

new indicator

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UFW Struggle Continues

The Chiquita Banana Boycott has ended now that the SunHarvest company signed their contract with the UFW last August, but the "Red Coach" brand lettuce boycott is still on.

"Red Coach" Lettuce is produced by Bruce Church Inc., one of the largest lettuce growers in the state. This company has opposed the UFW for some years, and seems intent on refusing to sign a new contract. They are presently using scab labor to harvest their crops.

In 1970 Bruce Church Inc. signed a sweetheart contract with the Teamsters Union local 890. Since at that time there were no laws protecting agricultural workers, that contract remained in effect until December 1977. During this period the workers were dissatisfied with their contract but could do nothing to change it until the Agricultural Labor Relations Act of 1975 became law. Almost immediately the workers of Bruce Church Inc. filed for new and secret balloting. The new elections were delayed until January 1976, but the

workers were unjustly fired. All the while BCI insisted that it was the UFW that was causing all the trouble.

Angry and frustrated, the farm workers voted to strike and went out on February 10, 1979. Now, some ten months later, no contract has been signed. However, the UFW does have considerable support for the strike and subsequent boycott; among the supporters are the Florida chapter of NOW, the AFL-CIO Executive Council and the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

Unfortunately, in El Centro there has been violence in this latest labor-management clash. As reported in the *Salina Californian*, "Scores of farmworkers were injured late Friday (Nov. 2) afternoon in the worst outbreak of strike violence in more than four months." One striker, Juan Ortiz del Campo, had to be hospitalized with serious head injuries. Del Campo and others were attacked by scab laborers with tire-irons, but interestingly only del Campo and four fellow strikers were arrested by Imperial County Sheriffs. This particular incident occurred at a farm owned by Grower's Exchange, who are also being struck and boycotted by the UFW.

The UFW is asking that all concerned citizens refuse to purchase "Red Coach" Lettuce and that they send letters to Lucky Stores (the largest handler of "Red Coach" nation wide) asking them to stop selling this brand. You are asked to send these letters to Wayne H. Fisher, Chairman of the Board, Lucky Stores, Inc., 6300 Clark Ave., Dublin CA 94566. Locally owned subsidiaries of Lucky Stores are Gemco and Food Basket. Also volunteers are needed to help circulate petitions and distribute leaflets at various locations throughout the city. Any interested persons should contact Alice Barnes at 272-3281.

Friday, December 14th, Jessica Govea, executive board member of the UFW, will be in San Diego to promote the Boycott effort. This will include a rally at the Newman Center (SDSU) from 4pm til 6pm. Subsequently, there will be a candle-light procession to the Food Basket Store at 6061 El Cajon Blvd.

Inside:
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UFW won the election. For nearly two more years the company managed to delay certification of the UFW victory by filing numerous, and questionable, objections with the state. But in spite of all BCI's objections, the UFW was finally certified on December 31, 1977. Now a new contract needed to be signed between BCI and the UFW but none was.

During the entire year of 1978 BCI refused to sign any contract acceptable to the UFW, and during this time a campaign was launched by BCI to decertify the UFW. It has been reported that the farm workers were threatened in the fields, forced to sign decertification petitions, that seniority dates were stripped from workers, that wages were reduced for some, and that many

Irish Nationalist Denied Visa to Speak at UCSD

On November 15, Ruari O Bradaigh (Rory O'Brady), President of Provisional Sinn Fein (pronounced SHIN FAYN), the party which advocates the withdrawal of English troops from Ireland and the establishment of a united democratic socialist republic, was denied a visa to enter the United States. O Bradaigh had received invitations to lecture on the conflict in Northern Ireland at seven colleges and universities in the U.S., including Rutgers and UCSD.

Irish groups across the country have protested the visa denial and denounced the State Department's "double standard" which routinely allows members of pro-English paramilitary forces into the country, but consistently refuses entry to spokespersons for an Irish republic. The denial is especially significant because it comes in the wake of a House Judiciary Committee Report (95th Congress, 2nd Session, No. 23) which determined that there was no legal impediment to O Bradaigh's entry into the United States. The stage seems set for a confrontation between the Committee, headed by Peter Rodino (D-

NJ) who led the House impeachment proceedings against Nixon, and the State Department.

The denial comes at a crucial moment in the ten-year armed conflict in Northern Ireland. Still reeling from the double blow delivered by the Irish Republican Army last August (the ambush of 18 soldiers and the "execution" of Lord Mountbatten), the English government has dug in—determined to pursue the "light at the end of the (Irish) tunnel." Following the Warrenpoint ambush, Prime Minister Thatcher walked the streets of Belfast in combat fatigues, an unmistakable message to the guerilla army of England's resolve to maintain control of the six-county region.

Also significantly, Maurice Oldfield, former chief of MI-6, English counterintelligence, was brought out of retirement to head security operations in Northern Ireland. Oldfield, the model for Ian Fleming's "M," James Bond's elusive superior, is faced with no easy assignment.

Last summer, a top secret army report
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photo by juri koll

Over 400 students attended the Iran rally held here two weeks ago. Speakers addressed the crowd about the situation, concentrating on the rights of Iranian students to complete their studies, and the nature of the Shah's repressive regime. A few hecklers were present, but most of the crowd was supportive.

Off and Running

"Well, there's a—uh—did most of you hear the uh—uh—uh—uh—trying to do justice to these questions..." "...at the times—through our political process—I'm very interested—uh I'm—in seeing that made a matter of national debate and discussion and that is certainly one of the reasons, among others, of which I am a candidate because I feel very strongly about it..." "And so I think that—uh—it's a real test—of the nature of our society, I think..." (Kennedy, 11/30)

Oh do you, Teddy? Senator Edward Kennedy appeared at UCSD for half an hour and passed off meaningless platitudes and vague generalities as insight before a largely sympathetic crowd of students and administrators. The entire event was clearly organized as a media spectacle, and there were as many reporters in attendance as there were students, the purported cause of his visit.

During his half hour "discussion" Kennedy skirted such real issues as SB 1722 (Federal Criminal Code Revision) or his legalization of FBI practices in favor of generalizations of his positions on Health care, from which is derived his liberal image

However, the real issue that needs to be confronted is Kennedy's proposed revision of Federal Criminal Codes into SB 1722, which comes up for Committee vote today. The measure has been uniformly denounced by civil libertarians because of its many repressive features. Some of its most noxious features, which appeared in Kennedy's original draft of the current bill, such as the provisions allowing any striking union to be charged with blackmail and extortion have been removed. However, other provisions such as those making evidence gathered via wiretaps admissible and making it illegal to protest at Federal buildings or various other institutions would remain.

In addition, the bill illegalizes "Intent," even if no law was violated. Freedom of the Press would be restricted, the provisions of the Fifth Amendment repealed, and the right to Freedom of Speech and Assembly restricted.

Under the provisions of SB 1437 (of which this bill is a direct descendant, with few substantive changes—we don't have a copy of the current legislation) it would be a criminal offense to "picket, parade, display a sign, use a sound amplifying device or otherwise engage in

a demonstration" in or within 200 feet of a U.S. Court. A different provision would give any federal public safety officer (e.g. FBI agents) the power to disperse a gathering and to prohibit picketing, parading, leafletting or canvassing.

The many repressive features of this legislation have drawn public opposition from the ACLU, and from many other groups around the country. Conservative Senator Sam Irvin said of this bill's grandparent, SB 1, that it would turn the U.S.A. into a police state.

This bill, which Kennedy is pushing with quiet but intense determination in Congress, is but one instance which shows where Kennedy's true loyalties lie. As a leaflet distributed by students picketing outside pointed out, Kennedy, while portraying himself as a 'dove' in foreign policy, has consistently voted for increased military budgets. He voted against repeal of the draft. Today he is



backing Carter's war threats against Iran. He supports nuclear power. He is a co-sponsor of legislation giving sweeping powers to the INS to carry out wholesale deportations of undocumented workers.

Kennedy is but one more example of politics as usual. He may put on a "liberal" front, but when the chips are down he's status quo all the way. In fact, his entire liberal reputation is based on his brothers and his support for national health insurance (which is now so watered down that his co-sponsor in the House has withdrawn support) which, although it could be a valuable reform, hardly represent a sweeping challenge to monopoly capitalism and the forces that conspire to deny people control of their lives.

Peltier on Trial

"The defense will show, ladies and gentlemen, that there was a conspiracy on the part of the federal government to kill Leonard Peltier."

With that statement, defense attorney Bruce Ellison opened his arguments Nov. 14 in the federal trial in Los Angeles of Native American activist Leonard Peltier and two other defendants.

Peltier and Bobby Garcia are charged with escaping from Lompoc (CA) Federal Prison July 20 with the help of Roque Duenas, accused of providing weapons. A third inmate, Dallas Thundershield, was shot and killed during the escape.

The trial is expected to last a few weeks. The defense team has argued the defense of "justification and necessity" and has been able, despite government objections, to include certain key affidavits in the defense.

Those affidavits are written by Robert Standing Deer, inmate at Marion federal prison in Illinois, where Peltier had been imprisoned before being sent to Lompoc. Standing Deer stated in the affidavits that he was approached by Captain Carey, Chief Corrections Officer at Marion, and another unnamed blond-haired man and solicited to murder Peltier in exchange for medical treatment and other favors. He told Peltier of the solicitation when Peltier was still in Marion.

Some 50 people have been permitted into the courtroom for the trial. They must, however, walk through a metal detector. In front of the courthouse, Native Americans supporters conduct a daily vigil.

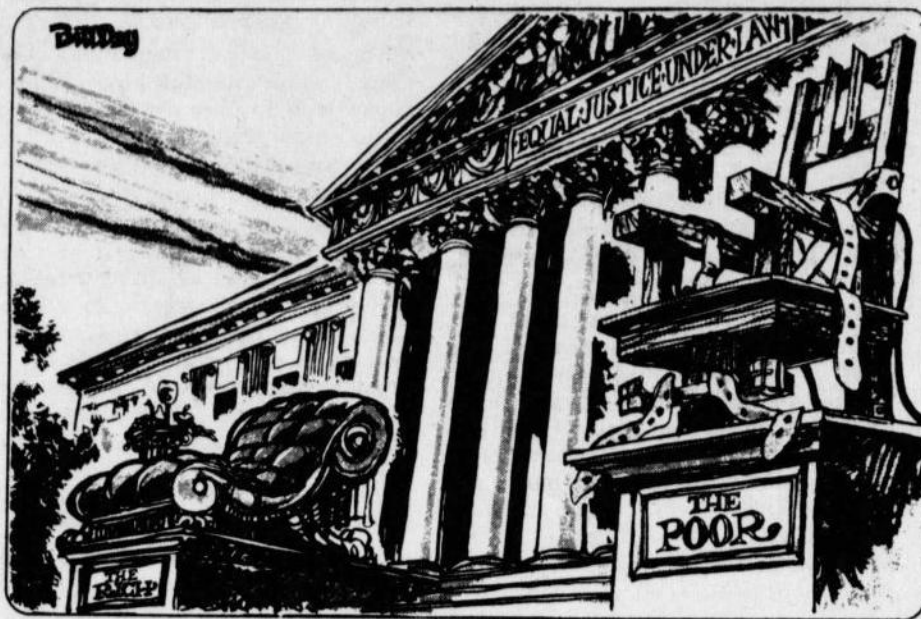
Peltier is serving a life sentence on frameup murder charges stemming from a 1975 FBI raid on the Pine Ridge, SD, Indian reservation in which two FBI agents and one Native American were killed. Peltier's codefendants were acquitted of murder, and no one has ever been charged in the death of the Native American.

from The Guardian



J. P. Stevens uses the following brand names:

- Sheets and Pillowcases**
- Beauti-Blend, Tastemaker, Beauticale, Utica, Fine Arts, Utica and Mohawk, Peanuts (comic strip figures).
- Blankets**
- Baby Stevens Utica, Forstmann.
- Carpets**
- Contender, Merryweather, Gullistan, Tastemaker.
- Slippers (Washable)**
- Always in Step.
- Draperies**
- J. P. Stevens.
- Hosiery**
- Hip-Lets, Finesse, Spirit.
- Towels**
- Fine Arts, Utica, Tastemaker.
- Woolens, Worsted Fabrics**
- Boldeena, Hockanum, Forstmann, Worumbo.
- Table Linen**
- Simtex.
- Cotton Fabrics**
- Academy, Twist Twill, Lady Twist Twill.
- Synthetic and Blend Fabrics**
- Bleu Tempo, 20 Below, Coachman, Lady Consort, Consort, Windsheer, Carousel, Linebacker, Gesture, Stevetex (cotton-nylon knit), Weftmatic.



Puerto Rican Activist Dies in Jail

Even before any kind of investigation could be conducted, prison authorities at the Federal Prison in Tallahassee, Florida had around pronounced a flat "suicide." But more than 8,000 people who turned out for Angel Rodriguez Cristobal's funeral in the small Puerto Rican town of Ciales offered another verdict—murder—and questioned why a man who had dedicated himself to a lifelong struggle for Puerto Rican independence would kill himself because of a few weeks in prison.

Arrested on May 19 for "illegal trespass on U.S. Navy grounds" in Vieques, Puerto Rico, Cristobal had begun the second month of a six-month sentence when he was found with one end of a bed sheet tied to the cell bars and the other end around his neck.

Rodriguez, a 33-year-old farmer with two children, was a member of the Puerto Rican Socialist League's (LSP) Central Committee. Like many of the 20 others arrested last May, he had played a visible role in both the drive to oust the Navy and in the overall independence movement. "It is clear that Cristobal's death is a message to activists in the independence movement," said Luis Rosado during a press conference held by the New York Committee in Support of Vieques. "If you're even imprisoned, you will be killed."

Rodriguez Cristobal was sentenced to jail on Sept. 26 and required to pay a \$500 fine. He insisted that his trial and sentence were meaningless because "the U.S. government is an intervener, (an) illegal transgressor against our land..." In addition, his lawyers argued, "(Rodriguez Cristobal— was captured by the military forces of the United States within the territory of one of its encampments (in Vieques), and for this reason (he) should be judged as a prisoner of war not in this court but a military court." Two days later Cristobal was flown to Tallahassee, far from the other Vieques protestors and supporters in Puerto Rico.

Almost from the time he arrived, Rodriguez found himself in a running battle with prison authorities. By Oct. 14 he had developed an allergy on his

hands, the likely result of washing and scrubbing the prison dishes and pots. After complaining, he was required only to serve prisoners their food. But a few days later, pain had developed in his knees and he refused to work altogether.

His personal belongings were confiscated, including a personal diary which described prison life and listed the names of eight Latino prisoners with whom he had discussed Puerto Rico's colonial status and the destruction of the Vieques landscape and fishing industry. (The eight prisoners have been disciplined.)

By Nov. 5, Cristobal had not been fed for several days, and guards threatened that he soon would be dead. After a volley of shouts, prison authorities subdued Rodriguez Cristobal with an injection of thiorazine, a potent tranquilizer whose long-term effects range from asthma to brain damage.

The thiorazine injections did not end even after he was returned to the prison's general population of Nov. 8. However, he was able to call his attorney, family and supporters in Puerto Rico. The next day LSP Secretary General Juan Antonio Corretjer and two lawyers flew to Tallahassee. According to Corretjer, Cristobal looked pale, but remained "the same militant comrade as always..." The next day prison authorities announced that Rodriguez had hanged himself just hours after his meeting with Corretjer.

The official explanation has been met with skepticism. Puerto Rican lawyer Pedro Saade noticed a number of bruises around the head and face of Cristobal's body. The *New York Times* reported that blood had been found six feet from his cell door, and that prison authorities declined to explain a 3-inch gash extending from above his right eyebrow to his cheek.

At Cristobal's funeral on November 15, in his mountain hometown Viales, the LSP Secretary General promised that the death would be avenged. And, judging by the 8,000 people who attended the funeral, the government may have provoked just the kind of public outrage—and sympathy—it had hoped to divert. Liberation News Service

Good-bye: Snail Darter

The bulldozers are levelling the last of the homes. The people have all been removed from the area. The farmlands will soon be underwater. And a rare species of fish is facing extinction.

Along with the generation of some additional energy for Tennessee industries, these are the end results of the federal government's recent decision to permit construction of the Tellico Dam.

President Carter ended a 3-year dispute over the Dam in September when he signed a bill including a provision specifically exempting the

Tellico project from the Endangered Species Act. The Supreme Court ruled two years ago that completion of the project would violate the law since the only know habitat of the snail darter, an endangered species of marine life, would be destroyed by damming the river.

The September bill has also been subject to a court challenge by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and the United Katoah Band of Cherokee Indians. The Native Americans charge that the dam will flood sacred burial grounds.

from The Guardian

Assata Freed

The event hadn't been scheduled as a celebration, but that's what a New York gathering in support of long-imprisoned Black revolutionary Assata Shakur turned into November 9. A week earlier, on Nov. 2, three Black men and a white woman posing as visitors had commandeered a prison van, taking two prison employees hostage, and fled the Clinton, New York jail with Assata Shakur. No one was hurt during the escape.

One of the primary targets of a well-planned government attack on the Black Liberation Movement during the early '70s, Shakur was arrested in 1973 on a "shoot-first-ask-questions-later" attack by New Jersey State Troopers. Zayd Shakur, another former Black Panther Party member was killed during the attack, along with one of the state troopers.

At the time of the arrest, Shakur was being sought as a fugitive under six indictments. But government officials failed to obtain a single conviction on any of those charges. Still, Shakur was sentenced to life in prison plus 65 years on charges from the New Jersey Turnpike shootout when she was arrested. As a result, she was imprisoned for nothing other than being present at her own arrest and the gunfire that accompanied it, even though medical evidence confirmed that she had been shot while holding her hands above her head. Another Black activist, Sundiata Acoli, who was also arrested in the incident, also received life in prison.

Shakur was the second political prisoner to escape in the New York-New Jersey area this year. The other was William Morales, described by himself as a prisoner of war in Puerto Rico's struggle for independence and by police as a bomber for the Fuerza Armada de Liberacion Nacional (FALN). Morales has never been recaptured.

Liberation News Service

People's Park

The People's Park struggle in Berkeley is far from over.

From 1969-72, massive confrontations occurred over People's Park, a vacant lot owned by the University of California that had been taken over by the community and student forces.

Since the confrontations, in which one person was killed, a parking lot section of the park has been used free of charge by students and residents. In late October, however, UC said that it intended to charge for the parking.

The community-based People's Park Council organized demonstrations at the park and on campus. Two days before the planned change in the status of the park, the Berkeley City Council passed a resolution stating that the People's Park should remain a park or, if UC is unwilling to honor community sentiments, the city should acquire the park.

When UC police and a work crew arrived to set up parking signs and remove some logs they were met by several hundred protestors. In the ensuing confrontations two people were arrested. The police finally left, but returned at six the next morning. Again, the police were met by a couple hundred protestors, and Berkeley Mayor Gus Newport ordered the police away.

Due to the efforts of the people, UC finally agreed to indefinitely delay its plans. The parking lot is now surrounded by barricades of logs, asphalt and cement blocks. The lot is being turned into a park as community workers tear up the asphalt and plant trees and bushes.