



OPEN PROCEEDS

AN APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE FROM THE LEGAL DEFENSE COMMITTEE

During the early days of the Hayakawa robot regime, many of you fought at the sides of over 150 sisters and brothers who were captured by the pig occupation forces on our campus. Most of these political arrests and beatings were witnessed by hundreds and thousands of you, standing outside pig torture rings on the quad green, sitting in the commons, running through classroom corridors, walking picket lines, watching from library windows, milling around 19th & Holloway or wherever the pig shit was falling. The Legal Defense Committee, staffed by student and community volunteers, was formed under TWLF after the first week of December to raise bail, obtain lawyers and doctors, coordinate legal strategy, gather evidence and otherwise serve our people facing court appearances. Through various media the Committee has asked all witnesses and all those with film and photo evidence to contact the Committee. Your response has been less than what is needed.

Through last week over ten people have come to trial on multiple misdemeanor charges: acquittals on only three counts, hung juries on two counts, the rest -- CONVICTIONS. One word was given 90 days for conviction on a typically fabricated charge of resisting arrest.

Most of the pre-Christmas busts are going to trial through March and April. The racist judges have been personally instructed by Reagan and Mulford to come down hard on us. While we do not expect a fair hearing from our class enemies, defendants should at least be able to anticipate acquittal on some charges based upon evidence submitted by eyewitness accounts from the brothers and sisters. For instance, if anyone of you saw or recorded the Bloody Tuesday (December 3) pig charge on the library steps you can help people like David Gordon, whose spleen later had to be removed in order to save his life. And Brett Matusek who suffered a head concussion. You had to be sleeping not to see community leaders like Weldon Stroud, Fran Lewis, Roberto Rivera, Bob English and others beaten and tortured behind pig lines on December 5.

You should also be aware that the first few groups of ten people from the January 23 mass bust will be herded through the courts this month. Students should come and pack the courtrooms. Contact the Legal Defense Committee for the dates of these trials.

Your most direct support for all of the 700 strike defendants (about 150 of which face phoney felony charges) must be your support of the strike -- your support of the fifteen demands, including amnesty.

Please call or come to the Legal Defense Committee office with any and all evidence you have. **YOUR TESTIMONY COULD PREVENT ONE OF OUR PEOPLE FROM GOING TO JAIL.**

LEGAL DEFENSE COMMITTEE
546 FILLMORE STREET
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LOVE, POWER & PEACE

The Legal Defense Committee

RALLY TODAY * NOON * COMMONS LAWN (See Story, Reverse Side)

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SAN FRANCISCO STATE IS A DOMESTIC VIETNAM" (Ronnie Babe)

Governor Reagan says SF State is a domestic Vietnam, and so, in many ways, it is. Vietnam is the quagmire of the expansionists; State is the swamp of the brainwashers. After 700 busts, the occupiers -- Reagan, Hayakawa and the Trustees -- are still not secure, their thirst for order at all costs is still not slaked. They see enemies everywhere--and they are right. The police, holed up in campus buildings like so many cockroaches, are their pacification army. Don't you feel like the Vietnamese in "refugee camps", like the Czechs in Prague?

And justice follows power: that is, power creates the system of justice it needs to maintain itself. The less legitimate the authorities, the more repressive the courts. Meaning that the police state consists of more than police; it requires policed courts, rigged courts, kangaroo courts, courts of no appeal, courts of the kid glove containing the mailed fist of police power. The executioner's face is no longer hidden.

So the Occupation at State, General Hayakawa presiding, has reared its latest counter-insurgency system, its latest weapon to parade before the country's other college presidents, rooting in the grandstand. It has jerry-built a system of Justice which denies justice, a process which denies due process, another Airwick to blow away the persistent fumes of the 15 Demands.

That process has already sentenced TWLF leader Mason Wong to a six-month suspension, with two years' probation thrown in for good measure. The crime? Getting arrested. Getting arrested is a crime now. In other words, the police become the prosecutors. How does it work?

Hayakawa appoints a three-man committee; judge, jury and prosecution all in one. The committee represents the Departments of Physical Education, Design and Industry and Business Management, the remaining reservoirs of Hayakawa's shrunken influence among the faculty. The committee levels charges as it sees fit; it bars the defendant's witnesses; bars cross-examination. It meets secretly. And it does not, by its own proclamation, feel bound to use the civil courts' rules of evidence. Anything goes: in the case of Mason Wong, the only evidence was the police report. If the defendant tries to defend himself, he runs the risk of saying something that can be held against him in his criminal trial. No exit. Six months.

Why the heavy hand? The Occupiers want to show who's boss. That's the first thing. Right now, too, they want to sabotage the talks now going on between the Select Committee and the TWLF. They don't want to yield on the question of amnesty, and the way they get around yielding is to sentence more and more students for crimes. The more punishment becomes a fait accompli, the harder it is to grant amnesty. "Amnesty?" ask the Occupiers in silky tones. "Amnesty?" But due process has already taken its course. You expect us to cancel History, to whitewash the proved criminals?"

Well, what's so important about amnesty, anyway? There's the obvious thing: strikers should not be punished for having been forced to strike to win demands which a just system would have granted on their merits. Those who make progress possible should not be made to suffer for their foresight and courage.

We say we're proud of the strike, proud the way we've never been proud of the college. We say we don't feel shame. The demand for amnesty says: We insist that you acknowledge that we did what we had to do in the common interest. It says: We're not criminals, and we refuse to wear the names you want to give us. It says: The Third World community of S.F. considers the demands necessary and the strike just, so who are you to tell us to feel guilty?

AMNESTY IS THEREFORE THE KEYSTONE TO ANY SETTLEMENT OF THE STRIKE. The disciplinary hearings are the last resort of men who have nothing more to say than the mumbled words of sheer force.

Therefore, with the greatest urgency, OPEN PROCESS urges everyone to challenge the disciplinary hearings; to attend the rally TODAY AT NOON ON THE COMMONS LAWN. The country is watching us to see whether we quit just as victory might be at hand; to see whether brute force can gut the longest and most fiercely fought college strike in the history of the United States; to see whether we will let our brothers and sisters, one by one, suffer the consequences of what we all did together and what we all did for all our sakes.