

# STREET PAPER 25¢

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## GUESS WHO'S WINNING THE WAR?

6219  
7158

#6445

8449



Laos p.3  
 Winter Soldier  
 Investigation p.4  
 Peace Treaty p.8



# The Winter Soldier Investigation

## PATTY LEE PARMALEE

Has there ever been a war in history whose soldiers during the course of that war, testified against themselves in order to accuse their country of war crimes? Already the hatred of GI's for the Vietnam War has made it impossible for the U.S. to continue the ground war in Detroit on January 31-February 2 veterans of the war told the American people about the nature of the war in hopes that it will be ended altogether. As in the past, the people did not want to listen: in the midst of a news blackout on U.S. and South Vietnamese invasion of Laos and Cambodia, the Winter Soldier Investigation too suffered from a news blackout due to self censorship by all except the local press and Pacifica radio. Vietnam Veterans Against the War, the organization that collected 2000 signatures by veterans calling for an investigation, and planned and ran the three days, says its members have been trying to tell the people about the deeds they were ordered to commit for years, but until the news of My Lai broke, no one would listen. Now the press is ready to print news of a few individual incidents and the government is willing to prosecute a few scapegoats, but the VVAW wants to make clear that the policy resulting in My Lai is SOP (standard operating procedure) and this the press is less eager to print.

To prove war crimes are government policy and have been since as early as 1964, over 100 veterans testified to many hundreds of incidents, giving extensive documentary support and political breadth to the earlier, smaller investigations organized by the Citizens Commission of Inquiry during 1970. Unlike the CCI hearings, Winter Soldier planned format and time to include testimony on the reasons for policies. Thus it accuses the U.S. government of genocide not only abroad but also at home, of brainwashing not only its troops but also its civilian population; of mistreating not only prisoners of war but also military and civilian prisoners at home; of manipulating not only the military but also the civilian press.

The veterans, who came from all over the country in response to appeals by VVAW and talks on community college campuses and radio talks by Jane Fonda and Mark Lane, were organized into panels by the division they served in, so they could corroborate each other's testimony and give a unified picture of the policies of each section of the service. Within divisions they testified in the order of their dates of service in Vietnam. The 1st and 3rd Marine divisions, 1st Air Cavalry, 5th Special Forces, 101st, 82nd, and 173 Airborne, and 25th, 1st, 4th, and 9th Infantry and American were all represented.

ted by many persons. In addition there were special panels on weapons outlawed by the Geneva conventions, prisoners of war, press censorship, and medical policy, as well as an unscheduled panel on racism demanded by Third World vets who felt the problem of racism was being treated as a side issue. And evening sessions were held with speeches and panel discussions on what we are doing to Vietnam and what we are doing to ourselves.

Three days of listening to what really happens in Vietnam (stories that in a more popular war might be considered heroic exploits) is a harrowing experience, and the audience of 5-800 people found itself gradually dulled to the impact of atrocity stories. As one man after another described torture methods he had participated in, violations of war rules, shooting of prisoners, burning of villages, a "we've heard all this before" attitude tended to develop in the audience, and it became easy to understand how the GI's themselves could have come to accept torture as routine while in Vietnam. This was, in fact, their message: end the war so that the dehumanization that happened to us will end.

Testimony on torture of prisoners and killing of civilians was most extensive. Vets testified that they had seen and participated in a wide variety of practices outlawed by the Geneva accords, and that officers and military police either gave the orders or knowingly accepted the practices. Some of the men testifying had in fact themselves been officers and confessed to giving such orders.

Torture practices described by interrogation specialists and others to force information from "Vietcong" suspects or civilians include, among others:

1. The "Bell telephone hour" — wiring any part of a subject's body (usually genitals) to field telephone wires and shocking him or her — apparently the most widespread technique, especially in the field.
2. The same technique with the more vicious jeep battery — revving up the engine to produce shock.
3. Yanking a string around a suspect's testicles (demonstrated with pictures).
4. Beatings.
5. Dunking in water.
6. Burning the penis with a cigarette.
7. Applying leeches till a suspect faints.
8. Putting suspects in a room overnight with an 8-foot python.
9. Disembowelling a live prisoner in front of others.
10. Slicing bacon strips out of a Vietnamese (who then had to be executed since the wounds couldn't be camouflaged).

11. Throwing prisoners out of helicopters in front of others.

12. Letting dogs loose at Vietnamese tied to trees.

13. Pulling out fingernails.

14. Making a prisoner sit next to a pile of dead "VC" bodies in the hot sun for six hours (shown in slides).

15. Threatening rape, usually of a daughter when the parents were suspects.

When asked why they participated in torture, the vets answered that it was standard practice, that they had been taught by the military and by American society to think of the Vietnamese as nonpersons, that they had been taught to fear all Vietnamese especially the women, that they were just sick at the time, they would be killed for disobeying, that after killing a lot of people torturing them didn't seem like much, or that they just didn't know the answer. All were visibly shaken by what they had to say, and although they testified in very matter-of-fact, almost instructional tones, some could not help crying. Those who had security clearance or signed a release are liable for prosecution for telling what happens in Vietnam, but that wasn't what upset them; it was having to articulate things they would rather forget, facing their own guilt at the same time as they accuse their government of guilt. When challenged by skeptics in the audience as to why they came there, veterans answered, "I'm here because I have nightmares about things that happened to me and my friends," and "Even my parents didn't want to know — that told me they had to know."

There was more testimony on the general treatment of prisoners. In keeping with the policy of producing a high body count, they were usually killed. Some vets testified that it was standard procedure to kill all prisoners, and also to kill Vietnamese trying to surrender with Chieu Hoi passes. A great many vets testified that live prisoners are thrown out of helicopters. One said he watched a Tiger Scout who shot a prisoner through the elbow several times, then "put the muzzle to his head and blew him away"; another watched his sergeant slit the throat of a wounded man. A third watched the murder and mutilation of four North Vietnamese Army nurses. There were many, many such incidents described.

After prisoners were killed, their bodies were frequently disfigured. Many vets testified to cutting off ears as souvenirs or to prove their kill to get rewards; others mentioned cutting off heads and putting them on poles, slashing bodies, sticking penises in corpses' mouths, digging up graves.

Many of the prisoners so treated were never proven "Vietcong." But civilians who were not even suspected

were treated the same way. There was hardly a vet who did not have several incidents to relate on mistreatment of civilians, from raping, killing, and even skinning women to killing 25 unarmed Vietnamese in an ambush. Indiscriminate harassment and interdiction fire was frequently referred to, as well as "mad minutes" during which people could shoot at anything they wished. Many vets also testified to burning entire villages without regard for the inhabitants, including revenge missions and contests to see who could destroy houses with the least fire. During these raids, GI's used their penises to "search" women, or rape and beat them. One Marine told of a woman being stabbed in both breasts and a weapon shoved up her vagina while she creid for water all the time; then she was killed. Others testified to running down old people on the roads with convoys, throwing cans of C-rations at children's heads, throwing rocks out of helicopters at sampans and farmers, shooting at starving women and children who raided trash dumps, firing on villages while the dead were being buried, stealing anything they wanted from villagers. There was also extensive testimony on the use of CS gas and defoliants, and other deliberate attempts to destroy crops.

When asked how they could have done these things to civilians, one vet answered, "It wasn't like they were humans. They were a gook or a commie and it was OK." Another elaborated: "We were Americans; we were the civilized people."

This kind of testimony ran through all divisions and all years of service in Vietnam. Airborne vets spoke more of burning villages from the air with napalm, of illegal weapons, and of the impersonality of an air war when bombs are dropped by computer.

Asked whether these incidents weren't hindered or reported by officers, vets repeatedly stated that on the contrary, officers either stood by and condoned, or actually gave the orders themselves. The only time they would order restraint was when the press was present. On occasions when GI's requested investigation of incidents they found abhorrent or knew to be illegal, they were frustrated by the officers.

Covering up of information was considered by the veterans to be such an important part of the war policy that they organized a special panel on press censorship. Combat correspondents told of the kinds of stories and photographs that would be rejected or censored for both the military press and public relations. If the correspondents tried to get information about Vietnamese life, style, burning of villages, women guerrillas and (continued on pg. 12)

## ANIMAL CANDOR

consider the bull in the field eyes to the arching back of cow

he wld tongue and muzzle her she raised her tail for this urine sample he curled his nose and breathed in on

if she wants it she gets it other wise

they graze



## SOME KINDA THREAT

ona des days the loaders are gonna outnumber the unloaders and then all u abstaining juice abusing war loving anti erotic creeps are gonna hafta move to what u wld undoubtedly refer to as higher ground

if i cld put my finger on the exact moment it will happen i wld be less anxious in the meantime content myself with south wind as they sing "cant get no nuki" to ten thousand teeny boppers burning bush and incense in the dirt palace tho the billed as stars of the sho canned heat have changed there was a death in the family into a burns detective stuffed into a 50 gallon drum on the rent-a-pig sty

this is the real nature of groundlings

alternate title for this realization is lines composed while waiting for the silent majority to shut up

## HYDRA (nt)

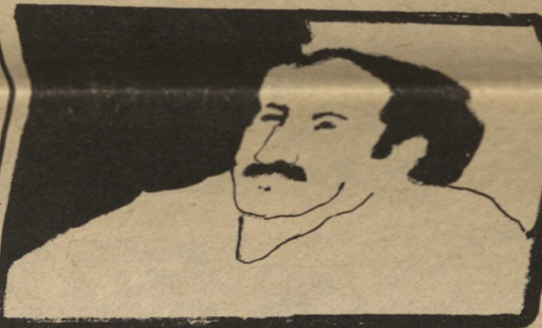
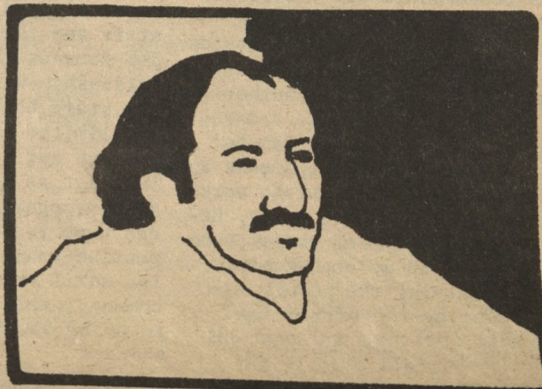
i see a fire going off in the various heads of the hydra

so profuse they have hired an arson detector on a day to day basis plenty experience with FBI also snappy dresser all around good egg who cld tell them the difference between gopher matches and a blo torch

so full of shit their churches are on fire

u cant destroy it with fire or bombs

u destroy it by walking away



## THE DYNAMITE SALESMAN

for christ sakes rk

uve been fucked in halves credibly enuf dropped out strange man offspring of achemical blitz east european head shranker who changed his name and later submitted to 104 other variations on the bilateral castration

"i aint no fortunate son" fogurty sings going over his various bank accounts

if u cld blo everything up wld u

or listen to the marxists drool their less defensible if equally creepy solutions

anarchy is nice but inapplicable, dig

at 4 bits a stick its just another burn



## MIXED AGREEMENT

memories rise and evaporate smoke does a theory of higher education give war a chance

at last theres no more hash in the house all sucked up into my iron lung

4 space didactacism wld suggest to u niversities were invented in paris to train clerics inspite of the reformation which supposedly secularized the curriculum we have the inquisition to inflate the theology and the universities continue to train clerics into ministering the ponderously defunkt machinery

diploma mills wife of wilbur mills chairman of the joint chiefs of gaff probably believes the humanitarianess of the argument against immediate withdrawal from asia on the grounds that it wld precipitate a blood bath

and it wld be all the rite blood



LNS PHOTO

# How Women are divided

The following article was written by a local woman who describes from her own experience how society keeps women apart by economic means.

I am a secretary in a two-woman office and we are in charge of the clerical work of a staff of twenty-five men. I am secretary #2. Secretary #1 receives a higher salary, oversees the operation of the office, and most important, is the private secretary of the head man.

Secretary #1 is classified as an administrative aid—but does secretarial shitwork all the same. She guards her special position jealously; she has to be constantly reassured that I recognize that she is responsible for the office and must be consulted on every matter. Any sign of initiative on my part drives her into a frenzy because it threatens her authority.

She pays careful attention to the lengths of my coffee breaks and lunch hours, if I get to work on time and don't leave early. Beside my regular typing chores, she has relegated to me such menial tasks as emptying the pencil sharpener, ordering the office supplies, mail sorting, and even dusting the desks—all this to impress upon me our respective positions in the office.

I started working after becoming involved in the women's liberation movement, so when after the first

few unpleasant encounters with my co-worker, such thoughts ran through my mind as "she must be going through menopause" or "women are impossible to work for," "BITCH!" I realized that I had to try to understand the reasons behind her behavior.

This woman comes from a solidly religious background. She has never questioned the present family arrangement and, despite the fact that she works, she still thinks of herself as primarily a wife and mother. As a worker she has received the highest position for a woman in the clerical field and feels compelled to prove to herself and others around her that she deserves this privilege.

As a private secretary, she owes total allegiance to her boss and must serve as an intermediary between him and the rest of the staff and the public. Because her job demands this loyalty, her relationship with me and the rest of the staff has been antagonistic. The limited privileges of her job prevent her from seeing our common interest as women, prevent her from recognizing that most women can hope for now are menial and routine jobs at inadequate salaries until they do understand their common interest and work together to bring about the needed social changes.

The division between this secretary and myself is not unique. The office in which I work is located in a large complex housing many various kinds of businesses,

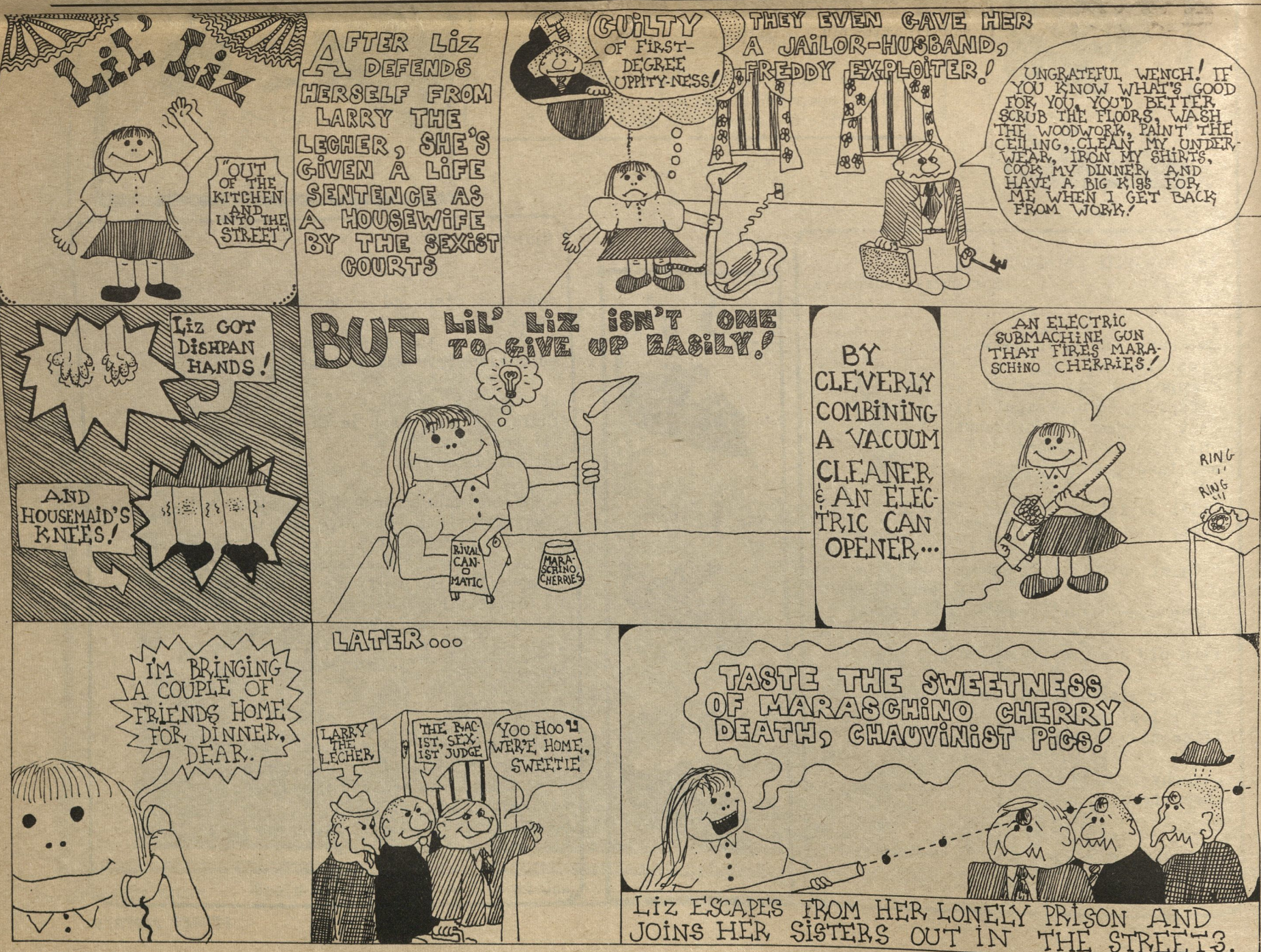
and, as a consequence, I have had the opportunity to observe women working in many kinds of jobs and seeing how different aspects of these jobs keep them divided. The housekeeping in the building is done primarily by women—as is the work in the cafeteria. These women have the hardest and dirtiest jobs and are paid the least for their labor. Many are minority women with very little education and training. They wear uniforms, and, for the most part, have little contact with other employees or the public. They view the clerical jobs other women hold generally with envy, because these jobs are clean, relatively easy and demand a higher pay.

The clerical worker does come in contact with the public and is a representative of the company. She must wear nice clothes and keep up her appearance in general. She looks down her nose at the housekeepers and cafeteria workers because when she compares their working conditions with her own, she often reaches the false conclusion that her own situation is better because she is somehow more deserving. In this way, she justifies her own privilege. The professional woman takes that same attitude toward her sisters in both the clerical and service fields. Her own success, she believes, is the consequence of hard work and discipline. She thinks she has a special talent or quality other women who haven't made it must lack. Because she views herself as being totally responsible for her own success, she is not inclined to recognize the social forces which keep other women from achieving these same goals— from even considering such goals, or the need to join with those women fighting for their liberation.

One third of the labor market today is made up of women; in New York it is 40%. The facts indicate the number of women working will continue to increase. In the past, women were brought in and out of the labor force according to the needs of the economy. During the war, women were needed to fill both the jobs left vacant by men and new jobs created by a booming economy. Accordingly, the image of women sold in the media was of the independent woman who wanted and needed to move outside of the home. After the war when the economy no longer required this surplus labor, the image changed to the woman completely fulfilled by home and family.

Statistics indicate that women now work not out of the needs of the economy, but out of their own economic need to make ends meet. Most women working today are married and have to work to keep up with the rising cost of living. Despite this reality, they are still primarily defined by their relationship to the means of production (i.e., as wives and mothers) rather than to the means of production as workers. This definition of the woman's social role is the chief rationalization for her inferior position in society.

Only if women are viewed primarily as wives and mothers can their educations be considered less important than men, can they be offered fewer job opportunities at lower salaries; can they be expected to return home from a full day's work with their tasks as mothers and wives still to be done. Even the jobs open to women are generally extensions of their role in the home (housekeepers, nurses, dietitians, assistants to men) and therefore serve to reinforce this limited definition of their social role.



# SELECTIVE DISSERVICE IN S.L.C.

"Our main function is to receive the registrant, listen to his case and then decide if his presentation has merit in regard to Selective Service regulation and the law passed by congress. If his case is valid, he will receive the deferment or exemption he is asking for. If his case lacks merit, he will be denied." Peter F. Leary is a lawyer, a Catholic, a former NCO during World War II, and a permanent resident of Salt Lake City. He is 48 years old, a member of the Knights of Columbus, and for the last four years, chairman of Local Board 18 in the Utah Selective Service System.

The procedure outlined by Leary is the guideline of the board's operation, fitting the laws and regulations that govern the draft into a pre-stressed form that all incoming registrants with a plea must fit. Leary is competent as a lawyer to listen to the argument, weigh the fact, and find a solution based on the facts of the case, but he is the exception to normal board membership.

His abilities are not matched by any other member of the five local draft boards disserving the youth of Salt Lake valley.

Board members come from many occupations and interests, but their predominant species crosses the "I" in conservative lustily, and dots the "I" in religious with a firm hand. In short, draft board members pose as "friendly little groups of neighbors doing a public service" once a month, but lean on their orthodox religious and political views during their rotary lunches, and Sunday ward meetings. As a group, the board members are normally white L.D.S., confirmed businessmen, former members of the military, and usually well over 40. Their ages stretch from newly appointed Wilford Simpson, 38, (local #22) to antiquarian Virgil Smith, 74 (local #22).

New blood has entered the system but the majority of the members have served on the boards for some time, and reflect the prejudices and alienation toward youth that can be expected from tired war horses.

"I don't want to answer any of your questions, and if you want to know anything, you call the state director up at Fort Douglas," John W. Holmes, a violent and disagreeable member of local board #24 screamed before he slammed down the phone. Holmes was reflecting the common prejudice of the board members that they are doing a thankless public service, without pay, so their anonymity should be guaranteed, and maintained at all cost. Utah's draft system has long operated in a vacuum, conceived to disenfranchise the youth of the valley from knowing their rights, the laws and regulations that affect them through the draft and the identity of the men who decide their young lives. "I don't think it would help anything if the boards publicized their identity," said Marvin L. Pugh. He is director of special services for the Salt Lake City school system, and the man charged with helping the military and preventing the anti-military from entering the minds of city high school students. Mr. Pugh thought that his position had consequences if his membership on the board were known, so he disdained any comments, as did Roy Gibson, news director of KCPX-TV who is charged with presenting factual evidence through the media on government actions and warfare.

I really hesitate to answer the questions about my personal life. I have a responsible position, you know, Mr. Gibson began when faced with direct questions about the conflict in his draft board position and his charged duty of interpreting federal military programs impartially. But the public would never know, and the draft, in cooperation with the local media, has managed to remain anonymous while afflicting its own peculiar brand of impartiality on every family in Utah.

At present, the Salt Lake Board does not allow witnesses, lawyers, or often the registrant to attend his personal hearing during appeal processes. And youths in high schools are forced to register and complete their original information questionnaire at their high school counselors office without benefit of up-to-date information or counseling.

"I think we do a fair job," says Wilford Simpson. After nine months on the board, he believed that his board gave every registrant who appeared a fair chance, and the board members kept up on all matters affecting the draft. "We received literature mostly from the national Selective Service, and occasionally from the state director about changes in the draft, and by doing this, we give the registrant his due." But Simpson agreed that there were shortcomings. "Albert Fritz and I are the only blacks on Utah boards, and that is within the last three years so minorities are not represented. When told that fellow board member

John Hopkinson respond that Simpson was "that colored boy up at the University" Simpson responded that "that's the reason I'm on the board, so that kind of discrimination does not continue." Simpson and Fritz represent the only minority members in the Salt Lake valley.

Chicanos are absent, and non-Mormons are very few. Simpson observed, "The only people who ever appear before us are whites, and #22 has the highest majority of blacks and Chicanos in the area. It is a loaded ball."

Simpson's experience is reflected more strongly in other Salt Lake boards where non-Mormons must face the hostility of bigoted Mormon board members and staff workers. "When I told them that I wanted a C-O, and that I was Mormon at #24, the clerk stared at me and told me that I could not be one, said Mike. "I didn't know any better, so I just forgot about it."

Obvious examples of distaste, like Mormon C-Os are also reflected in other characteristics of the local draft boards, including misinformation about hardships, students, fatherhood, sole surviving sons, aliens and medical deferments. Lack of political consciousness has also led to improper induction and classification of many registrants who insulted the narrow nature of their boards.

State Director Richard V. Peay recently reduced from the rank of Colonel to plain Mister by special mandate of Richard Nixon, believes that no new attempts will be planned to present better public relations and proper information to the public. "I feel that we are doing a good job," he summed up.

For those registrants, parents, and concerned comrades of draft-aged people who have doubts about the success and honesty of the draft boards, the Street Paper has included a listing and history of each draft board member in the five Salt Lake area boards. Call them, say around 3 a.m., and tell them how you feel, and how they should feel. It may do some good for everyone concerned.

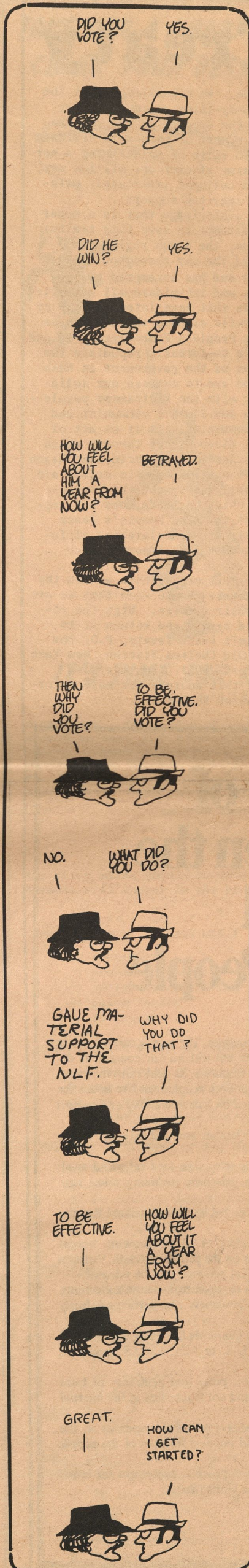
## local draft boards

**SALT LAKE CITY BOARD #18**  
 Chairman: Peter F. Leary, home address; 150 So. 13th East, 363-4867 Business; lawyer, age; 47, church; Roman Catholic, military experience; WWII army nco, Draft; three years (asked by SS if interested), Synopsis; competent legal training, will listen, open minded.  
 Member: Roy B. Gibson, home address; 577 L Street, 363-1062, Business; KCPX-TV, 322-5681, age; 46, church; ? Occupation; news director, KCPX-TV, Military; three year WWII serviceman, Draft; three year (asked by state director), Synopsis; cautious about membership being known due to political position--fair minded.  
 Member: Albert Fritz, home address 517 W. 5200 So., 299-5444, Business, electrical dept., Kennecott, age, 65; church, Methodist Trinity military, none; Draft, four years, Synopsis, open minded.

3354 So. State, 467-5474; age, 59; occupation, pres. of wholesale electrical firm; church, LDS (past missionary); military, none; draft eight years; Synopsis, Impartial, political LDS beliefs, but will not disagree with other members.  
 Member: John W. Holmes, home, 6251 So. 515 East, 266-9173; business, retired; age, over 65; church, LDS military, ?; draft, ? (does not know state director or location of his office); Synopsis, bigoted and close minded.  
 Member: Marvin L. Pugh, home, 2999 E. 5800 So., 277-4354; business, SLC public schools, 322-1471; age, 57; church, LDS; occupation, director of student services, SLC public schools; military ?; draft, eight years; Synopsis, extremely cautious of membership and school position, more frightened than opinionated.

**SALT LAKE CITY BOARD #24**  
 Chairman: Ben G. Bagley, home, 655 Alta View Drive, 255-1581; business, 29 E. Center, Midvale; age, 54; church, none; occupation, lawyer; military, none; draft, over 25 years on the board; Synopsis, close minded and hostile.  
 Member: A. Ray Curtis, home, 5158 Cottonwood Rd, 277-5474; business,

1737 W. 13400 So., Riverton, 254-3543; business, farmer and state legislator; age, 68; church, LDS; military, none; draft, 23 years, Synopsis, very cold, close minded.  
 Member: Lee W. Dahl, home, 42 West 11400 So., Sandy, 571-3400; business, farmer; age, 55; church, non opinionated.  
 (continued on pg. 15)



# Sign the People's Peace Treaty

BY DAVE WORLEY

In conjunction with the renewal of nationwide actions against the Indochina war, we call on all Utah people to support the national campaign to secure mass ratification of the People's Peace Treaty.

This document is a unique way of expressing our understanding that the war in Southeast Asia is not a struggle between Vietnamese and American people, but an act of aggression being perpetrated by the government of the United States, contrary to the desires and interests of most of its people.

The idea of the People's Peace Treaty had its genesis in the recently established relationship between the National Student Association (NSA) in the United States and the Saigon Student Union. This latter group was politically inactive until about a year ago, when it became involved in the ever-growing base of urban opposition to the war within South Vietnam. Since that time, many of its leaders have been imprisoned in the notorious tiger cages of Con Son.

Last year the 23rd Congress of NSA authorized the appointment of representatives to negotiate a peace agreement with Vietnamese students. Subsequently, David Ifshin, president of NSA organized a committee to work out details and this group applied for visas to visit South Vietnam. Fearing

that the Thieu regime would not be cooperative, David Hostetter, who had lived in South Vietnam for three years and already had a visa was sent ahead to Saigon.

The South Vietnamese embassy denied visas to every NSA member who applied, but about the same time the committee was invited to Hanoi by the government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV).

In Hanoi, the details of the People's Peace Treaty were worked out. The treaty provides for the removal of United States forces from Vietnam, while dealing with such diversionary issues as prisoners of war, security of withdrawing American troops, and the future of non-Marxists in South Vietnam--issues manufactured by the White House and the Pentagon in order to disguise their real purposes in continuing the war.

The document to emerge from the discussions was officially signed in Hanoi by representatives of the National Union of Students of the DRV and the Liberation Student Union of the Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG). It was subsequently endorsed by Hostetter in Saigon and Huyet Tam Mam, president of the Saigon Students Union and other representatives of South Vietnamese students.

The People's Peace Treaty is an acknowledgement of the truth about the Indochina conflict--a truth that the ruling circles in this country continue to cover up and

distort. By signing this treaty, we acknowledge that it was the direct intervention of the U.S. government in 1964 that perpetrated the division of the Vietnamese nation and which imposed the dictatorship of Ngo Dinh Diem in the South, in violation of international agreements made after the French colonialists were driven out of Indochina.

We acknowledge that the National Liberation Front for South Vietnam (now the PRG) is a genuinely popular uprising against the repressive rule of Diem and his family. We acknowledge that the overwhelming support given to the NLF by the peasant masses brought the Saigon regime to the brink of collapse by 1964 in spite of billions of dollars of American support.

We acknowledge that in order to prevent this outcome, the Johnson administration fabricated the so-called North Vietnamese invasion and the Gulf of Tonkin incident in order to justify a full scale military occupation of South Vietnam.

We acknowledge that in the course of this occupation, the U.S. armies have committed acts of genocide and ecocide--destroying the village culture, decimating the rural population, destroying at least 20% of the forests and no one knows how much farmland with herbicides, devastating whole provinces with free-fire bombing, and killing at least 900,000

people. We acknowledge that the Thieu-Ky-Khiem regime does not have the support of any substantial number of people in Vietnam, and in spite of maintaining a normal army of over one million men, would collapse immediately without American support.

We acknowledge that in a separate attempt to save this traitor clique, the Nixon regime has spread the war throughout Indochina and has attempted to suppress and intimidate all domestic forces that have intentionally or otherwise exposed their failures.

The People's Peace Treaty is our chance to formally repudiate the crimes of the government in Washington and to express our solidarity with the Vietnamese people--North and South., communist and non-communist. It is an act of civil disobedience through which we declare to the world that Nixon is not our leader, his crimes are not our crimes, and the government which he heads does not represent us. The People's Peace Treaty is our declaration of independence from imperialism.

It is important that we let the Vietnamese people know that we are not their enemies. Sign the enclosed treaty and return it to People's Peace Treaty, P.O. Box 203, Old Chelsea Station, New York New York 10011. You may also write this address for more information on the treaty.

TAKE OUT A SHARPENED PENCIL!  
CLEAR YOUR DESKS!



## IT'S TIME FOR A **indochina quiz**

Chicago Seed/LIBERATION News Service

**DIRECTIONS:** The following are various types of questions designed to test your knowledge about recent developments in Indochina. Please do not begin the exam until so instructed by the proctor. On the multiple choice questions, completely black out the proper space on your answer sheet with your super-duper electro-magnetic laser pencil, as in the following sample question:

- Laos is in: a) Canada  
b) Mexico  
c) Asia  
d) Brooklyn

Any stray marks should be erased completely. Don't screw up. Answers will appear in the April 27 issue of Readers Digest.

**THE U.S. MOVE IN LAOS WAS A (N):**

- a) incursion  
b) pre-emptive strike  
c) protective reaction  
d) peace feeler  
e) invasion

**THE OPPOSING SIDES IN INDOCHINA ARE:**

- a) the forces of good and the forces of evil  
b) apple pie and godless communism  
c) the Pentagon and the people of Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam  
d) Spiro Agnew and George McGovern

**THE BEST STATEMENT OF THE DOMINO THEORY IS:**

- a) We have to invade Laos to protect Cambodia  
b) We have to invade Cambodia to protect Vietnam  
c) We have to invade Vietnam to protect Thailand  
d) We have to invade China to protect the U.S.  
e) All the above

**MATCHING**

**DIRECTIONS:** Let's say you're an American pilot who has a load of bombs. If you were in one of the following countries, what would you look for to bomb?

- |             |                                    |
|-------------|------------------------------------|
| a) Vietnam  | 1) missile bases and peasants      |
| b) Laos     | 2) unfriendly hamlets and peasants |
| c) Cambodia | 3) supply lines and peasants       |
| d) China    | 4) sanctuaries and peasants        |

**TRUE OR FALSE:** The Apollo 14 moonshot, by the merest coincidence happened simultaneously with the Laos invasion.

**ESSAY QUESTION:** In brief essays, defend two of the following rationales for the invasion of Laos:

- a) If the North Vietnamese get supplies through Laos, then people will be able to eat. If they eat, they will fight Americans and kill GIs. Therefore, we are invading Laos to protect our GIs.  
b) It is the sworn duty of the U.S. to stand by her allies

- and help them in their hour of need, by whatever means possible, whether they want it or not.  
c) You know how it is with oriental countries--six months later and you feel like invading again.  
d) To make sure that Southeast Asia is protected from Communist subversion and kept free so that they too can enjoy electric tooth brushes, parking lots and pollution.  
e) Vietnam is all used up.

**READING COMPREHENSION:**

...BOTH OF THESE OFFENSIVES (Cambodia and Laos) are primarily in the hands of South Vietnamese forces. In Cambodia, the U.S. participation was limited to advisors, tactical air support, and logistic assistance, plus a few thousand ground troops. In the Laos mop-up the American presence is even more limited. No American forces have crossed the border with the South Vietnamese. The U.S. has provided air power in support of the offensive, helicopter transport and gunships, and logistic support, but has employed troops only to protect the South Vietnamese rear from an enemy envelopment. (from a Chicago Tribune editorial)

- 1) What does the term "logistical support" mean?
- 2) Explain (in 25 words or less) why helicopter and airplane crews are not considered troops.
- 3) Explain the use of the word "tactical" in "tactical air support."

**ANALYSIS:** In terms of McLuhan's theories of media and structural semantics, analyze the following statements from Ron Ziegler, press secretary to President Nixon. (Hint--both statements concern the current Laos situation).

- 1) "The President is aware of what's going on. That's not to say that there is something going on."
- 2) "If anybody is there, they don't belong there."

**MATCH THE SYNONYMS:**

- |                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| a) news embargo               | 1) invasion       |
| b) protective reaction        | 2) detention camp |
| c) large-scale neutralization | 3) peasant        |
| d) strategic hamlet           | 4) censorship     |
| e) pacification               | 5) mass slaughter |
| f) suspected Viet Cong        | 6) neutralization |

**MATH SECTION:**

- 1) If 300,000 students can shut down 200 colleges after Cambodia, how many people could shut down college after Laos (no fair peeking)?
- 2) Recently Jack Anderson reported that GIs are selling vital war secrets to enemy agents for lids of grass. PROBLEM: You are an Air Force Lieutenant stationed in Vietnam. Your job enables you to know the details of bombing raids long before they actually occur. If you sell three secrets every weekday to the enemy, and four secrets on Saturdays and Sundays, and the going rate for is one lid per secret, how many pounds of grass will you have after four weeks if you smoke 20 grams a day?



## Joint Treaty of Peace Between the U.S. and Vietnamese People

Be it known that the American and Vietnamese people are not enemies. The war is carried out in the names of the people of the United States and South Vietnam but without our consent. It destroys the land and people of Vietnam. It drains America of its resources, its youth and its honor.

We hereby agree to end the war on the following terms so that both peoples can live under the joy of independence and can devote themselves to building a society based on human equality and respect for the earth.

1. The Americans agree to immediate and total withdrawal from Vietnam and publicly to set the date by which all American forces will be removed.
- The Vietnamese pledge that as soon as the U.S. government publicly sets a date for total withdrawal:
2. They will enter discussions to secure the release of all American prisoners, including pilots captured while bombing North Vietnam.
3. There will be an immediate cease-fire between U.S. forces and those led by the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam.
4. They will enter discussions of the procedures to guarantee the safety of all withdrawing troops.
5. The Americans pledge to end the imposition of Thieu-Ky-Khiem on the people of South Vietnam in order to insure their right to self-determination and so that all political prisoners can be released.
6. The Vietnamese pledge to form a provisional coalition government to organize democratic elections. All parties agree to respect the results of elections in which all South Vietnamese can participate freely without the presence of any foreign troops.
7. The South Vietnamese pledge to enter discussion of procedures to guarantee the safety and political freedom of those South Vietnamese who have collaborated with the U.S. or with the U.S.-supported regime.
8. The Americans and Vietnamese agree to respect the independence, peace and neutrality of Laos and Cambodia in accord with the 1954 and 1962 Geneva conventions and not to interfere in the internal affairs of these two countries.
9. Upon these points of agreement, we pledge to end the war and resolve all other questions in the spirit of self-determination and mutual respect for the independence and political freedom of the people of Vietnam and the United States.

By ratifying the agreement, we pledge to take whatever actions are appropriate to implement the terms of this joint Treaty and to insure its acceptance by the government of the United States.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

The old statement, "You are what you eat," now has implications that have reached survival proportions as world-wide pollution is destroying natural resources and our basic food stuffs are contaminated with chemical poisons.

What we eat we are now means more than healthy bodies, because what you eat today may kill you. DDT contamination is lethal, so is mercury, lead, and chlorine. These chemicals do not decompose, they are not bio-degradable. They accumulate gradually and are absorbed by living organisms where they are stored, milligram after milligram.

A fruit tree is sprayed by DDT, or a lettuce patch, or tomatoes, wheat, carrots, potatoes, etc. This spray is then washed off into the soil where it is absorbed by living organisms through the roots up into the limbs and leaves and fruit. The soil and tree retain this poison and transfer it seasonally in ever-larger amounts.

Then we eat these fruits and vegetables, we eat fish and beef who live and eat upon the polluted earth. We store these poisons in our bodies in ever-growing amounts. DDT is stored in our fatty tissues. Mothers milk has been tested and found to contain higher amounts of DDT than is legally allowed in cow's milk. Coho salmon from Lake Michigan were found to contain five to 20 parts per million DDT. The F.D.A. recently established a limit of seven parts per million for interstate shipments (which also applies to beef) which virtually wipes out the present salmon fishing industry on that lake.

If you ate a 1.1 pound salmon with seven parts per million DDT, you would ingest 3.5 mg (.0035 gms) DDT. Lethal dosage for DDT is 12 grams. DDT poison produces tumors of the head and neck muscles, convulsions, cardiac and respiratory failure, and death. Lead, DDT, mercury and chlorine all destroy protein. Pliny the Elder, in his Encyclopedia of Roman Times, (published in 77 A.D.) commented that the first six hundred years of the Roman Empire was marked by the fact that there were no doctors in the country and none needed. The use of lead containers for Roman wine is closely connected to the decline and fall of this civilization.

Chicano workers in California are now on strike to protest the use of 2-4-D herbicide in the lettuce fields where they work and must breathe. 2-4-D is a Dow product first tested by the Army in Vietnam and found to produce birth defects in humans. The Chicanos now demand the right to determine the amounts and kinds of sprays to be used and to be protected from contamination from them. This is their right and we must support the strikers.

Mercury is dumped into rivers and oceans where it reacts to form methyl mercury, which is water soluble and poisonous. Mercury pollution from industries in Japan last year killed over 100 villagers. Mercury was present in the water at .0003 parts per million. Swordfish is now hazardous to your health because of its high mercury content; most of our swordfish comes from Japanese waters, an area extremely high in mercury poison. Canned tuna in California was recently banned by the Food and Drug Administration and removed from grocers' shelves because of high mercury content. Mercury is used as a base in women's cosmetics because it kills fungus in the creams of the make-



up.

The labels of these products do not indicate mercury content nor give warning of its danger. There is evidence that mercury shrinks capillaries; caucasian women who habitually use lipstick have pale bleached lips, while women who don't use this cosmetic have rosy reddish lips like the Caucasian male. Utahns were warned last fall to eat only one catch of pheasants per week because the birds had been poisoned by the mercury treated seed they were fed.

If DDT spraying were completely stopped today it would take ten to 15 years before the land and waters could remove this pollution. But DDT spraying is still not being restricted. The government hesitates to act on this issue because of the gross national product--their close affiliation with corporate industry. The F.D.A. has only 600 people to watch and maintain food standards in this country, and these 600 are sorely hampered by the administrators of this agency.

America is a nation of consumers who consume grossly and habitually, with little thought about what is consumed or the consequences to the world or to other peoples in world. What does happen to the little plastic container after the Smuckers' jelly is consumed, or the beer can when the beer is gone? What does this pasteurized, processed American cheese sandwich on white bread in its plastic wrapper have in it and what does Coca Cola and hamburgers and aspirin do to your body? How does the was coating on apples and the dyes on oranges and potatoes affect your body? What happens when you spray Easy-Off on the oven, hang No-Pest Strips in the kitchen or spray for roaches in the hallway? What are pre-soaks and enzymes and phosphates in detergents and what do

ment, the individual who designs, develops and promotes our gross national product.

Americans are overweight and dying of malnutrition. Our foods are contaminated as they grow and then are denatured even further by the dozens of additives, pesticides and contaminants that are used to preserve, color, fumigate, age, bleach, stabilize, emulsify, smoke pickle or thicken about 97% of the food items in the supermarket.

Read the labels and you will find several harmful chemicals and treatments that have been put into just about every food item you pick up in a store. We are told that these chemical agents are "safe in small quantities," just as we were told formerly that poisonous pesticides, monosodium glutamate and cyclamates were "safe."

So, we are what we eat. We must now be very selective about the kinds of food we eat. Many people are aware of this and are doing something about it privately and collectively. Natural food stores, roots and herbs of natural medicine, organic food co-ops, macrobiotics, the prana of food are all concepts in another way of life. The American Indian knew of this way of life and practiced good medicine centuries before the invasion of America by the white man.

We've got to learn to practice good medicine now. There are alternatives to a supermarket diet of adulterated and contaminated foods. If we start asking for good foods, like asking the grocer to stock natural foods, then we will get some--as more and more people refuse to buy and consume the gross national product, more and more alternatives will open up and soon the supermarkets will carry an abundance of natural foods and organically grown fruit and vegetables will be the demand rather than the exception.

Future issues of the Street Paper will feature lists of good things to eat and safe things to buy.

they do to the water? Why do the advertisements tell us toothpaste or deodorant or a Mustang will give us sel appeal? What is going on?

Lots of money and lots of people buying--buying their brain-washed way to perfect happiness, security and fulfillment. The ad man is first of all a con man.

There are many questions to be asked of the con men, the businessmen, the industry, the govern-

## Join The People's



# Over the Counter

## Food Conspiracy

Abbie Hoffman calls it a communal conspiracy...which is what it is. One of the best ways in which to promote solidarity in a community as well as provide a bridge for alliance with Chicanos, Blacks, Indians and other groups is to work toward a common need. The People's Food Co-op is where it's at in this regard and provides not only an economic inlet to wholesale buying but also maintains close community relations amongst its members.

This movement has become an alternative institution in terms of the buying controls and power we have as members. Further, it has brought its members, extending from Rose Park/Central City areas to the University, closer together. In a word, we are interdependent upon one another--if Rose Park screws up on their end of

the deal, then Central City and the University sections of the Coop cannot function either. We work together to keep it going.

As community building and economic savings are major elements in such an organization, other factors are still yet involved. As an alternative institution, the Co-op, in fair and legal ways uses collective buying power to influence matters we care about. We educate our members regarding nutritional matters--why we encourage the purchase of unbleached flour, or why we deal in products that use no pesticides. We deal in organic and non-phosphate soaps, white tissue, etc. with explanations as to what kinds of ecological implications these have.

Further, our educational processes take on the political responsibilities of knowing about various labor conditions and ways in which we can help our sisters

and brothers fight those conditions. The lettuce and grape boycotts are good examples of this kind of community and national effort.

The Co-op as a whole provides beautiful inroads into real communal and community development. The potential for such a movement is great--especially when those working together are third world people as well as freaks.

We have four different centers in the Co-op; The Hacienda Center, Jackson School, Central City Community Center, and the University. One places his order on Monday or Tuesday of each week and picks up his order on the following Friday evening between six and eight p.m. University orders are placed at the Ecology Center in the Union Bldg. and are picked up at the Campus Christian Center on Friday or Saturday morning. Members who have food stamps pay at the time they pick up their food.

We basically deal in staples, although we add on new items each week as suggested by the members. We also deal in Erewhon Products, a complete macrobiotic line for Zion's health freaks. Some examples of prices would be:  
whole milk.....40¢ half gal.  
2% milk.....37¢ half gal.  
rice (br. & wt.)...15¢ per lb.  
whl.wht. flour...\$1.03 per lb.  
unbleached flour...90¢ per lb.  
honey.....25¢ per lb.

Other items include biodegradable soaps, shampoos and cleaners, locally homemade bread, soup, fruit juices, fruit, rolled oats, cheeses, canned goods, etc.

We want your membership, but we need your help. The Co-op principle involves democratic sharing in decision-making and work. Thus far, the Co-op is quite a success, yet we are growing so rapidly (now over 1,000 members) that we desperately need help. If you are interested or have further questions, call the Ecology Center at 322-8257.

## A Word Of Wisdom

Natural food is now available at reasonable prices in Salt Lake City!

Several months ago I began selling Erewhon natural foods out of my living room at 1080 Kensington Avenue. I am now at a better location--1007 East 9th South.

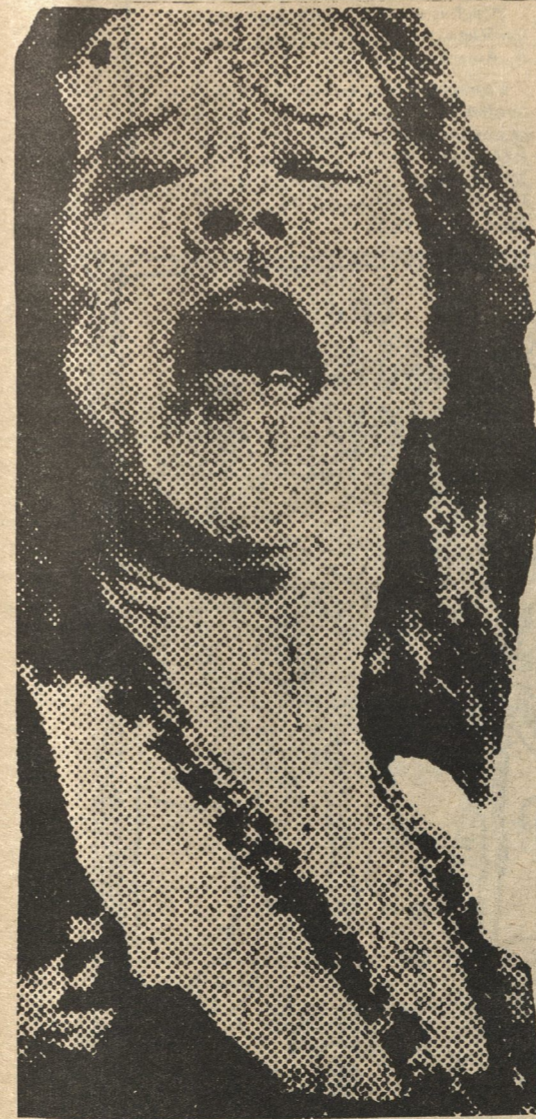
Most of Erewhon food is organic. Some is not because it is not being grown organically. Erewhon has signed contracts with farmers to grow grains organically this year. The food from Erewhon is the highest quality natural food presently available.

Because Erewhon food is not sold through a middle man the retail food prices are much lower than the usual health food store scene.

Some of the foods presently available include; brown rice, sweet rice, buckwheat groats, steel cut oats, rolled oats, millet bulgur, buckwheat and whole wheat noodles, sesame butter and tahini, sesame oil, sesame seeds, corn germ oil, unrefined sea salt tamari soy sauce, three kinds of miso, four kinds of seaweed, tea, kuzu, umeboshi pickled plums, sunflower seeds, pumpkin seeds, rice wheat and rye flours, corn meal, rice cream, soybeans, rice crackers, shampoo soap, vegetable brushes, vegetable knives, cookbooks, and macrobiotic literature.

The store is called WORD OF WISDOM, and is open from 2 to 6 p.m. on Wednesday thru Saturday.

Jeff Nye



Ah, downers, there's so many of them and they're so pretty, blue and red and yellow sparkling in their jolly little shining gelatin overcoats. How you want to take all of them, all the time! Perhaps even all at once! Yes, Life's such a gas when you're strung out on downers, ask any downer freak--he probably won't be coherent enough to tell you, but he'll probably make some sort of appropriate grunt or gesture feebly with one or two of his appendages--maybe he'll even start a fight! Downers have a peculiar tendency to make you loud mouthed & fucked up. Hell's Angels for example, eat lotsa downers, and they're some of the most loud mouthed, buddy-fucking, obnoxious chumps we know.

## DOWNERS

Well, what did you expect me to tell you, anyway? That they build strong bodies twelve ways? I know people who couldn't put together coherent thoughts for two or three MONTHS after kicking a goof ball habit, and that was after kicking! You don't speak straight, you can hardly keep your eyes focused, your coordination falls apart, nothing you do comes out right while INSIDE, away goes your heart, away goes your liver, away go your kidneys, away, away, rotten and wasted and you can't get it back, you know. Have you seen any old barbiturate freaks around lately? If the cosmic realization you're seeking is of the variety Jimi Hendrix found, go ahead, but otherwise, stick with safe drugs like grass, you'll be a whole lot better for it.



# SOLDIERS TESTIFY

(continued from pg. 4)

prisoners torture, and many other subjects out to the public, their stories would be red-penciled and they would be removed from the job. Their reports were edited by a press chief, a section chief, an information officer, and a battery of officers in the press center up to the colonel.

The reporters said the real job of the military papers and information policy was to cover up what was really going on, make it sound as though the U.S. was winning, and "build morale on the field." Inflation of body count figures by normally 100% was thoroughly described. Body count policy was that "VC" losses were not to fall below 2000 per week; to accomplish that, figures were manipulated, bodies dug up from graves, all dead prisoners and civilians dubbed "VC," and medals and rewards invented by officers as reward for individual kills. (One vet said he saw two officers fighting over who would kill a prisoner because a 3-day R&R pass had been promised for each "VC" body.)

One vet emphasized that although they were testifying on the crimes they did commit, many of them also had tried to prevent such crimes. The war reporters in particular tried to get their stories printed by civilian newsmen. But although a few were good, most had been bought off by the military, which offered them every privilege and luxury, as well as prepackaged information. Some reporters sat in their hotels and wrote vivid "I was there" stories; almost all got their information from U.S. military and ARVN briefings. Those who bothered to search out the truth were edited at home. Self-censorship by the civilian press angered and frustrated the veterans testifying as much as the war policies themselves. Since they had been trying for years to get their story to the public and were experiencing the same syndrome in relation to the Winter Soldier Investigation itself. There were many reporters present, as well as CBS television crews, but almost nothing actually made it into broadcast or print, although the reporters on location thought the hearings extremely important.

The testimony the press was most interested in was that concerning illegal incursions into Laos, Cambodia, and North Vietnam. Several vets in Green Beret and intelligence units testified to such border violations around 1966.

One showed a slide of a special unmarked CIA plane with a winch on the front for snapping agents out of North Vietnam; another showed pictures of unmarked helicopters used to support Vietnamese troops in Cambodia in 1967. The Green Berets took orders directly from the CIA; they went into neutral countries without uniforms and carrying special Stoner system weapons or wearing North Vietnamese uniforms and carrying AK-47s. If they were killed there, they were listed as deserters. These were reconnaissance missions of 6 men each, but they had also heard about "c and c teams" or "Earth Angels" (assassination teams) that worked in groups of two across the borders. One vet said there had been patrols into the DMZ and North Vietnam at least every two days in platoon or company size, and described an occasion when the entire 226th battalion entered the north. On the first day of hearings two ex-Marines described a major action in Laos in February-March 1969, called Operation Dewey Canyon. The Detroit Free Press verified this story with three other veterans involved in the action, which involved search and destroy operations and heavy fighting.

There were other reports of secret operations by Green Beret units, CIA use of multinational corporations as cover, and border violations routinely denied by the government. But it was Operation Dewey Canyon that prompted Senator George McGovern and Rep. John Conyers on February 1 to call for a full-scale investigation in

Washington of charges arising out of the Winter Soldier Investigation. Immediately after the investigation ended, eight veterans drove to Washington to ensure that a Congressional investigation really takes place, and on February fifth they held a press conference supported by about two dozen Congressmen. The information may get out to Americans despite the press blackout through the efforts of liberal Congressmen and continued pressure from the veterans, who are also pressuring their hometown editors, organizing more local hearings, and planning mass presence in Washington with the spring antiwar program.

The irony of all this is that the legislative branch of the government has to go to the people, the soldiers who actually fight their war, to find out what the executive branch's policy is. If Congress is willing to listen, it will also learn about the racism in the U.S. that allows genocide abroad. One of the most remarkable aspects of the veterans' testimony was their deep realization that they had been victims of racist brainwashing in U.S. society, in basic training, and in Vietnam. Having been brought to the point of helping commit genocide they are extremely sensitive to racism now that they are home, and feel themselves the closest ally of the black struggle. Because of this consciousness, references to racist thought permeated not only the two panels on racism, but also all other testimony.

An Indian veteran told how he had been so brainwashed as a child that he rooted for the cavalry in cowboys-and-Indians movies. Basic training films also show the cavalry defeating the Indian savages, to teach pride in America's military tradition.

Medics testified that wounded Vietnamese were not taken to American hospitals, and that they were issued small bottles of serum albumen and told, "This bottle is worth \$25, never use it on a gook."

A white veteran who is married to an Asian woman told about being busted in the States by the police also Vietnam vets — who on seeing their two children asked, "What are you doing, fucking to make more gooks?" He talked about the U.S. system trying to honorify its own and the Vietnamese people. But, he said, "They won us over by loving us, loving us to the death of our honky culture."

A military reporter told of trying to get information on marrying a Vietnamese woman and being thwarted at every turn: it was unwritten policy to withhold such information. When he wrote an article on the procedure, it received the headline "Minimum of Three Months Required to Marry Allen." A chaplain explained the reason for the policy to another vet: God doesn't want you to marry an inferior being.

An interrogator said one method his unit used to elicit information was to threaten rape of a suspect's daughter by a black interrogator. Asked why the Vietnamese were particularly afraid of rape by a black GI, another vet answered that it was considered a good joke to spread the story among Vietnamese women that black men's sexual organs were so huge that they would tear any Vietnamese woman they made love to.

Nearly every veteran had an incident to relate that demonstrated how he or others had come to think of "gooks" as subhuman. But when it comes down to behaving like humane beings, it was clear that the North Vietnamese and NLF were far superior to the Americans. The treatment of prisoners by U.S. troops was contrasted with racist treatment of a black and Indian GI in the American military stockades and with testimony by one veteran and one doctor who had been captured by the NLF, and the mother of a pilot being held in a POW camp in North Vietnam.

George Smith, who was held by the NLF for two years and finally released with another man in November 1965

as a gesture to replace two Americans who had immolated themselves, told of the consideration of his captors in matters of food, tobacco, health care, and his contrasting bad treatment by the U.S. military on his release. He was imprisoned incommunicado on Okinawa and charged with aid to the enemy for signing statements against the war and stating that he wanted to get in touch with the peace movement. Dr. Marjorie Nelson, who was captured in Hue during the Tet offensive of 1967, corroborated his testimony on considerate treatment during her six weeks imprisonment, and then told of the evidence of torture she saw in a South Vietnamese jail where she worked as a doctor after her release.

Mrs. Virginia Warner, a coordinator of the (apparently Pentagon-sponsored) National League of Families of Prisoners of War, spoke of feeling used by the Administration; she said she felt embarrassed at having helped sponsor an anti-Hanoi campaign, she knew her son was safer in a North Vietnamese POW compound than in combat unless Nixon resumed bombing of the north; she believed her son was being treated well enough, and she wished the U.S. would set a date for withdrawal so the Vietnamese would exchange prisoners, as they have said they would. In a press release, she expressed a desire to meet with Vietnamese to hold their hands and say she was sorry her son had helped bomb their country. "I know the Vietnamese are human beings just like we are and I think they would understand."

Such a meeting between Vietnamese victims of the war and veterans had in fact been planned for the last evening in Windsor, Canada, across the border from Detroit. But for the first time the Canadian government refused visas to representatives of the PRC, saying they would be coming not to address a Canadian audience but as a ruse to circumvent U.S. laws. (Their testimony was to be broadcast to the Winter Soldier audience by closed-circuit television.) And so the PRC delegation was stuck in Moscow, and in their place three Vietnamese students in Montreal, members of the Association of Vietnamese Patriots in Canada, came to Windsor Tuesday evening.

There in a hall donated by the Windsor UAW 58 Vietnam veterans, two draft resisters, one active-duty GI, and 61 civilians signed the people-to-people Peace Treaty and gave it to the



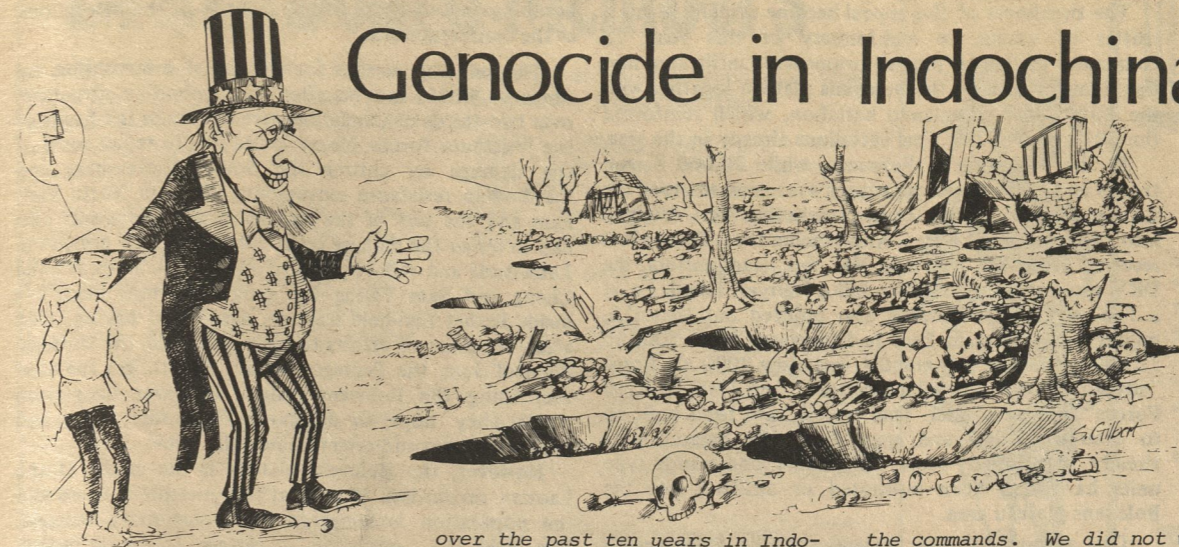
Vietnamese students, and promised their organization the first copy of the Winter Soldier transcript. After announcing his name and signing the treaty, each vet embraced the three Vietnamese brothers, "as it should have happened ten years ago." Many wept as they did so; some could not tear themselves away. One of the Vietnamese students, who is awaiting trial and possible deportation under the War Measures Act, spoke of the economic basis of the war, and then one of the veterans took the mike and exclaimed, "We've signed a peace treaty! This small group of people... we've declared peace! Right? And that's more than has happened in all the negotiations in Paris. They've got no place. They have signed — no shit, they have signed nothing! But look at this, right here? We got it. It's a start... We've declared peace! And we're gonna make it."

As people drank tea and ate rice, several veterans who had in the last days testified to torturing and killing Vietnamese found themselves having to tell the Vietnamese students about it, and the Vietnamese, of course, understood, and it became clear that Vietnam has undertaken not only to liberate itself from America but also to liberate America from itself.

Which is what the Winter Soldiers of the Vietnam war are also trying to do, if America will listen.

Complete transcripts of the Winter Soldier Investigation can be ordered at cost from Don Duncan, GI Office, P.O. Box 9746, Washington, D.C. 20016. Tapes were made by Radio Free People, 133 Mercer Street, New York City 10012.

# Veterans Protest American Genocide in Indochina



Most veterans of America's genocidal war in Indochina come home dazed and confused, with many negative feelings about what they have been through. Recently, an organization was formed called the Utah Veterans Against the War that will provide a format for pissed-off vets to express their feelings. The Utah chapter of the Vets Against the War was formed along the same lines as the national organization. The following statement from Jan Crumb, president of the Veterans Against the War, sums up the attitude of its members:

"It has been often remarked but seldom remembered that war is itself a crime. Yet a war crime is more, and other than war. It is an atrocity beyond the usual barbaric bounds of war. It is legal definition, growing out of custom and tradition, supported by every 'civilized' nation in the world, including our own. It is an act beyond the pale of acceptable actions in war. Deliberate killing or torturing of prisoners of war is a war crime. Deliberate destruction, without military purpose of civilian communities is a war crime. The use of certain arm and armaments, and of gas is a war crime. The forceable relocation of population, for any purpose, is a war crime.

"All of these crimes have been committed by the U.S. government

over the past ten years in Indochina. An estimated 1,000,000 South Vietnamese civilians have been killed because of these war crimes. A good portion of the reported 700,000 National Liberation Front and North Vietnamese soldiers killed have died as a result of these war crimes. And no one knows how many North Vietnamese civilians, Cambodian civilians and Laotian civilians have died as a result of these war crimes.

"But we, as veterans of the war in Indochina, know who has committed these crimes. We have-- at the behest and orders of the U.S. military. And we say that the result, whatever the intent, is genocide. We say, whatever the furor and outrage and final outcome, that this policy--de facto or otherwise--of genocide, must be fully examined here and now in America. For it is America now, not Hitler Germany, that stands bloody-handed before the world in Vietnam. And it is America now, that ignores world opinion--and outrage--at its peril. It is America now, that flaunts international law, that daily commits acts of genocide, that haunts the world. Yet we, the actual executioners of this policy of war crimes, are also its victims. As with Calley, Mitchell, Torres, Hutto and the others at My Lai, we are its present scapegoats. Yet we did not send ourselves to Vietnam. We did not make the orders. We did not give

the commands. We did not write the policy. Most of us were not even old enough to vote when we were inducted into this role of military executioners for United States foreign policy.

"We did not write the rules in Vietnam. In fact, for the most part, we were not even told what they were. We certainly were not told what the 'rules of war' were in any meaningful detail. But now we have learned. We now know-- too late--what war crimes are, in definition and in gory, often personal detail. We now know that much of what we routinely did in Vietnam is all classifiable as war crimes. We intended to tell America about this.

"We intend to tell America that we killed and often tortured prisoners; yes, we killed and often tortured women and children; yes, we destroyed villages and even parts of cities and entire towns for no discernable purpose; yes, we used weapons and munitions and

even gas, banned by international law; yes, we forceably removed entire populations.

"But we intend to tell more. We intend to tell who it was that gave us those orders, that created that policy, that set the standard of war, bordering on full and final genocide. We intend to demonstrate that My Lai was no unusual occurrence--other than perhaps in the number of victims killed all in one place, all at one time, all by one platoon of us. We intend to show that the policies of American Division, which inevitably resulted in My Lai, were the policies of the other Army and Marine divisions as well. We intend to show that the war crimes in Vietnam did not start in March, 1968, or in the village of Song My or with one Lt. Calley. We intend to indict those really responsible for My Lai, for Vietnam, for attempted genocide.

"We intend to widen the circle of responsibility for war crimes to the top levels of society, and then to draw it tight. We intend to indict, accuse, and hold responsible our nation's military and military policy leaders."

The Utah Vets Against the War have published a leaflet stating why they are against the war in Indochina and calling for six demands, including 1) immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from Indochina, 2) cessation of military aid to the Saigon regime, 3) immediate full employment for all returning veterans, 4) complete investigation into the military establishment, 5) immediate end to the draft, and 6) better and wider unemployment benefits for everyone.

The vets hold weekly meetings on Sunday afternoons at 4 p.m. at 363 East Sixth South. All veteran people are invited. For further information contact Larry Pace at 322-4856.

at the sign of the PRANCING PONY

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# LAOS



appeal for still greater efforts and for "closing the ranks" with the fraternal peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia in the common struggle until total victory.

The timeliness of this appeal became evident within a matter of weeks. In mid-January of this year, 13 companies of Saigon puppet troops were infiltrated into the Houi-Xai area in the Bolovens plateau together with the 801st Thai commando battalion, which reinforced the 601st and 602nd Thai battalions already in the area.

At the beginning of February, while 20,000 Saigon troops and 9000 American troops were massed along the Laotian frontier, 5000 Saigon parachutists were dropped into the same general area. Announcing these figures just received from the Neo Lao Hak Sat headquarters, the DRV spokesman at the Paris talks, Nguyen Thanh Le, at a Feb. 4 press conference also pointed out that U.S. military personnel in Laos had increased from 5000 to 12,000 in the last few months, including 2000 Air Force "advisors," 1000 Army "instructors," and 1200 "Special Forces" and personnel. Thai troops have been built up to around 12,000 and apart from the Saigon units already mentioned, scores of smaller commando-type units have also been infiltrated or airlifted into the Bolovens plateau area.

One reason for the present crisis is Washington's eternal fear of an agreement between Vientiane and the Pathet Lao. After all, it had been agreed that talks should take place, that they should be held at summit level (between the two half-brothers, Souphanouvong

and Souvanna Phouma), the site had been agreed on and the talks would already have started had not the U.S. refused to agree to even the minimal reduction of bombings necessary to permit security of the delegations at the conference site.

The military reasons for this latest intervention are obvious: Within months after the Cambodian adventure, over two-thirds of Cambodia were solidly in the hands of the resistance forces. Nixon would like to repair some of the damage by cutting the South Vietnamese and Cambodian resistance movements off from North Vietnam and the rest of the socialist world. He would also like to repair the damage to his interventionist policies in Laos itself and relieve pressure on the CIA bases at Long Cheng and Sam Thong—the only important bases left inside Pathet Lao-held territory. Also, after having failed after 16 years of efforts to seize and hold the strategic Plain of Jars, the Pentagon would like to get the next best thing—the Bolovens plateau in lower Laos from which they hope to dominate Cambodia, Laos and South Vietnam and even threaten the DRV.

However, the Bolovens plateau is the cradle of the Laotian revolution. It is ideal for guerrilla warfare and the population is tempered in revolutionary struggle. The new U.S. aggression is certain to be a further stimulus to the Laotian revolution and to resistance forces throughout Indochina—not to mention in Thailand, now that Nixon has succeeded in getting that country deeply involved in Laos.

The five-point proposal was contingent on the U.S. halting the bombing of Laos: "To create conditions for the Lao parties concerned to meet, the United States must, as an immediate step, stop escalating the war and stop completely and unconditionally the bombing of Laotian territory."

Last summer after the Vientiane regime agreed to discussions to be held at Khang Khay in Xieng Khouang province (where the Plain of Jars is located), the NLHS leadership agreed to reduce its demands from a total bombing halt to a halt only in Sam Neua and Xieng Khouang provinces. Souphanouvong explained what happened next:

"As Vientiane did not agree to that, we made a compromise proposal that U.S. and Vientiane planes stop bombing Xieng Khouang province and the Sam Neua-Xieng Khouang corridor. However, owing to their die-hard nature, the Vientiane authorities have even turned down this offer. Worse still, the U.S. and its quislings sent Lao, Thai, Saigon and Lon Nol troops to attack our liberated areas, thus aggravating the tension in Laos. The U.S. imperialists have, in effect, turned Laos into a battlefield in an attempt to extricate themselves from the quagmire in South Vietnam and Cambodia. They are using our Laotian people to defend their colonialist interests." Souphanouvong concluded with an

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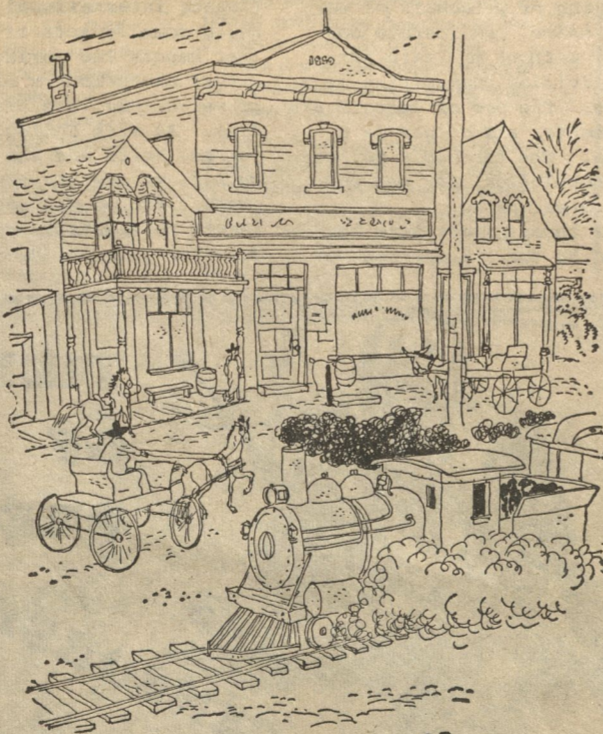
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(continued from pg. 7)  
none; military, none; draft, three years; Synopsis, independent thinker, will occasionally listen to sincere arguments.

Member: Sheldon H. Holmes, home, 4086 W. 5500 So., 298-2206; business, Dec's Dept. Store, Kearns, 299-3427; age, 50; church, LDS; military, none; draft, three years Synopsis, patriotic American and very close minded.

Member: Edward J. Huber, home, 338 3380 So. 7580 West, Magna, 297-2931; age, 41; church, LDS; military, drafted into army; draft, 1 year; Synopsis, very cold-facing continued American duty as the someone who has to do it.

### SALT LAKE CITY BOARD #22

Chairman: Virgil H. Smith, home, 2043 Princeton Drive, 364-7226; business, retired; age, 73; church, LDS; military, none; draft, more than 15 years; Synopsis, extremely close minded.

Member: Wilford Simpson, home 2043 Princeton Ave. 36

Member: Wilford Simpson, business, U.S. Bureau of Mines; age, 38; occupation, research chemist; church, none; military, four years enlisted

draft, ten months; Synopsis, sympathetic, understanding.

Member: John P. Hopkinson, home, 116 Kelsey Ave., 363-3198, business retired; age, 65; church, LDS; military, none; draft, 14 years; Synopsis, bigoted and close minded.

### SALT LAKE CITY BOARD #21

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Member: Richard Y. Bennion, home, 1580 Downing Ave., 467-5366; business, Bennion/Boyd/Park Jewelers; age, 51, Salt Lake City pioneer; church, elder, LDS; military, WWII, four years; draft, five years (former FBI agent); Synopsis patriotic American, unsympathetic.

Member: Donald H. Pickett, home, 1150 Augusta Way, 521-3811; business, CPA 336 So. 300 East, 521-3811; age, 43; church, LDS; military, WWII officer; draft, six months; Synopsis, personal friend of state director—doing his service to his country; somewhat sympathetic, although devout patriot.



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