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3-DAY PROTEST AT BARD

On April 13, 14, and 15, the Bard Students for a New Society (SNS), and Latin American Organization (LAO), and Bard Solidarity Group, with the cooperation of the Princeton Alliance and Sociology Anthropology Club, and Bard Political Studies Department, will hold a major three day protest. The protest will focus on U.S. intervention in El Salvador, as well as the growing political repression of American Indians, independence supporters in Puerto Rico, and the political campaign of racism and anti-Semitism developing in the United States. The teach-in will examine the political and social effects of the Reagan Administration and New Right on various groups including the Women’s movement, minorities and the poor.

The development of the New Right and the election of the Reagan Administration can be traced to new patterns in the American political economy. New Deal liberalism collapsed once the Keynesian Coalition fell apart. The New Deal coalition of Blacks, Liberal ethics and the trade union movement led to a cut in corporate profits since this coalition was responsible for raising tax rates to pay for social services and increased the power of labor. A stronger and more secure labor movement threatened business and profits. The end result of Reagan-Economics means declining social services and rising Supply-Side Unemployment. Thus, employment no longer keeps the society secure as much as before. Unemployment rates increase and no groups compete with each other, tensions rise. Jewish support for the Balke decision and fear of quotas revealed this trend. Unemployment means crime and crime—no the fear of it—meant increased surveillance and harassment of the poor and minorities. The decline in social services means crime too, the fear and reality of crime means political repression. The decline of the anti-War Movement and awareness of FBI and CIA practices means increasing FBI and CIA power. The new FBI charter political movements to prove utility bills, such as Mass Facing Share’s utility rate fight in cont. on page 4

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REVIEWS B&G SEX DISCRIMINATION AND RAILROADS

AT EL SALVADOR

At the board of trustees meeting on March 27, 1981, the students asked for two policy statements from the board: the first one concerned job discrimination on the basis of sex; the second one dealt with the United States military involvement in El Salvador.

The B&G job description manual plainly spells out the duties and qualifications required for every B&G position. The job descriptions for the custodian and maid/housekeeper are virtually the same. Of the eleven Specific Responsibilities the members of the staff, only item eight is different: custodian—"moving and placing of furniture as required and directed"; maid—"Assists in working with custodian in cleaning assignments, and placing of furnishings". The qualifications for the two jobs are exactly the same. For this one discrepancy in the job description, the custodians receive $5.25 more per hour. In addition to this, the women’s wages are raised on a percentage basis while the men have a set pay increase. This means that each year the discrepancy between their wages is greater.

I asked the board how they felt about equal pay for equal work, and about this blatant example of sex discrimination. President Bottstein was quick to retort that equal pay is not a College policy. He also said that B&G was "the area where I have the least amount of expertise," and referred the issue to Dimitri Papadimitriou. The B&G workers now have a delegation who have met with Papadimitriou and are trying to narrow the wage gap. He also said that the differences in the job description was more than meets the eye. The maids, of course, contend differently.

So, this matter is "under study" by Papadimitriou, who will report to the board at the next meeting. The board did agree that this great discrepancy in pay could not be tolerated and that there is no connection effort by the college to discriminate on the basis of sex.

We then asked for a statement from the board concerning U.S. involvement in El Salvador. William F. Ruenger, the chairman of the board of trustees, said that individually he was sure that the members of the board had opinions about this issue; however, the board has very carefully avoided taking positions on social issues. He said that he regarded it most improper for the board to address issues of this kind. The board does respect all opinions on issues such as these and believes that the college should be the proper forum for the airing of these ideas.

WHEN I WALKED ON THIS CAMPUS, I FELT LIKE I MET WALT DISNEY

We live on a planet where property rights are held above human rights. John Trudel came to Bard to remind us of this. We seem to forget it is an institution where "rights" are too frequently confused with "privileges". The Bard Solidarity Group sponsored John Trudel, who spoke on Politic Today: From an Environmentalist Perspective to a Political Activist Perspective this April 7th.

Brother John is an American Indian from the Society of Peoples struggling to be free. This struggle is for freedom from the oppression "that puts us in this confusing condition". The struggle is spearheaded by the American Indians, as they realize that freedom died on their land 500 years ago. The Indians never got the chance to pretend that the American system did anything "good" for them; how could it be when it is a system that feeds on destruction?

Trudel stated that "We understand that the Fourth Reich is here, and it is a corporate Reich that owns governments." It is a Reich that molds us into consumers from the moment we are separated from the nurturing relationship with our mothers, and fed the artificial milk that marks our birth into the corporate world. We are played down in front of the TV and taught what to do so that others will like us. We are taught to appreciate "convenience" items like electric hairdryers and can openers, without realizing that we have to attack Mother Earth to do so.

American consumers want to pretend that voting for a president will solve our problems. They want to pretend that Congress votes in our best interests. They want to pretend that they are the moral majority, and God’s gonna get them out of this.

John Trudel came to remind us of this, and to call us to action. It is in our mutual interests to work together and fight for the rights of the Mother Earth. The only way to insure our survival is not to run from it, but to stand and face it. "Take your mind away from your enemy, and you have taken away their greatest weapon." Stop being lazy and get moving. There is no excuse when it comes to survival.

CON ED IN REDHOOK

(green Times)—Whether coal-fired power plants are built at the Red Hook-Clermont site or now hinges upon the fate of two other proposed plants, according to Russell Blake, Con Ed spokesman.

If permission is gained for a coal and garbage burning plant at Travis (Arthur Kill, Long Island) and for the Prattsville pumped storage plant, then Red Hook will not be needed, Blake said. If, however, one or both fail to gain approval, the Red Hook-Clermont site in Dutchess and Columbia Counties would be needed.

Blake predicted a need for the electricity produced by a new plant by 1987, for Con Ed to "meet its commitments". Demand predictions, he said, should be pointed out, have been lowered annually for the past seven years. Originally, the Red Hook-Clermont site was to have applied for licenses in 1981, and produced power by 1991. Up to six coal or four nuclear plants were planned.

The timetable was pushed back several times until it went off the 15-year plan submitted by the Power Pool, a utility consortium. If the trend continues, Con Ed's 1987 target may be stretched out, too.

But, you might ask, how could a coal plant be built by 1987 when before even the utility predicted a 10-year lapse between applying and going online?
LET US CONSIDER WHAT COULD BE THE PLAGUE OF A RESIDENT OF SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA—AROUND LANCASTER, THE AREA OF THE ANTIKLAH this year of 1981, ALMOST EXACTLY two years after the near-meltdown of the Three Mile Island Power Plant near Harrisburg. Only last year, there was no "near"; no shutdown three minutes away from the crisis point, no "accident averted" headlines, no nothing. Now, our resident could choose to bemoan several things as he sits on his porch that faces the east (so the west is a lot better view) but it is deliberately un-haunted to look at the glow there at night. He could bemoan that earthy dairy products have turned his stomach one time too many—when the TMI plant melted down, it contaminated the Lehigh Valley, one of the richest dairy-producing areas of the East Coast. He could be annoyed that he has to drink Guernsey Cream, for the home of his favorite beer-rolling Stock-in-a-Latrobe and well within the contamination radius from TMI also. He could be upset at not having a good sea-food dinner in a year, for when TMI leaked into the Susquehanna it affected the ecological balance of the Chesapeake Bay so badly that most of the Delmarva area went broke. He could be angry that the last edict from Omaha (the government center) had been temporally moved there from Washington pending the results of a study of the effects of the radiation in the Capitola district, which means that his taxes will go up, as the government is trying to move everyone out of the 50 mile radius of TMI to spare itself the further embarrassment of the continued death from cancer and radiation sickness. He could be sad that his close circle of friends and relatives, at least one quarter are now dead and another quarter are suffering radiation-related wasting diseases. He could be scared that he will always have to go to a doctor, for that the doctor might find out about him that he has seen happen so often to other people in the last year. Or he might be afraid that he will not need the doctor at all, just begin throwing up blood some morning.

Rather grim outlook for our friend, isn’t it? Immeasurable people who had the misfortune to be living there could be affected by what went on in Harrisburg faced a similar outlook two years ago. What is more important is that we face a similar outlook now, or at any given time in the future—as long as the nuclear plant at Indian Point remains in operation.

I think it is insane to have a three-unit reactor on the Hudson River in Westchester County, 40 miles from Times Square, 20 miles from the Bronx. And if you describe that 50-mile circle, you’ve got 21 million people, and that’s crazy. I’m sorry, I just don’t think that’s the right place to put a nuclear reactor....It’s a nightmarish point from the emergency preparedness. Everybody says what a terrible situation we had at Three Mile Island, but can you imagine what it would have been at Indian Point? It would have been calamitous.”

—Robert Ryan, Director of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s Office of State Programs in sworn testimony before the President’s Commission on the TMI Accident, October 9, 1979.

The Indian Point Plant should be a familiar sight to anyone who has ever taken the Amtrak train between New York and Albany or driven along Route 9W. It is there, bouding, right on the Hudson—two enormous tall concrete domes, one lower dome, a tall smokestack, and uncountable smaller buildings. “Forbidding,” perhaps in the word; it has the look of a top-secret military installation about it. It is the oldest nuclear power plant by the country, and many say the most dangerous. Out of the three reactors on the site, one (Unit 1—the low dome) is closed down permanently and the other two (Units 2 and 3, the tall domes) are in sporadic operation. Though both of these units (like Unit 1) were built by Consolidated Edison, one is now owned by Con Ed and the other by the Power Authority of the State of New York (PASNY). It is true, as Con Ed claims, that Indian Point has been in operation 18 years without an accident; Con Ed’s subsequent claim, that the chances of an accident happening is now so small to not be discussed, is a lot more open to question.

Nuclear power is a force that should command a lot more respect than it does. If that respect were gained, it could prove to be one of the most beneficial things man has discovered; if the proper amount of work was done to insure its safety, nuclear power could be a good idea. But Indian Point—no.

There are two major reasons why one might be an opponent of Con Ed. The first, which will bear much explanation later, is that the safety precautions that are taken are inadequate. Although this nothing indigenous to Indian Point, there are certain glaring deficiencies such as lay security, the plant’s situation on top of an earthquake fault, on-site waste disposal, the problems inherent in a pressurized water reactor, etc. More about all these in a bit. More importantly, and the thing that sets L.P. aside from the gamut of other sensibly plans, is the argument that Mr. Ryan talked about earlier, the argument that would make me as adamant about the plant’s abolition if I lived in Idaho—what is the plan?

No doubt about it, it is a bad situation. Even Con Ed agrees on that (see history of Plant). 10% of the country’s population lives within a fifty-mile radius of Indian Point—50 miles being the agreed-upon distance for effects on a nuclear meltdown. That includes New York City, Western Long Island, Northern New Jersey, Western Connecticut and all of Eastern New York State. What’s more, it appears that the prevailing winds...
First of a series...

the Rarotape Fault, both because a quake is unlikely and, if one did occur, the plant is supposed to be built strongly enough to withstand the effects of a 7-on-the-Richter-scale — but one never knows, does one? The fact that an 8.0-magnitude quake could dump Units 2 and 3 into the Hudson scares me. With the reactors would go the spent fuel that has been accumulating since 1962, all of it stored on site, immersed in boron water. By conservative estimates, both Con Ed and PANSY will run out of storage space within five years, and there are apparently no plans for what is to be done with this highly radioactive material when the plant is closed down in 2006. While on-site storage may largely preclude the threat of the spent fuel falling into the wrong hands, it increases the potential intensity of a meltdown — for were the reactors to go, it would evaporate the water the rods are stored in, and their radioactivity would be released. After this, there is the apparent lack of security (again, see the history attached) that could lead to disaster if even a badly prepared terrorist group took it into their minds to seize the plant. Also, there is the basic design of the plant itself. It is a Pressurized Water Reactor, the same type that is in use at Three Mile Island and elsewhere and is particularly susceptible to failure of the cooling mechanism, thus possibly leading to a meltdown. Although PWRs are generally considered safe, any breakdown in the water-cooling function must lead to a shutdown — a frequent problem Indian Point shares with all other PWRs.

While these problems might be considered general, there are equally dangerous specific ones. These have been noted in a petition the Union of Concerned Scientists, a Cambridge-based non-profit organization that in the past two years has caused the temporary shutdowns of six nuclear plants for safety violations, presented to the government in 1979. (Much of the information was supplied by key UCS member Robert Pollard.) The petition charges that:

1. The safety standards for both Units 2 and 3 are so lax that neither could receive a license from the NRC were they to apply for one today.

2. The Emergency Diesel Generators for Unit 2, which supply back-up power in case the main power system malfunctions and are crucial for preventing a meltdown, are inadequately housed in a building that would not withstand a hurricane or minor earthquake.

3. The Auxiliary Feedwater system, the system whose malfunction led to improper cooling of the exposed core of Three Mile Island, is inadequate in Unit 2.

4. The fire protection for electrical cables in both units, proven to be important in the near-disastrous fire at the Browns Ferry, Alabama nuclear plant in 1975, is inadequate (were the cables to be eaten by fire, the plant’s electrical system would be useless and a meltdown likely).

5. The entire plant has inadequate monitoring for after an accident, should one occur, making clean-up practically impossible.

None of these problems have been remedied, and Indian Point has not been shut down.

What would happen were the plant to be shut down? Well, despite the fact that Con Ed customers already pay the highest utility rates in the nation, a government survey by the General Accounting Service says that rates will jump $600 million a year if Indian Point were closed permanently. Despite this projected increase, there would not be a power shortage, just as there is not every time the plant is closed for refueling or repairs even without Indian Point. Con Ed maintains a power margin Above Peak of more than 20%, while the Federal Power Commission recommends a margin of 20%. Con Ed claims that Indian Point is essential to its operation; they apparently do not take into consideration that this part of their operation, that other sources consider non-essential, could destroy their entire operation — and everything around it.


circles show areas within 5, 10, 15 and 20 miles of Indian Point complex.

Financials

The consequences of the most serious accident analyzed in WASH-1400 were as follows:

Fatalities (from acute radiation sickness)........3,300

Fatalities (from radiation-induced cancers)....50,000

Non-Fatal Illnesses................................385,000

Genetic Defects (in first generation born after the accident)........5,100**

Property Damage....................................$14 billion

Land Area Requiring Decontamination.......3,200 square miles

Area Requiring Relocation of Population....790 square miles

*Prepared from results in Reactor Safety Study, Tables 5-7 and 5-6, Main Report, pp. 84-85.

**This number assumes continuing appearances of genetic defects for 30 years. In fact, genetic defects would continue to appear for 4 to 5 generations.

(a brief history of Indian Point on pp. 11)

Next issue... A visit to the Indian Point Plant
ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS: A TEXTBOOK EDUCATION

by Robert Meyrowitz

In school we are taught to believe what it says in our history-books—and that may not be such a bad thing. But we are also taught to doubt anything that we didn't read in our history-books, unless we read it in the New York Times. And that is criminal. In 1932, for example, 30 thousand hungry Americans were gassed down in the streets by American soldiers, because they were walking for a minimum wage. I don't know of a single American History textbook that mentions it. Perhaps that's because the hungry people were peasants, and those American peasants were from Central American coffee plantations—but Americans all the same. A spokesperson for a right-wing terrorist group in El Salvador recently remarked that "Coffee-Growers should not anguish over the situation today; there was a similar one in 1932, and if it was solved then, it can be solved now." In a country of roughly five million people, such a solution is demographically inconceivable—but not politically inconceivable. Zbigniew Brzezinski, speaking to concerned Salvadoran businessmen in Washington, D.C., in 1979, remarked that "If all the old men in this room were elected, one could imagine a government that would look less like a government than it looks now." Brzezinski's words are not without their own weight in the current political climate.

On Saturday, March 21st, 1981, I was privileged to attend a series of workshops sponsored by the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador, at the New School for Social Research in New York. Everyone who was anyone on the urban left was there: Marxist, Socialists, Spartacists, Left-Determinists, Nationalists, Undecideds, Hangers-on, and some non-partisan spectators who came down to see if it's really true that all of those groups combined don't have enough members to fill a phone-booth. It's not; there are thousands of us there.

The first workshop I attended was "El Salvador: Historical Perspectives," with speakers Carlos Maritza from Casa El Salvador and a guest-speaker from the Salvadoran Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR). I learned some things that weren't in my Social Studies textbooks; I learned that intervention in Central America has a formidable pedigree, and that it's not just the US' Government that can't seem to mind its own business, even when it manages to mind its own business. From 1524 to 1821, Spain was down there minding Salvador's business. From 1821 until early in this century, without so much as a break for a pause. The English were busy making El Salvador a part of their Overseas-United Kingdoms. Then it was the US's turn, and the end of its occupation has not yet been recorded. At a second workshop I attended was "Agrarian Reform." James Stephens, a consultant for OXFAM who has written extensively on the subject, conducted the first half of the discussion. With copious use of maps and diagrams, he made it quite clear to the still-uncorroborated that the made-in-the-US Land Reform Program is a potentially bloody effort to buy time for El Salvador's shaky junta, and do little more. The Program's impact to date, he illustrated, is grossly overestimated, as many of the landless poor who have theoretically benefited from it are, in truth, now residing as refugees in Honduras, elsewhere, or dead. Stephens diagrammed the fashions in which the US Government, with the full cooperation of American Banks, has expanded the Land Reform Program's resources flow to reduce its impact on the traditionally elite landowners, and has tightened the

Programs administration to provide short-term benefits to the targeted landless citizens. And all of this while the efficiency of food-distribution in El Salvador remains frighteningly low. After such inclusive criticism of the Land Reform Program that the New York Times called "truly progressive" and "successful" (a rather premature assessment in light of the fact that, with two-thirds of the program yet to be implemented, only 9% of it is actually operative), Carlos Parades took over. Parades was formerly a member of the current junta, but resigned from it in protest last year.

"How would your proposal for Land Reform be any different from what the junta is trying to do?" asked a hostile member of the audience. Climbing to his feet, Parades shouted back, "There can be no other program. But we will implement it—without the help of Right-Wing Security Forces." Reform with the "help" of Right Wing Security Forces, once imagined, is like vegetables grown with the "aid" of pesticides: death is simply delayed. My Social Studies book carefully explained that the American Revolution was fought to halt (British) militarism and pave the way for self-Determinism. If you change the verb tenses and substitute "Salvadoran" for "American," Parades was saying the same thing about the war now being waged by the FDR.

I don't think I'll be leaving off my Social Studies textbook again for awhile. As for the New York Times, I'll probably still read it, because there's a small chance that, after another 30 thousand Americans are massacred, I might find a story about it in a little box on Page 32—but I won't hold my breath.

"Is the Reagan Administration out to prove the hogs again machismo of the United States? But, then, why doesn't the United States show its bravado in Kabul or Warsaw? Since it cannot take vengeance in Iraq, must it take it in El Salvador? Is it bravery or cowardice to speak up against a weak, some 9-year-old child? Why are General Alexander M. Haig, Jr.'s solvers cowardly?"

Then's right! words. And you know what? I found them in the New York Times—but don't be too surprised; they were on the Editorial Page. The author is Carlos Fuentes, a Mexican Novelist who echoed the same sentiments when he spoke here at Bard last semester. A few days before his letter was printed, the New York Times headline read "U.S. says Salvador is 'Textbook case' of Communist Plot." I bet I know what textbook they were using.

PROTEST...
who did kill

JFK, RFK, MLK, & MK?

P.J. SNYDER

Researcher Bush Harp, who considers himself an "Assassinationist," spoke to a group of about thirty Bard students Thursday, March 19th, and attempted to prove to them that circa John F. Kennedy, Robert F. Kennedy, and Martin Luther King and Mary Jo Kopechne (of Chappaquiddick) were vic- tims of deliberate political assassinations perpetrated by the federal government. Harp is the co-author of the book, "The Assassination of the American President," which provides evidence of a government conspiracy to assassinate the Presidency, CIA, FBI, and the government. This is a conspiracy theory that may sound, Mr. Harp's arguments are hard to discount.

Speaking on the JFK assassination, Mr. Harp cited several inconsistencies in the "official version" of the events. The first was the change which was made in the description of the rifle Lee Harvey Oswald used. The rifle was originally described as 6.5, then changed a few days later to 7.5. The rifle was originally described as a M1903, then changed to a .30-06 Carabineer. Mr. Harp, a former sharpshooter and a ballistic expert, stated that the M1903 is a shorter range and a larger caliber than the .30-06, which is currently in use.

Mr. Harp also pointed out that Oswald would not have had time to retool and refile all the shots attributed to him in the time that elapsed. Mr. Harp offered several other complex arguments, and cited several contacts with the FBI, CIA, military and govern- ment officials that confuted his theories, attesting to the evidence presented.

Mr. Harp, who is known for his "conspiratorial" views, is currently working on a number of projects, including a book on the JFK assassination which he plans to release shortly.

The event was held in the auditorium of the college and was well attended. Mr. Harp concluded his speech by thanking the students for their interest and inviting them to discuss the topics further.

The forum was well attended, with many students expressing interest in the topic and asking questions. Mr. Harp was gracious and open to discussion, and the event was a success.
Dear Friend,

"The Moral Majority"—"The Right to Life Movement"—"Pro Family"—

Whatever name it's called, the Extreme Right is raising unprecedented money, recruiting unprecedented numbers of people and posting an unprecedented threat to individual rights in America today.

Under the cloak of Americanism, patriotism and morality, this movement is attacking fundamental American traditions.

It is seeking to destroy our basic rights and individual liberties. It is seeking to subvert the Constitution itself.

Not since McCarthyism in the 1950's has such a movement been so vocal, so well organized, and so well financed. So reckless.

This new movement did not develop by chance. Its leaders have seized the opportunity to exploit the fear, the anger and the building in this country because of grave national problems:

—America's loss of world leadership (the hostages in Iran, the war in Vietnam, the dependence on the OPEC nations);

—America's deteriorating economy (uncontrollable inflation and soaring unemployment);

—The deterioration of the quality of life (pollution and urban decay and crime);

—It is easy to understand why many people yearn for a return to the "good old days" and so-called traditional family values.

The leaders of the evangelical right do not have the answers to these problems. They do not even care to find them. What they do have is the ability to divert national attention from sober consideration of realistic solutions with slogans that instill fear and repression and division.

Let's not kid ourselves. This movement was created, organized, and orchestrated by some of the most sophisticated and skillful operatives on the extreme Right today....people like Richard Vigerie, Phyllis Schafly, and the Reverend Jerry Falwell.

The leaders of this anti-civil liberties movement understand how to manipulate radio and television, mass advertising and direct mail. They've proved that they know how to "target" Senators and Representatives who disagree with their narrow views for defeat. And they've shown that they can elect their own candidates for Congress, and state legislatures, and local school boards, too.

Perhaps their aims are summed up best in Senate Bill 1808, the so-called "Family Protection Bill." It was introduced in the last Congress by Senator Paul Laxalt of Nevada, and is supported by many of his New Right colleagues.

This bill would:

—restrict prayer in the public schools;

—prohibit federal programs to fund the treatment of venereal disease, contraceptives, and abortions;

—all federal protection of the civil rights of those with "perverse lifestyle", e.g. homosexuality;

—prevent state and federal authorities from "impeding" private schools. Translation: Efforts to end tax subsidies of segregationist academies would be stopped;

—allow parents to review textbooks before their use in the schools;

—and even end federal programs designed to prevent child abuse.

When this legislation was introduced less than a year ago, many people laughed it off. It was so pernicious an attack on basic Constitutional rights that it didn't have a chance.

Nobody's laughing now. The prospects for such legislation have increased enormously as a result of the last election and since its chief sponsor, Senator Laxalt, has become a major power in the new administration.

Make no mistake about it, the threat is real.

**Already, Federal funding of abortions for Medicaid recipients has been virtually eliminated.** And now Congress could pass a Constitutional amendment banning abortion for all women. **Already, efforts to defeat the Equal Rights Amendment have been successful in such major states as Illinois. And now a political party that explicitly opposes the ERA has been swept into power.**

**Already, prayer is back in public schools in Massachusetts, Louisiana, Kentucky, South Dakota and other places. And now it is possible that Congress could pass legislation barring the federal courts from ruling on challenges to school prayer.** **Already, public schools are being pressured by "evangelicals" to teach "creationism" as well as evolution in science classes from Indiana to Georgia. And now the Moral Majority and other evangelical groups have succeeded in electing officials favorable to their views.**

**Already, legislation to curb illegal practices by the CIA and FBI has itself been censored.** And now Senator Harry Goldwater, long a supporter of unrestricted domestic spying by intelligence agencies, has replaced Frank Church as Chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee; Chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee.

The danger is clear. The danger is present.

The time to act is now.

And the organization which millions of Americans depend upon to act is the American Civil Liberties Union.

Since its founding, the ACLU has been in the forefront of the battle to protect individual rights, even when the going was rough. In fact, especially when the going was rough.

Unlike all too many politicians and elected officials, the ACLU does not demean its principles by keeping its "finger to the wind".

Unlike many other organizations, the ACLU does not dilute its efforts. It concentrates on civil rights and liberties.

Fact is, a strong and vibrant ACLU is our best protection against the evangelical right and its allies. But right now, the going is especially rough for the ACLU. It is not strong enough to provide the protection we need.

Consider this. According to a Newsweek report, one right-wing evangelical television preacher takes in $1 million a week, every week.

By contrast, the national ACLU's entire budget for 1981 is only $6.5 million, what that one evangelical preacher raises in a month. And because of soaring inflation, ACLU is considering budget cuts that would reduce its legal staff, cut back on its regional offices, and cut its Washington legislative office in half. Can you afford to have the ACLU reduce its resources and its effectiveness at this time of exceptional danger?

That's why I'm writing you this letter—to ask you to join—or send your contribution, if you're not a "joiner".

I feel that if you join and I join with thousands of others concerned with preserving our precious human rights, those freedoms will be enjoyed by all and passed on to our children.

Please do not think that "they" will take care of it for you or that someone else will do your part. I know that many of us who fought so hard for civil rights and to end the Vietnam War are tired, and have turned away from public affairs. But we cannot let the Right Wing steal away our personal freedoms because we are frightened or alienated, or because of a fear of nerve. Let it be said, instead, that we rose to the challenge and did our part.

I make few requests of people. I have never been more serious.

Please contribute yourself today by joining. Sincerely, George McGovern

In the most recent incident a student knifed at a Barstow function refused to disclose the identity of the other person involved. The propulsion of the student and so far the administration has not seen fit to take any action.

The administration's lack of direction puts students in an ambiguous position and neutralizes the role of security. The real question is how do we resolve these problems in the future? Anonymous

Sir,

I have for the longest time been unable to understand the purpose of the "Mark Elson Column" because of its childlike and emphatic illiteracy.

**An Epic **

**TI **

**INCR SHR **

**WC **

**• SEE THE ERA VANISH **

**• WATCH AB LEAGUE OF WOMEN **

**• LISTEN AS WOMEN **

**• A NEW I **
Mr. Elster began his outrage attack on the "Barb Reporters" and its respective editors in the last issue of the Observer, by gliding stating the insane fact that he wouldn't like to kill Roger Williams if Mr. Williams had not been expelled. Does this mean that Mr. Elster would like to exterminate everybody that is not up to his expectations, or is it just another example of the childish "Mark Elster image"?

With the greatest respect, Mr. Elster, since you do not seem to be too well acquainted with Roger Williams, I seriously think that you should keep your ignorant comments about him out of the Observer. Roger made several mistakes, but he did not deserve to be expelled...

Anyway, to continue with Mr. Elster's outcast of illiterate journalism. In his attack against Mr. Gelbard he firmly states that students used to file class mail, when they are "writing home for money". It is arguable whether his own reference to Mr. Gelbard's letter is relevant itself.

I do value Mr. Elster's aim for "Responsible Journalism", because I would imagine we all desire that at Bard College. Perhaps Mr. Elster could set the example by refraining from the use of profanity in his own articles, since it does not increase the effect of the statements made, but serves as a negative example of Mr. Elster's own lack of an appropriate vocabulary.

Mr. Elster's implication that Roger Williams and the "maniac" Reagan should be thought of as similar is certainly less than any student desires, even Mr. Elster. Again, with the greatest respect, Mr. Elster, do you really want to know what happened to the "long...

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Editor, Bard Observer:

Not many working class people know that on the morning of March 18, 1871 the workers of Paris, France struck a blow against class oppression that sent shock waves around the world and provided a profound inspiration for workers everywhere. On that momentous day what had been up to then just another of many uprisings or rebellions of the oppressed turned into a true revolution. On that day the world witnessed the establishment of the first worker's government in history: The Paris Commune.

Without any vanguard party to lead them and without any tyrant to direct their actions, the starving, untrained, barely literate, out-numbered and out-gunned workers of Paris smashed the French capitalist state, ran its army out of town and checked the advance of the crack troops of a monstrous Prussian Army.

For 63 days these courageous people showed that the collective genius and will of the working class can, and will, eventually, take hold of its own destiny and establish a society free of tyranny, want, and class rule.

The Socialist Labor Party celebrates this great event every year at the Paris Commune of 1871 in a land

Signed,

Nathan Pressman, Organizer
Hudson Valley Socialist Labor Party
12 Catharine Street
Elmira, New York
914/647-6656

March 22, 1981

President was literally met at the door of the hospital by "Trama Team" doctors. With half his blood supply lost, his wounds could have easily sent him into shock and near death had such a team at a sophisticated hospital like GWU not been so close at hand.

While doctors tried to play up President Reagan's light-heartedness (he cracked jokes to Mrs. Reagan and doctors once in the hospital) it is now clear that he was not as "all right" as we were led to believe. Light-headed and near shock The President acted as many would by reassuring himself and his close family and associates. Dr. Dennis S. O'Leary emphasized and repeatedly stated The President had not lied internally at all by the time the first chest tube was inserted. Those statements were given out to the press at a hospital conference 20 minutes after Reagan left surgery. Dr. O'Leary had been briefed before appearing for reporters by Edwin Meese 3d and othered President Reagan's closest circle of advisors. Clearly the desired effects of such misinformation were those of reassurance to America and her allies and the desire to portray the "everything's under control" scenario for the benefit of Eastern bloc nations.

All that is fine and dandy, but serious questions need to be raised. Towhat extent should the American Public be "protected" by such information and does this practice protect us at all from possible political abuses in the event of an emergency?

While we're on the subject what's under control and who isn't, the name of Secretary of State Alexander Haig immediately comes to mind. On what must already be world famous slim footage from the White House on that Monday, Haig, after showing his
We Don't Mind Hard Work... We Do Mind Dying

San Diego Committee to Defend NASSCO Workers

What's in store for militant trade unionists in the '80's? At the West Coast's largest shipyard, National Steel and Shipbuilding Co. (NASSCO), three union leaders fighting for safer working conditions have been indicted for conspiracy to bomb an electrical transformer at the shipyard. They were indicted based on the testimony of an FBI informant and company spy, Ramon Barton. All three deny the charges.

Last year NASSCO hired the number two union busting firm in the country - Littler, Mendelson, Fastiff, and Tichy. NASSCO soon took a hard line on labor relations, which led to a backlog of 1,000 grievances, harassment and firing of shop stewards, and increased disregard for safety.

"I got involved in the union when I saw people getting hurt. One slipped on wet scaffolding, another breaks his ribs saving a worker from a crane that dropped its load...A friend of mine was run over by a forkift...she's disabled for the rest of her life."

(David Boyd, one of the NASSCO 3)

The NASSCO 3, David Boyd, Mark Loo, and Rudney Johnson, were pipelayers and shipfitters at NASSCO. They were terminated along with 14 other union officials and activists for their roles in a peaceful demonstration during a launching ceremony for a Navy destroyer tender on August 2, 1980. "The workers at NASSCO responded to the firings with a powerful four-day strike, and ten more union activists were fired."

On September 2, two outside machinists, Michael Beebe and Kenneth King, died of suffocation in an open, unmarked tank on the U.S.S. Cord. These men died on the same deck that Boyd and Loo had closed down for poor ventilation weeks earlier when they found 30 people vomiting and short of breath. The deaths of Beebe and King rectified the demand by the workforce that the fired workers be rehired and that stronger safety measures be ensured. Two weeks later the NASSCO 3 were arrested.

There is evidence that David Boyd and his two co-defendants, who are members of the Communist Workers' Party, have been framed to divide and red-bait the union. Ramon Barton, the FBI informant known to other workers as a big-mouth who consistently tried to incite acts of violence, taped conversations with the NASSCO 3 in the style we became so familiar with during Watergate - the transcripts are full of untruths, substitutions and additions, and whenever the defendants struggled with Barton to give up his schemes, the bugging equipment conveniently malfunctioned.

The NASSCO 3 face a possible thirty-five years in prison for crimes they never committed or planned to commit. Their trial will take place this summer and the defense will put the government on trial for its outrageous conduct. The significance of this case is clear. As Leonard Weinglass, attorney for the defense, has said, "This case belies a new and dangerous attack on militant labor by the combined forces of the federal government and industry."

No one can feel secure during these perilous '80's when the government can enter a labor dispute and selectively prosecute anyone it deems "dangerous." In San Diego, a rank and file, controlled union local fighting for decent working conditions was the target. Any progressive group or individual could be next. With the rise of the Moral Majority and the new McCarthyism, we may all find ourselves on the "wrong" side of the law.

The NASSCO case tells us that we must look out for each other and protect our precious human and civil rights before they evaporate before our very eyes. We must stand together with our eyes cast and hearts open, like in the '60's and '70's, and oppose attacks by the government on labor militancy.

Your help is needed. There are families to feed and at least $20,000 in legal costs. Please join the struggle. Write us for more information or if you wish to donate to the defense fund.

-San Diego Committee to Defend NASSCO Workers

P.O. Box 8383
San Diego, CA 92102
the wound brings memories from so long ago when I was happy it is Indian Summer ends today in the sky so my spirit was Craig ace took form amongst the Clouds with her liquid eyes years so has chilled these memories we had or I dreamed we had be Wind and Dust from Indian Summer.

up of coffee and was thinking imprisoned Cubans political prisoner like them

w President Carter sold set them free
city they told me mates make prisoners of them? they asked me them, as I told them a joke

Willie Reagan they laughed

words of an Indian Summer fee—stayin my cell be Village, the People, We dont forget

rola October 27, 1980

(Green Times) — The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has proposed a $20 million project to remove PCB's from the upper Hudson River. In addition to stirring up the cancer-causing PCB's, the project is generating controversy from Ft. Edward (Washington County) to New York City.

PCB's by-products of certain manufacturing processes, were once dumped freely into the Hudson, killing fish and causing concern to the communities that drew their drinking water from the river. The dumping was stopped and the river has slowly washed itself clean. However, certain "hot spots" remain where high concentrations of PCB's settled. Now, DEC feels these areas should be dredged, for if not, the carcinogens may eventually be stirred up by natural cycles of the river itself.

Removing the PCB's is not without two notable problems. First, where does one put the contaminated dredgings? Second, what amount of PCB's will be sent downstream by the activity?

DEC has proposed certain landsfills in the Ft. Edward area, which has residents there concerned about their groundwater. DEC also plans to dredge carefully monitoring of the river during the operation, with intent to cease the work if levels become hazardous to fish or downstream communities. A citizens' advisory committee has been formed to help watch over the project and help answer tough questions. Discussions on the matter are a long way from over.

**WEST VALLEY NIGHTMARE**

(Green Times) — The fun is just beginning at West Valley, N.Y., where 600,000 gallons of high-level radioactive waste and a huge low-level waste ground are the legacy of a closed nuclear waste processing plant once operated by Nuclear Fuel Services (NFS).

The NFS lease for the West Valley site expired at the end of 1980. A federal project is required to solidify the waste. A federal project to solidify the liquid wastes is scheduled to begin in October, 1981. NFS has agreed to stay until then to prepare the site for the U.S. Dept. of Energy, but NFS has filed papers in Federal Court seeking to have New York State reimburse NFS for the costs they will incur between December 1980 and October 1981.

NFS believes that since its lease has expired, New York State now owns and is responsible for all the mess. The NYS Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) feels differently about this, naturally, and has filed papers of its own. NYSERDA has obtained a temporary restraining order that prohibits NFS from abandoning the state-licensed burial ground. NYSERDA also asked that Getty Oil, the NFS parent company, be prevented from collecting loans from NFS. If Getty were to call in their $18.8 million demand note with NFS, NFS would not have the resources to do much of anything.

So, taxpayers, get ready for this one. Perhaps it will take a billion dollars to clean up the West Valley nuclear nightmare.

* "On a breakdown at Indian Point reactor, 2,000 repairs were done—could they only work for 2 minutes apiece because radiation was so intense."

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

"The beauty of nonviolence is that in its own way and in its own time it seeks to break the chain reaction of evil."
THEATRE TODAY, ETC.

—Grande Spicero

"What do King Learnes in The Winter's Tale and Leonard Peltier have in common? Possibly nothing—but then again, should they? Theatre need not justify itself in terms of whether it deals with contemporary sociopolitics; rather, it is meant to speak of eternal personal and interpersonal struggles and glories—Isn't it? Maybe, but some of what is considered our greatest drama has been an expression of high emotional and social issues: for example Antigone and much of Ibsen and Brecht. In the arts, there have always been some socially conscious "movements" in response to the times, and in the theatre there are revivals of old plays which have become relevant again. Is such a trend mirrored in the Bard Theatre lately? If not, is this a sign of alienism and isolationism, or is it perfectly appropriate in an environment meant for craft-training (a school)? It is deplorable that students here involve themselves in the drama department because they view it as a political forum. Likewise, directors don't select certain plays on the basis of their ideology or "themes" on issues. Creative considerations come first, and those of quality. Yet, why did someone have to work outside the department to produce "The Karen Silkwood Can'ta?" Does Checkov's "The Cherry Orchard" now only stimulate our consciousness in its craftsmanship and revelation of human nature, while the adulteress of the Russian para scalestiratC conflict leaves our social consciousness stagnant? Is becoming involved in theatre today indicative of 70's egoism or a larger commitment to truth, beauty, and group coherency? And what is the nature of the perceived inadequacy that causes some people to "leave" the department—a matter of administration, clashing tastes, frustration, or . . . ? These and other provocative questions are ones which the Observer wishes to explore. In a future issue the results of a survey given to several drama professors will be published. Meanwhile, anyone who is or has been involved with the Bard drama department or has or has been involved with the Bard drama department is encouraged to send their thoughts to Box 85 or 745.

A WORD ABOUT ART

Lil Royte

I was acutely disappointed in the recent student art show. Not in the work itself, that happply much ceased to matter to me, but by the lack of communication between artists and art show. I know that this lack of communication exists in many departments (professors never seem to tire of complaining about it) but I am going to complain specifically about the situation in the art department. Isn't art not only such a producer of a department or even a division, as it is a forum. A forum to expose oneself, and receive feedback for the development of one's work. After all, much took this matter to heart, but what made me most and what got me started is that I put up a piece in this show and no one talked to me about it. I had to solicl response. The first time I ever to put something of mine on display and it's ignored. Of course people looked at it (if it was, anything tactically placed); but still, I say, ignored. I was really looking forward to people coming up to me and saying, "What is this thing of?"). and "I think you've got it all wrong." I wanted advice. I wanted some discussion, some banter, some waggling tongues. My piece wasn't straightforward, at least I didn't think so, it even itself to conversation. It was an "object". But no one asked me what it was about. What does this mean? I guess no body cared. Or perhaps they felt the way I used to feel that the artist is sick of questions. I wanted that in place in the show. When I am confused as to the nature or content or purpose of a piece, I ask. If it's pretty I like to find the artist and say to it, "That piece is pretty." They eat it up. And do you know why? Because that maculae someone has found their piece important enough to talk about. And if it's on the wall for others to be exposed to, it damn well better be important. So I look stupid - at least it's an enlightened stupidness, for most people just love to gab about their work. I will never tire of explaining my own gibberish. The atmosphere at most art shows here is not one conducive to talking about the work. The air is heavy with esteem jargon and elitist pretentious criticism is offered at all. Mostly it's just a studied and cool aloofness. This attitude seems to defeat the purpose of the show, if you ask me. Sure we can see the stuff, but what good is if people are becoming alienated by what they see because they don't understand and can't see fit to ask? The gap between the artist and the audience is growing. Nothing as pictures and pretentious statements on the pretentious minimalism i.e., to the raw observer, growing in all too large. It is open discussion and confrontation that will bring the span back to life size.
**MEHudson Psychiatric Center and Solidarity**

Cheryl Pfanstiehl

Through the arrangement of Robert Meyerowitz and the solidarity group, an event will be held on Sunday, March 15, members of the solidarity group, along with other Bard students, visited the Hudson River Psychiatric Center in Poughkeepsie. It was an informal gathering where Gwyn Fox played the guitar, providing music for a singalong. Others who performed were Annie Heath, Jeff Ginsberg, and Steve McCarthy. Afterwards we talked to the patients on an individual basis which furthered the enjoyment and education of us all. I feel that I can speak for all who visited the Center in saying that it was truly a rewarding experience and an un-markable form of education.

The Solidarity Group will be planning another trip to Hudson River hoping to involve other students in areas of art, dance, and music. If anyone is interested in participating or has any suggestions please write a note and send it via campus mail to either: Roseque Schuenker, Robert Meyerowitz, Annie Heath, or Cheryl Pfanstiehl.

**Hudson Valley Green**

Richterick, NY (3/23) Hudson Valley GREEN, today, announced its formal beginnings as the follow on organization to Mid-Hudson Nuclear Opponents, Citizens for Safe Power Transmission, and Concerned Citizens for Safe Energy, GREEN, which stands for Grass Roots Energy and Environmental Action Network, is the result of a merger of the three safe-energy groups.

In announcing the new organization, acting chairman Van Talmage stated that "a new phase of work has begun which encompasses a broader scope, combined resources, an enlarged membership, and renewed spirit in a citizen activist." The scope of the new organization, as released in its statement of purpose is to "conserve and protect the environment of the Hudson Valley Region, to work towards Talmage, Hudson Valley GREEN will be involved in public matters regarding energy policy and environmental issues.

The group, which has 2500 members and will be based in Milan, New York, has strong roots in the safe energy movement. It has been opposed to nuclear power since the inception of NIMBY in 1974 and is supportive of de-centralized practices such as solar energy and wind power.

Dick Hermann, board member of GREEN, noted that the group is still in an activist phase, and expects to watch CON ED very closely with regards to the New York utility's long range plan for a power plant complex in northern Red Hook. While he hopes to see much more activity likely in the next couple of years, Hermann pointed out that "the utility owns about 600 acres in the core site and can wait years before filling in with development at all.

Board member, Carol Young, of Stuyvesant, says that GREEN, as an educational organization, provides literature to the community at large as well as public meetings and visits to area schools. The purpose she notes, is to foster debate and to raise issues so that the public and its leaders can make intelligent decisions. As an example of our expanded scope, Al Lo Brutto, pointed to the point issue that has recently come to light in the Hudson Valley. There are proposals to sit on PCP's in the Hudson River, to build a high-techology reprocessing center, to burn toxic in regional cement plants, and to dump sludge from Westchester County on area farms. Lo Brutto says that handling the enormous amount of waste from "the nuclear industrial society" will be a large environmental issue in the 1980's.

According to GREEN, Lo Brutto added, is investigating re-cycling projects, perhaps in conjunction with REEP (Recycle Everything Everywhere Possible) of Poughkeepsie. "Hudson Valley GREEN is... 

Quoting at the Indian Point (largely ignored for the two years before Three Mile Island) draws over 4,000 demonstrators; 214 are arrested for "civil disobedience" in the form of climbing a fence erected by Con Ed. September 19-The Union of Concerned Scientists, with the help of member and former Indian Point NRC regulator Robert Pollard, presents its petition to close Indian Point to the government.

October 17 and 21- Articles appear in the New York Times that quote security guards as telling of frequent breaches of security, much as many alarms that are usually turned off, activated alarms that are false and ring so often that no one pays any attention to them, the availability of ID cards, the lack of screening of guards for mental disabilities, etc.

November 16-The Indian Point plant replaces its security management (Glassman to Pulver's), though most of the former employees retain their positions.

1980: September 19-A major article in the Village Voice by Jeff Stein reports the case with which one can break into the plant (from first-hand experience), including filed second hand experience) including finding pertinent information to the plant's layout in the nearby White Plains library.

October-Con Ed announces a rate increase of $800,000 a day to be continued doing the shutdown of Unit 2 that is projected to last until May.

1982: January-Unit 3 undergoes its tradition of turbine trouble when a turbine crumbles, forcing another shutdown. And so on.....

One reason the Indian Point plant costs so much money to maintain is that is that it is being shut down so frequently-more for mechanical troubles than for changing fuel, which, according to Con Ed, should take place after 15 months of normal operation. In 1977 alone the plant encountered these troubles:

Unit 3: shut down on January 6th due to problems with instrument and control readings; shut down on January 15th because of a leak in the pressurized control valve.

Unit 2: shut down for July due to a faulty coolant pump seal; shut down on May 26 for faulty instrument readings; shut down three other times during the year for minor leaks or reactor coolant pumps (despite the fact that during the previous year, Unit 2 was shut down at the beginning of the year to replace damaged seals on these pumps, and four times after that for repair malfunctions).

**BRIEF HISTORY OF INDIAN POINT**

Charles Lenk

1958: May-Construction permit for Unit 1 issued.

1962: March-Unit 1 begins operation.

1966: October-Construction permit for Unit 2 issued.

1969: August-Construction permit for Unit 3 issued.

1973: May-Unit 2 begins operation.

1974: May 27-Con Ed Chairman of the Board, Charles Locke, states in a televised interview that "I doubt that we would propose to build Indian Point at that particular location if we were building it today."

October-Unit 1 closed due to inability to meet safety requirements recently imposed by the NRC.

1975: October-The Rasmussen Report, technically WASH-1400, is released. It details projections of the consequences of a nuclear meltdown, including 48,000 deaths, contamination of 3200 square miles, and destruction of 290 square miles. These statistics show the threat of an "average" nuclear plant that is located in an area of moderate population.

1976: January-13-NRC Regulator for Indian Point Robert Pollard resigns in dismay over unsafe practices there. Quote: "When I was reviewing Indian Point and saw all the safety problems, I asked myself "Why would anyone competent work here? And then I realized that no one competent does work there."

April 5-Due to carelessness, a worker received 10 rads of radiation (considerably more than the NRC allowed-3 rads for 3 months) in five minutes. Con Ed was later fined $20,850 by the NRC for violating regulations.

June 26-Another worker accident, this time when a worker in the reactor vessel sews a steel rod at the radioactive core protruding from the cooling water and pushes it back with his gloved hand. After some hemming and hawing, the NRC estimates that the worker's hand received 50 rads in five seconds, but does fine Con Ed.

June 24-An NRC official cites PASNY for not observing clothing-protection rules not observing clothing-protection guidelines for its workers in Unit 3; as similar infractions were noted on January 22 and may 10 of this year, the NRC calls this problem "recurrent".

July 20-NRC chairman Marcus Rowen states that any plant in every nuclear power plant's security system, and that seven out of fifteen plants' security is inadequate (Indian Point is one).

August-Unit 3 begins operation.

1979: January 18-The NRC debates the Ras- mussen study as being inaccurate for severely underestimating the consequences of a nuclear meltdown.

February 8-1976 study by the NRC is released, in which Unit 2 is given a safety rating of "C", the lower possible grade for a reactor.

May 23-Columbia University scientist Yab Agarwal states that, according to his recent studies, the probability of an earthquake along the usually inactive Ramapo Fault is at least 10 times the prediction of one half of 1% made by the NRC (then the AEC) in the 1950's as to 115% according to Agarwal. (A mild quake in parts of New Jersey in July 1978 is largely believed to be attributable to the Ramapo Fault).

August 6-The Third Annual Hiroshima Day at Indian Point (largely ignored by the two years before Three Mile Island) draws over 4,000 demonstrators; 214 are arrested for "civil disobedience" in the form of climbing a fence erected by Con Ed.

September 19-The Union of Concerned Scientists, with the help of member and former Indian Point NRC regulator Robert Pollard, presents its petition to close Indian Point to the government.

October 17 and 21-Articles appear in the New York Times that quote security guards as
THEY CAN RUN, BUT THEY CAN'T HIDE
Steven J. Colatrella

There are a number of ways in which one can view the recent accumulation of power on President Reagan last week. The mainstream media, of course, has portrayed it as the true act of a madman, an act incomprehensible to his fellow citizens. The American judicial system will take this view when it puts on a man on trial for the crime later this year.

Then there are those who will exploit the view of the world as an asset to the amoral personality and expand upon his device in order to sell magazines and newspapers.

The third group will attempt the more important implications of the event. They too may be trapped by the dominance of personality in American culture. I refer, of course, to the conspiracy theorists. Their logic, of course, is that if the President is shot there must be something big and secret going on.

The search for motives may be, the big and powerful in order to explain the event leads to one or several persons. However, this theory fails to pull the main points. First, it is inherently elitist. That is, it assumes that the great, dark secrets of our society are hidden in the closets of the powerful. This is not true. There must certainly be a dark secret of our society but it is not to be found in some file cabinet in the CIA building. It is found in the mines, in West Virginia, in the factories of Youngstown, Ohio, in the schools, in the streets. The secret we should concern ourselves with is not that killed Kennedy, but rather in the fight against the day. It is clear that the rich and powerful which so often flutters and anges them. Large numbers of around life in conflict with their exploitation is the dark secret that it is ever so difficult to find even on the pages of the allegedly enlightened.

The second failure of the conspiracy theorists is that inevitably the assassination must be seen as an act of those who supposedly omnipotence rule the country. A "power control group" is lined up in the midst of those theorists, a group which knows everything you and I think and which runs everything and cannot be successfully opposed. It is in a theory which believes that every major source of power has always somehow flow from the Kremlin rather than stemming from frustrations of ordinary people which lead them to act which harm the powerful.

Well, I am going to disappoint you all, because I will reject all of these catching theories. Instead, I will attempt to discuss the meaning of what actually happened. I am happy to write that there was no conspiracy involved in the shooting of Ronald Reagan last Monday. The truth is far better than any conspiracy could be.

John W. Hinckley is twenty-five years old. He is the son of a powerful oil company owner, from Texas. His family background is an American dream. A rich, powerful father was very conscious of the need to give his children love and attention. His mother was the only one in their affluent neighborhood to take in raising her own children, rather than hiring help. The results were impeccable by American standards: Hinckley's brother, aged thirty-two, was a football star in college and is a respected and able executive of his father's corporation. Hinckley's sister is married to a well-known lawyer and was likewise successful in college. John too, began his success in the American corporate mold. Class president in high school, An, a student, and an able athlete in team sports. In his early years at Texas Tech., Hinckley began to change in his early years at college. He left sports, and soon stopped attending classes. His relationship with his father broke down. He became virtually invisible to most people at school, and was remembered only for carrying a guitar around all the time and traveling a great deal. Hinckley joined the Nazi Party, but was dismissed because they felt that his "political extremism" was disruptive. His relationship with his family completely collapsed. Then a few years ago, Hinckley fell in love with actress Jodie Foster, who bears a striking resemblance to Hinckley's mother, Jodi, at an earlier age.

Foster starred in the movie Taxi Driver. The movie portrayed a man who was an attempt to win her love attempts to murder a US' Senator. Hinckley wrote letters to Jodi Foster telling her that to win her love he would shut the president. Reagan, powerful, respected, outgoing, resembles the very traits which make Hinckley's father what he is.

What happened is clear. Hinckley, the son of an oil company owner, began to hate the lifestyle of his family and that which awaited him. He turned first to music and then to extreme politics in his search for meaning. Hinckley was literally invisible as an artist and a person in a world where only powerful and respectable businessmen get notice. For this he hated his father. When he found no answer among the Nazi Party which had lost whatever commitment it had ever had, Hinckley felt abandoned. The option of leaving his social class was not available to him, although he hated it. He could not leave the business world and join the working class for that would not gain him the respect and attention which he needed, if he had. There is no real option of joining a militant, political left in this country or Hinckley would never have become a Nazi. Thus he turned towards the only love object he had left - his mother - represented by Jodie Foster.

The act of shooting the president of the United States was subjectively the courageous act of a lonely young man of the ruling class, a man who despised power and wealth and the lack of meaning in a life where only those things are valued. It was an act which will put the ruling class of this country on notice that their values have not been completely transmitted to their youth even if they had been "good" parents as Hinckley's were. Love is not enough to compensate for a corrupt life when raising your kid. I feel very sorry for John W. Hinckley, for he has suffered much and he attempted th e only act left to him to gain any love and attention and to strike back at insincerity in his world: he tried to love his mother and kill his father.

I feel sorry also for the rest of us. The fact is that the tone of the populace is not one of horror at the near tragedy. A black messenger in New York was quoted as saying of Reagan: "He can't get out." A black man standing next to a friend in a restaurant announced the news of the assassination attempt by saying glacially, "He was white!".

Meanwhile, the same day, came the announcement of yet another black child killed in Atlanta. This story of course, came right after Reagan's on the news reports. Announced back to the White House, the Pope had a careful intertwining - a collective meaning which I have not entirely deciphered. The point is that nobody in power has cared very much about twenty-two dead black children. Nobody cared much about John Hinckley. Well, there are many in the population who don't care much about Ronald Reagan. The murder of black children and the attempted assassination of the president are both acts of violence by people who, living in a complex, uncertain society, have lashed out in sick, deadly ways. Please don't think I equate the two - the murders of the black children are far more hideous and unforgivable. But the point here is the cause for violence. The violence of the Reagan administration's policies, its vicious attack on working and poor people's fight against the system that hasn't acted yet in Atlanta to comfort frightened people, this is the real cause of the violence of John W. Hinckley. The real answer to such acts is for us to build a social movement in the country which will transform our lives, bring meaning to those who lack it, and create a society that loves and cares for its memories. When we have accomplished that, it will be precisely those who will resist us most - the Ronald Reagans and the John Hinckley Sr.'s - who will benefit the most. For they will be safe from the results of their own actions. All in all the assassination attempt on President Reagan was, as Malcolm X. said of the Kennedy assassination twenty years ago, a case of the chickens coming home to roost.
THE WONDERS OF INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL

BRUCE HANDLEMAN

For the past couple of weeks a number of moderately small groups of bodies have been congregating on Duke's enormous basketball court between the hours of 8:00 and 10:00. Generally, the groups break into opposition sponsoring such titles as The Academicians, The Gunners, Little Fuzzy, Faculty Staff, and of course, No Future. For a total of forty minutes two opposing teams battle over the round object called a basketball, attempting to place it in their respective targets. Well, some teams lose, often win, but they all play Intramural Basketball.

Thursday, March 15th the 900 game unveiled an unexpected flair of excitement at the originating champs, The Gunners, led by Captain Pat Downes, were dramatically challenged by the team No Future, the eternal underdog. The undefeated Gunners struggled to a 57-56 victory over No Future that extended into triple overtime. The victorious Gunners met No Future, which was, in and will be propelled by unforeseen spiritual anarchistic clash. (The No Future phenomenon has been investigated in a series of interviews that have found a home in these pages). The game was tense and filled with excitement as No Future rallied again and again, determined to give The Gunners the battle of a lifetime. With the extended frantic play, many players and fans fired into. Thoughts such as "This is insane" and "It was a f**kin' bad call!" flourished and danced into the right and the Gooseman Ariel. Never again will such a game be duplicated. In the end The Gunners retained the undefeated champs and No Future remains No Future.

Michael: Do they play basketball?
Bruce: I don't know, I don't know. They call themselves part of a no future movement. Is there any alliance between...
Kraton: Yeah, they're watching on play basketball, they get it through the newspapers.
Kraton: The anti-club. They're our cheerleaders, we couldn't arrange a fight over for this game. So they've just been sitting over there screaming "No Future!"
Kraton: The international movement.
Kraton: They call themselves anarchists, do you expose such belief?
Michael: You've seen us play.
Bruce: Well, I thought you had a lot of organization out there, I don't know.
Kraton: Anti-club. Oh no, that's just a front.
Kraton: Anarchy is a perfect order with no leader, its anti-leader.
Bruce: Let me move back, let me move back a bit. There seems to have been, as I have looked back through those past two seasons a founding father. Mr. Alan McFemy.
(Applause!!) (Yeah!!)
Kraton: How can you say on one hand that you're, ah, without a leader yet you have such a strong leader?
Michael: He's an anti-leader. He's like Ken Kesey.
Elio: Jack Kerouac.
Michael: You know how Ken Kesey are more wild than everyone else, well our captains are more basketballers than anyone else.
Alan: (Hyenas of McFemy's laugh)
Bruce: Do you have a counterpart on that club, McFemy?
In return: ANTI-CAPTAIN!!!
Alan: Ah! Ah...he's me, he...he had fun this season. You know, I think everybody had fun.
John: Everyone goes one hundred and ten.
Bruce: Who was this John guy?
Alan: John Callahan, Johnny O'Callahan!!
John: (A D.A. all the way!!)
Michael: We had a lot more fun than the winners, I think.
Kraton: That the whole rest of the league.
Kraton: Our game was beyond morals, beyond good, beyond evil...
Elio: We didn't play to win or lose, we just played.

Kraton: That's damn right. It's just like in the interview, an anti-get to be philosophy to the basketball court?
Michael: It's not how you play the game, it's whether you get laid or not.
Kraton: That's it. He's got it!!!
Bruce: There's some connection to your mind between philosophy and sex?
Kraton: No, it's basketball and sex.
Bruce: There's no relation between philosophy and sex?
Elio: Just think of the phallic symbol of a basketball.
Kraton: Yeah, what do you think it is when the basketball referee watches through here?
Alan: Anyone get a match?
Bruce: Do you find when you win it's like the withdrawal method?
Kraton: It's like coming early... But when you get the rebound it's like multiple orgasms.
Bruce: It would be good if everyone would take it one at a time.
Kraton: OK.
Elio: OK.
Kraton: OK.
Bruce: OK.
Elio: OK. Captain, what do you say?
Michael: I think Ted Depression should say something, because he got a lot of rebounds and he's been a tough son of a bitch throughout the entire season.
Kraton: And he knows how to pilot too.
Ted: Kraton: (sneering) Boy, can that man pivot, wow.
Michael: How much more can we do?
Bruce: We get a lot of tape, I don't know how much I'm going to listen to though.
Ted: Kraton: You'd better listen to all of it.
Kraton: Communion.
Bruce: Shhhh. One at a time!!

This interview will be printed in two parts because I did not have time to transcribe the whole interview and so you don't get bored. Here is what was said and heard on the evening of March 15th upstairs in the Observer office. Conduced by Bruce Handleman.

Bruce: What would you find would sum up tonight's victory/defeat?
Kraton: An empirical law and a moral victory.
Bruce: You were playing the Gunners, the league champs, there's no question about it. They're undefeated two seasons straight...
John: Well Bruce, fascism takes many different forms.
Not that I would like to call anyone a fascist, but it does take many different forms.
Michael: There's the assimilate fascists and the sick and fascist form.
Kraton: And the scaring fascists.
Michael: And then there's the Gunner fascists!!!
Alan: Yeah, ah, they get some nice guys on their teams. Our guys are nice. I like our guys.
Bruce: Unfortunately I was reading in the New York Times there was an article somewhere in the back of the text about a group of squares in T. I think it was Berlin, Berlin, Germany, who
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People needed to keep up on events locally and nationally
All editors have say in their presentation

The Observer is looking for editors:
THEATER

RUSSIAN LOTTERY and FABRIC OF TRANSMISSION—A play about a Diagonista couple, and director and starring Alan A. Cole, written by Robert Kennedy's play, directed by Mr. Gesar, staged by the Brooklyn College, in 50 W. 50th St. (386-7550)

MORRIS—A comedy about a young couple who want to launch the family business, directed by W. K. Mar, as Montesi and Potomac C. at Eisen's Chemin, 38 W. 56th St. (386-5660)

IN THE CAFE — Henry J. sauce's novel, based on the novel, directed by W. W. Wadley, about a young couple who want to launch the family business, directed by W. K. Mar, as Montesi and Potomac C. at Eisen's Chemin, 38 W. 56th St. (386-5660)

HEAVEN CAN WAIT — A play by Jerry Stiller, presented by Stage Left, Off Center, 482 W. 39th St. (386-0000)

WINDSOR — A drama about the struggle of a Boston, women to overcome oppressive conditions of the Boston, directed by financial planner, in 163 W. 49th St. (386-4900)

HALF-APE — A comedy by Jules Mitchell about a re- rater teacher, first produced by Stage Left, Off Center, June 1967, directed by J. B. University, 220 W. 56th St. (386-5888)

HE THERES FROM FLOW BLOOM — A comedy directed and dir- acted by Vincent Napier, 145 W. 54th St. (386-5888)

GHOST — A comedy by Leonard J. in collaboration with Charles S. based on the novel, W. 54th St. (386-5888)

POP, POLK AND ROCK

IN CONCERT

ENRICO MACCAGI — Singer-com- pany, full ticket, Madison Square Garden. 8:30 p.m., Thursday. 7:30 p.m., Friday. 8:00 p.m., Saturday. 7:30 p.m., Sunday.

BURNING SPEAR — Reggae, Dead International. Frey at 481 W. 48th St. 8:30 p.m.

ROCK AND ROLL - Usborne — Rock and Roll. 8:30 p.m.

PRIVATE'S NIGHT — Usborne — Rock and Roll. 8:30 p.m.

REO — Reo, April 2, Big Youth, Soul Syndicate, and Angels, Rockers, 8:00 p.m.

JITTERBUG — Jitterbug, 8:00 p.m.

SALSA MEETS JAZZ — With Salsa Gentry, Roger and Thompson, 8:00 p.m. at 8:00 p.m.

RFAP — RFAP, April 7, Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.

JAZZ GALLERY — Polo: El- busters, with Charlie on piano, Charlie McEvoy on cornet, Alphonse Johnson on trombone, Earl Hines on piano, and Downbeats, 8:00 p.m.

SOUNDCRAVE — Tape: 5:00-8:00 p.m.

CALIFORNIA JAZZ — Tape: 8:00-11:00 p.m.

PARTY — Tape: 9:00-12:00 a.m.

TRAPP'S — Tape: 5:00-8:00 p.m.

JAZZ MEETS BLUES — Tape: 8:00-12:00 a.m.

SMILING JACK — Tape: 8:00-12:00 a.m.

MAIN STREET JAZZ — Tape: 8:00-11:00 p.m.

MAIN STREET JAZZ — Tape: 8:00-12:00 a.m.

IN THE AREAS

April 4: Evaluation of Raymond Povery, 4:30 Committee Rooms, Hard College.

April 5: El Salvador, another

Viehman film with speaker Murry Knoll, 6:30 Center Conv. College. Call 626-0602 for more info.

April 10: Catwalk Ballet, SUNY New Paltz, 7:30, McKenna

April 12: Peace Center Meeting, Trinity Methodist Church 7:00, Rook & So. Hamilton, Poughkeepsie.

April 14: Bard College Teach-In on El Salvador. Call Poughkeepsie Shays for info: 758-6822, ext. 326

April 15: Tax Day Protest. Noon rally will include speaker from N.Y. Citizens. Downtown Poughkeepsie.

April 17: International Magic Spectacular, Mid-Hudson Civic Center, Poughkeepsie, 7:30, $5.00 adults.

April 18: Updias, Mid-Hudson Civic Center, Poughkeepsie, 7:30, $5.00 adults.

April 13: Washington Lobby Day/COPUS, working in conjunction with Peter Peyerl, has designated April 13 as the day when hundreds of students f from across the nation will be urged t go to Washington to lobby against proposed cuts in student aid. All ISB schools should begin to plan ways to bring students to Washington. One possible idea: students group, from neighboring schools might pool their resources and send a bunch of buses to Washington. Any group seeking assistance in organizing a group to go to Washington, should contact the ISB office.

April 14: 3:00 PM First General Meeting. The Soviet Threat/Why or How? 335 W. 4th St. 6:30-1800.

April 14: Young People's Lobby for Jobs in Washington D.C. Young Workers Liberation League, 929-1427

April 14: 8PM "The Chemical Industry: Worker's Hazards" with Naomi Fatt, Mike McLann and Eric Scherer, at the Marxist School, 135 W. 19th St., 7th Fl. 909-8620

April 15: Tax Day Rally at the IRS, 1925 Church St. NYC, 920-9280

April 15: 8PM NYU Sage Sherry Group presents "We are the Guineas Pig" at the 675-1-7953

April 16: 8PM, Western Capitalist Competition and the Third World (See April 24 Listing)

April 17: 7:30 PM Poetry Reading at Marymount College, Call Nosfac, 914-682-0480, for details.

April 17: 8PM "Human Body Movement" a talk with slides with Valentine Littvinoff, at the Marxist School.

April 18: 8PM "Apostle Orange Update" with Tod Eisen and Michael ULL, at the Marxist School.

April 22: 8PM "The Closing of the Urban Frontier" at the Marxist School.

April 24: 8PM "Revolution and U.S. Cap- italism" with Alan Alpert and David Under, at the Marxist School.

April 24: 7:60 PM the film, "Attaboy" at the Marxist School.

April 25: 6:30 PM "Attaboy" (See April 24 Listing)

April 27: 5/8 PM Poetry Reading at the New School, 57th St., 238-8600

April 27: BM "Trilateral Planning in the '60's" with Holly Sklar, 8 the Marxist School, 151 W. 13th St. 7th Fl. 989-8620

April 28: BM Poetry Reading w/ Amira Baraka, William S. and Atomic P. through, at the Marxist School, 151 W. 13th St. 7th Fl. 989-8620

April 28: BM Peacemam House Square Dance Comm. Methodist Church, Massapequa, $3.00 516-798-0779

April 28: 12PM War Resisters in N.Y. State! The first cruise missiles will be moved to NY State today. "All Road Lead To Rome" DUNIH STRATTON in Rome, NY at Griffiss Air Force Base. 315-475-4822