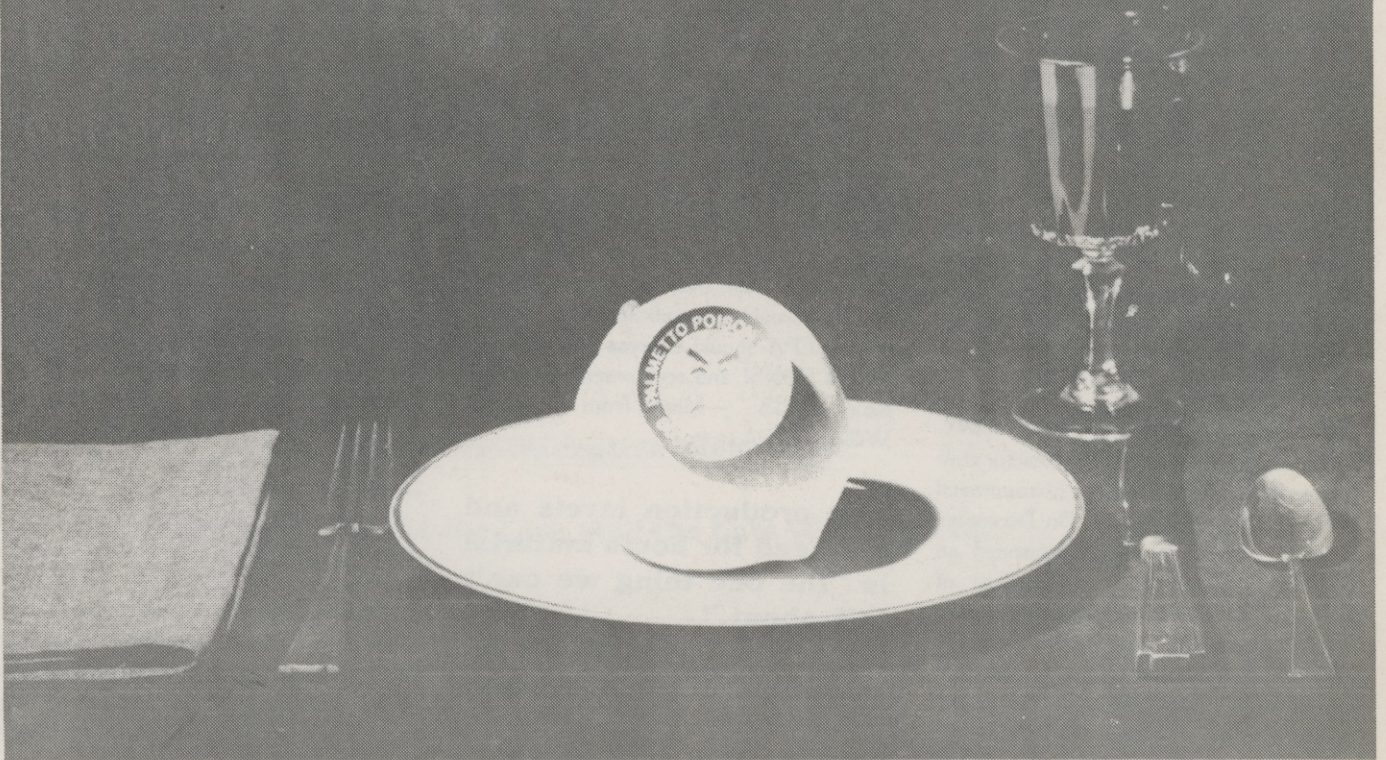


*A Carolina Grassroots Journal*

# HARBINGER

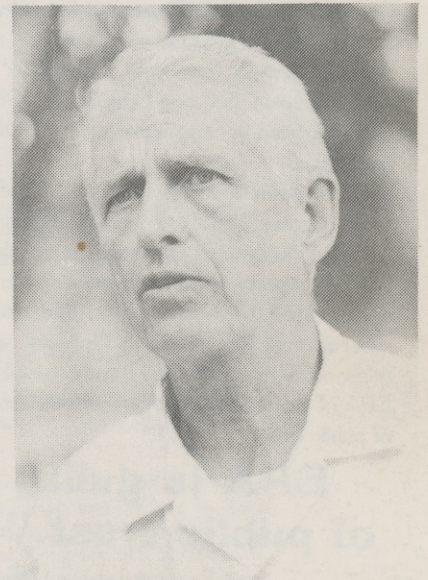
*"Something that comes before to give an indication of what is to follow"*



**DBCP: Profits and Cancer Rates Up, p. 5**



**Tchula: Revenge of the Good Ole Boys, p. 7**



**Phillip Berrigan, p. 10**

# The Rising Cost of Nuclear Insecurity

While the debate about freezing nuclear weapons production rages around the world and crawls around the floor of the U.S. Congress, America's bomb plant is in high gear. The Savannah River Plant (SRP) occupies 312 square miles between Aiken and Barnwell, South Carolina, and operates three nuclear reactors making all of America's plutonium and tritium for nuclear weapons. The administration while making inane gestures toward "wiping these terrible weapons from the face of the earth" has decided that the best way to decrease the nuclear threat is to increase nuclear weapons. Accordingly, the "L" Reactor at SRP, operated from 1954 to 1968, is nearly ready to come back "on line" after 15 years of inactivity.

## **EPA Conceals L Reactor Danger**

New developments in the L Reactor controversy involve yet another Environmental Protection Agency scandal. On December 8, Sen. Strom Thurmond requested an EPA analysis of the Department of Energy's controversial decision not to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the proposed L Reactor restart at the Savannah River Plant. (This restart prompted a lawsuit against the DOE by environmental groups and, later, the state of South Carolina.)

Then EPA administrator Anne Gorsuch's answer to Thurmond was released at a public hearing conducted by the Senate Armed Services Committee in North Augusta, S.C., on February 9, 1983, and was broadly supportive of the DOE's position.

At the same hearing, however, a staffer of Sen. Ernest Hollings requested that internal EPA documents pertaining to the decision to support DOE be produced. A series of damaging memos, reports, and letters subsequently was given to Hollings, who released them on March 11 and accused the EPA of a major coverup, a "serious breach of public trust."

**EPA is guilty of "serious breach of public trust."**

**—Sen. Ernest Hollings  
D.-S.C.**

Obtained in the documents were the following statements.

"In conclusion, it is known that groundwater under the SRP site is highly contaminated in certain areas. This contaminated groundwater discharges slowly into surface streams on the site and subsequently into the Savannah River."  
—Regional EPA hydrologist, Gail Mitchell

"Although I think it is inappropriate for EPA to get mixed up in state permitting of effluents from this reactor, it is also wrong for DOE to claim that the environmental impacts of restarting this reactor would be insignificant. Their own assessment shows that they would be significant. Personally, I believe EPA should express opposition to DOE's FONSI and recommend that they issue an EIS." —Memo from Alexander Williams, EPA

**The production levels and the need for bomb material is "the one thing we can't talk about."**

**—Cliff Webb,  
SRP spokesman**

Also, the Chief of the EPA Environmental Assessment Branch, E.T. Heinen, knocked down a favorite DOE paper tiger when he wrote, "Sufficient data are already available for DOE to prepare an EIS within the time frame for proposed restart." The DOE has continually complained that an EIS would take two years to complete and claimed it would delay restart.

These and many other comments from technical experts within EPA show widespread disagreement with the DOE's finding of "no significant impact" (for the restart). EPA staff clearly had major concerns about the restart and believed an EIS to be the appropriate means for airing the issues involved. Gorsuch's letter to Sen. Thurmond, however, goes against these

staff recommendations and directly supports the DOE.

Thurmond, Hollings, and Georgia Sen. Mattingly are all demanding an explanation from the EPA, with the latter two Senators calling for an EIS as well.

Sen. Mattingly, who sits on the Appropriations Committee, has vowed to block funding for SRP if an EIS is not undertaken. Sen. Hollings, while calling for an EIS, has not said he would withhold appropriations.

It is interesting to note that Hollings is a sponsor of Senate Resolution No. 2 calling for an "immediate and verifiable mutual freeze" on the production of nuclear weapons. While Hollings' staff has criticized the MX missile program and the B-1 bomber as "silly" the senator believes in the need for an expanded Trident submarine system and a more "mobile and survivable" MX missile.

The growing popularity of an EIS for the restart of the L Reactor leaves three important questions unasked:

(1) Should defense reactors have the same environmental and safety guidelines as commercial reactors? (SRP's reactors do not have containment buildings nor do they cool the 180 degree water before dumping it into the swamp.)

(2) How much weapons grade plutonium is already stockpiled for use in the weapons program?

(3) At a time when polls reflect 75 percent of Americans favoring some kind of nuclear freeze, why is the government calling to increase nuclear weapons production?

The production levels and the need for bomb material is "the one thing we can't talk about," according to SRP spokesman Cliff Webb. Actually, Bomb Plant officials also have classified the amounts of radiation released into the local environment over the 30 year life of the plant making it impossible to truly determine the environmental impact of restarting the L Reactor.

—BAB

(Portions of this article reprinted from *Carolina Peace News*.)

A Carolina Grassroots Journal

# HARBINGER

"Something that comes before to give an indication of what is to follow"

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Harbinger is a non-profit educational corporation, a chapter of the International Workers of the World (I.W.W.I.U. 450), and a member of the Alternative Press Syndicate. Our offices are located at 18 Bluff Road, Columbia, S.C. 29201. We welcome your comments and criticism.

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We welcome manuscripts and art from talented and like-minded readers but are not yet in a financial position to pay. Material should be sent to *Harbinger*, 18 Bluff Road, Columbia, S.C. 29201. We assume no responsibility for loss or damage. Please enclose an SASE.



## Editorial: "Scumbags" & Jurisprudence

Most *Harbinger* readers know of the recent trial of black state legislator Theo Mitchell for illegal possession of food stamps.

Mitchell was charged with illegally receiving food stamps as partial payment on a legal settlement by a Mr. Joe Willis. Willis was convicted of assaulting an elderly black woman several years ago. Mitchell was the attorney who won a \$30,000 settlement against Willis. Willis, who has been arrested on numerous firearms violations, was

**"Joe Willis is a scumbag."  
—U.S. Attorney**

working as an informant for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF) to avoid prosecution. BATF agent Hudson Waller asked Willis if he knew anybody who would illegally accept food stamps. One can almost see the lights that must have gone on in Willis' head as he realized that here was a chance to get even with Theo Mitchell. Willis gave Mitchell over \$5,000 in food stamps supplied by BATF and Department of Agriculture undercover operatives as payment on the assault settlement. Mitchell maintains: (1) he was holding the food stamps in escrow pending Willis coming up with cash; (2) he did not know this was illegal; (3) he gave the food stamps back to Willis.

Whether Mitchell was guilty of criminality or stupidity is secondary to the question of who initiated the crime. All the government's careful jurisprudence is no

### Letter to Editor:

#### Peace Officers & Deadly Force

A major weakness in the field of criminal justice is the failure to trace crime to its roots "in the streets." In recent instances in Charleston, S.C., the major crime in the streets was at the hands of the police. Even in the shooting deaths of innocent citizens the police officers are always excused. The mentality that says these individual police officers can do no wrong will be the problem to stopping the riots. People will have blindly supported the

more precise than its weakest link. In this instance Willis (who has been characterized by a U.S. attorney as a "scumbag") was set in action by a government agent who knew Willis well enough to anticipate the results of his "investigation." The government had no business empowering a known criminal, Joe Willis, with the full weight and pomposity of the United States of America.

"Being black don't make you right," as Modjeska Simkins has pointed out. But being a black elected official means you have to be more than right ask Mayor Eddie Cartan. It's no surprise that the first black sheriff in South Carolina faces charges that could have been brought against most any white sheriff in the state (prisoners brutalizing other prisoners.) The first federal district

**"I got me a nigger politician."**

**—Joe Willis**

judge to be indicted while on the bench just happens to be black.

Racism is a deep and serious malady in America. The government is guilty of allowing Willis to exact revenge at the expense of justice. Willis' remark during the Mitchell trial sums up the case - "I got me a nigger politician."

*Harbinger* welcomes Letters to the Editor, comments, suggestions - so feel free to let us know what's on your mind. We will select a few to print in each issue.

Letters and comments reflect the views of the writer and may (or may not) differ from the philosophy of the staff.

police too many times to change even then; it will be a struggle. We must understand this and prepare to hold our ground, resist until we overcome. We must practice self-defense to protect our families from all forms of brutality.

During the bright hours of a day in January, Mrs. Alberta Williams sent her son to town (Charleston, S.C.) to pay a bill. Irvin-Keith got enough money from her for busfare, then went out to the busstop. A young lady friend of his was also waiting to catch the bus, but she would later transfer for Mt. Pleasant, S.C. (suburb of Charleston). Just before

their bus came, a friend of Irvin-Keith's drove by. Almost passing them by, he had to put the car in reverse and back up half a block to where they were. The driver was Arthur Watson, a young black man around 22 years of age. Surprised to see Watson driving a car, they asked him where he got it. He told them it was his uncle's car. They both got in with Watson and he drove them on to Charleston, taking the young lady to her job first in Mt. Pleasant, S.C. and returning to the city of Charleston.

As they were getting gas from a local Shell service station on the corner of Meeting St. between Reid and Amherst Sts., a patrol car called into Police Headquarters to run a check on the license to see if it was stolen. The first reply from Headquarters said no, it was not a stolen vehicle, but moments later they said that it was. This is when the hot pursuit began at high speed down Amherst St. to Eastbay St. where Watson wrecked into an oncoming car, knocking the other driver unconscious from the impact. Just as the police pulled up behind, two of them jumped out of the car with their guns drawn, shielding themselves behind the car. Watson climbed out of the window on the driver's side and ran behind houses into an open lot and attempted to get lost among the many dockworkers breaking for lunch. The passenger, Irvin-Keith Williams, was getting out of the passenger side with his hands up in the air, signalling that he was surrendering peacefully. The police car, apparently not fully in parking gear, jerked backwards and rolled back down the street, slamming into a telegraph post. Unshielded, one of the officers panicked and fired a shot, hitting Irvin-Keith Williams. One of the officers who arrived to assist those in the pursuit was Patrolman Sylvester Rivers, a black officer, who argued with Joel Kalman, the officer who shot Williams, for needlessly doing so.

Rivers chased Watson and caught him blocks away. When he told Watson that Williams had been shot, Watson confessed that Williams was just an innocent passenger and knew nothing about the car being a stolen one. As Officer Rivers led Watson back to the scene of the wreck, he noticed that Williams had another wound besides the gunshot wound in the abdomen,

# Federating for Progress

by Brett Bursey

When I was asked in June to be on the steering committee of a new national organizing effort The Federation for Progress I was skeptical but said sure. If something isn't going to work, it won't be because of me.

My skepticism about a national "super-coalition" of progressive groups is based on my involvement in similar efforts over the past 14 years, which were plagued with heavy vibes, upsmanship and sectarianism. The kamakazie politics of SDS in the late 60s disgusted many activists with national organizing. The Hard Times Conference in Chicago in 1975 seldom saw our collective consciousness rise above the floor of the auditorium. Tears in the hallway highlight my memories of the 1978 Mobilization for Survival conference, and sectarian debates marked the All Peoples Congress in 1981. All of the above were dominated by white males. Yuck and ho hum, another national supercoalition.

## Letters, continued

which to him resembled another gunshot wound on his chin, so he reported that Williams was shot twice, even though Kalman insisted he only fired once. Because of this contradiction Officer Rivers was fired, even though there was no official explanation on record as to the cause of this wound.

Kalman's version, supported only by his testimony and differing from the account of other eye witnesses' stories, is that he approached Williams and Williams attempted to fight him, knocking him to the ground and reaching for his revolver, and this is why he felt forced to fire. Even though there were many issues contradicting Kalman's version, such as the 14 seconds time period in which all of this was supposed to have happened (according to the official tape recording of the entire police headquarters transactions/communications that day), Kalman was later exonerated by the Coroner's jury, the grand jury and the U.S. Justice Department. Only because the community groups that protested held continuous demonstrations requesting his dismissal did he resign. The Williams family is still

When I met with the Interim steering committee before the Founding Federation Conference in New York last August, I was the only white male among the thirteen members present. The third world leadership and scope were impressive Asian Americans, Latinos, Black and Chicano organizations from across the country were represented. National as well as local labor unions pledged support and sent representatives from as far away as Hawaii.

I was concerned that the founding conference had too short notice to be effective

**"It's hard not to be overenthusiastic."**

(the call went out in July): there were 630 registrants from 31 states, 82 towns and 3 foreign countries. "It's hard not to be overenthusiastic," noted a participant from California. There were twenty workshops on subjects ranging from Liberation

fighting this matter in the courts. That was last year in 1981.

This year in 1982 Roscoe Little was gunned down by three undercover policemen in the Rosemont area in Charleston, South Carolina. He was shot six times by three officers after they saw he had a gun in his hand. The gun contained blanks.

Roscoe Little's death was just as unnecessary as Irwin-Keith Williams' was, in that, first, the gun was a blank gun (starter's pistol), and secondly, he was trying to frighten off some guys who had ganged up on and cut his brother during a fight before the cops came. He was home when he got the news that his brother had been in a fight and had been cut very badly on the arm. He grabbed his little starter pistol and went down the streets to scare the men off. Up came these cops, undercover, in an unmarked car, two white and one black, using abusive language to tell him to drop the gun. As he turned to see just who they were they opened fire, shooting him six times before he could blink an eye.

Of course, the policemen's version,

Theology to Women's Changing Role in Labor, to Government Repression, to Using the Media to Serve Grass Roots Struggles. Proposals were carried from the workshops to the floor of the conference where the plenary adopted positions on Hazardous Wastes, Political Repression and Lesbian/Gay Rights, Liberation Theology, Women's Issues, Labor, Housing, The Draft, Nuclear Power and Weapons, Military Intervention, Culture, Science, Health Care, Media, and Third World Concerns. Conference participants heard Julian Bond, Arthur Kinoy, Michio Kaku, Queen Mother Moore, Phillip Berrigan, Tom Chapin and Pete Seeger lend their support to the call for a Federation.

The Federation platform and other information about Federation united front activities in South Carolina are available from GROW, 18 Bluff Road, Columbia, S.C. 29201, (803)254-9398.

again, is different from the various eye witnesses at the scene. And again, of course, they've been found justified in this shooting by the police department and the Coroner's jury and probably won't even have to go before the grand jury. There is no justice in America for blacks, especially against police officers who misuse the law to abuse and murder them. The officers, Buford, Williams and Simmons have all been reinstated and will probably be promoted soon. That's the mentality that controls these officers and prevails throughout the white community. Until these police officers make the mistake of shooting, not to mention killing, a white person, things will remain the same. As long as they are only killing black people, and we don't insist that they be punished and justice served, we deserve to die like they are killing us off, like dogs.

Every available avenue of protest should be used, particularly economic boycotts and demonstrations, but this isn't going to be enough to stop the senseless killing. We must arm ourselves to protect our wives, children and selves from these vicious attacks. We need to demonstrate our displeasure before the eyes of the world and embarrass America for not practicing what it preaches in its Constitution. Freedom for All is a lie!

Sincerely Yours in the Struggle for  
Justice,  
Jerome Smalls



A chemical fire at S.C. Recycling & Disposal Co. on Bluff Road (Bluff Road Chemical Dump), September 25, 1979.

## Citizens Unite Against Chemical Detonations

Although the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control claimed there was no danger to local residents when it detonated hazardous chemicals near the Bluff Road community, evidence recently obtained by *Harbinger* indicates that the community's concern is more than justified.

After seeking a detonation site on the grounds of Fort Jackson, DHEC received a letter from Fort Jackson commander, Major General Albert Akers, stating, "We do not believe that sufficient information regarding quantity of waste material to be disposed of, type, contamination potential, residual effects, and time required to accomplish the disposal is known to permit us to take a responsible position in support of your request." One of the Army's primary concerns was for their largest personnel housing area, a full six miles from the proposed detonation site, and for the main cantonment area where approximately 30,000 soldiers and their families live and work, seven miles away. "Basically, our concerns are not related to where the materials are exploded, but if such action would adversely affect the health and welfare of individuals, both military and

civilian, within the close proximity of the disposal site," wrote Ayers.

In direct contrast to these concerns voiced by officials whose livelihood consists of dealing with hazardous munitions, nerve gas, etc., the chemicals were finally detonated less than two miles from a densely populated black community. This raises serious questions as to DHEC's level of concern when it comes to protecting the health of all citizens, including rural based minorities.

**"...why is a low income black neighborhood considered an uninhabited area by DHEC?"**

—Chris Kueny

The August 4 edition of the *Columbia Record* quoted Robert Malpass, chief of DHEC's Bureau of Solid and Hazardous Waste Management, as saying that the detonation site, located on Beckham Swamp Road between the Congaree River and Bluff Road, is "ideal because of its favorable terrain, proximity to Bluff Road cleanup activities, and isolation from residential areas." (emphasis add-

ed)

Citizens in the nearby communities are organizing to prevent future planned detonations of the chemicals. A petition is being circulated by members of the Concerned Citizens of Bluff Road and the Grass Roots Organizing Workshop. The petitioners' demands are:

1. Halt the destruction of chemicals in our neighborhood
2. Complete an environmental assessment on the health effects of the Bluff Road Chemical Dump and any procedure involved with cleaning it up.
3. Hold public hearings concerning the dump, our right which has been suppressed by the two-year-old "emergency" classification of the dump.

Chris Kueny, organizer for GROW and participant in the petitioning campaign, said, "We feel this represents a blatant neglect of the rights of citizens living out here to live a healthy life, and to be made aware of decisions the government is making concerning our environment. We want to know, why is a low income black neighborhood considered an uninhabited area by DHEC? You don't see them blowing up this stuff in their neighborhood, do you?"

—MG

### It always smells this way . . .

When the radio recently announced that roads near the Bluff Road Chemical Dump would be blocked due to an explosion, it was nothing unexpected. In fact, according to Jim Ullery of the Department of Health and Environmental Control, it was "inevitable" A heavy rain had caused a phosphorous reaction that detonated two drums of the chemical which were sitting about 500 feet from Bluff Road.

The drums had been there eight years, according to Ullery, who added that an emergency response team was about to handle other drums at the dump to determine their content. He didn't know if they were full but said many were probably leaking.

What was that pungent smell in the air? According to Ullery, it was "just the regular smell of the dump."

—RF

## EPA Collusion with Agribusiness & Clemson

# DBCP: Profits & Cancer Rates Up

by Sue Bowman

L.B. Yonce has lived in Johnston, South Carolina and drunk water from the same well "all my life - and I'm 63 years old." Until February 1981 he didn't know he was drinking the pesticide dibromochloropropane DBCP in his coffee at levels considered dangerous for drinking water. The pesticide, used extensively in South Carolina's peach orchards for years, was banned in 1979 by the Environmental Protection Agency due to evidence linking it with serious health effects.

The letter dated January 28, 1981 from the Department of Health and Environmental Control informed Yonce that a DBCP concentration of 1.57 ppb (parts per billion) was detected in his water. "The compound DBCP has been reported to cause cancer and sterility in laboratory animals," the letter read. "Due to the potential for adverse health effects in human beings from DBCP, the State of California has temporarily set 1 ppb as the maximum permissible concentration in drinking water. Based on the information we have at hand, we feel that we must recommend that you discontinue your present use of your water for drinking and cooking purposes."

Another source? Yonce shrugs. "I don't have no other source. I had another well dug when my pump went bad but I suppose it's the same thing. It's no deeper really." And as to the danger, Yonce is still uncertain what that means. "Three of them (DHEC personnel) came out. One said it wasn't any more harmful than watching television. Another said he wouldn't take a bath in it I don't know who to believe."

Yonce isn't alone. In random sampling DHEC discovered three wells in the same area with DBCP levels in excess of 1 ppb; the highest was 10 ppb. It isn't surprising that he knows so little about DBCP, although he has farmed most of his life, because he never used the pesticide. The man who began leasing his property in 1968 used the DBCP which percolated into Yonce's water.

"I haven't heard any more since they checked it," he adds. "They come in here and get me stirred up about something, then they tell me they don't know what to do."

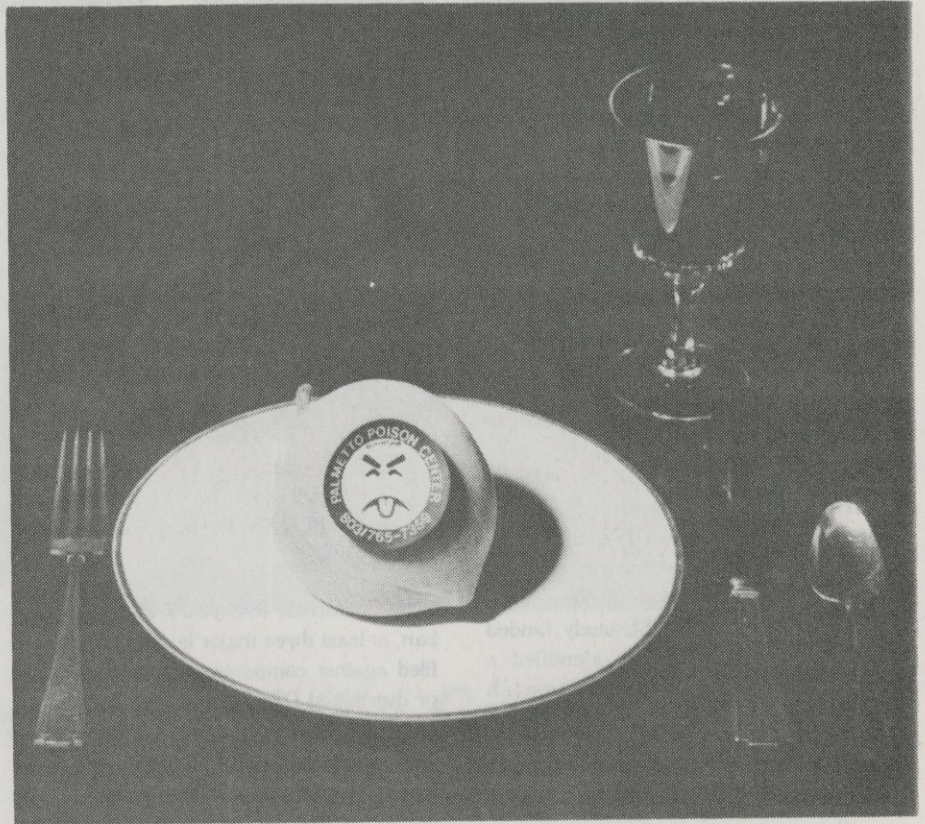


Photo by Sue Bowman

**"...one of the most potent carcinogens the EPA has regulated."  
—the EPA**

Yonce and the others with irreversibly contaminated water supplies were not asked their opinions of the move in summer 1982 to reintroduce DBCP use in South Carolina—a tangled plot involving Clemson University officials, the only chemical company still manufacturing DBCP, the EPA, angry California lawyers and scientists and health officials, defensive DHEC officials, and the Grass Roots Organizing Workshop (GROW), the environmental action organization which took legal action and stopped distribution of the chemical. GROW cited the already existing groundwater contamination problem and DBCP's history of serious health effects. GROW also pointed out the elaborate bureaucratic maneuverings between Clemson, Amvac Chemical Co. and the EPA to get DBCP out of the doghouse and back into the fields.

### Widespread Contamination of Potent Carcinogen

DBCP was used in South Carolina in the 60's and 70's. As a result of this use, Clemson University data shows "widespread contamination of low levels of DBCP (10-100 parts per trillion) with some samples near or above the 1 part per billion (ppb) level. The frequency of positive samples was high, especially in peach growing areas," according to an EPA report, "DBCP in Ground Water in the Southeast."

DBCP use in California was even heavier, primarily on grapes, tomatoes and tree fruit. Studies conducted since late May 1979 by the California Department of Health Services reveal that

DBCP is present in the groundwater of Southern California and the San Joaquin Valley, former high use areas. California health officials attribute the presence of contamination to percolation of DBCP through the soil from agricultural areas. "DBCP is a very mobile and very persistent pesticide," according to the EPA report, "...very resistant to biodegradation." It is not known to occur naturally in the environment.

DBCP's true colors began to show in the 70's. In 1977 casual conversation among workers at the Occidental Petroleum Corporation plant in Lathrop, California, revealed that none of the workers had recently had children. Subsequent investigation uncovered reduced or zero sperm counts among workers with long term exposure to DBCP.

Laboratory tests on rats exposed to DBCP, conducted by the National Cancer Institute, produced an alarming number of cancers, particularly stomach cancer, in a short period of time. And most recently, a July 1982 study funded by the California legislature identified a positive correlation between stomach cancer rates and increased levels of DBCP in drinking water in the Fresno Valley.

The EPA described DBCP as "one of the most potent carcinogens EPA has regulated."

Despite its heavy reliance on DBCP, in 1977 the state of California leveled a statewide ban on its use. The EPA, after two years and nearly 9,000 pages of hearing transcript, suspended its use national-

**"The costs to society of the damage to human health caused by exposure to DBCP, may well be incalculable."**

**—Judge Harwood**

ly, except for use on pineapples in Hawaii, on October 29, 1979. The opinions of Administrative Law Judge Gerald Harwood, who presided over the suspension hearings, and EPA Administrator Douglas M. Costle, indicate that the weight of the evidence found DBCP to be a potent spermatoxin, carcinogen and mutogen.

Harwood concluded in his Recommended Decision, "The costs to society of the damage to human health caused by



L.B. Yonce

Photo by Sue Bowman

exposure to DBCP, may well be incalculable."

In California, five years after the state ban, at least three major lawsuits have been filed against companies that manufactured or distributed DBCP before the ban, according to *Environmental Reporter*. Two suits allege that DBCP leached into water supplies, causing cancer, sterility and genetic damage to users of the water. One asks that Shell Oil Co. be ordered to provide filtration systems for contaminated well. A successful judgment could cost the companies \$3 billion. The second suit seeks reimbursement for the cost of a filtration system installed by a housing developer to protect home buyers in his development from DBCP groundwater contamination, plus \$10 million punitive damages. The third seeks to force the chemical companies to test all the wells in the state for possible contamination.

#### Clemson Wins Exemption

Ring nematodes are tiny worms which attack the roots of crop-bearing trees, weakening their resistance to bad weather and disease. In South Carolina, with a peach crop second only to California bringing in approximately \$62 million annually, ring nematodes represent the worst kind of plague. Edgefield County, where all three contaminated wells were found, produces one-third of the state's peaches.

DBCP, although banned, is recognized as the most effective weapon against

nematodes. Other nematicides are manufactured, although farmers argue that none is as effective. No nematicide is currently OK'ed by the EPA for use without a special exemption. Inasmuch as most funding for research on agricultural pest control comes directly from chemical companies, researchers admit that methods of biological control remain undeveloped.

California's crop statistics since the ban, however, indicate that peach production has remained stable. According to one California county commissioner, "...farmers have been doing a better job of irrigating and fertilizing and have overcome some of the effects of nematodes."

The devastating winter of 1982 brought South Carolina's peach crop crashing from its 430 pounds in 1981 to a sad 190 million pounds in 1982. According to state agricultural statisticians, it was the worst winter since 1955 when everything was lost. In 1964 half the peach crop was lost due to frost.

In June Clemson University applied for and won from the EPA an exemption to the DBCP ban, asking permission to treat 20,000 infested acres of peach trees with 75,000 gallons (907,500 lbs.) of the nematicide, to be applied between September 1 and November 15, 1982.

In its application, Clemson cited a possible loss of \$12 to \$25 million over a two year span if DBCP were not used to combat the nematode problem, which Clemson claimed affected half the trees in the state.

Clemson's plan for distribution of the DBCP required that a grower submit for analysis a sample of soil to prove that it contained 50 ring nematodes per 100 cc of soil. If so, the county agent would issue the grower a permit to purchase up to 5 gallons of DBCP per acre from Amvac Chemical Corporation through its distributor in South Carolina, Woolfolk Chemical Co., at \$23.27 per gallon.

The grower also had to be a "certified applicator" meaning he had completed a training course on application of dangerous pesticides at Clemson's Agricultural Extension Service some time in the past. Four informational meetings set up across the state to provide refresher training on DBCP were not mandatory, and none of the printed material provided at these meetings related directly to DBCP but to soil fumigation in general.

At one meeting, held at 9 a.m. at Sease's

continued on p. 9





Photo by Sheila D. Collins

## Tchula: Revenge of the Good Ole Boys

by Sheila D. Collins

The passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 did more than open up the political process for blacks in the Deep South. It created, at least for a brief moment, the possibility of political democracy for both blacks and whites. With thousands of new voters going to the polls for the first time in 100 years voters who had not been in anyone's hip pocket it was just possible that leaders could be elected who were genuinely interested in that ever-elusive constituent, "the common good."

The challenge of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party to unseat the Mississippi regulars in 1964 provided the first test of this possibility. Despite the ultimate failure of that challenge, the Voting Rights Act was, in at least one respect, a revolution for blacks in the Deep South. Before the Act only 20,000 blacks were registered to vote in Mississippi. After it was passed, that number jumped to 320,000. Today, Mississippi has the largest number of black elected officials in the nation 300.

But black political power was not easily won, nor has it been safely consolidated. According to John Quincy Adams, head of the political science department at Millsaps College in Jackson, a black candidate in Mississippi still cannot expect to muster more than 5 percent of the white vote in any election. Adams maintains that to elect a black candidate there must be at least a 65 percent majority in the candidate's district.

Making it past this hurdle has been no guarantee of black political success. Blacks elected to public office have frequently

had to carry out their duties under a barrage of harassment, ranging from no or negative publicity to unfounded criminal accusations, unnecessary audits, FBI surveillance, mysterious burglaries and career disrupting activities by intelligence agencies as documented in Mary R. Warner's *The Dilemma of Black Politics: A Report on Harassment of Black Elected Officials* (National Association of Human Rights Workers, 1977). By late 1978, attacks on black political figures had become so serious that the National Conference of Black Mayors called for a special meeting with the FBI in an attempt to get the Bureau to correct some of the abuses.

Since Reagan's election, racists have begun to recoup the losses they suffered in the wake of the civil rights movement. In cities such as Atlanta, Los Angeles and Detroit sizable black middle classes have managed to hold a measure of political, if not economic, power. But in the counties, small towns and moderate-sized cities of the Deep South, where in many cases poor blacks are in the majority or near majority, the Bull Connors are coming back.

In Wrightsville and Johnson County, Georgia blacks who have tried to vote or demonstrate for equal rights and services have been faced with official intimidation and violence led by local law enforcement officials, violence of the type encountered by civil rights demonstrators during the 60's. Mayor Richard Arrington, the first black to head the city of Birmingham, Ala., is

currently under intense attack in the news media, the courts and from the white Fraternal order of Police and County Personnel Board. In one of the saddest cases of the season, two older women of rural Pickens County, Ala., Julia Wilder and Maggie Bozeman, have been sentenced to five and four years respectively in the state penitentiary for alleged "voter fraud" in connection with their efforts to get elderly black residents to vote. Arnett Lewis, Director of the United League of Holmes County, Miss., recently described the situation in rural Mississippi as a state of "civil war."

The stakes to the Deep South's white power structure, and its allies in the boardrooms in Texas, Southern California and the federal government are high. Just how high is exemplified in the story of Eddie James Carthan, the first black since Reconstruction to be elected major of a biracial town in the Mississippi Delta. Elected in 1977 on a reform platform, with a promise to serve "all of the people" of the town of Tchula, Miss., Eddie Carthan today finds himself embroiled in a Kafkaesque tangle of false charges, public disgrace and court convictions that could put him in jail for several years.

I first heard Eddie Carthan speak at a rally in Jackson, Miss., last spring, shortly after he had been convicted of assaulting a police officer and sentenced to three years in the state penitentiary. To hear Carthan speak about freedom, justice and the responsibilities of citizenship in the simple, eloquent manner characteristic of many rural southern blacks, was to feel once again, the spirit King evoked during the heyday of the civil rights movement. But Carthan elected mayor at the age of 27 was a child when SNCC workers moved through the Deep South, living with the poor, registering people who had never been allowed to vote and conducting Freedom Schools for the children of poor black sharecroppers and farmers like Eddie James Carthan.

"I was only 12 or 13 at the time of the civil rights movement," Carthan recalled at the Jackson rally, "but I would drive my grandfather to meetings. I attended the Freedom Schools." He thought getting elected was one of the benefits of the civil rights movement. "I thought I could represent those who had come through slavery, knowing nothing about voting, about going to a motel, sitting in the front of the bus or eating in a restaurant."

## The only thing wrong with Carthan, they say, is that he is black...

His election as mayor of Tchula presented Carthan with just such a challenge. Like many a southern town, it is divided down the middle by railroad tracks that separate the manicured lawns and colonial style homes of the white minority from the roach-and-rat-infested dwellings of the blacks. Ruled for over a century by white planters and their political lackeys, Tchula's population 70 percent black suffers an "official" unemployment rate of 30 percent. Two thirds of the population is on welfare, 81 percent of the housing units are classified as "deteriorating" and 47 percent of all family dwellings lack some or all plumbing facilities. Holmes County, in which Tchula is located, is one of the 10 poorest counties in the nation. When Carthan took office there were no public recreational facilities. The town possessed but one tractor, an old fire engine and an inoperable squad car.

Mayor Carthan began to turn the town's grim statistics around. CETA programs employed local residents in weatherization programs, a housing rehabilitation program was undertaken and a child care program for welfare and working mothers was begun as was a nutrition program for the elderly and handicapped and a medical clinic. Two new squad cars provided 24-hour police protection, and a traffic and sign construction program was begun.



Mayor Eddie Carthan's family

By the third year of his term Carthan had secured financial support for a new water system which included plans to drain swamps to prevent flooding and a mini-bus system. Plans were underway to construct public basketball and tennis courts, initiate door-to-door mail service, develop a cable TV system and construct a library. Three million dollars in federal and private monies were funneled into Tchula under Carthan's leadership.

By May 1981, however, the largely black town government (four black aldermen were swept into office with Carthan's election) had once more become almost entirely white. Federal programs were cancelled, Carthan's reputation was in ruins and he had been sentenced to three years in the state penitentiary.

What went wrong? The white power structure of Holmes County would say that this is just another case of black incompetence. But others national civil rights activists, religious leaders, black political figures and lawyers with the Center for Constitutional Rights and the National Conference of Black Lawyers see it another way. The only thing wrong with Carthan, they say, is that he is black and tried to serve the poor black community that elected him.

In the late '70s, with a president in the White House who still owed a political debt to blacks, an enterprising local black politician could use the federal grants to bypass the local white power structure, bringing money and programs to the area. But as Carter's popularity began to wane, so did support for black political independence.

Carthan first demonstrated a spirit of independence when, shortly after his election, he was approached by a man claiming to represent the "four most powerful men in the state more powerful even than the governor." He offered Carthan \$10,000 if the mayor would do things "the way they have always been done." The offer was made repeatedly; Carthan politely refused each time. To B.T. Taylor, president of the Holmes County Board of Supervisor and the "Mayor Daley" of the county, Carthan's

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## Carthan: Innocent of murder, state assault charges commuted, but still in jail . . .

On November 4 an all black State Circuit jury found Mayor Eddie Carthan innocent of the murder of Roosevelt Granderson. Granderson was a black alderman in Tchula, Mississippi, who voted with the white power structure and was a political foe of Carthan's.

The murder occurred June 28, 1981, while Granderson was working in a convenience store. Two known gangsters from St. Louis were arrested July 3, 1981, during an attempted bank robbery in Tchula: Vincent Bolen and Nathaniel Hester. According to Carthan's defense attorney, Lewis Pitts, Granderson was involved in drug dealing, and his murder appeared to be drug-related. In October 1981, after four months in jail, Bolen confessed to the murder of Granderson, claiming he did it for \$20,000 for Mayor Carthan. The state offered Bolen, who was facing five life sentences, parole at the earliest possible

...**DPCB**, continued from p. 6

peach packing shed near Lexington in Edgefield county, farmers ate donuts and drank canned soft drinks while listening to short presentations by officials from Clemson, Amvac and Woolfolk Chemical on the regulatory requirements for a grower to fulfill to use DBCP, how to apply it and how to buy it. Farmers were encouraged by sales representatives to put in their orders on the spot. Many present had already had their soil samples analyzed, and were waiting for the meetings to be over so they could begin application.

"Every peach farmer I know of needs to use it," said Bubba Barnett, a grower from Dalzell S.C. with 2,000 acres (200,000 trees) in Sumter County, at a meeting at his packing shed. But whether or not every farmer can afford it is another question. At \$23.27 per gallon and five gallons per acre, Barnett could theoretically have spent \$232,700 on DBCP in one bundle.

Amvac stood to make a possible 1.8 million from this deal, only 15-16 percent of which would have gone to Woolfolk Chemical. But most importantly for Amvac, this venture could have opened the door for even more lucrative deals for the sole manufacturer of

date with time served on trustee status. According to Pitts, the jury knew nothing of the extraordinary deal offered the murderer for implicating Carthan.

Carthan gave his own closing argument for 30 minutes, and Pitts called it the most moving experience of his life. "Eddie talked about his history and what he had tried to do as the mayor. It's amazing all the programs he was trying to bring in, working in the true interest of the people. He told them he had tried to do what all the institutions said, get an education and you can overcome all of these difficulties and he found out you can't overcome racism. He closed his argument by talking about the Liberty Bell. How they rang it right after the Revolutionary War to show there was to be justice, freedom and liberty for all across the land. He said the bell's got a crack in it that represents all the struggles that people like us have to endure. 'You've got a chance right here now as the jury to ring that bell for liberty and justice. Finally he talked about the definition of justice and law. He said, 'it was the law just a few years back that prevented any of you from sitting in that jury box; it was justice that said you couldn't go to the First Baptist Church to worship so you can decide what justice is and what the law is and you can

DBCP.

Clemson, which filed for the exemption on behalf of the growers, doubles as the state's regulator under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). The filing culminated several years of groundwork specifically designed to lead up to the request. The conflict of interests is deeper than this, however; new Clemson research designed to show that DBCP's risks had been overstated was funded by Amvac and the EPA. DHEC, which would have been responsible for constantly monitoring the groundwater where DBCP was used, was not involved in the decision-making. And the public was given only one week after notice in the Federal Register to comment on Clemson's request.

### GROW Intervenes

GROW became involved when Ralph Lightstone, an attorney for the California

strike that bell. When he started saying that, he began walking back from in front of the jury box and said, 'You can strike that bell today for Malcolm X. You can strike that bell today for Jesus. You can strike that bell for Martin Luther King, and he sat down. The courtroom was completely still and silent, then began the sobs and the crying.'

The jury, after a three week trial, debated 45 minutes and returned a verdict of not guilty. "The courtroom burst into hoots and hollers," Pitts recalled. "It was massive hugging and crying, the courtroom was flooded with emotion, people just showering in the struggle that had occurred. It was something that a white person can only get a glimpse at."

State assault charges that were keeping Carthan in custody were commuted on March 25th. Carthan was then taken into federal custody on an old "misappropriation of funds" charge and is being held without bail at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama, awaiting trial.

BAB

Rural Legal Assistance program, sent a copy of the July 26, 1982 Federal Register which called for comments on an exemption request from Clemson to use DBCP in South Carolina. Lightstone and Charles Horwitz of the Migrant Legal Action Program in Washington, represented a group of farmworkers collectively known as *Amaya, et. al* in the two year marathon of suspension hearings leading to the October 1979 suspension order.

Lightstone also sent a copy of a letter responding to the Federal Register notice from California Department of Industrial Relations Director Donald Vial. Vial wrote, "I read with great dismay the July 26, 1982 Federal Register notice...In light of the tragic experience we have had in California with this pesticide, I urge EPA to deny this exemption."

Vial's letter reached the EPA after the close of the allotted one week public comment period. He noted, "A single week for  
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# Phillip Berrigan

## Interview with a man of action

*I did this interview with Phil Berrigan in the car on a mad dash from the Aiken, S.C., federal courthouse to a reception in Columbia. He had spent the day waiting to be told Judge Charles Simons wouldn't allow him to testify before the jury in the trial of six who had trespassed May 30 at the Savannah River Plant as a statement against nuclear weapons. He wasn't surprised to be barred from testifying he is a veteran of countless such encounters with the judicial system.*

*A familiar figure, with his brother Daniel, in over two decades of civilly disobedient activity, Berrigan takes seriously his personal responsibility to "stop the war machine." The consequences of acting on his principles have included nearly five years in prison, and he is fairly certain he will return there soon (he is presently out on bail.)*

*He is a warm and patient man, with clarity of thought and speech. But the single strongest impression I developed of Phillip Berrigan is that he is dedicated to action, and he does not bluff.*

-Sue Bowman

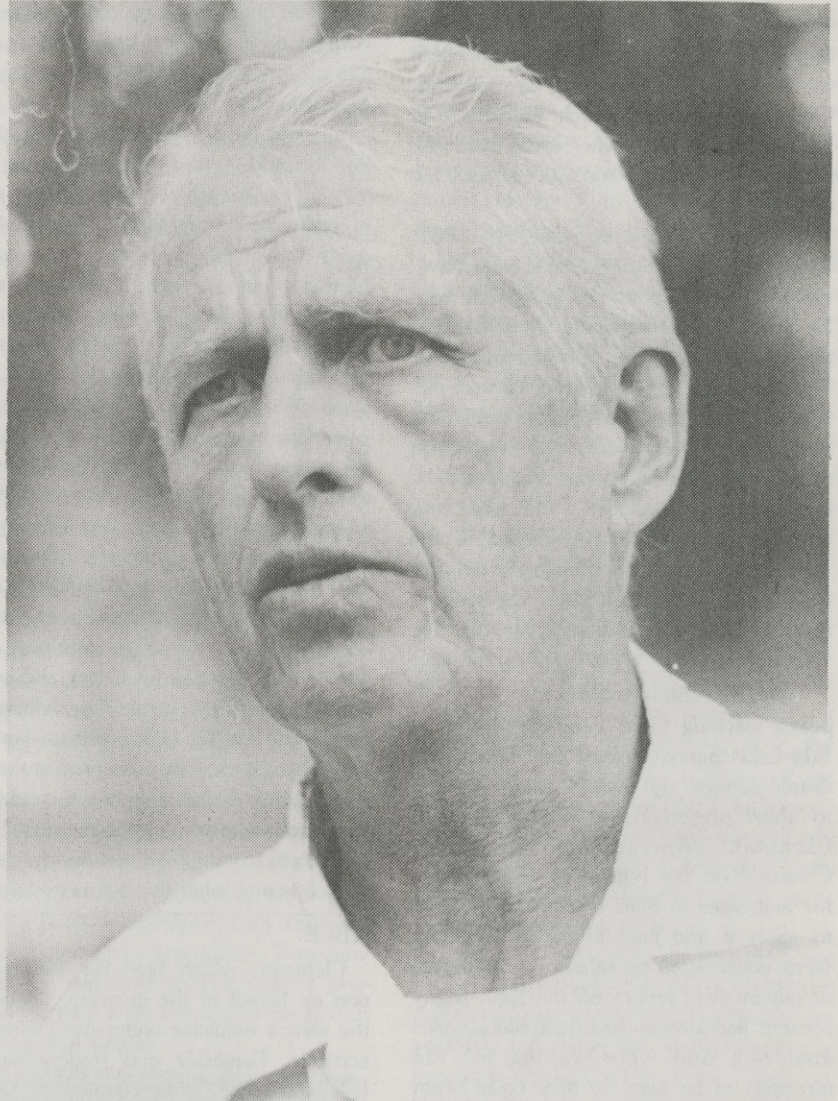


Photo by Sue Bowman

**H:** *What would you say is the primary issue for people to confront today...*

**B:** *Well survival on this planet, hands down. It makes every other issue redundant. If we were to work on improving the lot of the poor the domestic poor, the Appalachian poor, minority groups here in this country, and if we clean up the environment and still have nuclear war, it would all be wasted. So the first order of business and the greatest moral question is the prevention of nuclear war.*

**H:** *You made a statement today in court about nuclear war beginning possibly by accident*

**B:** *We've had all sorts of accidents they're called 'Broken Arrows' by the Pentagon and the more serious ones could have evolved into misinterpretation which would send our nuclear strike force into action. One of the main ones in this local area was the crashing of a B-52 in Goldsboro, North Carolina in 1961. That ship which was on a routine patrol mission with two 20-megaton bombs aboard and destined for the perimeter of*

*the Soviet Union and then a return that ship ran into mechanical trouble over North Carolina before it headed out over the Atlantic and they had to jettison those two 20-megaton weapons. Later on, the ship crashed. As I understand it, one of them was never found and the other was discovered with five of six interlocking safety devices tripped. And if the other had given, the bomb would have gone off that's equivalent of twenty million tons of TNT as a gift to the state of North Carolina. It would have obliterated the state and indeed probably the Carolinas and north into Virginia. Out of the shock and chaos resulting from a colossal accident like that, we might have read it as a preemptive strike by the Soviet Union and retaliated. And then we'd be off and running. So it can happen by accident, and it can also happen by technical malfunction. We've had all sorts of false alerts. In the past three years, by my best recollection, there have been something like 147 of them. Some the Pentagon will explain away by the malfunction of a 45¢ computer*

chip or something along that line. Our early warning system is very fallible and prone to defect, and it's shown that fallibility time and time again.

**H:** *How close are we to nuclear war, in your opinion?*

**B:** Well, just to clarify that a bit, we must remember that the policy is "first strike" - that is *official policy*. It's dominated by Carter's Presidential Directive #59, which the Reagan administration accepted without any reservation at all. It's a first strike policy. Carter promulgated it just before the elections in 1980 to try and get himself elected and to prove he wasn't soft on the Russians. That's one thing that contributes to nuclear war, among other things. Besides provisions for the first strike against their weaponry, it also has provisions for the early death of their leadership. Their leadership we keep under constant surveillance through spy outfits like the National Security Agency - the N.S.A. Another thing that contributes to the proximity of nuclear war is the vast proliferation of weaponry that's happening all the time. We turn out 3 to 5 new hydrogen bombs a day that's in excess of 1,000 a year - we already have 37 or 38,000 of them. The more you have, the more are prone to accident, and the more they are likely to be used. And then, too, another factor would be the completely provocative attitude we take toward the Soviet Union and our unwillingness to negotiate any sane reduction of arms from a position other than strength. See, that's an axiom of the Pentagon, and of course

**"The only way you can deal with it is through public opinion because there is no institution of redress in this country."**

the Pentagon dominates our so-called disarmament or arms reduction talks. 'You don't negotiate unless it's from a position of strength. And if they, in their paranoia, convince themselves that we're in an inferior position, then they're not in a position of strength and they don't negotiate.

**H:** *How do you deal with that mentality?*

**B:** The only way you can deal with it is through public opinion because there is no institution of redress here in this country. The public has to get off its duff and we have to fill the streets and, if necessary, we have to shut down the operation of this country. I heard a proposal recently which made a great deal of sense to me. It was made by Sidney Lens, who is one of the best informed people in the country on this issue - he's the author of *The Day Before Doomsday*, which is probably still the best text on the history of the arms race. Anyway, Lens says we have to go back to what was done in 1969 - we went into a moratorium then. In 1969, for one day 3 million people went on strike - students, working people, professional people of all descriptions. It was intended as being followed by another two days of strike in December and then it faded after the enormous mobilization in November of 1969. But that idea is going to be picked up again and we might possibly even gather enough realization in this country, and enough conscience, and enough guts, to shut down the whole economy. And to make the politicians and the generals realize that they can't run this country

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## SRP-6: Sentenced but still waiting

More than two months after they were convicted of trespassing, the SRP-6 were given less than 24 hours notice that their sentencing hearing would be held at 11:00 a.m. on Oct. 20, 1982. After arriving nearly an hour late, U.S. District Judge Charles E. Simons issued the maximum sentence of a \$1,000 fine to each, saying, "Unfortunately, I can only give you a fine. If I had the availability of a committed sentence, I would do it." Simons made it clear that he would have preferred the law to have allowed him the choice of incarceration. The law, however, did allow him to take them into custody until it could be determined if they could pay, which he did.

"There is no need for this," defense attorney John Delgado protested as five of the SRP-6 were led away by U.S. marshals. (The sixth defendant, John Penley, disappeared after all were convicted in August. A fugitive indictment has been returned against him by a federal grand jury.) Delgado told Simons that his action was "an attempt to stifle dissent and attempt to stifle the First Amendment, the right to free speech."

Rosemary Freriks summarized the feelings of the group when she said, "The sentence is trivial in the context of the sentence being meted out to the human race by the manufacture of nuclear weapons."

U.S. Magistrate Charles Gambrell presided over the indigency hearings on Oct. 21 to determine whether the five are capable of paying the fine and to offer alternative sentences if they are not. After that hearing, Gambrell released them on their own recognizance. Simons, however, will make the final decision on sentencing.

The SRP-6 were arrested at the Savannah River Plant on Memorial Day for trespassing. The trial was held in Aiken, S.C. where the Plant is located, in the court of U.S. District Judge Simons. He granted the SRP-6 a jury trial but refused Delgado's pre-trial motion to excuse himself from the case on the grounds that he owned 100 shares of stock in DuPont, which operates SRP for the federal government. Simons sold his stock before the Aug. 2 trial date.



SRP-6 defendants Rosemary Freriks, Michael Gooding, Mitch Yarborough, Barb Smith and Chris Kueny in front of Aiken Courthouse.

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# Nuclear Power Bombs Out

The U.S. Department of Energy is moving swiftly ahead with its plans to attempt to divert commercial spent fuel as well as breeder reactor fuel for the nation's nuclear weapons program. This is being done in the form of research designed to solve problems associated with this process, some of which is being performed at the University of South Carolina.

One of the problems inherent in the reprocessing of commercial spent fuel for reprocessing in existing chemical reprocessing facilities, such as located at the Savannah River Plant, is the need to shear the fuel rods prior to chemical reprocessing. This is necessary because of the nature of the cladding used to contain the uranium oxide pellets burned in light water reactors. In conventional weapons production reactors like those at SRP, the fuel is aluminum clad, and aluminum is easily dissolved in the chemical reprocessor. Commercial fuel rods are clad with zircalloy, an alloy of zirconium, which must be sheared and separated from the spent fuel as a first step in reprocessing. The zircalloy cladding will not dissolve in the chemical process and will cause large amounts of crud to build up, causing considerable down time for maintenance which is particularly hazardous.

In anticipation of this problem, DOE's Nuclear Weapons Material Production budget for FY '83 contains \$12.5 million for a conceptual design study of a mechanical head-end shear-leach facility, to be located at SRP or Hanford, Washington. The facility will cost "hundreds of millions of dollars" to construct, Robert Alvarez of the Washington-based Environmental Policy Institute said.

The USC connection comes in the form of a grant from Union Carbide (operators of the weapons plant at Oak Ridge, Tennessee) and DOE, entitled "the Cooling of Deshrouded Fuel Assemblies During the Shearing Process."

Performed by Dr. Curtis Rhodes of USC's Department of Engineering, the research is primarily designed to determine how to keep spent fuel from a Li-

quid Fast Metal Breeder reactor cool during the shearing and leaching process. This research, coupled with the shear-leach facility, has dual applications, according to Milton Hoenig of the Natural Resources Defense Council, applying to "commercial spent fuel without any question, and to stainless cladding" used in breeder reactor fuel. Hoenig said the research is an essential link in the reprocessing of Light Water Reactor fuel (used in commercial power reactors), and breeder fuel because both fuels are extremely hot after irradiation in their respective reactors and "they have to be careful it doesn't catch on fire" during the shearing process.

addition, the breeder reactors now under construction or being planned will be owned by the government, thus allowing for the diversion of fuels to the weapons program without necessarily violating the treaties banning the use of commercial fuels for weapons production.

DOE is currently constructing the Clinch River Breeder Reactor, an experimental demonstration facility at Oak Ridge, and has plans to build a \$1 billion Large Development Plant at Oak Ridge following the successful testing of Clinch River. The LPD will have the capability of producing 1/2 metric ton of high grade spent fuel (mostly plutonium) a day, which is the equivalent of the material produced at two of SRP's production reactors. Hoenig said the initial funding for the LPD should appear in DOE's 1984 budget, but the plant will not be complete till the end of the century. The



Research of this type is "designed to destroy institutional barriers," currently standing in the way of government plans to use commercial fuel for bombs, Alvarez said. The removal of these institutional barriers comes as a result of new possibilities opened up by this research on use of breeder fuels for the weapons programs. According to Hoenig, breeder fuel would be ideal for the weapons program because the plutonium produced in a breeder reactor is of "extremely high-quality" and, because of the particularly large amounts of plutonium produced in such a reactor, "the simplest thing to do with it is to use it for weapons," he added. In

LPD will also produce electricity.

Another reason the breeder/weapons connection would be ideal for continued weapons production is the underlying fact that the production reactors at SRP are nearing the end of their lifetimes. Considering the amount of high grade plutonium that could be produced at Oak Ridge, it may not be necessary to build new production reactors at SRP, something that would otherwise be necessary if the U.S. is going to continue producing nuclear weapons at the current level. With the addition of the shear-leach facility at SRP, the site could become simply a reprocessing and waste storage

site, rather than a production site.

According to Hoenig, if the breeder fuel or LWR fuel were to be reprocessed at any site other than the Allied General Nuclear Services plant located at Barnwell, S.C., a mechanical head-end shear-leach facility would be an absolute necessity. (AGNS will have this capability already.)

All this research will open up a number of options for DOE and its nuclear weapons program, provided the plans are carried through to fruition. One such option would be to simply take commercial LWR fuel, ship it from the reactor site to Barnwell or SRP and reprocess it for weapons following the shear-leach process. A second option would be the use of CRBR of the

LPD at Oak Ridge for weapons grade material, producing the plutonium at Oak Ridge and then transporting it to SRP or Barnwell. Considering President Reagan's promise to offer as much as \$1.2 billion to buy reprocessed fuel from the Barnwell plant as incentive for private industry to operate the facility, it is likely that both LWR and breeder fuel could be reprocessed there pending completion of the shear-leach facility at SRP.

Whatever option is chosen, southerners can rest assured that their land and homes and families will continue to be considered little more than property subject to sacrifice for "national security purposes."

...DBCP, continued from p. 9

public comment seems inadequate. Whatever the emergency is for South Carolina peach growers, it cannot override the need for extensive public comment and discussion that an action of this nature requires."

Brett Bursey of GROW commented, "If you don't read the Federal Register every morning along with the newspaper, you probably missed this one." Given the fact that no one in the state demonstrated any knowledge about DBCP, including DHEC, GROW immediately petitioned the State Court of Common Pleas, 13th Judicial Circuit, under Judge C. Victor Pyle, Jr. for a Temporary Restraining Order and Order

**"...this concern may outweigh any necessity for the distribution of such materials."**

**—Judge Pyle**

and Rule to Show Cause, which was granted on September 1. Pyle wrote, "...this Court feels that the issues raised in this Petition concern the safety of the citizens of this state, and that this concern may outweigh any necessity for the immediate distribution of such materials."

DHEC, miffed at being left out of the decision, also attacked Clemson's action. "We do not have the manpower, time or funds available to make the necessary site investigations between now and Nov. 15 to ensure that groundwater in the areas to be treated would not be contaminated," said DHEC commissioner Robert S. Jackson. DHEC, however, left open the possibility of DBCP's use in succeeding

years, providing the department is closely involved in the process, according to agency spokesman Warren Hardy a position unacceptable to GROW because it does not address the fact that South Carolina's groundwater is already contaminated.

On September 15, again before Judge Pyle, Clemson signed a Consent Order, agreeing that the TRO would remain in effect until November 30 and that if Clemson made a future application for exemption from the DBCP ban, both GROW and DHEC were to be notified prior to the request.

#### **Exemption from Ban 'Maneuvered'**

The unfolding of the story of DBCP's exile and the bureaucratic maneuvers which brought it to South Carolina would confuse even the most astute of environmental watchdogs. The major loophole is that registered use of DBCP, after two years of hearings, 7,300 pages of transcript and 90 exhibits, was "suspended" pending cancellation procedures. Before it was officially "canceled" the manufacturers of DBCP including chemical giants Dow and Shell voluntarily withdrew their DBCP registrations in a negotiated settlement with the EPA in 1981. The issue of cancellation was dropped.

Although a party to the suspension hearings, *Amaya, et al.* was allowed no input in the settlement, which Lightstone and Horwitz vigorously opposed. They wrote in a February 1981 letter to EPA, "The Administrator would make a mockery of the hearing process if he permitted the DBCP registrants to 'voluntarily withdraw' their

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## **Military Spending on Campus Mushrooms**

Pentagon spending for military research on campuses is skyrocketing to an alarming, all-time high. More than 250 colleges and universities, in every state of the union, are involved in military-related work, according to *Uncle Sam Goes to School*, a survey by National Action/Research on the Military Industrial Complex (NARMIC).

"Although many universities severed ties with the military in the wake of student opposition to the war in Vietnam, the Pentagon is buying its way back onto campus," said Thomas Conrad, a NARMIC staff researcher.

"The growing militarization of campus research signals a dangerous trend. As federal support for education and non-military research dwindles, the Pentagon will increasingly be able to call the shots on US campuses by bank-rolling projects with military potential."

Actual outlays for military-oriented campus contracts topped \$1.1 billion for the period from mid-1980 to mid-1981, according to *Uncle Sam Goes to School*. The survey covers all Defense Department contracts over \$10,000, as well as contracts awarded by the Department of Energy and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), both of which were included because much of their work is military-related.

A large portion (46 percent) of the money went to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Johns Hopkins University, which are among the Pentagon's largest contractors. Ten schools received an additional 24 percent: the Universities of Rochester, California, Washington, New Mexico, Illinois, Texas, Pennsylvania, the Georgia Institute of Technology, Stanford University and New Mexico State University.

Copies of *Uncle Sam Goes to School* are available at 50 cents per copy (\$2.50 for ten copies or \$10 for 100 copies) from NARMIC/AFSC, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102.

—NARMIC

# Blue Plate Special

It was three in the morning on a cool and dark night and I was sort of drifting between sleep and reality slowly waiting for the alarm clock to go off when the telephone did instead. Now, I don't know about you, but I'm suspicious of telephone calls that happen to me at that hour, so I picked it up gently and didn't say anything, just listened. About a minute later I heard this voice say: "I know you're in there Country Tom Foole. Meet me at Crazy Mag's at four." Then the voice was gone. It was Godotlocks again. So, I dry shaved, cold showered, donned my middle-class costume, hopped in my Texas Cadillac, and made it to Crazy Mag's Nonstop Diner with five minutes to spare.

Godotlocks wasn't there yet. But Mag was. So, I said, "Mornin' Mag," and Mag said, "Mornin' Foole," whereupon she placed before me a cup of almost coffee within which some other living creature was performing its morning ablutions. I sipped gently around it so as not to disturb it and peacably skipped comment or making a scene. Then the joint started filling up.

A trucker sat down on the stool to my

left and a construction worker started to sit down on the stool to my right. I told her that that stool was saved and she sat down at the stool next to it. It was 4 and still no Godotlocks.

The trucker ordered a stack of red, yellow, black and white gingerbread men and a cup of coffee. The construction worker ordered a gingerbread house and a cup of Morning Thunder something or another. I wondered about that but it was Crazy Mag's and Godotlocks had called. They didn't even look in their cups as they began discussing economics, politics and religion.

I averted my gaze and looked into the middle distance, glad that they could afford to eat, and adjusted my aura to project **I'M NOT HERE**. They could decide between themselves which one of them was literate and which one was illiterate. Half-literate suited me just fine. 4:05 and no Godotlocks.

I figured I was safe for at least five minutes more, so I decided to wait and that's where I made my mistake. The walls shook so I turned my head around to see what had come in without bothering to open the door. It was a couple of Roadies I hadn't seen in a long while and it was ob-

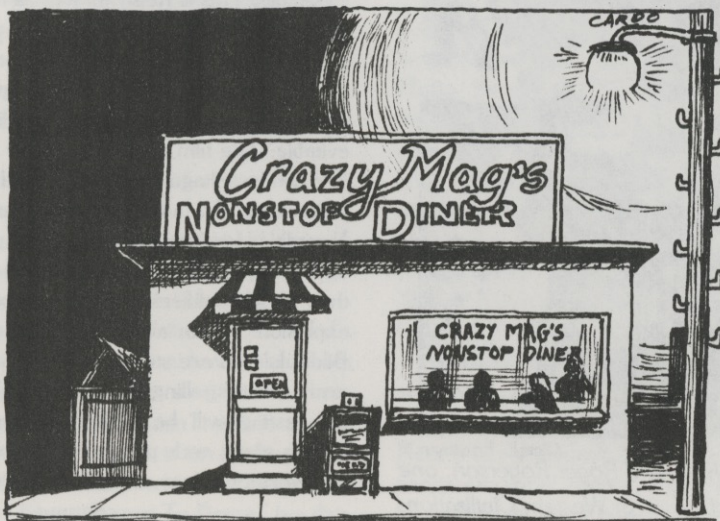
vious to me that they were still stuck somewhere else in time 45 degrees to the left of reality. It was none other that Hairy Sam and White Chocolate.

The trucker and construction worker had stopped jawing at each other and the joint was so quiet all you could hear in it was the creature in my coffee cup gargling.

Hairy Sam leaped up on Godotlocks' stool, clicked his heels together, totally ignored the rest of us, dropped his voice to Grade B California mellow-earnest-sincere and wistfully said: "Preamble." White Chocolate pulled up her mini-Alolpho, sat on the floor in a let's play jackrocks position, and said: "Go, bro, go!" Whereupon, Hairy Sam lifted his eyes and addressed the relatives of whatever it was that was now doing its nails and singing an aria in my coffee cup. He began thusly, as I listened to the aria:

## "Preamble"

**"We the fat cats of the United States, in order to form a wealthier WASP dictatorship, eliminate justice, destroy domestic tranquility, provide cannon fodder, junta mercenaries, political kick-backs, weaponizing cony contracts and economic drain, dismantle the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our lineage only, do disdain and manipulate women, infants, children, farmers, old people, immigrants, new welfare chiseling unemployees, and all penniless and powerless as we rot away the Constitution of the United States of America from inside mandate within. Let us eat cake with our 3 martinis. Let them eat ketchup and relish and chase it with paraquat juice from Florida. Let them have whatever**







**we don't. Anoint us with Thy Video Halo and bless us, Reverend Foulplay, we bray."**

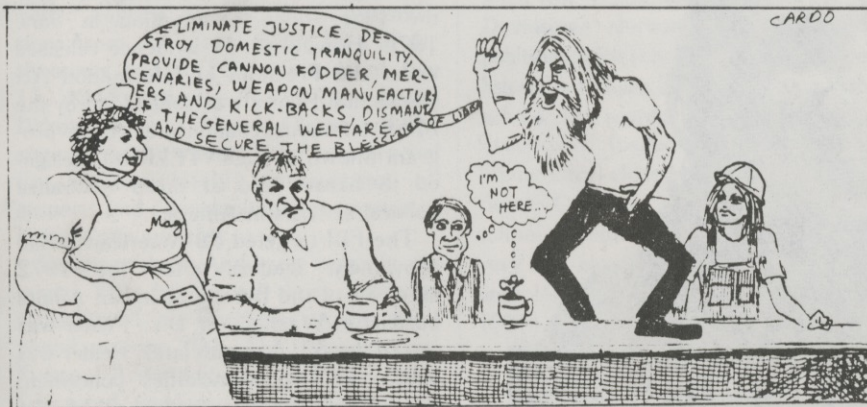
The trucker in a stone cold voice growled: "THAT AIN'T THE WAY I HEARD IT" as he looked through my alpha state at the construction worker lasering right back through me at him. "Nawwww," she seethed, "that sounds

more like the con game Latin landowners or them Union Gangsterists called russian communists play on their suckers, chump." At which point, Crazy Mag chided in: "Well, if you ask me, it sounds like some high and mighty Jim-bob Jonah pagans that would sacrifice US and our children before Mammon just to feed their self-righteous vanity and Gawduhmidey

greed. Then, White Chocolate whispered: "Yaaawwlll looks like yaaawwlll done bought it." Whereupon Hairy Sam smiled his General Eclectic best, dropped the lower half of his Uncle Sam suit, bowed the wrong way, and earnestly drawled: "Kiss my supply side!"

Then all of them started jumping up and down and screaming like a hundred monkeys at one another and throwing things and the room got dizzy and began spinning and I kept hoping I'M NOT HERE and THERE CAN'T BE PEOPLE LIKE THIS as whatever it was meditating and praying in my coffee cup dematerialized and I opened my eyes and woke the hell up out of that absurdity and most cautiously answered the phone.

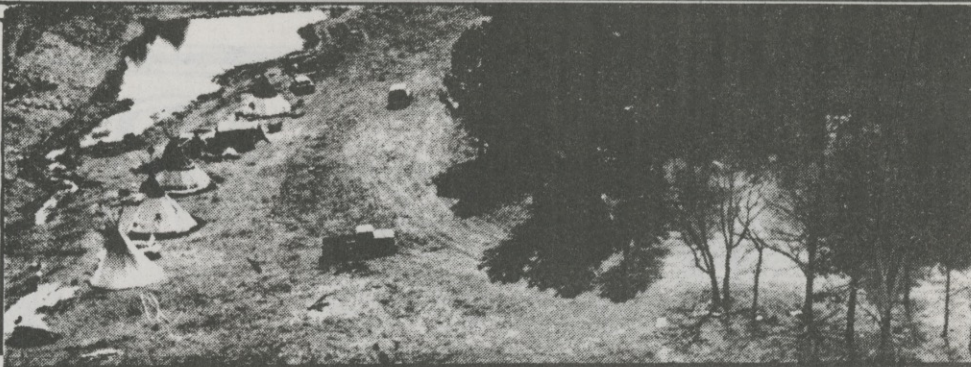
It was 3 o'clock in the morning and Godotlocks was humming hi-lilly, hi-lilly, hi-lo, just before she said: "I know you're in there"



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"The earth is not his brother, but his enemy, and when he has conquered it, he moves on. He leaves his fathers' graves behind, and he does not care. He kidnaps the earth from his children. He does not care. His fathers' graves and his children's birthright are forgotten. He treats his mother, the earth, and his brother, the sky, as things to be bought, plundered, sold like sheep or bright beads. His appetite will devour the earth and leave behind only a desert." —Chief Seattle, 1854

Photo by Bannon



## Yellow Thunder Update

Government repression continues to play a major role in proceedings around the Yellow Thunder Camp in South Dakota. Recently the U.S. Marshall's office refused to pay witness fees for Camp defendants in the land settlement dispute.

The Yellow Thunder Camp was established in the Spring of 1981 by the South Dakota American Indian Movement to "provide symbols for all people who want to control their own destinies and to learn to live in harmony with the forces of nature that provide life to us all," according to the *Paha Sapa* news, a Native American publication.

Since the founding of the camp, the government has been attempting to evict the inhabitants from the camp located in the Black Hills about 12 miles from Rapid City, S.D. This land was awarded to the Sioux Indians in the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868,

but the U.S. Forest Service filed suit against the inhabitants, claiming they illegally settled on the lands. The Yellow Thunder Camp then filed a counter-suit claiming the right to settle there based on the Fort Laramie Treaty, the 1968 Indian Freedom of Religion Act, and an 1897 law that allows people who live near national forests to build churches and schools on national forest land.

The land settlement came to trial on November 22, 1982, when the government presented its case for eviction. After two weeks, the government rested its case, but since then the trial has been held up because the U.S. Marshall's office has refused to pay witness fees for the Camp defendants. Trial judge Justice McBride, however, determined that the defendants in the case were impoverished, thus entitling them to payment for travel and other costs incurred in bring-

ing witnesses to the trial.

In addition the Camp has filed a Freedom of Information Act suit against the U.S. Forest Service to obtain surveillance records, and Justice McBride has ordered the Forest Service to turn over these records, denying the Forest Service appeal to withhold the information.

In a related incident, camp member Collins Catch the Bear was acquitted on March 25th in his murder trial following the shooting death of Clarence Tollefson, a local white resident. According to the prosecution, Tollefson was approached by Catch the Bear when he was seen on a ridge above the camp with a rifle, supposedly having "target

continued on p. 30

## Peltier Faces Final Appeal

For seven years now, Leonard Peltier has been fighting for his freedom from a prison cell in Marion, Illinois. Peltier, a Native American, is now serving two life terms for aiding and abetting in the shooting deaths of two FBI agents near the Pine Ridge Reservation in June 1975. However, new evidence released under the Freedom of Information Act shows that Peltier was singled out by the FBI's infamous counterintelligence program known as COINTELPRO, designed to harass and at times neutralize political activists in America.

The FBI targeted 32 American Indian Movement leaders after the 1972 takeover of the Bureau of Indian Affairs building in Washington, D.C. Peltier was one of the 32. A month later, Peltier was beaten by two plainclothes policemen, then charged with attempted murder of one of the officers. Peltier was acquitted after a former girlfriend of one of the



Leonard Peltier appealing again

Photo by Dick Bancroft

policemen testified that her boyfriend had shown her photos of Peltier and bragged that "he was getting a big one for the FBI."

In 1975, after 200 people were killed on the Pine Ridge Reservation, AIM established an encampment to protect them from random shootings. The FBI viewed AIM's presence as a threat, formed a paramilitary operation and trained the BIA police to "control" the Pine Ridge Reservation.

On the morning of June 26, 1975, two FBI agents chased a vehicle into an area near the camp. The Native Americans at the camp assumed that the FBI agents were members of a squad of hired guns used by the ranchers and corrupted Indians to harass AIM members and friends. It is not known who fired the first shot, but gunfire was exchanged between the FBI and occupants of the vehicle. Hearing the gunfire, people from the camp ran to the site and saw two men in unmarked vehicles shooting at their people. Gunfire was returned by the Native Americans. By the time the shooting was over two FBI agents and one Native American were dead.

The FBI identified Peltier as one of 30-47 people at the site of the shooting. Peltier admits that he was present when the fight broke out but denied shooting the agents. The only witness who testified that Peltier had shot the two agents was a woman named Myrtle PoorBear, who later told the judge that the FBI had threatened to take her child away from her if she did not incriminate Peltier.

**"doctored" evidence proves that the FBI wanted to take Peltier out of commission.**

**—Jack Anderson**

Under the Freedom of Information Act Peltier's attorney obtained documents that were not used in the trial. They included ballistic reports, radio transmissions from the agents at the time of the shootings and an FBI memo dated July 17 1975 from the Rapid City, South Dakota, office to Director Clarence Kelly, stating that the investigation was directed toward completely investigating all suspects and "develop(ing) information to lock Peltier into this case."

Reporter Jack Anderson recently obtained FBI documents three affidavits signed by Myrtle PoorBear on what happened on June 26th. The three are conflicting. According to Anderson, this "doctored" evidence proves that the FBI wanted to take Leonard Peltier out of commission.

On January 7 1983, Peltier's attorney William Kunstler filed for a notice to appeal at the U.S. District Court in Fargo, North Dakota.

This is Peltier's last appeal, and your support is needed now! Send contributions to

The Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, P.O. Box 1492, Rapid City, South Dakota, 57709, or letters of support to Leonard Peltier, No. 89637-132, P.O. Box 1000, Marion, Illinois, 62959.

—MT

## Recognition for SC Tribes Doubtful

by Wes White

On the 4th of May, 1982, Chief Robert Davidson, Mr. Johnny Creel and Reverend Eddie Martin showed up at the Edgar Brown Building in Columbia, S.C., for a meeting of the orotundly named Medical, Military, Municipal & Public Affairs Committee of the South Carolina State House of Representatives (also known as the 3 M's Committee.)

The three native American men represented an Indian tribe made up of 373 enrolled members and two distinct settlements some six miles from each other. The smaller, parent community, called Little Rock or Creeltown and dating from at least 1850, has now shrunk to include only the countryside about the junction of Highways 61 and 631, six or seven miles north of Cottageville, S.C.

Highway 61 parallels the Edisto River, with only a narrow strip of woodland in between. Mr. Creel lives there, and Rev. Martin near there. Mr. Davidson (the regularly re-elected Chief of the tribe since 1970) lives in the other, larger settlement, Four Holes Indian Community, corresponding to Highway 386 on the north side of Givhans State Park out from Ridgeville, S.C.

The state of South Carolina had supported a segregated Indian school there for thirty-two years, until the year of Chief Davidson's election to that office. The published state school directories, however, listed Four Holes Elementary as a "white" school. The segregated, all-Indian school at Creeltown (called Indian Rock Hill Elementary) closed in 1966. The state of South Carolina, in the same published school directories, explicitly identified two very tiny elementary schools (at Ravenel until 1942 and in North Charleston until 1936), for the same tribe, as "Indian"

**THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING:**  
To discuss a bill to extend formal state recognition to the Edisto Natchez Kusso (or Natchez-Kusso Indians of Edisto

River) the tribe to which Chief Davidson, Mr. Creel and Rev. Martin belong. (And recognition also to two other Indian groups whose cases we may return to in the future.)

The members of the 3 M's Committee set forth a proposal. They wanted to recognize the three Indian tribes as entirely new organizations possessing no past history. The crux of the debate was one phrase from the 475 page draft of the tribe's petition for federal recognition, "land laid out to the Cussow Indians" *laid out* in the sense of 'surveyed for, granted to. The head of the 3 M's Committee remembered (or at least made reference to) not one other word of the entire 475 page draft. That one phrase, however, affected him where he lived, since, as another on the Committee pointed out, a member of the Louisiana state legislature had written a letter to the South Carolina state legislature complaining of the action of the Tunica-Biloxi, Houma and Chitimacha Indians who slapped the state of Louisiana with land claims immediately after being formally recognized as pre-existing Indian tribes.

recognize the three tribes died in committee later that month because someone on the 3 M's Committee objected to the bill even being brought out on the floor of the S.C. State House of Representatives for a vote.

And where does it lie, the land to which the Edisto Natchez Kusso Indians have a claim dating to the year 1711? Way out in the country, on Fishburne Creek and its tributary Scotts Creek, near Edisto River and the Charleston county line - hardly a valuable chunk of land. It shouldn't hold anything up at this late date, since we cannot show (yet, anyway) that the Kusso nation held that land as a reservation by the time of the passage of the applicable federal law, the Nonintercourse Act of 1790. But the Skitish members of the 3 M's Committee have decided not to take chances. More about that later.

# Do...did...damn... a contraceptive nightmare

by Renee Burse

This article is the first in a series on contraceptives. *Harbinger's* next edition will contain information about current contraceptive methods. The following issue will cover new ideas on the market and the battle being waged by women for safe, reliable products.

Are the contraceptives we are offered today safe? Looking through popular women's magazines, it's hard to tell. Many publications simply list the available choices with little mention of the possible harm involved with their use. Those which address the various problems offer the hope of new drugs and devices while the kinks haven't been ironed out of the old ones. Can you trust your doctor to make a good choice for you? Once again, it's hard to tell. Your doctor is probably as unaware as you of the behind-the-scenes struggles that go on with contraceptives, which are regulated by the Food and Drug Administration.<sup>1</sup>

## ...American owned corporations move products known to maim and kill quietly through regulatory channels.

Part of the situation we find ourselves in stems from the relationship that powerful industries, pharmaceutical companies in this case, share with the U.S. federal agencies and independent research laboratories.<sup>2</sup> Industries pay high prices for independent research companies to investigate products they wish to sell. This practice, in which it is mutually beneficial to both parties to ignore harmful data, has allowed numerous substances and devices to slip through FDA guidelines. Both within the U.S. and without, American owned corporations move products known to maim and kill quietly through regulatory channels. *Mother Jones* magazine, November 1979, exposed the horrifying story of dalkon shield sales, in which the Federal Agency of International Development (AID) used U.S. Treasury dollars to buy the dalkon shield

in bulk after it had already killed seventeen women. Using groups such as the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) as a front group for distribution, AID then sold unsterilized intrauterine devices (IUD's) in as many as 80 countries.

Apparently, pressure from many different sources has put an end to the bulk distribution of the shield but not of other IUD's. Minutes from IPPF's January 2, 1982 Medical Bulletin indicate that the purchase and sales of non-sterile IUD's is an ongoing practice. The minutes state that commercially prepared solutions are recommended for sterilization; American gynecologists pronounce this method totally inadequate.

About forty percent (126 million) of the IPPF budget since the federation's inception in 1979 has been supplied by AID. AID also supports Family Planning International Assistance (95 percent of the budget) and International Fertility Research Program (18 million), among others. All of these agencies have the advantage of being officially "private" or "international" despite their dependence on U.S. public funds.<sup>3</sup> If you have received your contraceptive through an agency supported by IPPF (Planned Parenthood, Family Planning), you may be taking a chance. The health practitioners you depend upon may not know they could be offering you products with a risky background, such as depo-provera. Although the contraceptive depo-provera was banned in this country in March 1978, it is sold by Upjohn Company in 70 other countries where it is widely used (five million women) and is now finding its way back home again. Under the guise of

## ...women who are extremely cautious, even overtly suspicious, are justified.

new initials (DMPA), depo is issued as an experimental injection, upon signing consent forms, to poor, hispanic, black, institutionalized and mentally retarded women.<sup>4</sup>

As a woman it concerns me that the

FDA has so little control over the substance it is charged to regulate. I am also outraged with the companies which care too little for human life. In this light, women who are extremely cautious, even overtly suspicious, are justified. When seeking your doctor's advice about birth control, you are going to have to be aggressive whether you like it or not. If your physician doesn't give you an exam including complete family history, PAP smear, pelvic exam, breast exam, blood pressure test, urinalysis for sugar, blood test for anemia, discussion of personal sexual habits and preferably a gonorrhea culture, something that makes all the difference in the world to your choice could be missed.<sup>5</sup> Before you make a decision, ask your doctor what problems generally occur with the contraceptives you have in mind. If the potential difficulties are not enough to change your mind, at least you will be aware to symptoms you should look for, in case something goes wrong.

Do a little research on your own. You can write the National Women's Health Network, Suite 105, 2025 I Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006 for information on just about any aspect of women's health care. For a good book, try *Men Who Control Women's Health: The Education of Obstetricians and Gynecologists*, by Diana Scully (Houghton Mifflin Co., 1980). Medical journals like *Fertility and Sterility: Obstetrics and Gynecology* will keep you in tune with what the medical profession is up to, and the references will give you information for more in depth research.

<sup>1</sup> "Taking the profits out of birth control." *Progressive*, Vol. 44:35, Sept., 80.

<sup>2</sup> "A Case of Corporate Malpractice." Mark Dowie, Tracy Johnson, *Mother Jones*, Nov., 76.

<sup>3</sup> "The Corporate Crime of the Century." Mar.: Dowie, *Mother Jones*, Nov., 79.

<sup>4</sup> *Contraceptive Technology*, 1980-81, 10th edition, pages 45-51, Irvington Publishing, Inc., NY. *M.J. Frontlines*, Vol. 5:1, Jan., 80.

<sup>5</sup> Tallahassee Women's Feminist Health Center handout on birth control pills, 540 W. Brevard St., Suite C, Tallahassee, Florida 32301.

...Berrigan, continued from p. 11  
unless they hearken to public opinion.

**H:** *On gathering that realization and developing those guts, what tactics do you feel should be implemented in the eighties by people who feel that it has to be shut down? How should those tactics differ, if in any way, from those used in the 60's in the anti-war movement?*

**B:** I don't know as I would care to get into a lot of detail regarding tactics or strategy. I just operate according to several simple premises, which have to do with the responsibility of all of us to express some sort of public sanity. In these times and under these threats, that means you have to say 'no' you have to say no emphatically and publicly and at great risk to yourself. You have to say no against the law because the law interverts the whole thing. You have to commit civil disobedience, and that in itself, because you're risking your freedom and in some cases going to jail, is an appeal to decent-minded people that something has to be done and that they must contribute something. That's the way a movement is built. That's the way it was built against the war in Vietnam and that's the way it has to be built now. When we started doing civil disobedience at the

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**"Consequently, you only change the state...by engaging the injustice of the law."**

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Pentagon in 1975, you couldn't count on more than 20 people from the entire country to come and join you against nuclear weapons. Seabrook hadn't even happened then. We understood something about the process there we understood we had to take a few risks in order to make a more forceful statement to sisters and brothers about the responsibility of all of us. That statement was made repeatedly and so on, until millions show up in Central Park and two days later 1,600 were arrested at the nuclear missions (June 14 civil disobedience at the U.N. meetings of the nuclear powers). It's a hearts and minds and spirits thing, I call it. And that can only be done by adhering to the truth and taking some risks for the truth.

**H:** *You made some statements in court I want you to expound upon. 'We must question the validity of the law as a force for justice,' and 'I do not believe the law is intended as a vehicle of injustice.' And then comment on your statement that the Reagan Administration is acting 'illegally'*

**B:** I read the Bible and try to read *The New York Times* and a lot of other books - concentrate on that because the times are so devious and it exercises your head. It also exercises your principles. The Bible tells me that the law and the state are one, they're the same thing. We can't imagine a state without its law. And a state cannot remain in power and continue its familiar game of exploitation of its people without the law. Consequently, you only change the state and bring it to the public accountability of the people by engaging the injustice of its law. Now, law in a traditional sense if you want to get into the philosophy of law law is the vehicle for justice. And law has to be motivated by love of other human beings. When the law becomes perverted

from that role, then it becomes a club against people. That's why our jails are full of black people. That's why the rich are not prosecuted to any extent at all. The law is made for them therefore, why should they suffer under the law why should they go to jail. Even though all of us know that white collar crime is really the crime wave in this country. It's not blue collar crime, it's not crime in the street at all. It's the crimes of the rich. It's the larceny and extortion and wheeling and dealing in high places. Ramsey Clark reminded me that crime in this country costs society about \$49 billion dollars a year, and 42 billion of this is white collar crime. Six or seven billion is crimes of the poor property crime for the most part. So the law has to be engaged. And what one is doing in that respect is really obeying any sort of sane or decent or just law which has to be laid on a foundation of justice, and which is an instrument in order to bring about peace in the human family. So these people protesting at the Savannah River Plant are really upholders of the law. They're visionaries who see the law being profoundly corrupted and perverted by a court like that federal court. (*referring to Aiken federal courthouse, from which he had just come.* -Ed.)

**H:** *You're well known and documented for activities at the forefront of the anti-Vietnam movement for instance, your participation in the burning of draft files with homemade napalm at Cantonsville. What are you currently involved in?*

**B:** We take very seriously what Isaiah and Micah say about nations showing their fidelity to God, which means exactly the same thing as fidelity to the human family and to the weak and to the poor by outlawing war, by beating swords into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks. Now, in today's context, that means that the people are going to have to disarm this arsenal. The government will not, the military will not, the business community will not they all profit from it too much the institutional church will not, the campus will not, no major institution will. The people will disarm, or force disarmament, or we'll have nuclear war, and in all probability, we'll all die. So we take that

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**"Then we waited for arrest."**

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seriously. Ours was the first of three "Plowshares" actions. We went into the King of Prussia plant on September 9th, 1980, diverted and distracted the guard and slipped past him without hurting or laying a hand on him, and found a room where GE was putting final touches on Mark XII A first strike warheads, and we beat into scrap three of them. And then we poured our blood over classified documentation, and we ruined some of the highly esoteric tools they use in making the Mark XII A. Then we waited for arrest. We had about twelve minutes in which to do our work. For that I'm currently out on bail pending appeal. I'm under a 3 10 year sentence. I've already served seven months of that 3 10 years. The second Plowshares action was a single action by a member of our community named Peter John DeMott who was attending the commissioning of a fast attack submarine at Groton, Conn., the Electric Boat Company. He had tickets for this commissioning and was going

to view this action he was just out of jail for civil disobedience at the Pentagon. The employees were told to leave the keys in the van because the van might have to be moved and other people might have to move it. So he jumped into the van and demolished the van by ramming the rudder of a half completed Trident sub the *U.S.S. Florida* five or six times. He knocked the rudder off several feet it was on stanchions - and might have damaged the sub seriously. Electric Boat never published anything on it. For that he was given a year in prison. The van was broken into by employees, then they dragged him out and they beat him a couple of times after they took him into custody. He did his time in Connecticut jails. Last July 5 the third Plowshares happened when a group of nine people went into Electric Boat. Five went by water and boarded the same half-completed Trident submarine it's a two billion dollar boat -which was in a slip on the Thames River. They poured their blood down the missile hatches, which will later contain 408 warheads, the equivalent of 2,040 Hiroshimas. Then they spray-painted on the hull 'USS Aushwitz' ten times. Then they beat on the very highly machined and precision-fitted lids of the missile hatches and probably very seriously damaged three of those before they were taken into custody. Meanwhile, other sisters and brothers went into the south yard, which is the material yard at Electric Boat Co. and for three solid hours, they worked over two mammoth sonar domes which go into the nose of the Trident Sub. And they probably ruined both of them, causing in the neighborhood of \$100,000 worth of damage. They're in custody, having rejected bail, in Connecticut jails. So that is partly what we're concentrating on. Meanwhile we're working with a loose coalition of resistance communities around the country, in resistance at the Pentagon, at the various General Electric war plants in the area of Philadelphia, at think tanks there are about four prominent ones on the east coast north of Washington, D.C. and demonstrations or rather constant civil disobedience at these think tanks. There are also prototype laboratories. And then also at the weapons plants on the east coast. We're kept very, very busy because the eastern sector of the country is one of the most industrialized portions of the country. Connecticut, for example, vies with California as the two most highly militarized states in the union. I'm returning to Baltimore tonight in order to participate and help with and possibly commit civil disobedience at the Pentagon over a four day period from August 6th through 9th, the anniversaries of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

### **"We're struggling for the next generation..."**

**H:** *What importance do you now see in working with a broad, diverse bunch of organizations and people across the country?*

**B:** The coalition politics has to be done because that's the genesis for your mass rally, demonstration, even mass civil disobedience. It has to be done. I'm not particularly good at it I'm much more interested in the spirit that must infuse it. And that's where it comes from the risks that I see small communities and groups taking. I don't mean a polarity to be at work here I'm saying that you get 250,000 people at the Pentagon or you get a million people in Central Park, or you get a real vociferous and

powerful march on Washington, or any other major city, because something has influenced the spirit of a lot of people. Something has improved the quality of their thinking. Something has strengthened their consciences. Something has given them a sense of self-sacrifice which brings them sometimes as much as 3,000 miles at considerable expense, self-sacrifice and exhaustion on buses and planes and everything else. Something has done it, and it's other people who go to the jail cells, and who take the risks with the cops, and who sometimes undergo beatings, and who go into the weapons factories and even risk bullets and death. So they are complements of one another. And we all grow in a realization that it has to be



*Berrigan with SRP-6 defendants Mitch Yarborough and Barb Smith, in Aiken.*

*Photo by Sue Bowman*

a unified movement because we're in an unprecedented situation. We're struggling for the next generation and for survival on this planet. And that is absolutely the first order of business.

**H:** *Why did you come to South Carolina for the SRP-6?*

**B:** Well, I've learned so much since I've been down here. anyway, I talked with some of the defendants on the phone and then I met Brett (*Burse*) in New York City and he told me more, and then I've been reading the literature ever since. But as early as several years back, I knew about Barnwell and the demonstration there in fact I had many friends arrested there. I was in prison in Pennsylvania when they were arrested down here in South Carolina. I knew about the existence of the Savannah River Plant and, maybe not as responsibly as I should have known, I knew what was happening at that project. So I thought it a worthwhile use of time to come down and support six very good people who were caught up in an unwieldy judicial apparatus and who were trying to, out of a federal courtroom, continue to make some sense and sanity and decency and justice to the American public. That deserves support. For the same reasons Dr. Carl Johnson came in. The struggles of the people of South Carolina against the Savannah River Plant is really our struggle. And our struggle at the weapons factories in the northeast is your struggle down here. We'd better support one another, and share with one another, and learn better to work with one another.

**H:** *You've been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in fact, you're up for it right now isn't that right?*

**B:** Yeah, I have been. This year by Adolpho Escobel.

**H:** *The Argentinian* —

**B:** Yes, the Argentinian who has been tortured in jail, and who is a remarkable nonviolent person.

**H:** *Think you will win?*

**B:** Oh no. No chance in the world. No, the Nobel Peace Prize has been denigrated by offering it to the likes of Kissinger, and I believe Sadat received it. And Sadat was more of a liability than an asset to the Egyptian people, as we're discovering now. Anyway, the Nobel Peace Prize is a real put-on and I would have to give serious consideration about accepting it at all — I'm inclined to think I would not even if it were offered to me, for some of the following reasons: Ghandi used to say that he would never accept any honors for trying to do what all of us should be doing. And I don't feel that my efforts have been in the slightest way extraordinary or unusual. So I don't want a lot of money, and I don't want public recognition for the little I've done. I think it's a distortion of the whole situation for me to say 'I agree with you folks I've done something unusual and extraordinary and exemplary and yeah, I'll take your money. I won't do that. So, on the other hand, because it's such a highly politicized instrument and so adulterated of meaning on the international level, I wouldn't accept it. I think they probably know that, and they know that of my brother, Daniel Berrigan, too.

**H:** *You have personally embraced nonviolence. How did you come to that and in what place within that philosophy do you find property damage?*

**B:** First of all, as one who is trying to be a Christian, I have to draw on the authority of the New Testament as *the* fundamental and basic and prototypical document on nonviolence. The Ser-

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**“...the only reason nonviolence doesn't work is that it's never been tried seriously...”**

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mon on the Mount, of course, is the manifesto of nonviolent resistance. Then, too, I am familiar not only with practitioners of nonviolence down through the ages but also their writings I've studied Tolstoy, Ghandi, Martin Luther King, all of the abolitionist figures of the labor movement and from political uprisings in this country. I'm convinced that the only reason nonviolence doesn't work is that it's never tried seriously because we're legants to one of the most violent cultures in history. That culture is impinging upon our lives all the time. The easy solution, you know. The argument of necessity and necessity always being violence as a solution to violence. As they say, 'An eye for an eye' until everybody is blind. 'A tooth for a tooth' until everyone is toothless. Not only my experience but my reading of the best literature and the best lives I can relate to convinced me that violence is counter-revolutionary and counter-productive, and that it's just a stalemate. It's no solution whatsoever.

**H:** *And property destruction?*

**B:** Property destruction one has to be very, very careful there because property can be destroyed indiscriminately. When property is used as a threat to human life, like nuclear weapons, like bacteriological and chemical warfare then it has no right to exist because it's not proper to human life. That's the etymological

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**“I view the bomb  
as a Christian creation.”**

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source of the word “property” Materiality becomes property only when we use it to enhance human life. So, when that is not done with materiality, and it becomes a threat to human life, it has to be reconverted by human action. That's the whole gist of that scriptural admonition from Isaiah and Micah we have to reconvert this deadly anti-property. We have to restore it to true property status because we're guilty of having made this anti-property. That's what we tried to say at King of Prussia and that's what we've tried to say ever since.

**H:** *Is it analogous to Christ driving the moneychangers out of the temple?*

**B:** Yeah, or his destruction of the huge heard of swine a very valuable herd in the country of Geresene - just to free one man of the demonic influence he was under. The demons were driven out into the swine, and the demons in turn destroyed the herd of swine. And that was the price of returning to human status a very severely afflicted human being.

**H:** *Could you comment on the role of the church, or religious institutions, in social change, and to what degree do you feel they are filling that role? How would you compare and contrast that with individual moral or spiritual actions.*

**B:** I view the bomb as a Christian creation. I know this, from the little I know about history, that the Christians have been, throughout the last 2,000 years, the most fierce proponents of war. We have done this because we have wrenched out of shape the teaching of Christ. We have perfected the “just war” theory you know, there has never been a just war and the principles of a just war have never been applied, even if this or that conflict was just or unjust on one side or another and we are the most forked-tongued and casuist deep into the art of equivocation and excuse and rationalization there's nobody who can be casuist like Christians. The conventional total war situation of today is a Christian creation. The total war of World War I and World War II was done by Christian nations. The increasingly intensive attack on civilian populations and upon the helpless was done by Christian nations and Christian leadership, with the collaboration of the Church. And we, as a Christian nation at least, our rhetoric holds that we cling to the Judeo-Christian tradition started the Manhattan Project, and we're the ones who dropped the original bombs on human flesh. We've led the arms race ever since. Meanwhile, Russia comes

from Christian roots, and Russia has been a fabricated enemy of ours. I mean, you can't pull off this stunt, this big stick-up for the last 40 years unless you have a convenient enemy, and we've created one in Russia. But Russia goes to deep Christian roots. Even the originally pure conceptualization of communism by Marx was highly Christian by way of undertone. Marx himself was not a Christian simply because of the crimes of the Christians, just like Ghandi never embraced Christianity because of the crimes of the Christians. But Marx was a highly moral and just man, and of course, his teaching and his economics and his philosophy of law and everything about that man reflects the fact that he was a prophetic teacher. He was more of a paraphraser of the Judeo-Christian Bible than most Christian teachers are. Russia comes from that tradition and is increasing-

**"You have to choose between the law of God and the law of Caesar."**

ly coming back slowly and inexorably to its own Christianity. So the bomb is a Christian fabrication and a Christian responsibility. Consequently, the Christian Church here in the West has the most profound responsibility toward the probable extinction of humankind than any other institution perhaps even a deeper responsibility than that of the U.S. government. I tend to hold the Christian leadership of the country very tightly to their responsibility. And I tend to say to the Catholic bishops 'look, you've spoken out and you've issued sometimes admirable statements, questioning even the possession of nuclear weapons but I say, I have to meet you in jail. You have to break the law of this land. You have to choose between the law of God or the law of Caesar. And the law of this land is the law of Caesar. I really won't respect your life, nor your contribution to justice and peace, until I see you in jail.

**H:** *What changes has your prison experience brought about in you it's close to five years now, isn't it?*

**B:** A little less than five years total, yes.

**H:** *What changes did that bring about in you personally?*

**B:** In me. Well, prison is like a pressure cooker. It's like an oven. I always learn a great deal in prison from other prisoners, and I always see reflected in any prison society a microcosm of the overall society. I see the same values, the same mythology, the same hang-ups, the same capitalism operating with prisoners. I see the same resurrected lives on a minor scale. I see the same atrocities done by jailer against helpless prisoners as the overall society does against its helpless people outside. It's a constant reminder in a package of what this society has become. Emerson used to say that a society was reflected by the quality of its prisons. I would add to that by saying a society is also reflected by the arsenal of its military. Both of these institutions the military and the prisons reflect the madness that we Americans are into because *la dulce vita* we want the goodies. We want to live high on the hog and let the rest of the world pay up for that. That's what an empire is all about.

...SRP-6, continued from p. 11

At the beginning of the trial, Simons established that the issue in question would be isolated to whether or not the six had crossed the yellow line on the front lawn of the Administration building. This area has been the site of numerous past demonstrations and is generally accessible to the public. Simons insisted throughout the trial that neither the morality of nuclear weapons nor the intentions of the six were issues that would be considered by the court. This allowed the honorable Judge Simons to rule testimony by two key defense witnesses - that of Dr. Carl Johnson and peace-activist Phillip Berrigan - inadmissible.

Dr. Johnson, who has studied the health and environmental effects of the Rocky Flats nuclear weapons facility in the Denver, Colorado area, included a detailed presentation on radiation-induced cancers. Johnson also stressed the need for a comprehensive, independent health study for the SRP area.

Berrigan's testimony was supportive of the SRP-6. He said they had justifiable cause for their action and that they, as all citizens, were "duty-bound" to make a statement of conscience about the moral issue of nuclear weapons.

The jury was out only twenty minutes before returning to the court with six counts of guilty. Simons, smiling, congratulated them for their contribution to justice. After the trial, however, many of the jurors were apologetic, explaining to the defendants that because of Simons' narrow view of the law they felt they had no choice but to find them guilty, but that they supported the action and convictions of the SRP-6.

— VA

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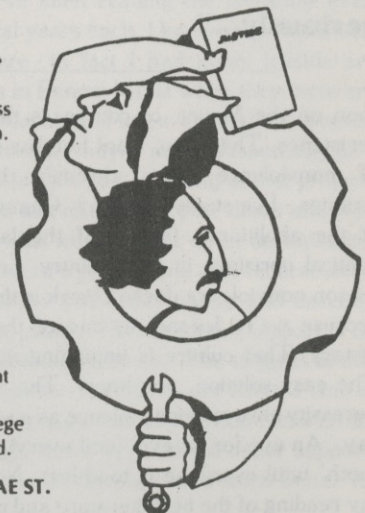
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...Clash, continued from p. 22

naturally - because most of them have been, in the words of the Los Angeles police chief, "genetically inferior" naturally.

Meanwhile back at the riot, the cavalry has arrived. A sleeping brute has been awakened and his mood is ugly.

Police motorcycles, attacking from both sides, drill paths through the clogged street; sirens and flashing lights give off a surreal and disorienting quality to the scene. M-16s and shotguns are brandished and cocked. Nightsticks swing freely as the crowd scurries like panicked rabbits first in one direction then another. I catch sight of a solitary girl, curled up on the ground, oblivious to the carnage about her, wailing hysterically like a child deprived of her doll. Rifles are pressed into stomachs, nightsticks bounce off bodies.

### Some are beaten and arrested, some are beaten and left.

One police animal thinks he's Reggie Jackson and tried to score a home run off my head (missing, fortunately). The same barbarian became so carried away at one point that he actually took a swing at another cop (missing, unfortunately).

Some are beaten and arrested, some are beaten and left. The Nazis are escorted to safety by their police friends.

### Working For The Clampdown.

In all, fourteen persons were arrested and collective bail was set at a preposterous, if not unexpected, \$47,000. The variety of defendants indicates the arbitrary tastes of the police. They included a Kappa Alpha from Georgia Tech., a record store manager (who spent the night manacled to a stretcher while his police-inflicted wounds went untended), a lawyer, and a teenage girl who shared a holding cell with twelve men, two of whom were being held on rape charges.

Interestingly enough, when the two accused rapists came before the same judge at the same preliminary hearing, their bail was set at \$900 less than that of their female cellmate. Two further arrests were made outside the courtroom.

Also in attendance at the hearing was a correspondent for that bastion of objective journalism the *Atlanta Constitution*, which in that morning's issue had characterised The Clash as a "left wing Marxist punk rock

band who play their instruments as badly as they propagandise and whose performance incited a riot." In word or inference "Marxist" permeated virtually every paragraph of the story (c.f. The New York Times where "Palestinian" means terrorist and "Israel" means vigorous democracy.)

The blob responsible for this, one Bill King, freely admitted to courtroom spec-

### "The role of the police in society has changed little since the days of the Peelers . . ."

tators that he had filed his report directly from the police blotter, and had never heard of The Clash up until the moment of penning his miserable story. Happily, newspaper readership in this country is in a state of unalterable decline.

Like the *Atlanta Constitution*, Georgia State University is proud of its journalistic integrity, and its P.R. brochures make boastful claims on behalf of its journalism classes and its radio station WKES. So proud, in fact, that the campus was instructed to make no reference to the riot in its newscast. When the wire services finally picked up the story, one newscaster read the story verbatim, ad-

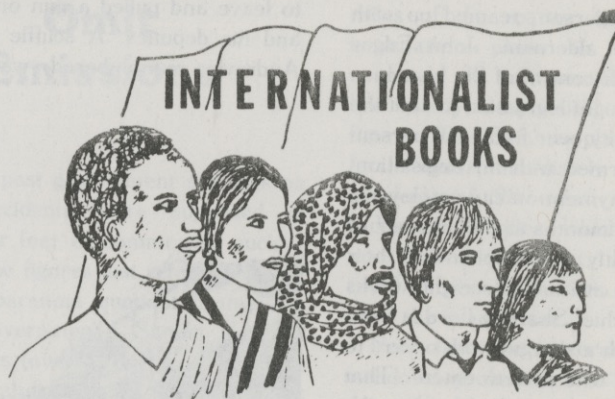
ding, with the initiative so strongly impressed upon collegians today, that there "were conflicting reports about what actually happened." Shortly afterwards the poor fellow found himself summarily dismissed.

So, what are we left with? Nothing much, I'm afraid. The law's brothers in London, Glasgow, Munich and Amsterdam have been guilty of the same sort of excesses at Clash concerts where the arrested have sometimes included the band members themselves.

Still, the beatings did at least anger and radicalise a lot of people, including, one hopes, the parents of some of the kids who brought home their bruises. The role of the police in society has changed little since the days of the Peelers whose sole duty was to protect property and the owners of said property.

But we need them anyway, for if nothing else their repugnant actions proved, we suppose, that as long as they drag Elvis Presley offstage, as long as they burn the Beatles' records, and as long as they go on rampages outside Clash concerts, Rock and Roll is still worth listening to.

This article originally appeared in the *Northeast Reader*.



### A BROAD SELECTION OF WRITINGS

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...Carthan, continued from p.8  
election signalled a change in climate.

"Taylor would say that I 'wouldn't listen to him,'" Carthan said to *In These Times*. "What he really meant was that I wouldn't hire his son for this, his daughter for that, or give contracts to his pet companies. They even went on TV to say that they weren't going to let me run this town." Shortly after the bribe was refused, an FBI agent turned up at city hall, ostensibly looking for a missing criminal. The agent returned regularly once a week to sit in Mayor Carthan's office throughout his four-year tenure.



The trouble began in earnest about one year into Carthan's four-year term when one of the black aldermen resigned. A special election was held and Jason Gibson, also black, won. Shortly after this, he and another black alderman, Roosevelt Granderson, teamed up with the lone white alderman, John Edgar Hayes, and took control of the board.

The three sought legislation to limit the mayor's authority over fiscal and personnel matters. Armed with this legislation, they stopped payment on city employees' checks for two months in the summer of 1979, apparently in order to test their power, locked city hall for eight weeks and put police chief Sharkey Ford in front of the door with a shotgun with orders to "shoot anyone who tries to enter." That same summer the trio refused to pay the mayor's travel expenses for trips made on behalf of the town, and the Carthan family began to receive threatening letters and telephone calls.

Later they refused to pay telephone bills for the mayor's office, and then had the telephone removed. In December 1979 they reduced the mayor's salary from \$600 to \$60 a month, and they increased property taxes on citizens who openly supported the mayor. There were forced resignations of blacks who were replaced by whites, including the appointment of an arch-racist as elections commissioner. By spring 1980 Williams Winter, a college roommate of white

alderman Hayes, was occupying the governor's office and all federal programs to Tchula had been cut off.

The final blow for Carthan came in April 1980, when the police chief resigned. Carthan was empowered to appoint an interim chief until a formal meeting of the Board of Aldermen could be convened to elect a new one. Carthan chose Johnny Dale, a black policeman, as acting chief. During an aldermanic meeting before the appointment of a new police chief could be considered, Granderson, Gibson and Hayes allegedly stormed out of the building, went to a nearby store and called Jim Andrews (B.T. Taylor's brother-in-law), "appointing" him to take over as chief of police. At 11 p.m., Andrews took over the Police Department, dismissing acting chief Dale and changing the locks on the city hall door.

Carthan then took one of the two remaining loyal black aldermen and five auxiliary policemen to city hall to tell Andrews he was acting illegally, since he had not been voted in nor sworn in, and was not bonded. According to Carthan and the auxiliary policemen who were later convicted in the case, Jim Andrews refused to leave and pulled a gun on the mayor and his deputies. A scuffle ensued and Andrews, outnumbered, was disarmed.

back room, pressed charges of aggravated assault on a police officer against Carthan. The state later dropped Andrews' charges, but brought Harris' to the grand jury.

The preliminary hearing was held in Dean Taylor's court. Carthan's charges against Andrews were not heard, the D.A. said that Andrews was now immune, since he had already testified before the grand jury against Carthan and his deputies.

Two months before his term of office was to expire, Carthan and his six co-defendants were convicted of assaulting a police officer. The judge had refused to allow instructions to the jury as to the mayor's legal authority in handling police appointments. In addition, the defense team discovered notes in the jury room indicating that the jury had voted 11-to-1 for a conviction of simple assault a misdemeanor. When the verdict was read to the court, however, the conviction had been changed to "simple assault of a police officer" a felony. In Mississippi a jury is not allowed to impeach its verdict once it has been delivered to the court.

James Harris, the unlettered black man whose testimony convicted the Tchula Seven, was immediately hired to work in the store owned by Andrews and ap-



Downtown  
Tchula  
Mississippi,  
June  
1982

Carthan immediately filed charges against Andrews. Later, however, Andrews and James Harris, a black off-duty policeman whom Andrews had ordered to come to city hall and who was detected during the scuffle by Carthan's men hiding out in a

peared a short time later with a new car. Several months after the conviction, however, Harris appeared on TV to recant his story.

Five months after the first conviction, Carthan was convicted on the first of

several federal charges pending against him. This one was for fraud in connection with the purchase of equipment for a day care center he oversaw as mayor. Though the circumstances would appear to exonerate Carthan (one of the other defendants admitted to having forged Carthan's name on a fictitious equipment delivery receipt), Carthan worries that his assault conviction paved the way for future indictments and convictions on federal charges connected with his activities as mayor. The prosecutor for the Justice Department had earlier told Carthan's lawyer that Carthan was one of three men in the state of Mississippi they were out to get the other two being former governor Cliff Finch and Charles Evers.

Carthan's supporters believe that a plea bargaining deal was worked out between the men who were really guilty of defrauding the federal government and the Justice Department. Before the trial began Carthan was offered a chance to plea bargain if he would produce evidence that would enable the state to go after former governor Finch and Charles Evers. Carthan politely refused this deal as well.

During the time that he was being threatened and publicly villified, Carthan was compiling data on the decades-long corruption within the county's white elite. Fraud, bribery, kickbacks, the diversion of public funds into private uses appeared to be "the way things had always been done." In trying to find a lawyer Eddie discovered there wasn't a single person in the entire state who would dare to touch the evidence he had compiled.

Carthan is currently out on bond pending the appeal of both cases. The federal prosecutor told Eddie's lawyer that if they don't get him on one charge they will get him on others. A few days before Christmas the offices of the *Jackson Advocate*, a paper that has long supported independent black political candidates and gave positive publicity to Carthan when every other local paper had already convicted him in print, was firebombed. The Jackson police have not responded.

To southern blacks the parallels between 1981 and 1877 are painfully clear. The backlash against Reconstruction embodied in the Hayes-Tilden Compromise was more than a return to politics by color. It was a declaration that the class relationships upon which the country had

been founded were not to be disturbed.

Black enfranchisement signalled a redistribution of the country's wealth and resources. The backlash against black politicians in the 1870s came down heaviest on the most visionary black leaders those who expressed the aspirations of the masses, rather than the caution and compromise of those who had something to lose.

The powerful have always been able to find their overseers, their Uncle Toms and Aunt Janes. It is folks like Eddie Carthan who give those in power nightmares.

*Sheila D. Collins is an education and social activist who works through the United Methodist Church. The address of the National Campaign to free Mayor Eddie James Carthan and to Preserve Black Political Rights is: P.O. Box 26, Tchula, MS 29169.*

*Our thanks to In These Times for allowing us to reprint this article.*

## Government Admissions Omit Emissions

If in the past government statistics on nuclear accidents were supposed to assuage our fear of commercial nuclear reactors, the figures just released should raise our paranoia quotient dramatically. The government's Sandia National Laboratories (owned by the Department of Energy and operated under contract by AT&T) has published new data raising the estimated possibility of 1,000 or more deaths occurring from a meltdown from a 1974 projection of one in a million years to a 2% chance in the next 18 years. That's up from a .001% chance to a 10% chance in 100 years.

The earlier study known as the Rasmussen Report (compiled by Norman C. Rasmussen, an engineering professor at MIT with the Atomic Energy Commission), predicted no deaths or injuries from a meltdown, but a cost of about \$100,000 for evacuation. New figures from the CRAC2 computer, using meteorological, popula-

tion and economic data, predict a possible death toll of up to 100,000 and damage costs (not including medical costs, loss of jobs, or lost production due to shut-down of adjacent reactors) of up to \$300 billion at some sites.

A meltdown in a worst case scenario, according to the *Washington Post's* November 1 article, would involve "severe core damage, melting of uranium fuel, essential failure of all safety systems and a major breach of the reactor's containment"

### Columbia's Nuke

For the V.C. Summer plant in Fairfield County, S.C., with all considered conditions at their worst, 6,280 people would die within a year from radiation exposure alone, according to the study. Peak injuries, which include only radiation injuries appearing up to a year from an accident, would total 110,000. Financial consequences would amount to \$68.2 billion 1980 dollars, not including the medical, job and shut-down costs mentioned above.

According to the study, federal law restricting evacuation areas to within 10 miles of the reactor site and lack of evacuation plans in most of the country's 80 commercial reactor areas are partly responsible for the high figures. The Summer plant could have a fatal radius (immediately affected by the accident) of 20 miles, and an injury radius of 30 miles, which would extend into Columbia. Fallout, the study says, could hit population sites up to 25 miles from the reactor site.

Note that the government's use of meltdown probabilities as statements on the safety of nuclear reactors is a way of releasing data without taking into consideration geological conditions, contamination from daily radiation releases, long range environmental and health effects, or information on the dangers of non-commercial (and less strictly regulated) plants. Dealing with odds keeps the numbers low. Still, those numbers are increasing by powers of 10, even in government-sponsored studies, and statistics describing the "worst case" scenario, even while omitting some factors, are leaping upward. They're only numbers, but even the government can't keep them down.

— RF

...Cafe, continued from p. 15  
burned and the flattened lot of rubble and ash that Hiroshima became.

All-American fathers of the 1950s explaining bomb shelter set-ups to their families is funny partly because the patriotic strong-Americans-make-a-strong-America image is out of style. And we know that Salvation Army coffee and donuts won't be a cheerful part of any post-nuclear war clean-up, the way it is in the film. The humor in this part of the film comes largely from bad acting, 1950s clothes, politicians saying what they actually say, and what we know now held up to what we were fed at the time.

*The Atomic Cafe*, name taken from the era when "atomic" was a popular word used for business names and new products. climaxes with the final nuclear explosion. With masterfully interspersed quick playbacks of key parts of the earlier footage, we see the bomb exploding, kids ducking down on the sidewalk and hiding beneath their coats, the mushroom cloud, families waiting in bomb shelters for everything to be safe again, massive destruction of everything on the ground, demonstrations of homemade boxes for protection, deadly nuclear fallout

and badly burned nuclear experiment livestock, a family with brooms in hand, preparing to clean up and start over



Outtake from a 1953 civil defense film:  
Mannequin family awaits attack in shelter.

This film achieves, visually, a combined message of what the words "nuclear bomb" mean and how much of what we've heard and still hear are not only lies but terrifyingly ludicrous. When shown to a public that is, to a large extent, struggling philosophically to duck and cover like the singing turtle on

the screen, the laughter is uneasy because the joke is on the human race.

—RF

## "Erratic" Weapons Threaten Charleston

Poseidon submarines based in Charleston could be more hazardous to residents of that area than the Navy wants to admit. The subs carry several hundred nuclear warheads with a chemical detonator which was banned in 1977 because of its unpredictable and drastically unstable nature.

Government studies in the early 1970's showed the chemical, known only as LX-09, to have "erratic behavior when fabricated into parts for nuclear weapons." However, it was not until March 1977 when three production workers using standard handling procedures were killed when the chemical exploded that the Navy stopped production and began replacing the detonator. Yet five years later, several hundred of these nuclear warheads are still deployed on Poseidon submarines routinely based in Charleston.

While military and government officials scoff at the possibility of an accident, studies show that LX-09 can detonate on impact from a fall of only 15 inches, which could result in the release of a plutonium-laden cloud covering an area 28 miles long and two and a half miles wide, making that area uninhabitable for generations.

—VA

murderer. Since he was acquitted "with prejudice" Catch the Bear cannot be tried again on this charge.

This acquittal marks a victory for the Yellow Thunder inhabitants and the American Indian Movement as a whole, who have struggled against local harassment, government interference, and many court battles for leaders such as Leonard Peltier, also in jail for murder. Since the Wounded Knee occupation in the early 70's, over 200 members of AIM have been killed, and theirs continues to be an uphill battle. For assistance or more information, contact the Yellow Thunder camp, P.O. Box 9188, Rapid City, South Dakota 57709.

—MG

...DBCP, continued from p. 13

DBCP registrations after the EPA has suspended them, with the understanding that the legal effect of such withdrawal was (1) to remove any future burden to produce new evidence, and (2) to eliminate farm-worker participation."

In the meantime, the major manufacturers of DBCP pulled out, although there was still a lucrative market outside the U.S. and in Hawaii.

Amvac, a small company amongst the chemical giants, suddenly had a corner on this market as the larger, more diversified companies moved their emphasis to other products. But suppose further research were to show that DBCP could be safely used in the continental U.S.? This would greatly expand the market a thought which must have crossed Amvac executives' minds when they, jointly with EPA, funded Clemson's research on DBCP residue in peaches.

Amvac representatives, under heavy attack in California where Clemson's request for exemption aroused more consternation among the DBCP-wide residents, refuse to comment on this or anything else.

"The EPA and the industry worked out a deal," said Ralph Lightstone, "that allowed

this particular exemption and created a loophole for future exemption approvals."

Clemson plant pathologist George E. Carter was called to Washington to a meeting with EPA and Amvac, where his research plant was discussed. In California studies, high residues of DBCP were found in peaches when the pesticide was applied pre-harvest. Carter planned to apply DBCP post-harvest, believing there would be no residue in peaches harvested the following year. According to his findings, "at the recommended rate per treated acre, you won't find any residue."

The California Department of Food and Agriculture was highly critical of Carter's methodology. Dr. Keith Maddy, CDFA's chief toxicologist, was blunt. "We quickly

continued on p. 32

...Yellow Thunder, continued from p. 18  
practice." Catch the Bear was acquitted "with prejudice" when it was determined by the court that the government had coerced one of the witnesses to testify against him. The eye-witness, James Jones, was threatened with denial of immunity by the state attorney in exchange for his testimony. Jones was to testify that he was present at the shooting on July 21, and that Catch the Bear was the

# Unclassifieds . . .

Want to get involved in a new theater group? *Theatreworks* is a new Columbia group that needs scripts, actors and set builders. Call Rosemary Freriks at 254-9398 for more information.

### Calling out the Natural Guard!

There will be a meeting April 28, 7 p.m. at the GROW building to discuss a proposal for direct action at the Bomb Plant this fall. October is being considered, as it coincides with scheduled demonstrations in Europe to protest the siting of Pershing and Cruise missiles and the restart of the L Reactor at the Savannah River Plant. For more information call 254-9398.

**"We as a nation must undergo a radical revolution of values."** Martin Luther King, April 4, 1967

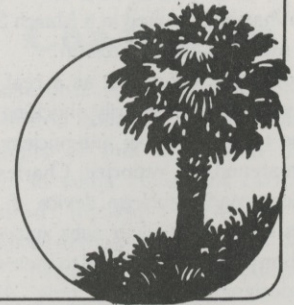
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For assistance in scheduling a meeting in your town or for more information about the National Call for Jobs, Peace & Freedom, contact the Federation for Progress, 18 Bluff Road, Columbia, S.C. 29201 (803)254-9398.

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...DBCP, continued from p. 30

discovered he was a novice at gas chromatography (one of the important tests on DBCP). "The state of the individual's knowledge was not great." California state health officials were angry that Clemson's "new evidence" supporting their request addressed only a small part of the DBCP problem residue and did not deal with groundwater contamination.

Carter shrugs when asked about being funded by the company which would benefit both by this exemption and future requests. "We could talk a long time on who should fund the research on chemicals," Carter told the *Washington Post*. "But if the EPA tried to fund research on all the data gaps, its budget would be as big as that of the Department of Defense."

"I stand behind the scientific data 1,000 percent," he added. "I am a completely equal-opportunity acceptor of grant money. We would accept money from the *Washington Post*, from GROW or the chemical companies. It is no-strings money."

Brett Bursey of GROW responds, "The DBCP issue reflects the serious problem of agricultural research being channeled by agribusiness which is essentially the chemical industry. Even Dr. Carter admits there are safe biological methods of dealing with nematodes but (1) there is no grant money for research and (2) the soil is so devastated by years of chemicals that the farmers are locked in."

-Sue Bowman

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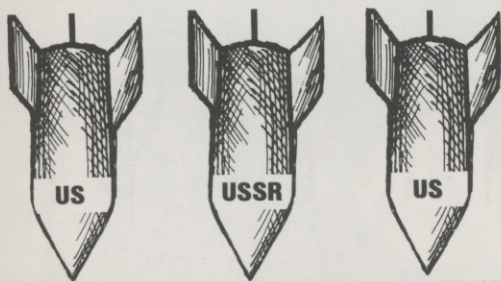
...Kablam, continued from p. 31

newsteam), failed to dismantle the bomb, and released the fatal flash on Charleston.

The film coverage of the explosion showed a city burning to the ground (with buildings taller than any in Charleston) and severely wounded people being led or carried away, not your usual prime time fare. And although part of the overall message may have been perceived as "thank God the sane people have control over the rest of the nukes" the image of the blast is likely to linger in the minds of many viewers.

The viewing audience may or may not have caught the implication that perhaps it was the U.S. government who was the terrorist. Perhaps it was lost in the recurring disclaimers appearing on the screen, asserting that no part of the program was true. Charleston may still be intact, but we do have nuclear bombs, and they are used. Have you seen Nevada lately?

—RF



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### The Grass Roots Organizing Workshop (GROW)

is a Columbia based organization that has been providing grass roots organizing assistance for the past six years.

help people organize their communities and their workplaces  
necessary step if the people in South Carolina are ever to build a strong



organization capable of making the common sense changes we need for economic democracy, peace and justice to become a reality in our life time. We must organize to take control of our country away from the giant corporations and their political servants who profit from the nuclear madness, chemical poisoning and social chaos that threaten the planet.

GROW meetings are held every other Thursday night. We have planned discussions on important topics and take some time to determine any actions we can take on the problems we face. For more information about meetings, activities and how you can get involved, call us at 254-9398, or just drop by and see us!

**THE GRASS ROOTS  
ORGANIZING WORKSHOP**  
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TIME MAGAZINE - 1932

Is your  
washroom  
breeding

Bolsheviks?

*Employees lose respect  
for a company that  
fails to provide  
decent facilities for  
their comfort*

**T**RY wiping your hands six days a week on harsh, cheap paper towels or awkward, unsanitary roller towels—and maybe you, too, would grumble.

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