money and send it to guerrillas at home and abroad. Today's shaved nice McCarthy-RFK collegians will be tomorrow's yippies!

--jerry rubin



the great speckled bird--9

Honky Recruiting

TOUGALOO, Miss., Apr. 1 (LNS--Aframerican News Service)--Students at Tougaloo College, led by the Political Action Committee PAC, forced an Air Force recruiter off campus. They then went to the vice president who is in charge of career planning and placement and told him not to "ever invite anyone from any of the branches of the armed services again." The veep responded that this recruiter was only recruiting for civilian jobs with the Air Force, adding that he knew Tougaloo students would not accept people from the military or corporations like Dow Chemical, and had turned down a Dow man when he asked to come on campus. The students informed the veep that they would not tolerate anyone from the armed services or any subsidiaries.

PAC has also succeeded in its efforts to control the college lectures and concerts committee. This traditional faculty committee, mostly white, has invited personalities who the students say are of no interest to the Black community.

In its statement against the Air Force man, PAC noted that "it is the Air Force which systematically drops bombs and napalm on whole villages and destroys all lives. You had better get hipped because the U.S. Air Force is going to do the same thing to BLACK PEOPLE."

"Did you know that the Armed Forces are furnishing local police forces with battle equipment such as tanks, half trucks, machine guns, and various kinds of gases and chemical substances to be used on BLACK PEOPLE? And this honky has the nerve to come on our campus and ask us to join him!!! He is either out of his mind or satisfied that we are so thoroughly brainwashed that we will accept him like he is, a white god. NO! We will not accept him and we will not put up with this insult. HE MUST GET OFF OUR CAMPUS AND STAY OFF, AND STAY OFF!!!!!!!!!!!!"

Free Press Busted

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla., March 29 (LNS) --Both editors of the Florida Free Press were arrested in their homes today by Palm Beach County Vice Squad police for publishing an allegedly obscene cartoon. Romeo Rivard, 26, and Ron Simpson, 24, haven't been able to leave the county jail all day as their bond is \$2,000 each and local supporters are just beginning to raise the money.

The arrests came at 5 p. m. today, but by midnight all of the other staff members were in hiding as police had surrounded the home of the Free Press business manager, and speculation was that every member of the editorial board was scheduled for arrest.

This witch-hunt began with a comic strip which had "a few four-letter words and a woman's buttock," according to Tom Wykoss of the Free Press staff. The cartoon in question appeared in issue number three, March 14.

Late tonight, the Palm Beach chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union had expressed "interest" in the case of the underground editors, but would not commit itself to their defense, Wykoss said.

RESIST!

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following statement by the Committee of American Deserters in Stockholm was sent to LNS by Fred M. Pavese, formerly a GI based in Boston, and now secretary of the deserters' group. It is the first in what we anticipate will be a series of informational dispatches by the former soldiers, who are interested in founding a Swedish Information Service in the U.S. The deserters say that underground papers frequently have a wide pass-on readership among GI's abroad, and hope the undergrounds will carry news of their activities in Stockholm.)

We, the American Deserters in Sweden, having been forced by conscience to abandon our homeland in protest against our country's criminal aggression against an impoverished but valiant people in their struggle to attain peace and national independence, declare:

That the United States business interests and its military machine are conducting an unmitigable war of aggression in Vietnam, and that as long as they pursue such policies, they are the enemies not only of the Vietnamese, but of all humanity.

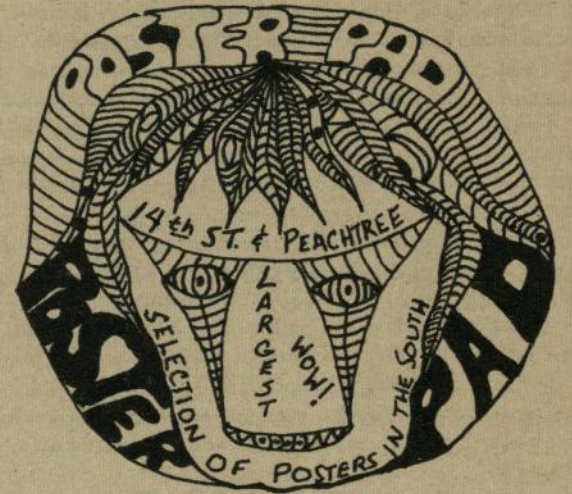
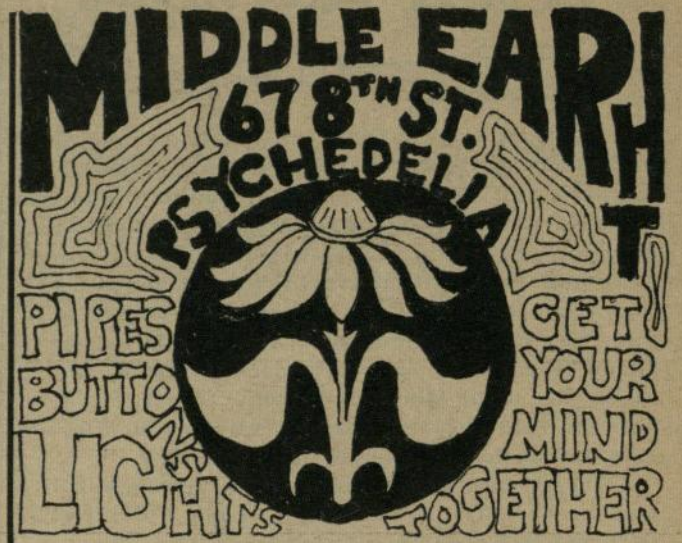
We, therefore, demand that the national independence of Vietnam be immediately acknowledged and that the Vietnamese people be permitted to develop democratic institutions in peace and freedom in accordance with the social exigencies of their country.

We appeal to the youth of America to resist unrelentingly and to refuse all cooperation with their government, and to American servicemen the world over to sever all ties with their command, as long as that government pursues its present course of Western white barbarism.

Finally, we appeal to the conscience and sense of justice of the nations of the world to exert every possible effort to implement the immediate peaceful withdrawal of the United States armed forces from Vietnam, or, that having failed, to aid the Vietnamese people in driving these genocidal instruments of destruction from their land, and finally, to manifest their magnanimity by granting political asylum to courageous resisters to this war.

Free Clinic

A free medical clinic will reopen at the Scout Hut, behind the First Presbyterian Church, at Peachtree and 16th streets. The clinic, set up and staffed by the Fulton County Medical Society, will provide free medical services for needy people who reside in the area. The clinic, scheduled to open the first week of May, will be open every Tuesday and Thursday night, starting at 8:00 PM. The clinic was originally opened at the 12th Gate last fall, but was closed down by authorities on various legal technicalities. Bruce Donnelly, owner of the 12th Gate, and originator of the first clinic, said there will probably have to be a screening committee to prevent use of the clinic by those who can afford private medical care. This was a serious problem with the original clinic; a large number of wealthy kids who lived at home in Northeast Atlanta were using the free services. (CLC)



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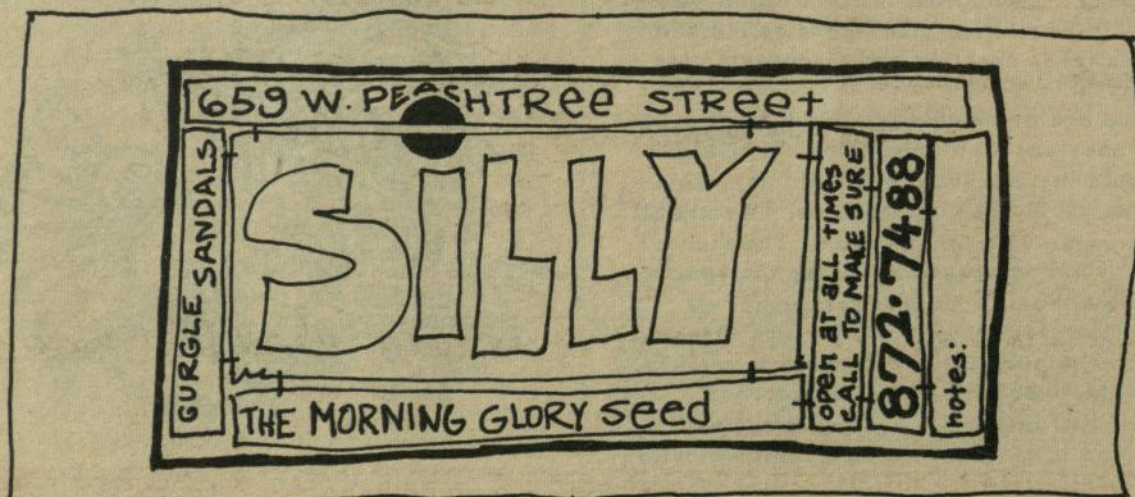
nightly at the

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LONGHAIR CONVICTED

JERUSALEM, March 29 (LNS)--Roman authorities, acting on information from a paid informer, have arrested the leader of a dissident group of pacifists. Jesus Christ, of no fixed address, was brought before Magistrate Pontius Pilate and bound over for trial. He was arrested in the company of several suspected homosexuals while loitering in an olive grove near Jerusalem. The Romans state that their attention was drawn to Christ when he was observed kissing another man under a tree.

Authorities feel that with the arrest of Christ, the anti-militant group will become disorganized and disperse. The former carpenter and magician drew a large motley following of malcontents with his idealistic philosophy of peace and love. While paying lip service to the law, his teachings are believed responsible for draft dodging and the desertion of tax collectors.

In a public statement, King Herod said that the Christian group is a social blight on the city. Their refusal to work at normal jobs and lack of decent home lives are an insult to decent citizens and a bad example for children. "Christians are scum, and scum always rises to the surface," he said. Herod expressed the hope that the group could be brought back into society.

Deputy Chief Centurian Fiskus of the Romans later announced that the arrest presaged an intended crackdown on the "Christian" community. He referred to the raid as a warning to "Christians" against congregating in Jerusalem this summer. Fiskus said that the Romans had conferred with legal experts to find existing laws that could be used against the group.

Yale Accepts Resisters

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Apr. 1 (LNS)--Yale University has ruled that students who are convicted of refusing induction will be re-admitted if the action is "demonstrably rooted in conscience." Questioned about the nuances of the phrase, Dean John Perry Miller of the graduate school said, "This is not the time to decide hypothetical cases which may develop. Each application for readmission must be considered on its merits." In deciding to re-admit draft resisters, Yale joins several other schools, including Harvard, Princeton and Columbia.

The charges against Christ include: loitering in an area appurtenant to a public building; having no visible means of support; practicing medicine without a license; conducting an unlawful assembly; public mischief; assault of money changers in a religious building; creating a disturbance by shouting; failure to pay income tax; obstructing an officer; and several counts of advocating an illegal act.

Christ is also held on suspicion under the Narcotics Control Act. He has claimed to have seen 'visions' and claims supernatural powers for himself. Authorities feel that this is probably the result of using drugs.

One official referred to the "Christians" as a group of parasites who add nothing to the betterment of society. They wander aimlessly around the country, he said, frequenting the company of thieves, drunkards, and prostitutes. "This anti-social behavior goes against everything we have been taught to believe in."

Antonio Sooderius, one of the producers of the Seven O'Sundial Show at the arena, was "reassigned" to other duties after publicly comparing Christ with Moses. Two hundred irate citizens threw clay tablets charging "sacrilege" and "heresy."

Roman and Hebrew officials feel that with the arrest of Christ, his unkempt following will quietly disperse. "This is a passing fad," one said. "If we stop it right now it will never become a major problem."

The trial of Jesus Christ is set for Friday and a group of responsible, interested citizens have announced their intention of attending and making the views of the community known.

With luck, Rome will have heard the last of this boarded troublemaker and his strange philosophy.

classy fine ADS

I NEED A GIG--G.S.B. contributor needs a job... Office, Whse, Factory, Anything... Wife preg, in debt, desp. Eric Bonner 457-1079

Manager for Art Gallery Art Supply Shop in N. Georgia Mts. 273-0985

Psychedelic Sandy is alive and well at Lackland A. F. B.

Jesus Wore Long Hair--Why Not Me?? Bo

Hi Shirley
Love, Doug

I want to buy used footlocker--Dennis 755-7889

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Money is desperately needed to support the Memphis strikers and their families. Send to:
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Mack--
Yell at me when you get up please--

R

The GREAT SPECKLED BIRD needs sellers on high school campuses. 5¢ per paper. Call 892-7891 or drop by 187 14th St.

The Atlanta Jazz Club will hold a free jazz concert Sunday, April 21, from 3:00 to 7:00 P.M., at The Variety Club which is located off the righthand side of the Fox Theater's lobby. Performers include Dr. John "Knocky" Parker, and a five piece Dixieland band. All are welcome!



TWELFTH

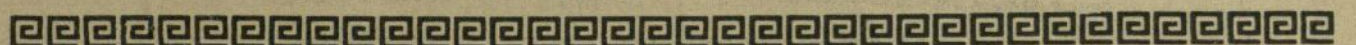
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Peace and Freedom NOW ^{now} ^{now} ^{now} !

Saturday, April 6, 9 PM. Seventy radical students sprawl over desks in the old Air Force ROTC building at Emory. The war, King killed, now cities burning. People shuffle about, restless, anxious, impotent.

It had been an all day meeting of militant anti-war groups coordinated by the Atlanta Southern Student Organizing Committee. Representatives from the Georgia State Committee on Social Issues, Athens SDS, Emory, Georgia Tech, the Atlanta Alliance for Peace, and the Atlanta Workshop in Nonviolence had gathered to coordinate projects during the April 21-30 days of "Southern Secession" or "Resistance to the War on the Vietnamese people, to the racist military repression, to the exploitation of the poor, and to the impressment and manpower channelling of young men by the Selective Service System."

The morning session had been devoted to the discussion now universal among radicals: "What do we do now that all our potential recruits are flooding to the Kennedy-McCarthy camp?" The discussion had been spirited, the conclusions vague. Mistrust and suspicion of the liberal anti-war challengers dominated debate. Individuals pointed out that neither candidate advocated withdrawal. Both would go to Vietnam if drafted, and neither related Vietnam to the larger problem of American Imperialism around the world.

Tactically, many felt that working within a campaign would prevent radicals from raising the more general issues and eventually would discredit them when the liberal alternative failed again as Johnson, the liberal alternative and "peace

candidate" of '64, had failed. Against this view some felt that they could work within the Kennedy-McCarthy camps without blunting their criticisms.

We heard reports on the militant, angry all-night meeting of the students at Atlanta University, and of their march. And we knew of the eruptions on black campuses throughout the country. And on white campuses. At Alabama protesting students dragged the flag to half mast over the objections of President Rose. At Mississippi State, 70 students organized a protest vigil, their first action in support of blacks in history. And at Duke University 250 students sat in the President's home all night, demanding desegregation of all facilities and recognition of the local union of non-academic employees.

We choked with bile at the sight of the white TV establishment parading before the great American middle class the conservative "Negro leaders" with their counsels of caution and condemnation of the just, though undirected, wrath of the black masses. We starved to grip a brick or hurl a bottle against those massive concrete monuments of White Power glowering over the Atlanta skyline. We hated those cheer leaders of baby-burning called "responsible newsmen" who now used Dr. King's principled commitment to non-violence as an ideological lash against the frustrated masses who had burst leaderless into the streets. We watched Eric Severeid compare Stokely to Hitler, and could only wonder where that put Lyndon Johnson, or if that didn't make Severeid our Goebbels.

Now troops occupied a dozen smouldering cities of our land, and perhaps before the summer was out, even perhaps before the next week was out, they would occupy every city in the land. And this overpowering historical fact had to affect plans, had to shift our emphasis from the Empire's aggression abroad to its repression at home.

Tom Gardner demanded such a course. "What has happened in the last few days should make people change their projected plans." Gardner sketched out three possible lines of action. "On a long term basis, we need to work in working class and poor white communities. Second, we need immediately to expand our educational work in the white student and middle-class community, explaining the causes of riots as well as the connection between racism and American Imperialism. Finally, we need to make contingency plans for direct aid during rebellions."

Gardner suggested that a teach-in on black power might now succeed in mobilizing people against racism as the Vietnam teach-in had against the war. He further proposed that a support committee similar to the Washington Committee for Emergency Support be formed. This organization, composed primarily of whites would furnish housing, food, medical care and legal aid to the victims of police action.

More militant proposals came to the forefront. One student suggested that radicals should demand that the guard be removed if it is sent into a city, and when burning and looting begin, "we should pull every fire alarm in town as a diversionary tactic."

Finally, the discussion reached a crescendo: "All this is liberal bullshit. It doesn't take a radical to pull a fire alarm. Start a fire at Rich's and give them something to go to."

Then came the put-down. Quietly, Nik Levin said: "Most of these suggestions are juvenile. Most of the people here won't do them. If you're going to do them, go back and do them. There seems to be a tendency in the movement, when we get in these large meetings, to see who can toss out the most radical or revolutionary slogan."

"There won't be a revolution in the near future--only small skirmishes between blacks and whites. Our supporting role in this is most important. Do not get put in jail because of a romantic idea for getting in with their thing." He agreed with Gardner that until the black movement demands independence, the role of whites would be restricted to support of rebellions, minimizing white violence against blacks, and education in the white community. "This gives us a chance to tie together the issues of racism and militarism which characterize this country."

A few comments later the gathering disintegrated into workshops, which disintegrated into tired people having found no solutions, only bigger and bigger problems. -- Howard Romaine

HIGH ADVENTURE

FRIDAY April 12

\$\$\$FLICK Flight of the Phoenix. Georgia Tech Electrical Engineering Auditorium. 50¢
***CONCERT Bach's St. John's Passion. Emory University, Glenn Memorial Church.

SATURDAY, April 13

\$\$\$FLICK The Pawnbroker. Emory University, Alumni Memorial Building. 50¢

SUNDAY, April 14

***LECTURE-ART FILM It Ain't Necessarily So. Central Unitarian Society. Fulton County Medical Society Bldg., 7th & W. P'tree. 10:30 p.m.
***ORGAN RECITAL Dedication of new organ. Sister's Chapel, Spelman College, 3 p.m.
***FILM PROGRAM Chartres Cathedral. Three different periods of medieval history in shorts with Romanesque, Early Gothic and Late Gothic combinations of architecture. 3 p.m. High Museum of Art.

MONDAY, April 15

\$\$\$SLIDE LECTURE Washington: The New Art Scene. Donald R. McClelland, Assoc. Curator, Smithsonian Institution. High Museum of Art, 8 p.m. \$1.00 for non-members.

WEDNESDAY, April 17

***FLICK Tonio Kroger, The Magician. Emory University, AMB. 8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, April 18

***LECTURE Derrick Morrison, National Executive Committee of YSA and founder of the National Black Anti-draft Anti-war Union (NABADAWU). "On Black Nationalism and the Struggle for a Socialist America." Georgia State College. Call 872-1612 for time and place.

FRIDAY, April 19

***CONCERT Mozart's Solemn Vespers, K.339. Women's Chorale and Candler Choraliers. Emory University, Glenn Memorial Auditorium 8:15 p.m.
\$\$\$FLICK The Carpetbaggers. Georgia Tech. Electrical Engineering Auditorium. 7:30 p.m. 50¢

SUNDAY, April 21

***FILM PROGRAM The Art of the Conservator. On expert restoration of oil paintings. Russell Quandt, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Wash. D.C. High Museum of Art. 3 p.m.

MONDAY, April 22

\$\$\$CONCERT Donald McDonald, organist. Emory University. Call 377-2411 for details.
***SLIDE LECTURE Eugene Delacroix. Dr. William R. Crelly. High Museum of Art. 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, April 23

***DANCE Jean Leon Destine and Dance Group. Morehouse College, Archer Auditorium. 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, April 24

***FLICK Le Million, The Bespoke Overcoat. Emory University AMB. 8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, April 25

***DRAMA Don Juan in Hell. Druid Hills Art Council. Unitarian Church. 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, April 26

!!!INTERNATIONAL STUDENT STRIKE The GREAT SPECKLED BIRD urges all students and faculty to boycott classes in protest of the war in Vietnam.

***PANEL DISCUSSION The Protest Generation. Theatre Atlanta, following play.

***MUSIC Beethoven Festival. Emory University Call 377-2411 for details.

SATURDAY, April 27

!!!MASS ANTI-WAR DEMONSTRATION. Watch for Details.

PROJECTION Sunday, May 5. Paint-in. Call Gavant Gallery 233-3938 for time and place and details.

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