

Arresting Television

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Pleasantly Detached

On the Outside Students Protestors are sectioned off far from the action...

Welcome to the second edition of the Voice. In this issue we take a look at the purpose of "law and order" in our "crime riddled" society. When we hear that the reason for CUNY security, or the police, is to "protect and serve" our question is for whom? The point is not to blame the police, or call for "community control," but to unveil their function within capitalist relations. Indeed, they "serve and protect," but only for those who have the means and resources.

In the News section we deal with the CUNY security and who they answer to. In October there was a small demonstration on campus where security was called to duty. Despite the fact that no "crimes" were committed by students, they were still threatened with arrest. The reason is that administration sponsored an event on campus in which students protested the "invited guests" policies and opinions, which cut against students, professors and workers rights alike.

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The Feature section includes three interviews. The first interview gets an opinion from CSI's new President on the future of CSI/CUNY. The second concerns the rise of fascist activities throughout the country, and the last one is with a revolutionary from the Congo where he discusses the situation of US imperialism and the struggle for liberation. Other articles within this section deal with the notorious Proposition 187 in California which attacks immigrants and would implement Big Brother tactics across the state.

In the Commentary section the writers give their opinions on a variety of political themes from Student Government to student dissatisfaction. The arts is filled with a feast of passionate ideas and poetry that raise our awareness as thinking beings. Read on.



.. While on the Inside



ES Traum Revisited

The Voice responds to accusations of anti-Semitism

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The President's Point of View

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The Struggle Against Fascism

SG Debacle; Student Clubs in an Uproar

by Sarah Husain

On Thursday, October 20, student club representatives were told by Student Government (SG) that their special proposals were "extravagant" and therefore must be cut due to "fiscal responsibility." Senators found it difficult to explain to angry club representatives (who waited over an hour in a crammed room) that unlike past years, their proposals would undergo heavy scrutiny and in the end be reduced, on average, by half. Club representatives could not, however, understand why their proposals were not approved as submitted. Edward Diggin, speaking on behalf of the Economics Financing Club, stated, "I don't understand how they could figure out this stuff without consulting the clubs." Clubs complained that their proposals were not heard properly and that an insufficient amount of time was appropriated for the clubs to come up with an alternative.

Students reportedly left the room feeling upset and "short-changed" by the exuberant cuts made on the budgets for special events. As opposed to the past policies of entertaining special proposals throughout the year SG has changed the procedure due to lack of funds. The new rule allows clubs to hand in their special proposals only once a semester. The deadline for special proposal submissions was October 20, but because many clubs were unable to meet, they "forfeited," their chance to justify their budget requests before student government, according to Senator Meri Kaufman. The change in procedure was cited by club representatives as "bureaucratic" and "un-

At this meeting, SG determined that special proposals handed in by cultural clubs will "be combined into one cultural festival." They claimed that "the current SG budget situation would not allow separate

celebrations." The total amount of money that was required to fund the clubs was \$42,687.00 and the amount that they had available was only \$18,000.

SG's total budget for this fiscal year is \$274,362.00. Of this amount \$249,362 is received from student activity fees and \$25,000 is from "other." More than half of the budget is paying for staff, \$145,055. Even the Program Development Committee(PDC) receives \$11 from student activities fee which is disbursed by SG. The "fiscal problems" that SG is experiencing this year comes as a surprise to many students. The reason for clubs defunding is that SG grossly mismanaged the funds on the one hand (Student Government Office Executive of \$17,040, and Election Commission of \$10,450), but many students believe the main reason why SG has less funds to spend this year is because it is picking up expenses which administration should be paying and because of the overspending of SG's budget during the 1992-1993 academic year (e.g., student scholarships of \$20,000, emergency tuition loans \$10,000.) SG donated \$15,000 for textbooks to have stored in the library, which students noted is the schools responsibility.

One student complained that "SG is wasting students money without students' consent and attacking students as well. . . SG's failure to resolve issues is not an excuse to assault students, instead they should learn to handle students' money and spend it for students' needs." The club representatives were angered by the hacking of special proposal monies and heated by the mere fact that they could not voice their concerns or table the issue until they had time to re-budget their proposals. President of the Economics Financing Club,

Eddie Campbell, stated, "We weren't even given a chance to verbally state our case." Witnesses said they could hear the pleas of representatives who cried, "I don't think that's fair" and "Aren't you going to listen to what I have to say?" Their pleas for mercy fell on deaf ears as SG members continued to slash budgets. Tired of hearing that administration at CSI are broke (even though students pay astronomical amounts in tuition, food, books and other basic necessities), SG continues to switch the problem over to Auxiliary Service. When asked where Auxiliary Services stood on the issues of special club funding, Presi-

dent Lori Seggio stated, "Sitting on a nest egg."

Students reportedly left the room feeling upset and "short-changed" by the exuberant cuts made on the budgets for special events.



SG senator, Natasha (center seated) waits for the meeting to end, while student club members get dissed.

CSI Entertains Bigot Molinari

by JP Patafic

Wednesday, October 19- A ceremony for the late Michael Petrides turned into a political showdown between student protesters and administration. The administration held what appeared to be a "guests only" ceremony that excluded students, and in fact invited politicians responsible for cutting CUNY's budget.

The ceremony drew protesters when students learned that Borough President Guy Molinari, whose homophobia was made clear by his recent public statement. Tensions increased when student activists learned that Chancellor W. Ann Reynolds, who is administering the down-sizing of CUNY, and Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, who is responsible for thousands of layoffs and budget cuts across public services, including CUNY by \$7 million, were also "invited" guests.

Earlier in the week Molinari remarked at a demonstration, attended by mostly offduty police officers, that Attorney General candidate Karen Burstein was unfit for office because she is openly gay. For this bigoted statement Molinari has been subject to numerous denunciations. Students learned of the guests coming to the event from an administrator who called the Gay, Bisexual Student Association (GBSA) and prompted them to protest Molinari's attendance. The GBSA and the Revolutionary Socialist Group (RSG) organized a demonstration which soon drew other students for other issues.

'Nothing but suits and teeth'

Most of the administration and local political big-wigs made up the majority of the guests. What was glaringly absent at the ceremony were students. There were only five students in the ceremony from over 150 people. SG president Lori Seggio, upset about the lack of students and the political guest, made a quick exit from the ceremony. A few members of the campus

media were allowed in after some arguing with security. When Dean of security, Gene Martinez, was asked why no additional students were allowed into the ceremony, he remarked that the Green Dolphin Lounge (GDL) was already overcrowded, and that it would be a fire violation to allow anymore people inside. Despite that the administration claimed that the event was open to the public, administration streamed in but few students were able to enter otherwise there could be a fire (there were only four students). As one student demonstrator, Bianca, remarked. "There's something wrong when all you see is suits and teeth."

The service went according to plans on the inside as student activists were handled on the outside. The Mayor, along with other administrative officials spoke in praise of the deceased CSI professor, but behind the commendation is another side. The attendance of Susan and Guy Molinari, however, as well as other arch conservative figures was not unusual since Petrides played an active role in shaping the political landscape on Staten Island. In the educational arena Petrides was operative in shaping NYC's public school curriculum. Appointed by Guy Molinari to represent Staten Island on the NYC Board of Education, he helped crush the Rainbow Curriculum citing the inappropriateness of "controversial material" pertaining to homosexual lifestyles. Though the protest was not aimed at Petrides, Molinari represented what he was associated himself with.

Before the ceremony began, security quarantined an area for protesters to demonstrate, and distributed written rules and regulations which prohibited access to areas outside of the pen [see rules set up]. Students from the GLBC decided to hold up signs in the pen area, while RSG members choose to hand-out leaflets in front of the entrance to the Campus Center/GDL.

Student Protesters Threatened with Arrest



Head of Security, Gene Martinez (center,) informs students that they can be arrested for demonstrating outside of the designated area.

At first student protesters were told that distributing leaflets outside of the pen was not allowed, but security backed away when constitutionality of free speech and assembly was brought up. The demonstration pen was located over fifty feet away from the front entrance to the GDL, while administration had arranged for Molinari and guests to enter from the rear entrance where students were not allowed. When students attempted to protest with signs and assemble in that area security prohibited them. At one point security threatened to arrest students if they did not listen. [see article on security]

At the end of the ceremony the controversial politicians were escorted out the back door accompanied by a regiment of CUNY security, undercover police and uniformed NYPD. For the guests who

remained, the administration, through Auxiliary Services, had arranged for food and beverages to be served in the Park Cafe. Student protesters had moved the demonstration to the new site where they chanted for the President Springer to come on out and take a stand. She did not. Shortly later the students left the scene and the ceremony ended.

Students who demonstrated outside the pen were upset that access on the campus was so strictly controlled by administration. One student, Sharon Smith, who attended Queens College last semester, was dismayed about the fact that students did not have the right to protest on their own campus without harassment where ever they went. The students who remained till the end met and discussed a future rally around free speech and access.

SG Declares NYPIRG Undemocrat

By Ryan Monroe

During the October 20th College of Staten Island Student Government meeting two, motions made by Senator Windy Webb passed concerning what many students believe to be the undemocratic nature of the professional lobbyist organization NYPIRG INC. The first motion made by Senator Webb was "...because NYPIRG has failed to implement the Student Election Review Committee (SERC) decision of June 1, 1994; that CSI NYPIRG representatives be suspended from their positions on the Board of Directors of NYPIRG, that all decisions of the board of NYPIRG be declared invalid, and that NYPIRG be held in contempt of the rules and procedures for democratic process at this college.

On June 1, three representatives of last year's student government, senators Corinne Lambert, John Fitzpatrick, and Tom Taaffe, approached the SERC with complaints that the only day a student could submit a nomination for the Board of Directors was not publicized until six days after the nomination period. Students who wished to run for the NYPIRG organization were angered by what they believed to be the organization's lack of attention to the needs of the students at the college; the elections were held in their office, room 1C-219, and presided over by NYPIRG Project Coordinators, without supervision from the Student Activities Team or the SERC

During the second day of voting NYPIRG was asked by the Director of Student Activities Mike Daniels to take the ballot box to the lobby of the Campus Center. Soon afterwards the ballot box was observed by then Senator Fitzpatrick as being left unattended. These series of events led the SERC to come to the following decision: "The SERC finds the NYPIRG election to not meet a reasonable democratic standard and is therefore declared invalid.

The SERC directed NYPIRG to complete new elections no later than Friday, October The committee declared that NYPIRG elections be held to the same democratic standards currently applied to student government. The SERC also, stated that those elected may serve in an acting capacity until the results of the election are certified. The deadline for the new elections had passed so the student government passed the above motion.

NYPIRG has a policy of sending paid staff and interns from other colleges to harass CSI and other CUNY students who are attempting to force the organization to be accountable for the \$85,000 dollars it receives from the three dollar "tax" that they impose on each student every semester from a student body of 13,000. This policy of interfering in CSI students affairs brought Senator Webb to ask that the Student government approve a letter to the College President. The motion was stated as follows, "Windy Webb moved that a letter be drafted to Dr. Springer requesting her to disallow any non-CSI students, with the exception of those school officials (i.e. college president, dean of students, and all those responsible for the oversight of student activities) to advise in the CSI electoral process. Furthermore, if any person or organization is discovered impeding the process or advancing an agenda which has an effect on the voter turnout or referenda process they should then have their rights to exist or participate in CSI affairs re-This motion was approved by

Just Another SG Election

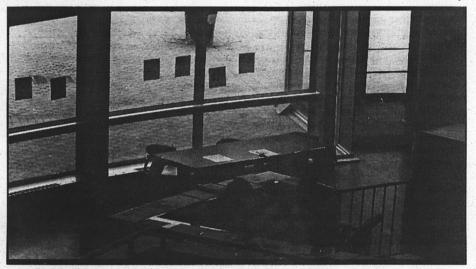
By Matsunaga Kyoko

Student Government (SG) elections commenced on Monday October 24th and ended Sunday the 30th to fill three seats. Six students ran for a lower division seat, five students ran for an upper division seat, and one person ran for the vacant Freshman seat.

Presently, sixteen students are on SG. In this election members of NYPIRG are running in each division once again. Tina M. Jefferson (NYPIRG), the only person who was running for the freshman seat, obviously won, Holly Willians won lower division and Diane Paras won upper division. One other member of NYPIRG, John Kim, was running as candidate for the upper division who did not win. In an internal document handed to the Voice last year, the tactic of entryism was applied to student organizations by NYPIRG. The purpose for having members join other student

groups was so that they could monitor the actions of those groups and affect their actions. Presently SG is in the process of suing NYPIRG in an attempt to defund them. This would cost the organization over \$80,000 and could spill over other CUNY/SUNY campuses throughout New York if successful. Therefore to influence the law suit, as much as possible, NYPIRG is pushing their members for seats on Student Government.

This time SG worked very hard for the elections; they held one forum in which one student attended. Also, students who voted received a dollar discount coupon for the cafeteria. In the last elections a student could only get a Hot Dog. It was noted that this time students would have a choice on what to spend their dollar on. The money came from SG, which in turn came from students. Despite SG's efforts student votes remained at about 3% of the student body.



High turn-out for Student Government election.

"Free Speech" is an Empty Slogan Without Access

If there was one thing evident at the demonstration, it was that student activists are facing increased administrative efforts to curtail their right to demonstrate on the campus. The "right" of free speech is just an empty catch phrase, like "democracy," if access is denied to people, places

News Analysis

and things

The ceremony sparked controversy because Borough President (BP) Molinari was invited to the campus, and once again, lectured the public about the "vices" of homosexuality. Such filth is not uncommon for the esteemed BP, however, it is not true that all Staten Islander's support such bigotry, and students on the campus wanted him to know it. Other esteemed dignitaries were present; such as Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, CUNY Chancellor Wynetka Ann Reynolds (WAR), and Congresswomen Susan Molinari, all with records as enemies of the working class, undermining CUNY and other social services effecting thousands of workers throughout the city. When such politicians visit the campus, students, faculty and staff still have the right to demonstrate, but where they demonstrate and how, is increasingly under the control of administration. At such crossroads the authoritarian role of administration is re-

State Functionaries

Commonly thought to be non-partisan functionaries in the service of the state, the administration, who's job it is to manage CUNY, serves the interests of the ruling class. In certain cases the objective situation calls into play the power relations between this seemingly apolitical body, and real-politik. There are two situations when the essential role of administration comes to fore; during tuition increases/budget cuts, and when political rallies on campus spill beyond the campus grounds.

When budgetary cuts affect CUNY it is the job of administration to carry out the orders of their bosses, despite the personal ill-feelings of certain members of this body. The consolidation process, more accurately understood as a corporate restructuring scheme (designed to be less costly for the state and more efficient for the ruling bosses,) which is presently gripping CUNY, lucidly demonstrates administration's role in the broader context of the political economy. This restructuring process will increase the workload for faculty, staff and student.

In order to cut cost the work force must be decreased i.e., the elimination of fulltime professors, classes/sections, secretaries, maintenance, and employees wages should be as low as possible. With the exception of tenured faculty and administrators, most CUNY workers salaries barely amount to anything when adjusted to inflation and cost of living expenses. Students have to pay higher tuition fees (i.e., additional taxes) and expect less in return (e.g., more overcrowded classes.) From the administrators located at the central office on East 80th street, to the local bureaucrats spread out amongst the eighteen campuses, their function is to manage policy. During times of relative stability, pleasantries are the norm for administration, however, when circumstances threaten their quiet office space, "disciplinary" measures and talk of student unruliness are adopted.

When students attempt to organize, and fight against the worsening conditions, administration attempts to stifle or crush it. If their political allies (e.g. NYPIRG) can not steer the mobilization of students to 'peaceful" letter writing campaigns, or "lobbying their politicians" and students decide to hold rallies or takeover buildings, then the strong arm of the law comes rolling in. Such has been the history at CUNY. This is the second service of administra-

New Administrative Policy

One can trace the shifting attitude of the administration to 1974/75 when capitalism experienced it's first post WWII international economic crisis. Here in New York city the throws of crisis ushered in Big MAC, a supra governmental body legislated to "stabilize" the economy (i.e., shift the burden of the crisis onto the backs of workers.) What ensued was thousands of layoffs throughout the city. CUNY initi-

ated a tuition fee, breaking a tradition of maintaining no tuition for over a hundred years. Tens of thousands of people were unable to attend college, faculty were layed off (including tenured) along with much staff. What was untouched, and in fact expanded, was the administration during

As the economy continued to slumber, tuition increased and the budget was slashed. Between the years 1989 and 1992 over \$100 million dollars has been slashed out of the budget and a tuition increase over 100% (from \$666 per semester to \$1200.) Students responded by taking over buildings and holding massive demonstrations. In 1989 over ten thousand students marched

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CUNY security ensures the "public safety" for the politicians and administration.

... Access Denied

continued from previous

through the streets of the city forcing Governor Coumo to rescind tuition increases and budget cuts. These political upheavals had to be contained. This is when Governor Cuomo hired the new Chancellor, bringing with her a record of authoritarianism. Formerly the Chancellor of the California State University, Wynetka Ann Reynolds, was released from the positions after it was revealed that she increased the wages of her cronies and played hardball with anyone who opposed her. One of the first moves she made was to hire former FBI employee Jose Elique as head of CUNY Security to established a "professional" security force allowing them to carry arms and arrest students. The money to fund the new "CUNY Security Iniative," came from the "Other Than Personal Services." Which is a line of the CUNY budget for Financial Aid, handicap services, and other costs that may incur during a budgetary infla-

Besides increasing the muscle on the ground by using money from an emergency student line, Central Administration has acted in its favor by changing the CUNY Bylaws in order to facilitate the consolidation and carry out political agenda. These changes reflect a fractured and weak "student" movement.

The Proverbial Shit Hits the Fan

Here at CSI, there is a history of student militancy. Though small in numbers these student activists have been a thorn in the side of administration. From the hiring of the Chancellor, to the recent battle over consolidation students here have participated in organizing both local and city-wide events. Last year, however, there was a series of events that triggered administration to step up there tactics against student opposition.

When the new campus opened up there was a ceremony held in the great lawn to celebrate the occasion. Invited to the event was a host of politicians, the Chancellor, and the keynote speaker was Governor Coumo. Two student organizations, Revolutionary Socialist Group (RSG) and Young African Alliance, held a demonstration which caught administration by surprise. Stocked with signs denouncing the Governor's policies and armed with a bullhorn, the activists were successful in getting their message across. Ann Reynolds responded by firing former CSI President Ed Volpe soon afterwards in order to rid CUNY of any dissension and began tightening up secu-

These changes were made evident at a rally held during graduation ceremonies in July 1994, in which Mayor Giuliani was present. A month earlier students from the RSG were involved in organizing Parkhill residents around the homicide of Ernest Sayon at the hands of the police. They planned a demonstration with people from Parkhill held on campus. Administration found out about the rally and organized to stop it. New guidelines, for the first time, were implemented and students had to remain in the cordoned off area. Students could not leave the area without being threatened with disciplinary actions, i.e., arrest by CUNY security. This was key to limiting the effectiveness of the demonstration because it restricted the maneuverability of the protesters to an area of about fifty feet, never having the ability to reach the crowd of people at the event. Also administration worked with "community leaders' from Parkhill who tore down leaflets in the community, announcing the rally

As the Mayor continues to administer austerity policies throughout the city and working people find their quality of life diminishing, working people throughout the city will organize to fightback, political demonstrations will ensue. Judging by the Petrides rally, administration will continue to try to "control" the situation by determining where students can hold demonstrations.

Join the Struggle! The Voice holds meeting alternate Thursdays of each month The first meeting will be on November 10, during club hours in rm 230-1C.

This letter was drafted by, Dean of Seucurity, Gene Martinez. Though these "guidelines of conduct" were for the October 12 demonstration, the first drafting of rules occured last July when students rallied against Mayor Giuliani. These rules were adopted by administration undemocratically and with the intent to control political dissent.

On Oct. 12, 1994 at 2pm there will be a ceremony for the Dedication of the Electronics Laboratory (5N-102) in honor of Prof. Michael J. Petrides. The ceremony will be held in the Green Dolphin Lounge in the Campus Center Building. Many leaders from the educational, civil and political communities have been invited and are expected

This is a meaningful and solemn event which honors a professional educator who was instrumental in our college's move to its new campus. The college will not allow any disruptions that will substantially detract from the planned events of the day.

Any person who wishes to protest or demonstrate during the events of this day must adhere to the following guidelines formulated by the college Any person who does not follow these guidelines will be subject to arrest. Students will also be subject to disciplinary action.

AREA OF PROTEST OR DEMONSTRATION

An area will be set aside for persons who wish to protest or demonstrate. This area will be seen and heard, but at a distance what will not allow the demonstrators to interfere with the decorum of the ceremony. Any person who wishes to demonstrate outside of the designated area will be arrested.

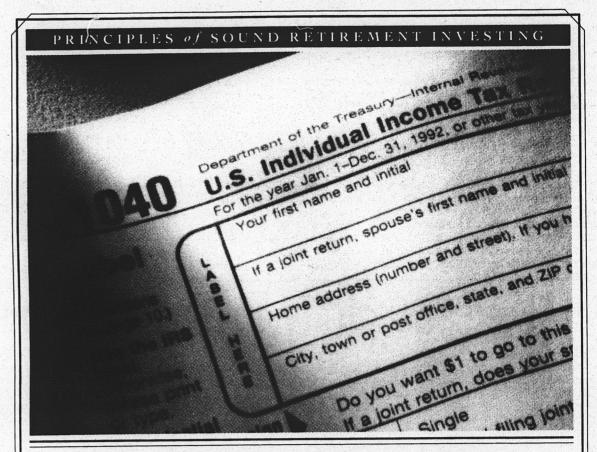
B. PORTABLE SOUND DEVICES (BULL HORNS, ETC.)

The college has a policy of not allowing the use of portable sound devices on campus. Any person who uses a portable sound device on campus on the day of this event will be arrested.

C. DISTURBANCES WITHIN THE GREEN DOLPHIN LOUNGE

Any person who, by their words or actions, disrupts the ceremony will be asked to leave the room. If the person refuses to leave he/she will be arrested.

TYPES OF SIGNS ALLOWED Only signs constructed in such a way that they do not pose a threat to others in the area will be allowed on campus. Signs attached to wood, metal or similar material will not be allowed.



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CUNY Adjuncts SUPPORT Striking Legal Aid Workers

by Anthony Marcus

A small but vocal contingent of CUNY adjuncts joined 1,500 striking lawyers, secretaries, social workers, and other office workers from Legal Aid. They took to the streets on October 5th to protest Mayor Rudolph Giulianis extraordinary involvement in a contract dispute on behalf of the management of The Legal Aid Corporation and against striking workers who pro-vide legal council and defense for New York City's poor. The adjuncts joined in solidarity with the striking lawyers because the lawyers are facing nearly the same struggle that the adjuncts face. Being at the bottom of very respectable high status and financially lucrative professions both adjuncts and Legal Aid lawyers are underpaid and overworked. "We are both responsible for service to the poor and working class in our respective professions", said Andrew a CUNY Sociology Instructor, "We are the ones who do the day-to-day dirty work at the CUNY factory and they are the ones who get to defend our students," said a John Jay History adjunct. Tom an instructor of Political Science at City College said, "I came out here because I believe the old saying that an injury to one is an injury to all." He added that he could relate to the struggles of the Legal Aid workers because "the whole thing just smells the same to me."

Facing a cut in pay 20% increases in cases and major increases in the workload, demonstrators from the two striking unions 1199 and The Association of Legal Aid Lawyers supported by contingents from Communications Workers of America local 1180 and The Chinese Staff and Workers Association tried to take the steps of City Hall, but were stopped by police. After halting the striking lawyers, the police penned journalists and other members of the news media into the City Hall steps area, preventing them from talking to the striking workers. Demonstrators chanted, "free the press" over and over again but with no response from police. "It is no surprise that Giuliani is trying to bust up our union" said one demonstrator. "but trying to keep the press from properly reporting what he is doing is a serious breach of the Constitution."

The use of the police to impede freedom of the press came less than twenty four hours after the mayor had terminated the contract between the city and Legal Aid in an attempt to force striking workers back to their jobs. "He canceled the contract which is basically union busting." Karen Moulding, a criminal defense attorney for Legal Aid and the woman responsible for legal council for Stonewall 25 and The Gay Games. Speaking on the legal ramifications of the case she said, "It is illegal for the government to intercede on behalf of the management of Legal Aid, which is a private corporation. Robert, a striking Legal Aid clerk said, "Giuliani should sit down and talk to management about negotiating instead of canceling the contract." By canceling the contract between the city and Legal Aid Giuliani is in effect de-chartering Legal Aid and eliminating the jobs of all the striking workers. While no client has yet gone without legal council because mangement has been carrying the cases Giuliani has set up a dangerous precedent effectively dismissing all the striking workers and potentially incurring huge bills for non-Legal Aid private council who would

be brought in as replacement workers. While Legal Aid plays a central role in the New York City criminal Justice system it is staffed by only 1000 lawyers and 500 support workers and may seem like an easy first target in a city wide attack by the

Giuliani administration on organized labor. "This is a very big step that the mayor is talking" said Elisa Mordan Assistant to The Vice President of Communications Workers of America (CWA) local 1180 one of the unions that is helping organize sup-port for the striking Legal Aid workers. She went on to say that "Giuliani has been boasting about his role in the PATCO firings. This is a clear threat. When the mayor of New York City attempts to bust a union every union should respond with support." "We don't want another PATCO here" said a telephone operator from EWA who was walking the picket lines with striking workers. "Giuliani is going to attack all of us and this is just the first shot." she said. Legal Aid workers rejected the new contract that was offered to them right before the October 1st negotiations deadline. While it provided for a two percent raise, employees would have to pay for the increases in the cost of health benefits, effectively canceling the raise and turning it into a pay cut. This was only weeks after management had voted themselves a 4.5 percent retroactive pay raise with no cut in benefits "We have had no contract for a year now and they are trying to take away our benefits. If the supervisors can get a pay raise so should we. We're the ones who keep Legal Aid running" said a young woman who works there as a switch board operator. Also many of their other concerns were not addressed such as the increases in work load. Also, several strikers mentioned that tensions have been increasing between the City and the Legal Aid lawyers because of complaints against the City that Legal Aid lawyers lodge when their clients are not arranged within twenty four hours, which is their legal right. Strikers said the City warned Legal Aid to lodge no more Com-

Giuliani has tried to deflect sympathy from the strikers by presenting them as lawyers who want more money. But Legal Aid lawyers are among the lowest paid attorneys in the nation earning average salaries in the thirty thousand dollar range and carrying huge case loads which were increased this year after Legal Aid accepted 20 percent more cases. This 20 percent increase represents some of the fruits of the Dinkins/Giuliani war on crime that has sucked up public money for everything from health care to housing and education to rat extermination pumping it all into the law enforcement fund. Legal Aid a private company has seen none of this boom. It has only seen the belt tightening that the rest of the public sector has experienced. This has led to a very high rate of turnover among employees at Legal Aid which keeps salaries down and reduces the quality of services. Quality of service is one of the many reasons that lawyers and support staff say they have gone out. "Giuliani is a prosecutor. He hates poor people. We are trying to provide good legal council to poor New Yorkers. He doesn't want that. He just wants them to live in fear."

Asked how she feels about being a Legal Aid attorney when there are so many lawyers who makes hundreds of thousands of dollars. Donna Lee a recently hired attornev at Legal Aid said, "This is the kind of work that I want to do."

The strike has been lost. Mayor Giuliani advised the union that if strikers did not return to work Legal Aid would have its contract terminated and strikers would be barred from further legal work for the city. PATCO writ small. The union returned to work with no improvements in the contract. In addition Giuliani revoked the 4.5 percent increase for the supervisors.

Coming Out Day a Success

by Debra Behr

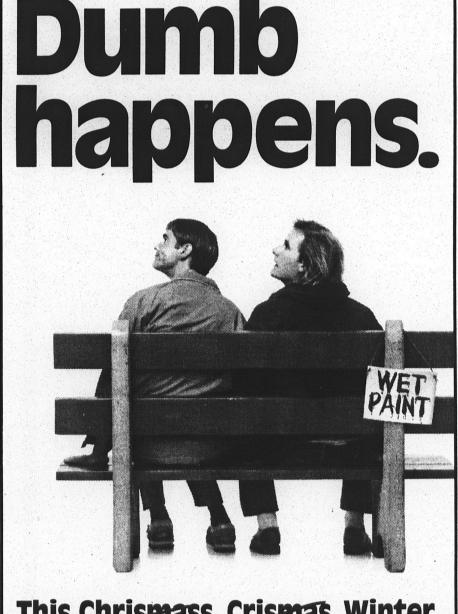
On October 11th, The College of Staten Island celebrated National Coming Out Day. The event was sponsored by The Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Alliance; the CSI Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Student Association; and The Pluralism and Diversity Committee. The day was filled with a series of events that included Gay Jeopardy, several readings, films and a dance in the evening. The events were organized by Robin Garber-Kabalkin who was assisted by students Robert Carito, Hyla Kuhlman, and Otto Roman of the CSI Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Student Association. Under the guidance of Dawn Sansevero, WSIA dedicated the day by playing music by lesbian, gay and bisexual artists. Refreshments for the celebration were provided by the Campus Center.

The events began At 10:00 A.M. with Gay Jeopardy, hosted by Kelsey Thompson-Feliciano, in the Green Dolphin Lounge at the Campus Center. Three CSI students volunteered to be quizzed on famous gay places, events, performing artists, symbols, and the bonus question: great homophobes of the world. The contestants on the panel included three gay students; Robert Cartio, Otto Roman, and one heterosexual student Astrid Gottlieb. During the game Robert Cartio was dismissed from the contestant panel, to be replaced by Eric Minton, because he was not capable in scoring any points. The winner of the Gay Jeopardy was the female heterosexual student. The grand prize was

lunch for two at Lil's Eatery, 95 Stuyvestant Place.
The celebration continued at 11:00 A.M. in the Green Dolphin Lounge with a staged reading of the play "Saying Good-bye" by Robert Carito who wrote the play and will be performing it with a full cast later in December. This was followed by the screening of the film "Lianna", at 12:20 P.M., in the Bijou room which was standing room only due to the anticipation of the student body, college faculty, and other guests. At 2:30 P.M. back in the Green Dolphin Lounge, a reading and reception was held featuring authors Judith Stelboum and Arnie Kantrowitz who read from their book Sisters and Brothers. The

afternoon was ended with the screening of the film "The Ritz". Nation Coming Out Day was concluded at 8:00 P.M. in the Green Dolphin Lounge with a celebration of Lesbian and Gay identity with The Rainbow Dance with music provided by DJ Lorie. Over 80 students as well as non-students attending the dance had a great time. Free raffles, for the Rainbow Game were given to all who attended the dance. The winner of the raffle was Doug Blanchard. Overall, Coming Out Day was a successful in its purpose in bring diversity as well as educating students about Gay and Lesbian issues that have been closeted in the past.

Deadline for submissions **November 30**



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Interview with CSI President Marlene Springer

By Devon Blinth and J.P. Patafio

College of Staten Island president Dr. Marlene Springer was born in Tennessee and raised in Kentucky. Dr. Springer earned her Bachelor's degree in English and business administration at Centre College in Kentucky, MA in American literature and Ph.D. in English Literature at Indiana University She served eighteen years

Excursus

at the University of Missouri Kansas City first as Professor of English and ultimately as a graduate dean. Dr. Springer served as Vice Chancellor for academic affairs for five years at East Carolina University, and was appointed president by the CUNY Board of Trustees in June. She has authored several works and is currently at work on a book length study entitled, The Correspondence of Harriet Beecher Stowe and 19th Century Women of Letters. She was interviewed in her office on October 17.

CV: First of all we'd like to welcome you to New York City and the College of Staten Island. How do you like it here so far?

Dr. Springer: I really enjoy it, I think it's wonderful. I was just out walking around the campus, it's a beautiful campus and it's an exciting place to be.

CV: What are your goals for CSI, now that you can harness the full potential of a state of the art campus?

S: First of all, of course I'll be very pleased when the campus is completed. I think that our staff and everybody connected with that is working very hard to have that happen. But on the more academic side I'd like to see us continually improve. I think excellence will be the theme of my administration as it has been in the past and I want that to continue

CV: Where do you see CSI in ten years? S: Ten years from today I see CSI as a major institution, as it is now in the CUNY system. I see it both regionally and nationally known for the programs it has. I see

our graduates well employed, doing well. *CV*: But with dwindling resources and rising costs, how can CSI maintain a quality education?

S: Well, I think we've got a quality faculty and that will help, and as we get new positions we will continue to recruit people from all over the country, and with this kind of campus and with the state of the art technology that we have we're going to be able to draw people from all over the country. The declining resources and increasing costs are facing everybody in the nation so we are going to be competitive in the same way they are competitive.

CV: The trend that's been happening lately is that adjunct positions have been increasing and full time positions have been decreasing due to lack of funds...adjuncts, comparatively, are cheap labor without benefits and full time faculty receive full time benefits and a higher wage. How can you attract faculty from all over the country...and promise them a wage higher than that of the average adjunct?

that of the average adjunct? S: Well, I think that's... something that's just been recently addressed at the central system at CUNY. We've got seventy full time positions out of that realignment. I think that that's really going to be helpful and it sa trend i nope will continue... as we get new faculty lines we will do our best to fill them with full time faculty. Now saying that doesn't in anyway impugn the credentials of the adjunct faculty, they are very good people and in fact when I looked at some of those credentials I was tremendously impressed. . . so as we get new positions and those are allocated we'll just make the kind of progress persistently that we can. It'll be hard, there is no question about that, but many institutions ironically are faced with this same thing across the

country and they don't have the kind of

qualified labor pool that we have. So... on the one hand we'll try our best to fill new slots with full time faculty without . . . showing disrespect for the credentials at least for the adjunct faculty, but it's not a good situation.

CV: Do you think education is a right?

S: Yes. I think that the country has committed itself to that. . . It's a fine line between, especially higher education certainly we've always had the idea that K through Twelve is a right, but higher education we've considered as sort of a mixture between a right and a privilege, if that makes sense. . . I think the thing that we've got to remember is higher education for a very small minority of the population. . . is paid for by one hundred percent of the

people who never have the opportunity to

My opinion on the matter is that's a thing of the past, I came here as a new person I respect what Dr. Volpe has done for this institution and a I certainly have a great deal of respect for the chancellor.

go, so in that respect it's a privilege. Does that make sense? Because everyone is taxed for higher education and very few can go.

CV: How do you view the consolidation process? Consolidation is a program that, some feel, will make CUNY a two tier system, one vocational and one liberal arts. How do you plan to deal with that?

S: One of the things that CSI has got to come to terms with is that we are not going to be all things to all people...we will have to work as hard as we can to offer a broad

curriculum to our students but there will be some areas in which we have to spread out with other institutions. You've got to remember. . . in this day and age, although I have tremendous respect for the AA degree, it is going to be increasingly necessary to have a baccalaureate degree, and the wage differentials between an AA degree and a baccalaureate degree for our graduates is substantial... so what I would hope is that we give people access to the institution, have them trained well enough so that they can get in and get out, because we get a lot of people who get in and never graduate and encourage them to go for a baccalaureate degree.

CV: Last year there was a controversy over how President Volpe left CSI, and some people point to Chancellor Reynolds as the individual behind his departure. What is your opinion on the

matter?
S: My opinion on the matter is that's a thing of the past, I came here as a new person. I respect what Dr. Volpe has done for this institution and a I certainly have a great deal of respect for the Chancellor.

CV: Recently Student Government [SG] hired a lawyer to engage in a lawsuit against NYPIRG [New York Public Interest Research Group] and the CUNY administration. Where do you stand on that issue?

S: I think right now that that's something Student Government is working on. . . it's something that the CUNY administration is working on to try to reach a settle-

ment on how... to best solve the concerns that the students have. I can't comment on any sort of lawsuit at this particular juncture. It's just not appropriate, but I am hoping that it will be worked out to everyone's benefit, and I think it can be.

CV: As a former English professor... S: [laughter] I'm still an English professor, I just don't get to teach very often!

CV:: What's you impression of modern American society and our reading habits?

S: Well, that's really a hard question because any English professor is going to say we read too little. On the other hand we are probably better informed as a society than any society in the history of humankind, and the other thing you've got to remember is that until the late nineteenth century books were not available to anybody but the wealthiest of people. Until the mid nineteenth century there were no such things as libraries, you couldn't afford to buy books so people read very little, and what really changed the habits of the world is what we now call the paperback revolution...Once books became easily accessible to people of all financial levels then we increased our reading habits. I would like to see people read more and more there's no question about it.

CV: Do you think television has usurped

the position of the...

S: I think TV's usurped the reading public... but it also gives you a vast wealth of knowledge; I mean people in rural areas, people in urban New York now have access to information that they would never have had before and you can't discount that.

CV: You just have to be critical of it. S: Yeah, well it's a drug but people learn through television. Now what they learn is questionable [laughter] but they do learn.

CV: What is your opinion on the political correctness debate which seems to be the rage on campuses throughout the country?

S: There is no one side or other on political correct. . . I mean politically correct in one part of the country is not so politically correct in another part of the country that has become just a catch phrase for anything you don't agree with. I think that First Amendment rights guarantee the right of people to express their views on a college campus with an open and orderly exchange. Some of those views will be reprehensible to any thinking person, but the right to express them is there, but it's got to be in an intellectual debate, in an open exchange.

The next issue of the Voice will deal with the wonderful job Mayor Giuliani is doing in crushing public services (including CUNY).

The grand jury process (in particular the Ernest Sayon case), plus other intriguing issues.

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Where they go, we go! Shut them down!

J.P. interviewed Jim MacNamara one of the central organizers of the Mid-West Anti Facist Network (MAFNET) on October 8;the interview occured at the founding conference of MAFNET. They organized around the follow-ing demands: "Where they go, we go! Shut themdown!" "No reliance on the cops or courts!" "Defend all anti-fascist fighters!" and "Build a broad movement to fight racism, sexism, anti-Semitism, and gay/lesbian oppression." Jim MacNamara is a lawyer/activist, who has been fighting fascism for over a decade.

things like bank robbery and assault and in one case the murder by a Church of the Creator guy of a young black woman just a half a mile from our conference here. All of them went to prison and the organization doesn't exist here in count to any significant degree anymore. There are almost no nazi skinheads in Columbus anymore around the University or anyplace that at least that are public enough that we know about it. It is happening in the suburbs, some here in Columbus. There are small Klan type formations at surprisingly the mostly white upper middle class, bet-

ter-off suburban high schools around the city, but not many - 3 or 4 in one high school or 3 or 4 in a second one and we heard about a group in a third high school. No significant in-fluence among the student populations. And I understand that Cleveland and Cincinnati are in somewhat similar position: if there are fascists there they just don't do much publicly. So, we thought things were pretty cool, and then April of 1993 Tushokten, OH a Klan group held a rally and we went and then on October of 1993,

(last summer was pretty slow) it exploded, there was a rally in Indianapolis, 200

(maybe) Klan supporters ... I: That's unusually big?

J: Unusually big for their public appearances and maybe more and maybe 40 or 50 of them uniformed on the steps. That was the largest assemblage I have seen since 1979 in the mid-west, hoping fascists are in one place. There was a rally in Columbus, they were much less successful here, they had a hand full of supporters who showed up and were chased away; we had 3,000 or so anti-Klan protesters and there were thousands of anti-racists in Indianapolis as well. They haven't had one rally in any small town, village or anyplace in the mid-west since this started last spring 1993 where we haven't been. We've been to every single one; some of them 30, 40, 50 of us, some of them 3 or 4 thousand at most. In Lansing, Mich. the last time there were several thousand people, in Kingsville, OH we turned out 2,500 and pelted them with snowballs and mudballs until they just left, said it was an embarrassment, and they weren't coming back. That group's never come back

I: There was a rally at New Hope, PA.

J: I heard about that...

I: About 50 of them, about 400 of us and

numerous amounts of police. J: Yeah, the police have been a factor in every single one of these rallies and in fact have been much more oppressive toward the anti-racist and much more accommodating for the fascists than one would hope in terms of their supposed neutrality and just wanting to keep the peace. It's been difficult to really figure what they're gonna do next. They have engaged in a series of increasingly intimidating security steps that have had the effect of chasing away a number of people who would have joined our anti-racist protests. In most of the cities, now there was a rally in St. Louis three weeks ago where this did not occur, where

the police did not form giant six foot high cyclone fencing around the entire protest area, go through metal detectors in order to even be a part of the action, hundreds of lined policemen in riot gear with clubs standing between us and the other side, undercover agents roaming through the crowd, video taping from the tops of buildings from every different angle so that they can get every single face and every single person in our crowd...

I: Like a police state?

J: Yeah, it's the national anti-racist control technique now and the experts on it are actually coming out of Columbus, Franklin county OH and traveling to other states now. The OH Sheriff's Association and so forth; there are some people, since they had experiences with us back in the 70's, [we had a Klan rally in 1976 in Columbus where there wasn't alot of police protection and it got punched out in about three seconds and we got that one on video tape], and so after that in Columbus, they began to use these barricades and develop to more sophisticated things. So when they came back to OH last October the folks who had been around then said, well let's try this and they've been, as we have evolving from protest to protest their approach.

I: Where does the Klan hold their rallies?

J: Well, in each of these instances the Klan has appeared on steps of a courthouse, they've tried to have a march in Toshokten, (the second time they came into Toshokten last fall), it was very difficult for the police to keep the sides apart; in a couple of instances, they did not. We vastly outnumbered them. So now the police won't let them march. They make them stay in one place so they're easier to guard. On the other hand, it's essentially a \$75,000 government paid news conference because what happens is, the Klan will go up on the steps, the media are permitted in behind

We see these little grouplettes, not in terms of their shear numbers right now, but in terms of the potential that they at some point merge with the most reactionary segments of the ruling class; and start getting support. Hitler and his party would never have evolved to a major political force if at some moment somebody who was very rich hadn't decided that "you know, these guys are pretty useful to us for breaking stripes and stuff."

the police lines (to be up there right close to them) then there are rows & rows & rows of police, then there are six foot high fences with barbed wire on top, then there are more barrels and wires, then there are us. And we're inside of a cage that has policemen surrounding it and a metal detector to get you in. They treat those of us who would oppose them as if we were equally dangerous, which is bullshit, and which needs to change. One of the things that is the most troubling to me is that the police always, not just in this movement, but in every movement I've been involved with since the Vietnam War was heating up, treat us as if out of entire movement were a couple of master manipulators and then a bunch of ignorant dukes who are sucked in to coming down, rather than a really honest outpouring of anger by a number of different sincere people. It's a childish theory of

type to have of us, but it satisfies their need to justify treating us like criminals, and they do. They survey us and write down our license plate numbers and so forth. It certainly has to do with the fact that many of the people who go to anti-fascist demonstrations are socialist or anarchist or members of organizations that are seen as radical. But, that doesn't make a damn bit of difference. We're not doing anything except what we're allowed to do here, and it pisses us off, and we're beginning to develop tactics now to back the cops. In fact, in Toledo and Bowling Green, OH, in June the tactics stepped up even more. They began to do a slow-down procedure whereby the search process to let you into the pens to protest was intentionally so slow, that as people lined up to become part of the anti-Klan crowd, the Klan came out (we had been going in for a long time) on the steps, rallied for 45 minutes, left and there were still over a hundred people waiting to get in to participate in the protest. You were patted down, everything was taken out of your pockets, you were not allowed to bring in any coins, you were not allowed to bring in any writing utensils, you were not allowed to bring in any chains, even if they were attached to your pants or your wallet, you were not allowed to wear a belt, if you have a belt you have to leave, you can't come and protest. They make you take your shoes and socks off, little children, 7 year olds, everybody. They make you pick up your feet barefoot, and they rub between your toes. They spend as much as 4 or 5 minutes per person on each protester coming in.

I: So, just plain harassment.

J: Yes, in fact, a Toledo newspaper reporter overheard the cops on their walkie talkie saying "slow 'em down, don't let 'em in, slow 'em down, take as long as you can." Hopefully we'll find some legal support and that will be the basis of a lawsuit pretty

I: In the quarantined area there was a lot of harassment?

J: And, in fact, an effort to discourage the existence of the pens and the barbed wire and the metal detectors and the pat-down search has uniformly caused hundreds of people who would have wanted to protest to get there, take a look at that, and say, I'm not going through there, and turn around and walk away or stay out on the street. So, when they count our numbers as the anti-Klan crowd, they count the 300 or in some cities the 1,000 or 500 or 75 (whatever, if we're having a good day or a bad day). It doesn't consider that a lot of people who would have come to support us are scared away. Most of the people who come to stand up against the Klan at each of these rallies are not leftist, are not organized, are not members of any political activist group, are usually local, (and I mean, depending on the day, about 80% of the anti-Klan crowd are local people who simply think it sucks and want to come and say so and ...

I: Do they see it as a threat to themselves

J: Some do, some don't, I mean they see it all kinds of weird ways: I've run through these crowds and hand out our little stop racism stickers and interview people and I got a really nice survey of what people think, and some of them come because they, (I mean, who knows what's going on in their head), but they express it as, "oh, I just think this is bullshit and I wanted to come down and do this". Or, particularly black people who come to these things and make a point of going right up to the front and folding their arms and standing and looking them right in the eye, and that happens in every city. You know, families, couples bring their children, African Ameri-

secutively. They go to one town in the morning and one in the afternoon... I: So is there a significant increase?

I: Interviewer (JP Patafio)

I: Let's just go briefly over what is the

would be our conference this weekend. We

are here in Columbus [Ohio], about 200 people strong, mostly from the mid-west

area, talking about the problem of the trend

towards fascism in this country and most

specifically here in our area because that's

where we've been doing this work. We

have seen in the last year and a half here, in

the mid-west, a big increase in the public

presence of fascist groupings, Klan rallies mostly. Three or four different sub-groups

of the KKK have had activities in the Ohio,

Indiana, MIchigan, and Kentucky areas.

There have probably been 30 to 40 KKK

rallies in the last year and a half; about one

every two weeks - in some days there have

been rallies in two or three different cities at

the same time by different groups or con-

Sure, I guess the best place to start

J: Jim MacNamara

program of the fascist.

J: Yeah, in Oxford, OH we had a rally in April of 1990 down near Cincinnati, and we busted them bad, I mean we had from 2,000 to 3,000 protesters. They tried to march, but they couldn't get very far. They had to be carried away by the police for their own protection. They didn't come back until April of 1993. That was the only thing that happened publicly in OH. Now, the skinhead groups in Cleveland and Columbus and Cincinnati - and I'm speaking only of Ohio, I think it's somewhat similar in the mid-west but in this area that I work and know the best - their presence on the street was increasing 5 or 6 years ago, there were small gangs in each of the places and in each of the places the progressive people pretty much got rid of them. In Columbus, a total of 6 of their leaders went to prison for

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... Shut Them Down!

against racism and ???? party, some of the

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can families come and they want their kids to be sure they know that they can go anyplace, including right up to a Klan rally and nobody's gonna hurt them.. This is America, they're trying to like teach their kids something. Older people come to see saying "I heard they were different now and I want to see what they say", but they leave shaking their heads saying "they're just as horrible as they always were, it's just the same stuff we heard 50 years ago". Ministers come and say I just wanted to let them know they're not Christians. You get a whole variety of stuff. And you get a lot

We had thought 20 years ago that there would less and less of that as years went on. There is actually more and more of those kind of racist assumptions than there were before. This is exactly the type of fertile ground that the groups like the Klan and the Nazi's need in order to go to people and impress upon them that the lines are color lines, they're not class lines. They are traditional family values lines, they are immigrant versus citizen lines, they northerner versus southerner lines, etc.... We have to put forward a program based on working class unity.

of gay groups, a lot of feminist groups, a lot of anarchists, Marxists, socialist, people who have thought about fascism a little, and like we were talking about yesterday, see these little grouplettes, not in terms of their shear numbers right now, but in terms of the potential that they at some point merge with the most reactionary segments of the ruling class; and start getting support. Hitler and his party would never have evolved to a major political force if at some moment somebody who was very rich hadn't decided that "you know, these guys are pretty useful to us for breaking stripes and stuff." Let's give them some Deutsche marks and see what they can do." And then suddenly, you have an office and some cars and some hired organizers and then pretty soon it's a political party.

I: Can you go into that, the relationship between the program of the fascist and the

J: I'm not a deep student of these things. My approach is much more immediate and a practiced route than it is theoretical, so, I'm not an expert on the topic. But as an overview, as we begin to work against these groups, I had to study fascism a little bit to know who we were dealing with. We have read some the of classic text, and looked at what happened in Europe in the 20's and 30's and looked at what happened in other places since then, and tried to understand the role that these groups have played traditionally in other places so that we know what to expect here, so that we can look ahead and anticipate and prepare for it. We're trying to figure out what is the right work for us to do. You know, it's the ????'s question, what is to be done? You wake up in the morning and say, OK, I'm a radical, now what am I supposed to do today? And then the next day, you look back and go, oh that was screwed up and you try to do it better next time. So as we went out, we found ourselves among a number of Marxist and Socialist who had a really clear understanding (and I think even though I'll never join some of the groups progressively, ?? the party, international party

groups that came to the protest years ago that we met, were very helpful for us in understanding, and I think they do understand somewhat accurately the role that these groups play and the connection between a mask face professional and those who actually make the decisions about trying to move the fascism door in the upper stratum-because the truth is that the people who own the wealth in this country and hang out in their country clubs really don't run around too much with Klan leaders; there's not a personal or social unity there of any sort, but there is a political unity that's a matter of convenience to both. It's a great little gig for a Klan leader to have his own gang and go around and stop his stuff and become a leader and be political, and so forth, and it's very useful to wealth interests at some point to have these gangs around. I sense right now, there is a division among people in wealthy circles in this country, that you could pretty breakdown into how do we control them: should we be nicer them or should we be meaner to them. It's the conservative liberal split, and neither of them really has an serious answers about solving the problems of the country. You see a so called moderate to liberal democratic president passing the most neofascist crime bill we've seen in all the years I've been an activist. 250,000 more jail cells on top of the prison population that's the highest in the world already. 100,000 new armed cops on the streets, it is becoming a police state. These things are connected with the existence of the Klan and its return to doing rallies in the mid-west, it's connected to the Nazi music scene and the Nazi music underground in Detroit, Chicago & Toronto, it's connected to the White Aryan resistance in California. Not directly but, clearly, right now, both are going to find that they have use for each other. And when that noticing of similar interest occurs - I mean, Adolph Coors is already funding (Adolph Coors, a very conservative wealthy interest, one of the most reactionary really rich people in the country, with the Hunt's in Texas, there are several families on the more reactionary end of the ruling class) is already babbling and giving money to the ultra right, religious right, openly fascist groups. Those connections are difficult to document although Public Eye Magazine, a guy name Chip Berlet over in Cambridge, Massachusetts does a great job of digging into some of the fund-ing connections. It's nearly an experimentation right now, there is no mass outpoint of anger by the American people, and most particularly working people that would threaten the ruler of the country too much. But if there is a large amount of unemployment soon, and you get the white working people convinced that the reason they are losing their jobs is because some black guy had to have it (that's not the word they use but that's the phrase they use) or that we had to give it to a woman, so sorry, then you've got a lot of anger. The anger is righteous, those people are being screwed it's just that they're being told a false explanation about whose doing and how to solve it. And that's exactly what the Klan draw is. When it's time for American people to fight about something to improve their conditions, those people will be there to divert their attention from the real fight, and that's exactly the role they play that's so beneficial to the capitalist and that's exactly why even though they are not of the same factor, they find that their interests similar and start working together. If I'm an employment officer in a big corporation and I'm gonna not give you a job and I don't want you to be pissed off at me, I tell you, "it's not us, it's not the company that's deciding you can't work, it's the colored." (And people go out of there, and it's very convenient, we

see that happening more and more, we see

the resuming in the fear of crime and the problem and the political of particles of

black face that American media has put on crime, which is false, which is perpetuated). There is one black face on the cover of Time magazine last year of all the weeks they had it and the one person from African American community that they pick to earn the right to be on the cover of their maga-

because the truth is that the people who own the wealth in this country and hang out in their country clubs really don't run around too much with Klan leaders; there's not apersonal or social unity there of any sort, but there is a political unity that's a matter of convenience to both.

zine was the guy who went crazy and shot all the white people on the subway on Long Island. Of every achievement by any Black American last year that was the only face that they wanted to put on the cover of their magazine to represent African American people. It's not an accident, the darkening of OJ Simpson, they way in which S&M and race is used to describe crime. Every politician now, from local city counsel members the presidential races are talking about crime and fear and playing on it and none of them are really at all discussing how to stop it. None of them are at all interested in digging into the root causes of that kind of anti-social behavior and trying to figure out what types of programs we need to do to improve the conditions of people in the community where that crime occurs so that it will slow down and maybe stop. They don't give a damn about that. They just want to say cool stuff to get votes, "three strikes and you're out," "three felonies you put them in jail," "take away their privi-leges," "lock them up," "death penalty for crack dealers," etc., etc., none of which (and it's been tried now for decades) means there will be any less crime.

I: This fear that the politicians are trumping up in order to get elected, plays right into the hands of a David Dukes, your fascist politician waiting for his day. As you were explaining, its potential restructuring of the system that you're talking about, the restructuring of the economy, displacing workers, sliding down wages...

J: He described it as the founding of a white civil rights movement. They pretend to be something that they are not: "we're not anti-black, we're just pro-white," "we're not white supremacists, we're just white separatists." I mean it's a tactical debate in their movement: should we say that we're fascist? It's the same debate of the leftist, how do we present ourselves? We know what they are and they know what they are, but David Duke doesn't say it. He quit being in the Klan, doesn't wear his robes anymore, he wears a suit, he got his haircut, he's doing that thing, he gets elected. Tom Metzger got 70,000 votes running as an open Nazi in the San Diego area for a state assembly position that he lost and the fascists are running candidates below the radar screen. So they're not out here publicly, we don't actually hear "hey, there's a Nazi's running for school board in Decatur or whatever," but they're out there and they're beginning to work their way into those positions. David Duke is one of the guys who I think has made an intelligent move for their side. To try and massify themselves a little bit, to try and be of a style that appeals to a broader number of people.

I: What is an alternative program we can put forward (you know, the MAFNET) as opposed to the program of the fascist?

ระบาทของสาราธิกับรายาของสราราชา ระหะ

"It ain't the truth." This expression answers your questions. We gotta replace the fear with facts. For example, we go out and we say that homosexuals are a hundred times less likely to molest your child than heterosexuals. That's a statistical truth. Heterosexuals commit a hundred times more child molestation's than homosexuals so if you really want your child safe, you're gonna demand gay school teachers. That does follow logically, but you have these images being put out there all the time that we don't want our kids around them, you know what I mean? White people and black people consume drugs in almost identical percentages and have for the 20 or so years that they've been doing studies on that [illegal drugs] in the United States. Some different tendencies in terms of which drugs are used by what age groups but across the board the about X percentage of white Americans and black Americans who use illegal drugs is almost identical. Four times as many black Americans are arrested, tries and convicted for drug offenses as white Americans. There is no other explanation for that big of a discrepancy except prejudice (racism). The racism is not only used to create that fact but then that fact is used to recreate itself. Because now where all those arrests were made is now the high crime neighborhoods. High crime neighborhood is another way of putting where do you put all the cops, cause that's where all the arrests are and the arrest statistics define the high crime neighborhood so if you put all the cops in the white upper class suburbs that would in about two weeks become the place where the most crime was reported. It's a self-fulfilling prophecy, the ??? courier profile, all the little specific things: if you go into Blockbuster now and you want to see CDs you go through the top 20 CDs on the wall, black artists CDs are in those big plastic things, double-sized, the white artists, and you can go right down the line, Eric Clapton #5 last week in the nation in a little plastic cover sitting right up here by itself. All the black artists are in these steal proof things. The specific assumption is that black people will steal records and white people won't. I mean, it's so clear, little signs like that. We had thought 20 years ago that there would less and less of that as years went on. There is actually more and more of those kind of racist assumptions than there were before. This is exactly the type of fertile ground that the groups like the Klan and the Nazi's need in order to go to people and impress upon them that the lines are color lines, they're not class lines. They are traditional family values lines, they are immigrant versus citizen lines, they are northerner versus southerner lines, etc.... We have to put forward a program based on working class unity.

"It ain't the truth." This expression answers your questions. We gotta replace the fear with facts. For example, we go out and we say that homosexuals are a hundred times less likely to molest your child than heterosexuals. That's a statistical truth. Heterosexuals commit a hundred times more child molestation's than homosexuals so if you really want your child safe, you're gonna demand gay school teachers. That does follow logically, but you have these images being put out there all the time that we don't want our kids around them, you know what I mean?

Immigrant Workers Fight for Rights

SAN FRANCISCO- The scourge of anti-immigrant hysteria that has swept across Europe has been escalating in the U.S. as well. In Germany, there have been hundreds of assaults and murders of immigrants. Fascists have won lower political office in Russia, Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy and elsewhere on racist, antiimmigrant platforms. Republican governor Pete Wilson has been the leading demagogue in California. He and others propose that undocumented workers and their children be denied all social services, and education including education. They propose that all workers in California be issued a tamper-proof I.D. card similar to those of aparthied South Africa and that the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which guarantees citizenship to all native-born people, be repealed.

Governor Wilson started this racist campaign with press conferences and full-page newspaper ads during the Summer 1993 budget crisis. California has been mired in recession since 1990. This fact, along with a series of natural disasters, has led to large budget deficits for the state government. Wilson, wanting to continue the trends of tax cuts for business, more cops and more prisons, proposed yet another round of draconian cuts in social services like AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children), Welfare and drug rehabilitation. However, he still had a deficit. Since California is required to have a balanced budget, Wilson hid this deficit by claiming the state was spending \$2.5 billion annually on social services and law enforcement for undocumented workers and demanded that the federal government reimburse this money to the state. Wilson's proposed 1994 budget is short \$2.3 billion for social services. He is blackmailing the Clinton administration- at California workers' ex-

Republican governor Pete Wilson has been the leading demagogue in California. He and others propose that undocumented workers and their children be denied all social services, including education and emergency health care. They propose that all workers in California be issued a tamper-proof I.D. card like they had in South Africa and that the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which guarantees citizenship to all native-born people, be repealed.

pense-by saying he will slash services to all residents by \$2.3 billion if the government

But all of this is a lie. First, the average immigrant contributes \$20,000 more in taxes than he or she collects in benefits over his or her lifetime. In addition, immigrants have contributed \$2.4 billion to Social Security, which is not used by them because they are either too young or are undocumented. Second, by claiming that the state government is suddenly not responsible for billions of dollars of funding to public education and emergency health care, he is setting these departments up for major cuts both now and in the future. Teachers and healthcare workers will be responsible for cutting their workload - by acting as INS (Immigration and Naturalization Service) agents and having their students and patients deported! Wilson is trying to divert blame from himself and his bosses, the capitalists, for the budget cuts and the lack of jobs on to one of the most exploited sectors of society. He attacks immigrants to pave the way for attacking us all.

The unemployment rate in California is officially 9.5 percent. Double this for a more realistic picture. Poverty and unemployment are even more serious problems, by far, in the communities of the oppressed. So it is rather ironic that the capitalists, and even the misleaders and bureaucrats in the movements of the workers and the oppressed, blame the communities most affected by unemployment for "stealing jobs." Chicano and other Latino migrant workers are increasingly being forced out of agri-

The two "liberal" Democratic senators from California and the Democratic gubernatorial candidate have tried to catch up with Wilson's immigrant-bashing. They have successfully proposed increasing the Border Patrol and using the National Guard to augment the Patrol. They have proposed toll fees for crossing the border to help fund the Border Patrol, building walls and fences at the border, and even using the Army to patrol the border. The Democrat-controlled California state legislature has before it 80 bills on immigration "reform," and the U.S. Congress has over 150!



cultural jobs due to lack of work. Thousands have been moving to cities, especially smaller, outlying cities. They try to find work as day laborers, often standing on the street waiting for gardening and light construction jobs. This gives them a higher profile, and makes them a more visible target for police and INS repression, as well as right-wing assault.

Tension is also increased between the various oppressed communities. Misguided prejudice between blacks and Latinos/Chicanos, promoted by the ruling class, is just the kind of division which can prevent a common, united struggle for jobs. Workers of all countries and races must unite to fight for jobs for all, or else we will be fighting each other for fewer and fewer crumbs off the capitalist table. It is exactly this kind of united struggle of

the workers and the oppressed the capitalists don't want. The bourgeoisie is terrified by the specter of more spontaneous L.A. rebellions and, beyond that, organized uprisings. In a state that will soon be majority non-white, the people who own the major means of production - the capitalists - outdo themselves in finding ways to more deeply exploit every racist division, which would forestall united action of the proletariat. They do this to stay in power, even if it ultimately means war and attempted genocide. National chauvinism xenophobia and racism are the tools of the bourgeoisie and the kinds of solutions they have to offer to fundamental problems such as unemployment. One need only look at how capitalism is reasserting itself in the former Yugoslavia and USSR to see where these kinds of solutions lead.

The Impact of the Hysteria

The response to this racist offensive has been shocking as well. Even the enthusiastically pro-U.S. imperialist Salinas government of Mexico had to object when Wilson proposed that Mexico patrol its borders to prevent Mexicans from crossing into the U.S. They replied that Mexicans - in contrast to the U.S., they implied - enjoy full freedom of movement and that Mexico has

The Democrats have again proven that they are no different from the Republicans.

With open racism fully in the realm of "acceptable" political discourse, the struggle for survival is becoming impossible for many people. After the recent earthquake in L.A., politicians were promising emergency housing and assistance for all the victims. But within hours they realized that the majority of people seeking refuge in city parks and emergency tent shelters were Latino immigrants. Moves were made to have the tent cities shut down quickly and not only to deny emergency assistance to "illegals" who had lost everything, but also to have them deported! So large numbers of immigrants are now homeless with no way of getting any help.

Anti-Immigrant Attacks and Fascism

Formented by the representatives of capital in demagogic speeches and legislation, xenophobia and racism are deadly in more than just "legal" ways. A green light is given to the fascists to crawl out of their holes and freely carry out their genocidal program. More garden-variety reactionaries are strengthened in their lobbying efforts, and, more importantly, are increasingly taking direct action against day laborers.

In Sacramento, fascists have firebombed the offices of the NAACP, the Japanese-American Citizens League, the Department of Housing and Fair Employment, the house of a Chinese-American member of the City Council, and a local synagogue. Fascists have been mobilizing and organizing recruitment drives across the country on a scale not seen in decades. In the San Francisco Bay Area and elsewhere in California, right-wing activists protest, harass and videotape the primarily Mexican and Central American day laborers waiting for work and their employers. They turn this information over to the INS and IRS (Internal Revenue Service). the connections between the right-wing thugs and the fascists is becoming more open. Fascists worked with Operation Rescue and the "Right-to Life" bigots during their last major national campaign last summer. The racist, right-wing, anti-day-laborer group in San Rafael, California, called MIGRA (the Spanish-language slang term for the INS) has a leading member who is a fascist. His agenda can be summed up by one of the bumper-stickers on his car that reads "Balkanize the U.S.A."

Build Worker/Community Defense Guards to Stop Racist Attacks!

Communists stand clearly against every form of racism, bigotry, chauvinism and prejudice. Although clearly this is an issue of fundamental rights and democracy, we do not fight because of any kind of revolutionary morality. Bigotry of any kind must be opposed by revolutionaries as a tool of the bourgeoisie to divide the only genuine and viable anti-capitalist opposition: The proletariat - the working class - leading all the oppressed. Attacks against any one sector of the oppressed are ultimately used as vehicles for assault on all the workers and oppressed.

The all-out drive for more cops, border guards, and other armed thugs for the state, although used overwhelmingly for attacks on the specially oppressed today, are clearly a threat for the entire working class. The "special" treatment allotted to the specially oppressed by cops is nothing new. For example, Los Angeles is used to armed occupations of the black and Latino neighborhoods by hundreds of cops, who use sweeps to mass arrest anyone on the streets to find "drug dealers" and "illegals" (who are, in the minds of the cops, everyone they

These kinds of actions will affect more and more of us. Unless we fight back, the police-state conditions used today against blacks and Latinos and will be used tomorrow against strikes and workers' mobilizations that will occur as the class struggle begins to rise again.

The struggle against racist INS and rightwing assault is tied to the struggle against police brutality, as well as to the struggle against the Ku Klux Klan, Nazis and other fascist filth. The struggle against racism and the anti-immigrant hysteria is linked to the struggle for organizing the unorganized and unemployed workers in a common fight for a shorter workweek with no loss in pay and jobs for all at union wages.

But none of these struggles will win without a united fight against the entire capitalist system. This can begin with the building of a mass workers' party based on the unions and organizations of the specially op-pressed, and independent of the Democrats and Republicans, which organizes and coordinates the action of the majority of the working class to fight for its own interests. But the workers' party can only go so far.

Only socialism can end the racism and national chauvinism which divides workers today. Only socialism, on an international scale, can allow for the freedom to go anywhere and insure the full rights of all.

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American Imperialism in the Gulf

by Edwin Luciano

Three years after the American lead invasion of Iraq in which 100,000 thousand people, mostly innocent civilians, were killed by the US, and its United Nations (UN) allies deadly military attack, the United States continues its assault on the people of Iraq. The recent mobilization of Iraqi troops near the Kuwaiti border now has brought attention to the pernicious affects of the UN imposed economic blockade of Iraq which is supposedly aimed at harming the current Iraqi dictatorship but is only hurting the Iraqi people. This economic blockade has reduced the most technologically advanced country in the region into virtual starvation.

According to an October 25th article in the New York Times, an Iraqi engineer, doctor, or government worker lives on six to ten dollars a month and retirees have to make ends meet on as little as three dollars a month. There has been a sharp increase of malnutrition amongst Iraqi children. The general hardship caused by the American blockade has pushed the Iraqi government to harsh repressive methods to curb the crime level that has resulted from it. The crime rate has gone up fifty percent since the American blockade. People are beginning to lock their houses with chains, streets are virtually deserted at night. As a further sign of the social break down, the Iraqi government has threatened that the hands of thieves would be cut and merchants who are caught selling goods in the black market are being hanged. However the economic sanctions, which are supposedly aimed at overthrowing the current regime are not increasing resentment against Saddam Hussein but against Western powers. Instead of turning people away from the Hussein regime, the blockade has only made the Iraqi people more dependent on the government and therefore they have more to lose if the current regime collapses.

The Iraqi government has been financing systems of food rationing to help people cope with the blockade but money for these programs are running out. Because of this, on September 29, the Iraqi government was forced to cut the food ration in half. According to the World food organization, the amount of food the average Iraqi obtains in the ration are about 33 per cent of the recommended intake of food per day. These reductions have severe effects on children and pregnant women who are most vulnerable to nutritional deficiency.

Iraq has been prohibited from selling its oil on the world market since 1990 paralyzing the petroleum based economy to a basket case. Before the American invasion one dinar, the Iraqi currency, was equal to about three dollars. Today it takes from five hundred to six hundred dinars to buy a U.S. dollar.

The sanctions have failed to overthrow the Hussein regime and have no real prospects of toppling the regime anytime in the near future. But this does not seem to worry the State department. The real aim of the U.S. is not to get rid of Sadam Hussein or encourage democracy in the Middle East. After the U.S. protection of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, among the world's most undemocratic regimes, that would seem ludicrous. The blockade is affecting the people and that is the apparent aim. The U.S. had the power to crush Iraqi militarily in there video game war back in 1991 but it wanted to keep Iran in check. The geo-political situation that dominates the Middle East today, where no one power is strong enough to challenge American world hegemony and Western neo-colonialism, is the situation that is most convenient. The U.S. wants Sadam to stay in power because it wants a dangerous Iraq that gives the U.S an excuse to maintain a large presence in the region, and to sell weapons to the oil rich gulf

Since the end of the cold war and the fall

of the Soviet Union, the United States has undertaken a new imperialistic drive to expand its hegemony into every corner of the globe. We see this in Somalia, Cuba and Haiti. The economic sanctions against Iraq are clearly aimed at shattering one of the Near East's regional powers so that it could usurp control over the region.

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Permanent Revolution in the Congo

While international media attention has been focused on the human tragedy in Rwanda, scant coverage has been given to the explosive situation in the country that has become the main sanctuary for Rwandan refugees. The Congo-renamed "Zaire" in 1971 by dictator Sese Seko Mobutu-is considered one of the 10 poorest countries in the world. In recent months, the horrendous conditions have been heightened by the influx of well over a million refugees from Rwanda.

The Congo is immensely rich in minerals. It has the agricultural potential to feed a large portion of Africa. But the economy has been milked dry by a corrupt government and the multinational corporations and banks. It has a huge foreign debt.

The following interview is with Serge Mukendi, chairperson of the National Congo Support Committee and a supporter of the Workers and Peasants Movement of the Congo. The interview was conducted by Michael Schreiber on Aug. 8, 1994. Further information can be obtained from the National Congo Support Committee, P.O.Box 2919, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10017.

Interviewer (I): Could you describe the social situation in the Congo today?

Serge Mukendi: The situation is beyond disaster. People are destitute. The majority of the people are living outside of the main economy - they are all marginalized.

People are eating once every 48 hours. If you are a family of four, you divide yourself into two groups. One group eats today and another will eat in 48 hours, and you keep the rotation that way so you can stretch the food. Many people are boiling car tires to get the iron. People are eating grass.

Since Mobutu came to power he hasn't built any schools. Children don't even have slates, let alone books. They put sand on the ground in order to write

People don't have medicines. When you go to hospital, you have to bring your own bed sheets, your own medicine, then pay hospitals and bribe the nurse and physician to get treatment.

I: How many people are unemployed? **SM**: The trade unions are very weak because there are no jobs, and because there are trade unions that are dependent on or controlled by the state.

I: What sorts of labor struggles have taken place?

SM: There have been many strikes in the last four years. The workers stopped the functioning of the post office and telecommunications. There was no mail coming in or mail going out, no phones coming in or phones going out, no fax or telex. Airplanes were not landing in the Congo.

I: What were the grievances of the workers in these strikes?

SM: They were demanding the downfall of Mobutu.

I: They were political strikes?

Yes, they want the downfall of Mobutu and democratization of society. So the demand went beyond the economic type of struggle the unions usually are engaged in.

I: Were these struggles promoted by the leadership of the trade unions?

SM: No. The members were in the street and the leadership had to follow. They movement going on. There were marches all the time. Even in the mining area, the miners brought all the mining to a standstill. It came to a point that the country was exporting no copper or any minerals.

Even the union in the sector of transport was grounding everything. And you could even have a "dead day" proclaimed inside the country, where nobody was in the street, nothing moved, people stayed home.

I: Was the strike movement repressed? SM: Yes, it was repressed because strikes are illegal. The sentence for that is the

death penalty. When the people were marching, you would see the army coming and shooting at the people. They killed many people, but the people continued to move as if their bodies were bullet proof.

Sometimes the union leaders and the rank and file can be taken away during the night, in the wee hours of the morning, and in a couple of days you find just the body in

Torture-both psychological and physical-is widespread. It's even worse now than when all the political parties were banned. All this is taking place under the nose of the United States and its allies.

than on any other leaders in Africa- because Lumumba was strong and was defending the interests of the working class.

I: How were the imperialists able to defeat Lumumba?

SM: They used Mobutu and the army. Mobutu was the chief of the army. The president of the Congo at that time was Ĵoseph Kasavubu, but he was weak and he could not control Lumumba [the Prime Minister], so they wanted a strong man and found him in the army-Mobutu.

During that period, 1960, Mobutu was spending time and sleeping in the U.S. embassy in kinshasa. He was on the payroll of the U.S./CIA up until the 1979s.

Patrice Lumumba, Congo leader, before his assassination by the hands of CIA thugs.

CIA helped set up dictator

I: How did Mobutu first come to power? SM: Mobutu seized power with the support of the CIA. He was first recruited by the Belgians as a secret agent, and later recruited by the Israeli Mossad. He was trained in Israel.

You have to understand that during that time the United States was using Israel to combat the influence of the Soviet Union, or so-called communism, in Africa. So that's when he became a CIA agent. They didn't want Patrice Lumumba to lead the

I: What year was this?

SM: That was in 1960. We got independence on June 30, 1960. But the Lumumba government only lasted three months.

I: Can you describe who Patrice Lumumba was for our readers?

SM: Lumumba is our national hero. The Lumumba wanted the Congo to be independent in the political sphere, economically, militarily, and culturally-all those domains where you can be dominated by

So he was anti-imperialist, and if Lumumba had lived he could [have] really moved the Congo into a path of socialist development. But he didn't have the time.

The U.S. decided that they didn't want a second Cuba in Africa. Lumumba was an African Castro. That's why imperialism could come down harder on Lumumba

I: How did they eventually kill

SM: Lumumba came to the United States and to the United Nations and asked the UN to help the new government of the Congo kick out the Belgians, they arrested Lumumba and handed him over to Mobutu. Mobutu sent Lumumba to Shaba Province, where he was handed to [secessionist leader] Moise Tshombe and the CIA.

Lumumba was killed. His body was in the trunk of the car driven by a CIA agent looking for a place to dump it. There was a company in that area producing sulfuric gas. So they took Lumumba's body and threw it in the sulfuric gas. This is how the body disappeared.

Mobutu came to power [in a 1965 coup], and since then the CIA with the rest of the West has continued to support him.

"We are building a new life"

I: What are the origins of the Workers and Peasants Movement of the Congo?

SM: We trace our lineage from Lumumba's tradition and organization. We are a workers and peasants movement of the Congo. We make a revolution in the name of those two classes, and we want to put the power into the hands of those two

I: I understand that there are liberated zones that the Movement controls?

SM: We control 20 percent of the territories, and this is where we establish all of out institutions. We are building a new life

I: Does that include any large towns?

SM: Yes. We are sort of a state within the state. And also we influence many provinces because we make it difficult for the administration-for Mobutu-to function. Not only in our liberated zones that are out of their reach, but in the rest of the provinces because they cannot use the army on

 $Mobutu \, for \, a \, certain \, period \, of \, time \, could \,$ not use the road; he had to use only the river and he was living on his yacht. Even when he was staying on the river, he had a helicopter ready to fly him out of the country. And we were pushing hard to get him out. Each time we come close to get him out the French and the Belgians intervene to

I: Is the armed struggle combined with mass action by the people?

SM: Waging armed struggle by itself is not enough. This means that we have to sensitize the people, raise the level of consciousness, mobilize them, organize them, and lead them into actions to fight the

We have to organize the entire class. Where we are not militarily present, the struggle has to go on because that constitutes the real base of the enemy. There will be strikes, marches, stoppages. There will be total paralysis of the regime.

I: What can people in the United States, readers of our newspaper, do to express solidarity with the people of the Congo?

SM: We want people to bring our message to the level of ordinary citizens in this country. We want them to explain to their neighbors, their families, about what is happening in the Congo.

We also need support to continue to conduct the struggle. We need money to buy medicine, food, clothes for the people. And also to bring us school supplies to children in the liberated zones, because we are building a new life, new social relations there.

We want to show the differences between the capitalist-controlled territories and our socialist-controlled territories. We want to show that our people are better off, relatively speaking, compared to the area controlled by Mobutu-who has a billion dollars while we have nothing. Yet we can attend to the needs of the people.

I: Has your movement received any material aid or solidarity from other governments in Africa itself?

SM: Everything we have done, we have counted only on ourselves. The only solidarity we are getting is from other revolutionaries throughout the world who are wishing us well, who can give us maybe a dollar to buy medicine.

That solidarity we accept. But no government in Africa supports us, and also you have to look at those governments in Africa-they are neocolonized. Here we are raising class struggle. How can they support us when we are trying to overthrow the neocolonialism that they are rooted in?

We trace our lineage from Lumumba's tradition and organization. We are a workers and peasants movement of the Congo. We make a revolution in the name of those two classes, and we want to put the power into the hands of those two classes.

E. S. Traum, A Mistake Turned Red Herring?

CV Editorial Board And Staff

In the last issue of the *Voice* appeared the opinion piece, "High-Profile-High Standards-High-Status-Institution-Paradigm Pill," which dealt with politics and CSI administration. In the paragraph dealing with the bureaucracy taking care of its own appeared the gratuitous sentence: "The Rabbi-vice-President . . . will always look after his People, its his mission in life." We at the Voice acknowledge that this sentence should have been edited out from an otherwise well written commentary piece. If the author was suggesting some type of nepotism then he should have cited concrete examples instead of the person's religious affiliation solely.

The issue of anti-semitism, along with all forms of bigotry, should not be tolerated. Indeed, such garbage has no place not only in the university but in any public arena. Such bigotry should be dealt with firmly (i.e., smashed). What is disturbing, however, is that those who are now pointing to the irresponsibility on the part of the Voice seem to know little about us. We hope that this will set the record straight and that this issue will not turn into a veiled attempt to discredit our political analysis and ideas or undermine our first amendment right to free speech.

Since last year, the Voice has pursued a course of changing the political nature of the paper. We have consciously worked to address issues of discrimination in all of its forms. The social problems in capitalist America are abundant, and the predominant ideology is one of exclusion. Such a situation must be the case in a society where the ruling class is the minority controlling most of the wealth and property; the need to divide and confuse the "masses" is instrumental for maintaining power.

It is not uncommon for demagogues, vying for power, or politicians who represent the interest of the ruling minority, to highlight "differences" amongst us, such as race, gender and religion, and blame a community for the social problems facing us. In America, the choice card is racism, and other forms of discrimination, such anti-semitism, will continue to exist as long as class rule does. The Voice is dedicated to not only unmasking the real bigots but seeks to organize people around a program that will throw such garbage in the ashheap

To be more specific, the Voice has a policy not to accept any written material solely in the name of "free speech." This policy has placed us in trouble in the past. We are firmly convinced that an opinion has social weight beyond mere printed words, and that irrational, bigoted screed belong on the pages of the New York Post. For instance, last semester an advertisement was submitted which claimed the Holocaust never occurred. We refused to run that ad. In another instance, a commentary piece was submitted which referred to Hitler in an ambiguous manner not called for. That commentary piece did not go to press. To have run either peice would have been inconsistent with our political outlook.

The responses to the E.S. Traum piece are taken out of context of both the commentary piece itself, and the political genre of the Voice. The piece dealt with the machinations of the CUNY administration in relation to the greater political and economic forces. The piece proposes itself as the starting point for reflection on the consequences of the political and economic choices made by Staten Island's ruling circles for the CSI community. The general purpose of the Voice is clear: we fight against all forms of oppression from anti-semitism to zionism.

To our critics in the upper echelons of this CUNY institution, we urge them to be more consistent in their condemnations. The President of CSI writes: "I regret that one of my first communications to the college community is on the painful subject of bigotry. I hasten to assure you, however, that no instance of religious or ethic bias, of racism, homophobia, sexism, of prejudice of any kind on campus, will be tolerated in silence at CSI." We firmly agree with her on this point, which is why we find it rather puzzling that she did not publicly condemn the bigoted comments of Borough President Guy Molinari; Molinari appeared at a ceremony with President Springer, several days after he made homophobic remarks claiming that a lesbian was not fit for public office. This was an opportune time to publicly condemn the man's bigoted Where were President statements. Springer's political principles then?

Instead, students who protested Molinari's statement were threatened with arrest by CUNY security. Is not his statement concerning homosexuality a more threatening and a clear statement of big-

Let it be clear, "prejudice of any kind on campus" will not be tolerated by the Voice. We acknowledge our editorial mistake and thank the President and all those who have written us for their input on the matter, but we hope that the liberal professors and administrators do not use this incident as a red herring to attack the Voice for other politically motivated reasons.

It concerns us at the Voice that administration can randomly, and at any time, look up the status of a student. In this case administration abused the right to privacy by using their positions of power to find out that E. S. Traum is not a student. Let them be reminded that students have the right to say and write what they like, and that administration can not arbitrarily investigate a student whom they politically disagree with. It is such policing that have students worried about participating in politics at all. If E. S. Traum were a real student what would administration have done? To pose the question is to answer it.

The issue of bigotry was raised within the premises of our college. It should therefore be taken as a point of departure for thoughtful analysis of CUNY policy and its repercussions. The college community comprises, students, staff and professors pursuing a special goal of knowledge. We take this unfortunate occurrence to invite the intellectual energies residing at CSI to a symposium on this issue on the pages of the Voice.

October 17, 1994 Editor, The College Voice The College of Staten Island Dear Editor,

I write in reference to the article entitle "High Profile-High Standards- High Status-Institution-Paradigm Pill" that appeared on page 13 of The College Voice (dated October 5, 1994; distributed on October 11, 1994). The College Voice is an independent student funded newspaper and, as such, has the right to publish material at the discretion of its editorial board. Our responsibility as an academic community, and mine as The College President, is to uphold this freedom which rests, as you know of course, on the firm foundation of the First Amendment of our constitution.

But we have also as a community the responsibility, in fact the obligation, to oppose all incidents of intolerance on our campus. It is that obligation that I exercise in this letter.

I write to express to you and o the CSI community my disgust at the unmistakably antisemitic characterization of the Vice President for Academic Affair made by the author of the article whose anonymity is shield by the pseudonym E.S. Traum. The allusions to Vice President Bressler, the impugning of his motives and actions to his being Jewish, constitute a repugnant personal attack. such an attack on him is an attack on us all, and one that all thinking citizens should deeply abhor.

I regret that one of my first communications to the college community is on the painful subject of bigotry. I hasten to assure you, however, that no instance of religious or ethic bias, of racism, homophobia, sexism, of prejudice of any kind on campus, will be tolerated in silence at CSI.

Sincerely yours, Marlene Springer President

October 14, 1994 Dear Editor,

In objection to an article in the October 5, 1994 issue of The College Voice an article appeared on page 13 entitled, "High-Profile-High standards-High-Status-Paradigm

In this article appeared the following: "The Rabbi-vice-President, for example, will always look after his People, its (sic) his mission in life. The separation of Church and State is to be recalled here as a mere paradigm (ideal)."

This anti-Semitic remark is improper in any publication but particularly in one paid for by student funs in a city university.

The editors and faculty advisor who claimed they did not read the article because it was submitted too late should have held it over for a later issue at which time it could have been properly edited or had their names removes from the masthead because the job was too much for them to do properly.

In conclusion, remember that philosophy paraphrased below:

They came for the handicapped and I

They came for the Jews and I remained

They came for the Gypsies and I remained silent;

They came for the Catholics and I said nothing; and then they came for me and there was no one left to speak out in my defense.

In fact, of all people on campus, the article chose to attack the wrong person.

Since I am a chairperson and general college nuisance, I spend a good deal of time working with the vice president. I find to be a prime asset to the college and as to".....always looking after his own People, its (sic) mission in life.' I must agree, expect that from my vantage point, his chosen People are all the members of The college Of Staten Island community.

Professor Lloyd Temes, Ph. D., P.E.

The College of Staten Island Student Newspaper

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All letters and submissions must be in the CV office (Rm 230/ BLDG 1C) by Wednesday, November 30.

Change The Course

By Sarah Husain and JP Patafio

Student Government (SG) has clearly played out it's role in relation to the students, by attacking students. The role of SG this semester has been to administrate the meager budgets given to the student groups while standing complacent in front of reckless administrative spending. It is a sign of weakness that SG is using its 'power' over students, especially when they represent such a minority of the student body, receiving less then 3% of the vote.

What SG should do, for once, is something for the students. They can start off by demanding Auxiliary Services to take up some of SG expenses, and also gain control of their own spending. Association controls SG spending, which is controlled by Administration; do you see the flow? At one point the students had a majority of members on Association. In 1991, the Chancellor and Board of Trustees changed the CUNY by-laws giving the administration, and the sympathetic faculty/administrators a majority of the membership on Association. The chairperson is no longer elected but appointed by the President of the college. This year, as the last and most likely the next and..., Carol Jackson, Dean of Students, was appointed.

Auxiliary Services which is a non-profit organization mandated to allocate all of its profits to college services/programs, is unchecked and left alone to spend the money freely. Unlike SG, the money they spend is not overseen nor approved by Association, of course it's seen by Administration (as well as spent). In fact Auxiliary Service's budget has not been released yet, even though by law it must come out by the third week of October. The money that is allocated for their escrow account, is from staff and students' pockets, i.e., parking stick-

ers, cafeteria, bookstore, vending machines. Auxiliary brings in more than a half-amillion dollars per year - where does it go? Certainly not to student benefits! Shouldn't SG be investigating this? The present SG is embarked upon a campaign to defund NYPIRG for abusive spending. It seems that NYPIRG was only the first group to be attacked. On the surface this appears to be a good thing. The object of the lawsuit, however, should be the relationship between NYPIRG and administration, not only the amount of money NYPIRG takes from students what they actually do with The political convergence between NYPIRG and administration, which is clearly anti-student, should be explored, not because of the groups bad politics in general, but the specific role they play as "student advocates." The wrong political direction of SG in this case has led them to be vet another bureaucratic body, ripping off students undemocratically!

What SG was looking to do, along with Administration, was to cut College Voice ("CV") off because of its politics, which is anti-capitalist, therefore, opposing the Administration's role, i.e., the power that administration maintains over working class students.

The newspaper plays an important role in the life of the university. Besides covering the local politics (the ineptitude of SG, and administrative corruption) the publication broadens the political dialogue. After all, in university, universal ideas should be common dialogue and the publications are an expression of the breath and depth of that dialogue. More importantly, the newspaper serves to educate and fight for the needs of the student body, faculty and staff. If SG wants to remain politically marginal, o.k. But the publications have a greater

responsibility and relationship with the student body; obviously more then 3% of students read the paper. CV is a newspaper that takes on political issues. The social ills, which are touched upon in the classroom, are further expanded upon in the pages of the CollegeVoice. Critiquing capitalist social relations may not be popular these days, but the necessity to do so remains urgent. Our paper has taken on the administration and uncovered the political role played by this body and various groups/people in college life. The college community is

informed and

provoked by this,

periodical.

Are We Just a Bunch of Slaves?

By Lou Bardel

Has anyone noticed the high cost of being associated with this school? Outrageous book prices; the pretty price of a meager meal; the robbery we so unwillingly give up to just to park in this charming dump! Where does all this capital go? Where does this all go? WHERE DOES THIS

ALL GO? And the next logical question would be is do students benefit from this fat cash cow the way we should, do we benefit from it at all? The frustration etched into the faces of our big collective face would say no.

How many of us have pulled out our hair trying to find a spot to park? Our young souls growing old under the pres-

sure of mass swarming with no place to put ourselves, not to mention the class time lost. How many of us have been given an assignment and then head off to our college library with the intention of really turning in a dynamite report only to find that all the books that are needed are at another campus? Or the information gathered is so out of date that C.S.I. students would be better off living in the year 1965. How about all the students that must brave the elements outside while waiting for the shuttle bus to pick them up, didn't

they invent shelters for that sort of thing? And I'm sure that there are a whole host of reasonable requests that are not being met. And the College Voice would love to hear your voice more in hopes that we as disgruntled students can become unified in an attempt to somehow cure these ills that effect us all in some way. Could the solution lie in the usual petitioning of the various administrative bodies that exist to control the budget that we provide as students and taxpayers? Where we are held subject to their endless banter about state and city budget cuts. "We're all feeling the pinch", they will whine.

Has the time come for funds that are

Could the money be used for our benefit in a more constructive way by choosing democratically elected committees

supposed to be for the aid of students to be controlled by students? Totally? Lord knows we supply a large portion of it just by transporting ourselves here; eating here; buying our reading material here; and of course the ever present student activity fee. Could the money be used for our benefit in a more constructive way by choosing democratically elected committees who put forth their complete agenda (which by the way means without any bullshit, just the facts) into the public forum for student scrutiny have much more faith in a group of persons who walk the student game, who can relate to our needs and desires and finally rid ourselves of the overseer that we inherited the second we looked at a C.S.I. course catalogue. How long can we be held to the whims and tactics of an administration who have their heads up the asses of Albany who could give a rat's tail about us common working class slobs. Are we simply going to be pawns in a rich man's game, a blind piece of a gigantic machine dancing off into oblivion? Or do we make a stand now and declare our individuality as thinking beings who can stand on our own two soles free of others botched command.

And if not, can we at least organize together in an attempt to apply pressure to an administration who obviously has forgotten the meaning and purpose of a city university. Which is to supply it's students with an affordable quality education.

Blame the Welfare System

By Riquet Figero

hen Ronald Reagan blamed America's problems on moth ers on welfare calling them "Welfare Queens', the poor, uneducated and powerless mothers were easy targets. They were painted as lazy, freeloaders, mothers with low morals, and yet, they were not capable to fight back. They had no strength, no media to voice their concerns. They had to sit around against their will and take the blame in despair.

Let's be clear, something is wrong with the welfare system just as something is wrong with America. Families should not have to spend generations on welfare. Instead of using the poor mothers on welfare as scapegoats, why not address the root problem. Contrary to what many think, welfare is not sweet. It only guarantees survival within poverty.

The job market itself only makes matters

worse. Today we witness low skill jobs vanish and are replaced by skilled and technological jobs which uneducated welfare people do not qualify for. They must be armed with the job training they need to assert themselves in society.

Of course, things are not going well in Washington, and people are fed up with government, therefore, they can only blame the poor welfare mothers because they have no way to retaliate. The right wing group of the government wants to eliminate welfare, yet, they balk at any effort to give the welfare recipients the job training and universal health care they need to get off the rolls. Without those things, welfare reform is not possible.

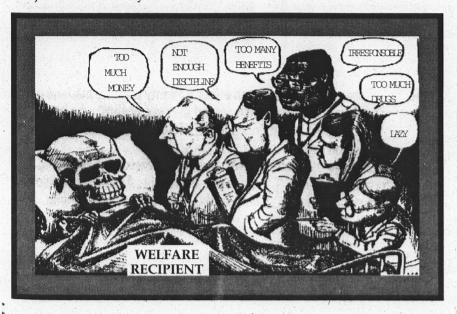
It is insane to see politicians use the tragedies in peoples lives to score political points. Let's be honest, if they really want to cut spending and make government more

efficient as they always claim, why not slash the CIA budget by 75% now that the Cold War is over? That would mean \$3 billion every year. It should not hurt since the Dept. of Defense already receives twice as much. You won't hear many people talk about the \$450 million wasted to build a new complex for the CIA in Virginia.

If they really want to cut spending, why not cut Medicare and Medicaid funding for the rich who certainly can afford their own health care. Why not cut the NASA budget until they can ensure that each and every American has the basic necessities for living a better life before they try to discover what is going on above the Earth? People talk about welfare reforms and yet no one really realizes that the country is not ready for it. How in the world are they going to provide employment for welfare recipients when they can not even employ the other eight million people that are willing

Could all the talks about welfare reforms be driven by racism? Or are conservative Americans brain dead? I hate to implicate race in every debate but when it does exist it should not be ignored. The vast majority of welfare recipients in New York CIty happen to be Blacks and Hispanics. Who are the most vocal about welfare reforms? They are the very same groups that killed the health care bill and the same groups that obviously block any programs that would help working class Americans.

It is despicable how shameless the political system is which stands around and sees American people fall deeper and deeper into poverty and do nothing about it. It is equally insane to see them use the misery of the poor for their vicious political ambitions.



The Sexual Misery of CSI Foriegn Students

By Olaywan Tislov

A survey was conducted on Tuesday, October 25th on campus. This survey consisted of a series of closed questions to which a random sample of 36 foreign students, 20 male (M) and 16 female (F). Ages varied between 19 and 29. The result are in no way a complete and detailed study on sexuality in the lives of foreign students. They are, however, an interesting first picture. We hold the students" responses as being true, a far amount of confidence having been reached before the beginning of the actual poll. The students were interviewed individually.

To the question regarding the frequency of actual sexual intercourse, 5 answered that they had sex regularly, at least 4 times a week, (2M, 3F), and only one, female, had sex with an American born partner, the others with other foreign students, or with first generation immigrants of the origin. Those who had intercourse at least once and no more than three time were 7 (5M, 2F). Those who had intercourse were 1 (10M, 5F). % students did not answer (1M,

 $To the \, question \, regarding \, the \, place \, where \,$ these intercourse took place, the seven female students who had intercourse answered that it happened at their partners'. For the nine male students, the answers were varied. Two live with their partners and says it happened, most of the time, at their home. among the remaining seven students, five had used the services of a professional (prostitute), and two said that they had intercourse with a. short term, girlfriend (first generation of immigrants of the same origin).

To the question regarding their idea about

the proportion of foreign students who had at least one sexual intercourse, 22 thought they represented about 50%; 10 thought they represented about 30%, 4 thought they represented about 10%

To the question regarding their idea about the proportion of American students who had at least on sexual intercourse, 30 thought they represented about 95%, 2 thought they represented about 90%, 4 did

To the question regarding their idea about the reason why foreign students had diffi-

Another important factor is that the game of love, courtship, and relationship, is played with different rules and forms in each particular cultural setting. The student has to learn the American rules, and CSI specificity's, which is not always easy.

culty having intercourse, 20 thought it was due to racism (only one was European), 10 thought it was due to the fear of AIDS, 17 thought it was due to their economic situation, 27 thought it was due to language barrier, 20 thought people should only have sex if married. (This was an open question, and students could give more than one

Fifteen of the twenty male students admitted having brought pornographic material (magazines, movies, ect.). None of the female students did. & of the male students went to topless bars and peep shows, the same students had intercourse with a prostitute. Ten student (all male) admit to masturbate regularly, all other students did not give any answer.

Discussion:

This instant picture taken at CSI presents an interesting view of foreign students, taken as individuals. However, when grouped according to ethnic backgrounds, the image takes a rather strong slant. European foreign students represent the majority of those students who engaged in sex. South American students are a close second. Other groups are quite under-represented in this group. This might have many explanations. The fact that European students overcome the "language barrier" relatively easier might be due to that their physical features are similar to those of the European- American seem to be determinant factor too.

Central and South American and immigrant students seem to be blessed by the fact Spanish-speaking American and immigrate students form a relatively large sample, within which they feel "home".

African and Asian students seem to have the same luck. The females being more lucky than males. Race should be emphasized here, as an important issue in the minds of the students. The issue should be seriously studied elsewhere.

The fact that some CSI students have been to prostitutes should not necessarily

shock us. Patriarchy is evenly distributed in the world. Some of these students 'regret' their experience with cold, faking professionals. Others say they 'had to'. Female students, even though interviewed by a female, still avoided some topics. The psychological repression of sexuality in some female students was extreme. Some of them think about marriage after school, as the only acceptable avenue for intercourse. Virginity is not dealt with a conscious level, the moral imperative for its preservation seems absolutely unchangeable. Patriarchal values seem to prevail.

Another important factor is that the game of love, courtship, and relationship, is played with different rules and forms in each particular cultural setting. The student has to learn the American rules, and CSI specificity's, which is not always easy. Some students think that playing the American game, makes love disappear, because they know it is just a game.

Students complained in different forms about the lack of intimacy. Most of CSI's foreign students share apartment with room mates. Some students thought that the fact that they did not have a car was a problem to get dates.

Most of the surveyed students mention that they have long telephonic discussions with their families and also with their friends. We think that this shows a lack of warmth and disinterest in the relationships they have here.

As a conclusion to this discussion, we would like to encourage the students to give their own interpretation of the statistical data that we presented. Olaywan Tislov is the name that our surveyors took. It is only a pun made from: All I Want Is Love!

Female Circumcision

By Nathalie Gomez

Female genital mutilation is a rite that entails the removal of the clitoris and the labia minora with a knife or razor blade, generally without anesthetic. It is performed by women across the central belt of Africa as well as in Egypt, Yemen, Oman, Malaysia, and Indonesia. The procedure is often performed by female elders on three, six and twelve year old, who sometimes also stitch together the external labia, leaving only a tiny opening for urination and menstrual discharge.

Estimates say that from 85 to 114 million have undergone some form of female genital mutilation. Dr. Henriette Kouyate, a gynecologist in Dakkar, Senegal, stated that

The idea of the protecting virginity in the family arose when women began to be, according to sociologist Federich Engels, considered the property of men.

women who are mutilated suffer from fatal hemorrhaging because there are many blood vessels, including the dorsal artery. This operation, is often poorly performed, and accidents are often fatal. Moreover, it can result in infections-even tetanusthat spread to the internal organs. After the procedure, the opening of the vagina is often closed with thorns or whatever they can find, and since there is only a small opening left, a substantial amount of blood

remains inside the vagina which can cause

Female genital mutilation dates back to the time of the Pharaohs, and has been adopted or developed by many cultures in Africa. Its purposes are to prepare young girls for being women and faithful, modest, wives as well as to diminish sexual appetite, in order to maintain a girl's virginity and thus her marriageability.

The idea of the protecting virginity in the family arose when women began to be, according to sociologist Federich Engels, considered the property of men. Moreover, with the concept of property itself coming about, it became very important for parents to control their daughters sexual behaviors before they found a spouse who would take responsibility for them. Most tribal societies at the dawn of mind kind had communal economies which were very egalitarian. The change from egalitarian societies-where men and women performed different functions in society yet had an equal status—to a male dominated society, where men control the sexual behavior of women is due to the prevalence of private property over communal property. Women were reduced to mere child bearers and house-keepers and forever lost their equal status in society. Today, many African women see the West's opposition to this tradition as cultural imperialism. They feel "strongly that Westerners should stay out of other people's cultural practices." And some activists worry that focusing too much Western attention on the custom could hinder grass-roots efforts already

underway in Africa to stamp it out. . Infibulation symbolizes the power of men to control women in a male dominated society. Although this ritual is performed by women, it is the men who reject girls

who have not undergone the procedure judging them as unoversexed, unmarriageable—and the men who directly encourage the practice by granting a higher status to the elder women who

Female circumsicion mostly takes place in underdeveloped countries, however, it is an illusion to say that it didin't or doesn't take place in the west-ern countries. Although the practice may not be known to the degree that it is known in the "third world". However, many movements like "The Abolition of Sexual Mutilation", founded in Senegal in 1981, have been trying to fight against this practice. African and Western journalist estimate that these movements are weak because of low membership, and the scarcity of speeches and articles denouncing it—and most importantly the difficulty of get-

where these traditions are more deeply entrenched. Infibulation expresses men's domination of women's sexual behavior.

This imposed sexual restriction has the same function as chastity belts, which purpose is extremely important for the function in these societies.

Since "Property and social rank are handed down from father to son." This is a way for husbands to ensure that their sons will become the future owners of their properties. For instance, in Western societies, the way for parents to control their daughter's sexual activity is by trying to



ting information sent to the rural areas teach their daughters to reserve sexual activity until marriage, women are given a lower rank in society because of man's domination in the means of production and because women are not given the opportunity to produce wealth. Women have been socialized to be inferior and, therefore they feel incapable to emancipate to reverse this situation i.e. seize the means of production.

Angola; Yet

Another Victim

of Imperialism

The Issue and Problem of the American Occupation of Haiti

By Craig R. Whitney In August 1991, a Haitian military cable, led by Brig. General Cedras, overthrew Jean Claude Aristide, and established their own government. Aristide was elected democratically in 1989) and had drawn his support from the masses of miserably poor people in Port-Au-Prince, small towns, and

in the rural areas. Cedras' illegal military government and the exile of Aristide created controversy and problems of foreign policy in the United States. Leftist radicals, black leaders, and influential black congressmen in the Congressional Black Caucus called for an invasion of Haiti in order to restore democracy on that destitute island. International liberals and American supporters of Aristide advocated invasion and military occupation on the grounds of restoring democracy and his presidency with reforms of stopping police repression and higher standards of living for ordinary people. Critics of Aristide, including Senator Jesse Helms and reactionary Pat Buchanan, claim he has a mental disorder and that he is a Marxist revolutionary who advocates "neck lacing" his enemies and seizing power and wealth from the landed elites. When one lurks under the surface of lies and deceit, one can see and perceive the true motives behind the occupation. The business elite and the large corporations who back the US government see Haiti as a cheap labor pool and a source of investment opportunities. American soldiers restoring order and democracy in Haiti provide a climate in which US companies can act on their interests. Reasons of democracy and the enforcement of human rights are but a veneer over these companies' true interests.

In many ways 1994 is similar to 1917 in respect to America's occupation of Haiti. In both years Haiti was invaded and occupied by American Marines in supposed response to the overthrow of Haitian presidents and the subsequent installation of new military governments. Also, in both years, American troops were warmly welcomed by the oppressed masses of Haiti.

International Peace for Cuba Appeal

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Dear friends of Cuba, Throughout the world, and here in the U.S., Cuba has millions of supporters. Far from being isolated, there is no other country that has as much respect and affection. This letter is being mailed by volunteers to thousands of people who oppose the blockade. If each one helps in some way you can make a difference.

The U.S. war against Cuba continues unrelentingly. You follow the news. In the

last several months, the Clinton Administration created an immigration crisis, threatened countries trading with Cuba and stepped up military and verbal threats.

The U.S. military occupation of Haiti is also a gun aimed at Cuba.

And so our efforts to educate the people of the U.S. and to fight the criminal blockade must be unrelenting as well. The upcoming months are important. The next round of U.S./Cuba talks begins October 24 and the blockade comes up again in the UN General Assembly.

The International Peace for Cuba Appeal is working hard to support a demonstration in Washington D.C. on Nov. 12. This demonstration is a broad coalition effort of the Cuba movement and coincides with the fourth Friendshipment Caravan organized by Pastors for Peace. Vehicles from around the country will converge in Washington and lead the March. IPCA also works and participates in the Caravan as well as medical, school supplies and educational projects that reach thousands of new people.

Let us know if we can help your efforts. Remember - you make the difference to

Cuba. Thank you.

Teresa Gutierrez Ramsey clark

Ramsey Clark, Founder

Partial List of Initiators:

Philip Agee, Edward asner, Harry Belafonte, Rev. Philip Berrigan, Frei Betto, Elombe Brath, Jackson Browne, Prof. Noam Chomsky, Ramsey Clark, Rep. John Conyers, Prof. Irwin Corey, Ossie Davis, Ruby Dee, Rene Dumont, Eduardo Galeano, Andres Gomez, Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, Teresa Gutierrez, Woody Harrelson, Casey Kasem, Margot Kidder, Kris Kristofferson, William Kunstler, Corlis & Beth Lamont, Gloria LaRiva, Peter Matthiessen, Robert Meeropol, Kate Millett, Bishop Paul Moore, Holly Near, Mario Obledo, Sydney Pollack, Rep. Charles Rangel, Michael Ratner, Pete Seeger, Martin Sheen, Ignacio Lula da Silve, Alice Walker, Rev. Lucius Walker, William Winpisinger

But after 1917 Haitians grew angry and resentful of the occupying force in their country. During the 17-year American occupation, they expressed their feelings of resentment through violence. In 1934, after seeing the futility of it all, President Roosevelt withdrew American troops. But even though military occupation was ended, America continued to exert influence over Haiti as it does today.

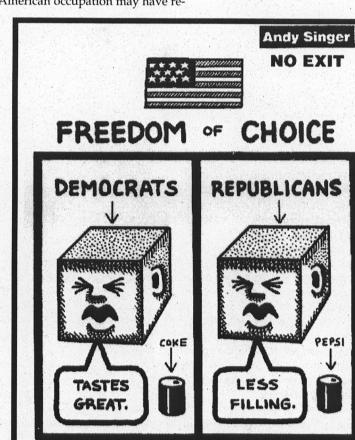
The present American military occupation of Haiti is clearly a repetition of failed intervention in the past. The wisest decision that the President can make now is to withdraw troops from that island immedi-

The American occupation may have re-

stored order and stopped police repression, but it certainly won't do a thing for Haiti's benefit in the future. First of all, the soldiers in Haiti and the US policy makers in Washington, DC cannot create a sound, native democratic tradition or forever put an end to police repression. And it definitely cannot cultivate the prosperity and jabs that will ease widespread poverty.

All this talk of restoring democracy in Haiti is simply a cover for sublime American business interests. If the US military occupation were to end tomorrow, order would collapse and poverty, oppression, and the cycle of military coup d'état and violence would resume.

National Student News Service, 1994



Rui is the drummer of a band call Freemartins which several CSI students saw while attending an anti-racist conference in Columbus, Ohio. The hard, angst driven sound of the Freemartins founds its rhythmic core in the ecstatic drumming of Rui. Rui is from Angola, yet anther country which has seen great suffering as a result of western colonialism and subsequently the hold anti-communist crusades of the US and its allies. We asked him to write something,

and this is what he wrote:

In the 1400's, when the Europeans decided to find the shortest route to India to get spices, they accidentally found many other lands. One of these was the Sub-Sahara Africa, also known as Dark Africa. A Portuguese named Diogo Cao (Dog in English) found what is today called Angola. For about 500 years, the Portuguese colonized (oppressed) Angola. after several hundred years of violent struggle and resistance to colonization, the Portuguese left Angola on November 11, 1975. I was ten years old.

The Portuguese left Angola in complete chaos and civil war, with three warring parties armed to their teeth with destructive arsenals courtesy of the United States, the Soviet Union and others. do you get the picture? Each of the three parties were representing one or more western ideologies. MPLA (Popular Movement for Liberation of Angola) was a pro-Marxist/ Communist party. Their friend was the Soviet Union. UNITA (National Union for Total Independence of Angola) was supported initially by the Chinese, later by the south African CIA, and Currently by the United States CIA. The third party, FNLA (National Front for Liberation of Angola), was supported by the good old US of A until FNLA dropped out of the war in 1976-7, at which point the Us started supporting

The war continues to this day. As a result, 1000 people a day are dying in Angola, mainly from starvation. An estimated 2.5 million will die in the nest few years if the war continues. The people have no food, no running water. There is shit all over the street. The cholera epidemic is back and people are dying from it in large numbers. And of course, the AIDS thing. Personally I've had an aunt and a cousin die from it. My brother got cholera twice, but he did not die. He was lucky

While all of this is going on, the United States still supports the war. You see. my friend, Angola is very wealthy country. It has oil, diamonds, iron, oil, more oil. I think if you use your imagination you can figure why the parties are so interested in fighting. So the big oil US companies (Chevron, Mobil, etc.) give money to the Angolan government for oil and the US government gives money to UNITA to overthrow the Angola government.

I came to the United States in 1982 to avoid the army draft, because I do not believe in the war. But I am an Angolan. I love my country and I want peace there. My message to the world is this: Learn about what is happening in Angola, especially if you are a US citizen. The people of Angola would rather be making music than

making war.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Voice will be holding a meeting on Thursday, Nov., 11 during club hours.



The US marines occupied Haiti earlier in this century, when peasant leader Charlemagne Peralte in 1919, was murdered and hung in order to intimidate potential opposition.

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The Mountain by Frank Giallombardo

 ${f R}$

He sits there like a giant white polar bear guarding his cubs from hungry predators

He has sat unmoved on his solitary throne for countless millennia and will still be there at the end of time

Snow falls on his grey granite face and settles like ancient dust in his rocky unwashed beard

River carve a smile in his hardened Dick Tracy chin

His durable teeth are like old ford fenders and chew bones into oatmeal

His tongue is the wind tasting sweet sunshine and sour darkness

The brim of his white hat gets wider with every winter

In the frigid months he values his solitude He sleeps until spring

When he sneezes moon dust blows from his nostrils with enough power to part the Bering Sea

Avalanches of frozen tears pour from his eyes for no true reason

He never invites anyone to climb him
No one has the courtesy to ask his permission
"Why should anyone travel far distance
to converse with me?" he asks

Climbers whisper questions into his ear and he answers wit their own echo

He punishes those who hammer pylons into his ear

Behind him sits his neighbor like a sad, fallen angel What could she have said to anger God?

She is much younger than her companion

They mostly ignore each other

If he could stand, the earth would shake with humility

I wonder if his neighbor would be impressed

The Obvious by Debra Behr

Water falls of red pour from the sky into the public's eyes.
That's why we are so blind.
It's not the color of skin or things between the legs.
It's the color of paper found in pockets of fat men
If we kiss their rings hard enough they might sprinkle us with a little silver but never gold.
Even though they flash it before our eyes it's just a seductive plea to shed more red in the mid-night rain.

what will become of me?

racism is like urine on the flower of progress like the sweet stench of rotten fruit, it turns the nose and attracts flies laws made nowadays are the incense sticks of injustice seeking to mask deadly odor what will become of me, a bud in the soil of Babylon the Great? will I be allowed to bloom; will I die of thirst; or will I be cut down and

mixed with manure to create mulch for others' growth?

Bianca.

Poetry Of A Madman by David Lipp

suicidal tendencies no one understands me everyone sees right through me everyone is looking and staring at me everything has changed yet it hasn't love means nothing, nothing is love disgust takes over all too often sometimes I feel immortal, no one can harm me my emotions seem to be running away from me sexual fantasies have made my mind deadly oain and anger seem to be my everything I touch dies sometimes I look in the mirror and cry seeing others in pain seems to give me pleasure great conversations with myself and in arguments President Clinton is the best president yet my world could never be understood that's just the way I like it.

Crystal Staircase

by David Lipp

Her thoughts drift slowly and languidly down a road familiar though unknown to her. It's all so strange she thought because everything where it should be yet she had no right to know that. cars would pass by occasionally, the rubber tires would blow dust in her yes temporarily blinding her but it didn't matter. Hours which felt like days which felt like eternity she had walked, never questioning why, never caring why but she knew it was necessary in order to get there and it wouldn't be long now she thought. Where was this there?, How much longer?, Are we there yet? she wondered very soon, very constantly. Her feet were ready to burn up into the heavens but all she craved was her destination and just maybe a sip of water. Upon her anomaly farther into broken thought she comes to a man wearing a smile, he seems very trustworthy, almost angelic and points to staircase which climbs its way up as far as the eye can see. After looking in awe at its crystal steps he grabs her hand gently to lead her on and she finally realized her departure rather embraced the open sky with a smile.

Buttocks of Gold

I Love you
Even though you don't have buns of steal
you have something far better
Buttocks, Buttocks of gold
I love your Buttocks, Buttocks of gold
They're as beautiful as you
Promise me, hypothetically, if unfortunately, you
pass away firstly
(sometimes my bra talks to me)
i can melt them into gold teeth
so i look like a rapstar.



Molested At Twenty Two

by Junior Hersh

Once again, the child has awoken during another encounter with a man.

His hands only bring death.

She can not breath when he touches her breast.

She can either spread her legs and travel to a safe distant world, far from the car sit or crawl up in a ball of defense.

As the touching continues, the child wishes that he could hear the screaming in her head.

"Stop, please stop!"

"God make it stop!"

As he unzips his pants, she becomes close to throwing up.

If only he would be content with a fast hand job, then she wouldn't have to look.

"Kiss it.", he whispers before pushing down her head.

At least he won't witness her tears.

He ignores the gagging from below while he forces himself deeper and deeper.

The rage begins to rise within.

The child wants him dead.

Thoughts of his suffering make the task less of a nightmare.

In her mind images of cutting his throat or breaking his neck are played over and over again.

The images help her work faster.

Soon this will be all over.

One quick shallow and he wouldn't touch her again and the child can return to her sleep.

Photo Futures: Electromagnetic Terrorism?

By A.D. Coleman

1. In 2173, in Auckland, New Zealand, the Global Conference on Criminal Sociology will include a session devoted to the disturbing planetwide rise of violations of "no photographing" laws in the long established "photo-free zones" of all major cities-section of these metropolises in which, by popular demand and general consent, photographing people in public places is prohibited. These violations will have taken place despite the availability of compensating "auto-release" zones where photographers can make publishable images of street life without obtaining model releases. Though unable decipher a pattern or determine a cause, panelists will sounds a warning, projecting a continuing increase in "antisocial photographic behavior."
The 'photo-free" and "auto-release"

Ine photo-free and auto-release zones were pioneered in France at the end of the 20th century, following two celebrated 1992-93 court cases-separate but related-in which an elderly couple named Bournet, claimed to be the lovers kissing in front of the Hotel de Ville in Paris in 1950 in Robert Doisneau's famous photograph. The concept of the photo zones was originated in 1989 by the U.S. critic A.D. Coleman, who acknowledge a debt to French Marxist scholar Bernard Edelman, author of the classic text Ownership of the Image.

2. FOTOARKIVO, the international consortium of public and private repositories of photographic images, will declare in 2212 that cooperation among its 85,000 member institutions has resulted in the long-anticipated acceptance of universal standards for encoding, transmitting and retrieving digitized imagery. As a result, some 280 billion images ("More being added each month," the ads ill promise) will henceforth be accessible to anyone who will pay for the initial hookup, plus the monthly fee for cable images. Bonus for charter subscribers: a top-of-the-line home

commuters (retail value \$200) for only \$24.99.

3. Documented obtained in 2048 under the Freedom of Information Act in the United States will reveal that the Central Intelligence Agency's involvement in the world of photography during during the Cold War went far beyond the agency's suborning of the Rochester Institute of Technology and the activities of such "ex" agency hirelings as a noted Washington, D.C., dealer. Indeed, it will be revealed that the much-celebrated "photo boom" of the 1970's was, in fact a C.I.A.-orchestrated money-laundering scheme. The scions of the heads of a major oil company and, among others, will be implicated in the plot.

4. The simplicity of image piracy the electronic imaging makes possible will run headlong into massive lawsuits and whopping settlements in a number of celebrated cases. After much deliberation and contention, The North American society of Magazines Photographers in 2015 will propose a system whereby, for a small fee, up to 25 percent of a published image can be "recontextualized" by photomonteurs on a fair- use basis-the fee to be paid back to the photography agencies and publishers registered with the system, and apportioned by them among the photographer they represent.

5. As copyrights on various masterpieces of photography expire, we will begin to see colorized versions of classic monochrome images: Alferd Stieglitz's Clouds, Edward Weston's Pepper No.30, Ansel Adams' Moonrise Over Hernandez, Dorothea Lange's Migrant Mother. An aging Joel Meyerowitz will lead the much-publicized protect over this practice that will erupt in 2021 when a colorized print of Diane Arbus' xmas tree in a living room in Levittown, L.I., 1963 is hung n the Oval Office at the request of newly

elected U.S. President Chelsea Clinton.

6. On March 17, 2046, a mile-square grid of helium-filled balloons will be floated over Prague, each balloon severing as a pixel in a simulation onto these, a computerized program will display the entire oeuvre of Josef Sudek to celebrate the master's 150th birthday.

7. The physical danger to photography on paper are light, heat, moisture and contaminated air. The physical danger to photography in digitally encoded form are no less insidious, no less real: magnetism and static electricity. Walk into a photo archive 50 years from now with an electromagnet in an attaché' case and you'll be able to erase a large chunk of the past with a flick of a switch. and who knows what an electrical storm over London might achieve? Beginning in the year 1999, hot on the heels of the terrorist wipeout of the entire Library of Congress, myriad protective devices will einvented and sold; horror stories of other irretrievable losses will begin to

8. Commencing shortly after the turn of the century, a mix of psychobiography, autobiography, historical research and muckraking investigative journalism from diverse sources will provide a steady stream of revelations both shocking and titillating concerning the professional and financial intrigues among, and the private and sexual shenanigans of, many noted and revered figures in the world of photography. Look for particularly juicy details on: a revered photo historian and his wife; the department of photograph at an important New York City art museum from 1970 to 1999; the upper echelon of the 1980's executive crowd at one of the world's largest manufactures of photo equipment and supplies; an Ivy League university's graduate photo program; Imogen Cunningham; and Ansel Adams. Contributing to this will be the long-awaited publication in 2050 of the full, unexpurgated version of the *Daybooks* of *Edward Weston*- an uncensored microfilm copy of which will be discovered among the paper of Beaumont Newhall at the J. Paul Getty Museum on Brentwood Island. Calif.

9. As photographic works by artists with no grounding in photographic craft proliferate and begin rapidly deteriorating, the field of preservation and conversation of photographs will become prestigious and lucrative. In 2094, an international dispute ill erupt over a proposed million-dollar "restoration" of an early photo collage piece by Starn Twins, two brother who dabbled briefly in art before embarking on a successful career as E-mail evangelists.

10. By 2025, the storage of a thousand digitized color images on a microchip no larger than a head of a pin will be commonplace; most people will carry inexpensive "picture pens"-digital cameras shaped like ball-points-for every day visual note-taking. The rage that fall season will be a new version marketed as "Insights": subcutaneosly implanted microchips connected to the optic nerves and capable of recording anything registered on the retina via a thought-activated process. Downloading, transmitting, erasing and otherwise interacting with stored images will be accomplished via a simple device connected to any home infotainment center. The implantation will be simple operation performed on an outpatient basis. Demand will be enormous, leading to the establishment of an international chain of "Insights" clinics staffed largely by doctors and computer experts from the nation hose researchers devised this technology, the new global leader in computer innovation: India.

UNDER THE SCOPE

A record review by Ed Hicks

CONTINENTAL DRIFTERS

Ichiban Records

One of the more delicate situations in the music business is the formation of bands with musicians who have had past success. With notable exceptions like Peter Gabriel, Phil Collins, etc., "supergroups" tend to self-destruct for one of two reasons. The leader tries to play the role of composer and totally destroys the chemistry of the band or else the band just doesn't meet the lofty expectations set for them.

The Continental Drifters avoid these pitfalls with their first self-titled offering. The band, which "drifted" together in 1992, is comprised of ex-Bangles guitarist Vicki Peterson, former dB's leader Peter Holsapple, ex-Tori Amos drummer Carlo Nuccio, bassist Mark Walton, who played with Dream Syndicate, Steve Wynn, John Wesley Harding and Giant Sand and lastly, Susan Cowsill, who is the youngest sibling in the Cowsill pop family. (They later added Robert Mache' on lead and twelve string guitar.)

While these names might not ring familiar to your ears, these musicians are talented and accomplished. They blend influences ranging from country to rock while incorporating swamp and soul to give the music a rootsy, southern sound.

give the music a rootsy, southern sound.

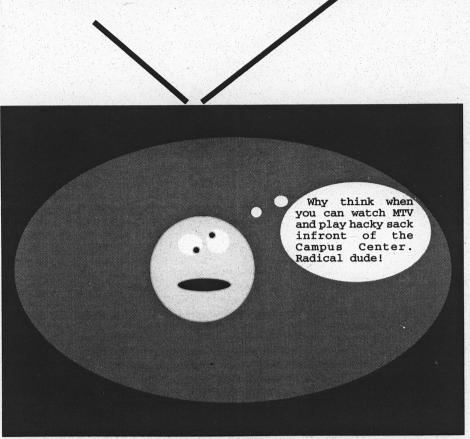
The first song, "Get Over It," is a killer track. It is simple and straightforward with excellent vocals from Peterson. Her phrasing and spirit during this song are reminiscent of Johnette Napolitano, formerly of Concrete Blonde.

"Invisible Boyfriend" and "Highway of the Saints" are slow, soulful numbers featuring Holsapple on vocals. Holsapple combines a southern feel with a hint of Mick Jagger in his singing while the slide guitar and punchy snare drum suggests a Zeppelinesque sound.

The record glides along with the infusion of a few cover songs, which ends up not working for the group. The band had success jamming the covers on stage before cutting the album, but the energy during these songs is just not there. After such spirited performances in their originals, the covers are a letdown. One bright spot is the beautiful vocal harmony in the cover of Gram Parson's "A Song for You."

They rebound, however, with "New York," written by Nuccio. This song has an unforgettable melody at the beginning and they use it perfectly throughout. This song and "Get Over It" are two songs that could bring the Drifters much success.

For what the Continental Drifters lack in originality, they make up for with soulful feeling. The songs sound genuine and definitely evoke emotion. This is especially obvious when Peterson or Cowsill takes the lead. They just seize the moment while the band backs them up beautifully. Each musician occupies their space without stepping on the element that drives the song. The Drifters show their stuff and never let their egos get in the way of the song. The end result? Music with feeling. A good feeling, for a change.



Why sit home and watch boring TV when you can spend hours and hours arguing politics, writing articles that will not get printed, days laying out the paper, meetings with bureaucrats and on top of that not paid a single penny, in fact you may have to give a few. Come by the Voice office if you are interested. BLDG 1c-Rm 230

V • Vol. XV • No.2

Arresting Television

by Debra Behr

If one is sitting at home bored, one may have nothing better to do except to switch on the television. After couple minutes of channel surfing, television viewers might notice the flood of fictional cop shows that are being syndicated on several channels. The fictional cop shows on television look at police on their day-to-day rounds. American Detective provides a glance of real police officers (with punched up narration and dramatic music). Top Cops and FBI: The Untold Stories use re-create to celebrate the exploits of law enforcers. These cop shows have been commented for their display of depicting the tough work that the police, nationwide, perform. The question, nevertheless, that needs to be answered is; how realistic are these fictional cop shows and does money play a part?.

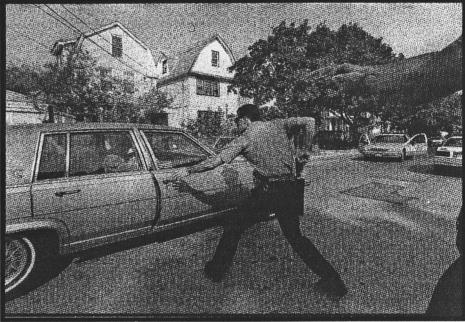
Many police departments have welcomed this flood of attention from the media. The Los Angels police department permits an average of ten camera ride-

Shows like Cops don't actually let the viewers see what the police are like in reality. In fact, these shows are fictional police shows, with drama that satisfies the public's obsession with voyeurism. The presence of a TV. camera on the scene of a "bust", evidently helps to keep the police on their "best" behavior. Police officers, however, have nothing to loose because police departments will edit any inappropriate scene before airing. Due to arrangements between the cop shows and police departments, the networks never broadcast police brutality which accrues more often than the media brings to the public's attention.

There are several police departments that are apprehensive to have the media ride with their officers. The Chicago police department and the San Diego's police refuses to allow camera crews in squad cars. These department believe that the presence of the media during arrests and investigations has a negative impact on their ability to complete their police work; whatever they mean by "negative impact on their ability to work?" Cop shows, however, have succeeded by creating a positive impact on police egos. The Broward County sheriff, Navarro, has become a celebrity from his on going appearance on *Cops*. and has influenced the show by promoting it. The lure of Hollywood money is hard for police departments to resist. In Florida, Aileen Wournos was accused of killing seven men. Three police investigators reportedly made an arrangement with Wuornos" lesbian lover to share in a TV.movie deal even before the case entered the

Either before or after the cameras are turned on, during a police arrest, the producer tries to secure signed releases from their subjects who agree to appear on screen. No matter how indecently the arrests are being exposed, so many comply in signing the release form. This procedure may be legal, but is it ethical?. În the first episode of American Detective, the three year-old son of a cocaine dealer bursts into tears as police break into the accused drug dealer's home and handcuff him. The father agreed to telecast his arrest, however, to give the audience real emotion drama, the procedures' used the opportunity to benefit the show by broadcasting the boy's anguish nationwide.

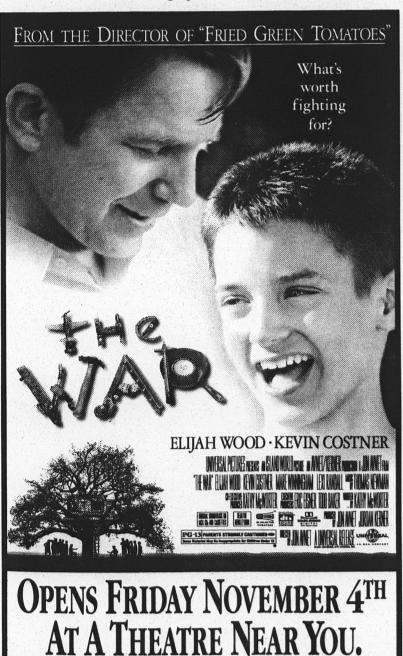
Police shows draw in their audience with a mix of graphic crime re-enactment's, interrogation and dramatic captures or shoot outs. The average cop show maintains a solid rating and cost very little to produce. A

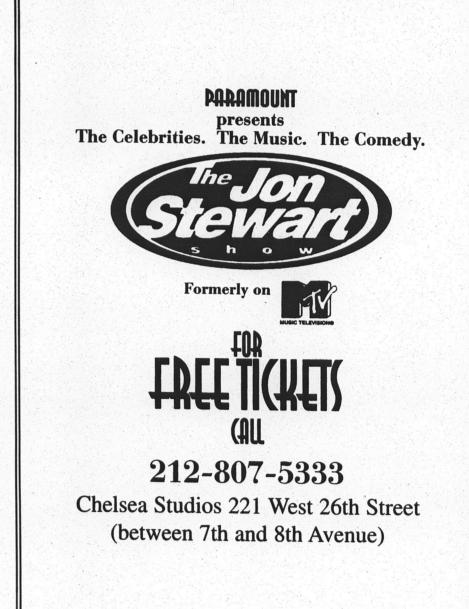


"Freeze or I'll blow your $@#*\Delta$ head off" Cut that this is for TV

one-hour episode of the average Americanfilmed drama costs 1.3 million. The budgets for Secret Service, which began filming on June 29, 1992, is averaged at \$750,000. High ratings blended low production costs means big salaries for producers. Sonny Grosso, a former narcotics detective who is the TV. producer of Cops and American Detective earns an average of \$75,000 for each episode including a large sum from syndication.

Fictional police shows have fooled the public in believing that they are receiving an honest depiction of police work. These shows exploit the arrests in order to maintain high ratings and high salaries for producers who are so eager to make a buck. In other words, when one is sitting home with nothing better do but to switch on their television, one should bring to mind that the media is never honest about what they depict in cop shows. Moreover, instead of watching the false images of police on TV., the public should step out of their homes and witness for themselves the actions of the police, Because the police are not as so sociable as they seem like on television.





THE

Du Pont; What You See is Definitely Not What You Get

By Kasadore Ramkissooy

any multinational corporations are launching costly advertis ing campaigns to boost their public image, these commercials seem to disguise the corporations true actions . The Du Pont Co., a US based chemical company, is currently running television commercials which feature people from all walks of life who are promoting Lycra as the ultimate fashion accessory of the nineties. These ads fail to include Du Pont's emission of toxic air, hazardous waste, and carcinogens which poison the environment an subjects almost everyone on the planet to deadly pollutants.

Du Pont, with the help of BBDO an NY based ad firm, is attempting to launch a series of television, billboard and magazine advertisements which are targeted to bolster its public image. Many of the ads feature models and athletes sporting Du Pont's product Lycra and encourages the necessity of Lycra as the ultimate fashion accessory of the nineties. In one ad Du Pont tells the fashion industry "learn what women want "it seem ironic that the same company that knows what "women want not only manufactures cancer causing toxins and exploits the demand for cancer medications and mammograms. Du Pont also sponsors many sporting events and utilizes the successful image of famous athletes to assist the public in visualizing how healthful and virtuous their products are. The company also have been accused of running barely visible company logos during television commercials.

Du Pont De Nemours & Co generates approximately 37 billion dollars annually in sales , the company has subsidiaries in almost every major country . Du Pont manufactures specialty fibers for textile and apparel markets they also produce engineering polymers, elastomers, fluoropolymers, ethylene polymers and other products primarily used in packing, construction, electrical, paper and other industries. The corporation produces , refines, markets, supplies and transports crude oil and natural gas products ,many of these products can be made environmentally safe but Du Pont constantly fails to exercise these measures.

Greenpeace, an environmental advocacy group, states that "Du Pont is the world's leader in ozone destruction, and one of the last producers of lead gasoline additives in the world, in the US they are number one in toxic waste generation. "Byproducts from Du Pont's specialty chemicals such as titanium dioxide fluorochemicals and polymer intermediates can easily find pathways into our food chains and ecosystems these carcinogens can end up in the respiratory and circulatory systems of animals and human beings very easily through rain runoff and food products.

DUPONT AND THE US GOVERN-

MENT

Why does the US allow multi-nationals corporation to self regulate their pollution policies? The reason for this is that the US. and businesses have a symbiotic relation-

ship, the US government has many production contracts with corporations like Du Pont ,during the Cold War Du Pont manufactured numerous chemical and biological weapons for the US military. Congress has proposed numerous environmental bills that set limitations on pollution that attempt to safeguard the environment but environmental groups like Greenpeace insists that these measures are not enough. Companies that produce toxic wastes and poisonous air emissions can evolve towards cleaner production methods by downsizing and transferring this technology to other firms in developing countries who need the technology but these methods do not allow for investment which essentially means no returns .and

increased competitions in the international markets. Du Pont and other multinationals have tried to have tried to polish up its act in the past but in the near future drastic methods will have to be taken to prevent pollution of almost every ecosystem on the planet.

Advertisements, which paint pristine pictures of multinational corporations like Du Pont, are high financed propaganda campaigns with the conscious intention to leave absent the reality of their business. The hottest Halloween costumes this year maybe not Dracula or Power Rangers, but a costume of a Du Pont representative holding a barrel of oil. We all know who the real monsters are



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