



A Call For Unionization... The Task That Confronts Graduate Students at UCSD

On February 19th 1982, faculty members of the Literature Department voted unanimously to re-affirm their support of a long-standing departmental policy to support graduate Teaching Assistants (TAs), and Research Assistants (RA's). The vote followed in the wake of attempts made by Literature Department Chair Jamie Lyon, and Donald Wesling, over the last several weeks, to seriously curtail the level of support given to graduate students.

Subsequent to this action by the Literature Department, a group of students are calling for the resignation of Graduate Student Council (GSC) chair, Barry Hyman, for his "open letters concerning the controversy over TA allocations in the Literature Department." According to some professors in the Literature department, however, Hyman's memos served to elucidate the faculty over the divisiveness of the "crisis alternatives" presented by Professors Lyon and Wesling. Therefore, the current campaign to oust Hyman for his "irresponsible" actions, with the same group of students calling for a "Letter of Apology to the Literature Department",

in a special meeting they called—in violation of GSC by-laws—can only be viewed as a tactic that aids the administration in dividing students in the advocacy of their rights.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE: Draft, Protest Calender, Reds, Long Stories in Short and more...

The recent "crisis" in the Literature Dept. underscores the clear need for graduate students on this campus to not fall prey to the administration's divisive tactics; and the need for graduate students to unionize. Lack of union protection has been costly to student-workers, both in the salaries offered and the stability that goes along with a strong union able to negotiate a good contract. Graduate students carry a large percentage of the teaching load but are not justly compensated for their labor; instead they face attempts as in the Literature Dept. to erode the already limited level of support that they receive. With the reactionary White House proposing crippling cuts in education, now, more than ever, it is time for

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PROTEST AND SURVIVE!

Spring will be with us shortly, and already the political atmosphere is heating up from protest. In San Diego on March 8, International Women's Day, a group of 75 women calling themselves the Women's Peace Action staged a theatrical funeral procession through downtown. Dressed in black—some in veils—the procession carried signs proclaiming "WE ARE THE WOMEN OF THE WORLD" and "US OUT OF EL SALVADOR." The procession was led by three veiled women and a 14 foot Spectre of Death bearing the sign "US MILITARY AID." Women's Peace Action evolved from the Women's Caucus of the Peace and Justice Coalition, and their March 8 event received wide newspaper, radio and television coverage locally, nationally and internationally. In a statement to the press, Women's Peace Action said that they were demonstrating their grief and solidarity with the people of El Salvador.

It seems that every where President Reagan goes he is being met by growing numbers of angry people. Civil disobedience by members of the Alliance for Progress greeted Reagan on his recent Los Angeles visit, and plans for a mass protest against Reagan's visit to New York on March 23 are being made.

The Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador has called a national broad-based coalition to protest rigged Salvadorean elections. March 27 in Washington, D.C., and around the country, is the protest date. Locally CISPES will hold a rally from noon to 4 pm at Speakers corner in Balboa Park (6th and Laurel). Speakers and entertainment will be featured.

April 15 has always been a convenient day of protest, being as it is the last day people can file their income tax forms. The Peace and Justice Coalition, along with the Catholic Workers and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom will set up a symbolic protest at the Midway Post Office from 5pm to midnight on April 15. The protest will center on tax money used for military spending.

These protest are just the beginning of what spring has to offer in the way of opposition to Reagan and Reaganomics. This paper will maintain a protest calender to keep our readers informed locally and nationally to fight the Right. The upcoming summer looks to be a hot one, but make no mistake—the fight against the Right will be long and hard. At present we must protest and survive.



Over 350 students rallied, March 4 on Revelle Plaza to protest Reagan's proposed \$3 Billion cuts in education for the '82-'83 fiscal year. This rally was part of a state-wide "day of action" that saw hundreds of students rally on other campuses. In Washington D.C., several thousands students from across the nation marched the previous week to oppose the cuts.

new indicator photo

State-Wide Progressive Student Coalition Formed

The "Student at the Crossroads" conference—held at Stanford University on March 6th and 7th—brought together approximately 250 students from various California university campuses. The opening remarks stressed the dual theme of the conference: building a progressive coalition and fighting racism.

Reverend Herbert Daughtry, chairperson of the National Black United Front was the opening speaker; he gave an inspiring speech that centered on the tasks of students in the struggle for Black unity and self-determination. Attacking Reaganomics, he pointed out that "new federalism reminds us of old racism". He stressed how Reagan personifies this country's shift to the right, with such examples as government giving tax exemptions to discriminatory schools, as well as a new emphasis on unlimited police power. Turning to an optimistic note he repeatedly claimed that we are in the worst of times but also in the best of times. Students are coming together across the nation in a "spontaneous combustion." Daughtry

spoke of the revolutionary process in the world today, "in the last 75 to 80 years we've witnessed change, in Russia, China, India, Viet Nam, etc. In 1945, there were no independent African states and now there are over 40." The role of the students must include immediate and future goals. The immediate concern must be the fight for admissions of all students to the Universities, resistance to the draft and keeping ties to the community. He also stressed continual goals of students. Students must never forsake their studies, while their final objective must be pursuing a just world economic system—a new vision must be sought. There is something fundamentally wrong with the world economic system when wealth is held in the hands of a few and many are starving. Secondly, students must remember that whatever we gain for ourselves must be seen in the context of a global contribution. "There is never any change without violence", whatever we have today has been at the price of someone's blood. Lastly, alliances must be made, the victims of capitalism and

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Demoted Pesticide Controller Seeks Redress

Hearings were held last week in the case of David Piper, the former University Hospital pest controller who was suspended from his job and subsequently demoted to a job of pulling weeds, after he refused to spray the hospital's Primary Care Unit with the pesticide VosBan. The hearings, held before a three member committee appointed by the University, have taken four days so far, with the University concluding its presentation on tuesday. Piper's side then began its presentation on thursday with the testimony of Dr. Kenneth Cohen, an expert witness on industrial hygiene, who testified that VosBan should not have been used in the hospital. Piper has expressed satisfaction with how the hearings have gone so far, believing "everything is going extremely well."

The hearings will resume friday the 19th at 8 a.m. in the Employee Relations Office behind the Police/Personnel building on Matthews campus. Piper hopes to conclude his case on the 19th,

after calling an additional 20-25 witnesses. At the conclusion of the hearing, the committee will have 15 days in which to make their decision. The decision of the University appointed committee will be binding, and cannot be appealed. Piper agreed to this condition because he felt that the evidence is strongly in his favor, and to avoid the cost involved in appointing an impartial arbitrator.

After Piper refused to use VosBan in the Primary Care Unit, where pregnant women and babies are treated, the University went ahead with the spraying of the pesticide in the unit, kitchen area, and food service area of the hospital. They were subsequently cited by the State Department of Food and Agriculture for using VosBan in unauthorized applications, as specified by the product label. Shortly after receiving the violation notice from the State, the University demoted Piper from pestcontroller to groundskeeper.



Women's Peace Action engages in a theatrical procession in San Diego March 8th, International Women's Day, to express solidarity with the people of El Salvador.
photo: Bernie

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Notes From The Collective Desk...

The Task That Confronts Graduate Students at UCSD

graduate students to come together to form a union determined to secure an agreement that offers a living wage, improvement of working conditions, and stability through yearly contracts.

The question of employment stability is particularly troublesome. Quarterly contracts used by many departments, keep student-workers unsure as to their employment outlook. In several departments T.A.'s are often given no more than one week's notice as to their employment status.

The requirement of "kickbacks" in the form of tuition to the University is particularly manipulative. To hold University related jobs, students must pay the \$450 quarterly tuition—a full months salary for some students, many of whom are not taking any classes but are completing their dissertations.

A graduate student union (GSU) was active at UCSD during 1975-6. The GSU generated significant support and demanded a list of improvements including yearly contracts for all graduate student employees, an allocation of work study appointments at a full-scale pay rate, and the formal mechanisms for graduate student policy making in regard to work loads. When the administration did not bargain in good faith, a work stoppage was organized which subsequently secured many of the GSU demands. Since then the administration—using tactics to sow divisiveness among students—has slowly whittled away the meager gains of the past. The New Indicator Collective

calls for the Graduate Student Council to cease its period of inactivity—a time during which their function has been reduced to merely allocating student monies for department beer parties. At this critical juncture, where the university administration seeks to make students shoulder a disproportionate level of the federal and state cutbacks, it is necessary for graduate students to organize for the task that confronts them.

To begin with, we must fight the attitude prevalent in both the faculty and the administration that graduate school represents a process of "professionalism" that should be subject to a craft kind of labour organization. Master craftspeople (professors) condescend to take on apprentices (graduate students) who must be willing to sacrifice completely to gain the "mysteries" of the profession. In such a craft system, for instance, TA's should not be given time to read books required and preparatory to the courses they are to teach because they should be doing it anyway, as a part of their apprenticeship.

In place of this, we must work for a union conception of graduate education. The fact that we must learn skill does not negate that we are productive workers and productive workers relegated to the shitwork of this mass production "education industry." The emphasis of this graduate unionism should not be merely defensive—fighting against cutbacks—but also offensive—fighting for decentralized democratic workers' and students' control of the resources.



Letters

Response to n.i. critique of "REDS"

(Collective Note: We apologize for the delay in printing this letter)

Dear Editors of the N.I.:

After reading Barry Hyman's criticism of the movie "REDS", I felt the need to give my opinion on the subject because Barry's criticism does not give justice to such an important movie.

The section of history (world and American) that deals with the developments of the Socialist thought, the foundation of the Communist Parties, the success of the Russian Revolution, during the early part of this century has been ignored or grossly distorted in the school history books, in the media in general, and in the movie industry in particular. In the latter, the effects of McCarthyism were devastating. Communists were equated with devils on the screen while thrown in jail in real life. Even "progressive" commercial movies would avoid calling the bread, bread. Even good movies like "The Front" would not be very specific of who were really the most obvious victims of McCarthy.

Now comes the movie "REDS", which deals with the subject, and for the first time, as I recall, does not try to conceal the motives, the ideas or the partisanship of the people involved. REDS also shows the influence of the Russian Revolution on the American socialist movement, and the attempts to suffocate it by the aggressive governments of the "West", including the U.S. It shows that anti-sovietism and anti-working class came together. But more interesting than that, is the fact that real Communists talk in the movie. Real people who knew John Reed, Louise Bryant and Emma Goldman speak about those years to millions of Americans who knew nothing about them, their role in organizing the first unions, the first working class parties, and their role in the Russian Revolution.

I think that in this sense "REDS" is a real breakthrough in the American movie industry. It marks the bankruptcy of McCarthyism (to which Reagan was an essential component.)

The movie is especially important because we are living in a moment quite dangerous.

The very same facts that are shown in the movie trying to destroy the rising movements, are today on the attack. Unions are being decertified, unionists

thrown in jail, and a move to increase the dangers of a war against the Soviet Union is on the agenda of the Reagan administration.

And anti-communism, anti-socialist and anti-working class again are coming hand in hand. That is why the movie is especially valuable.

I am not saying that "REDS" is very accurate historically speaking, or that the characters are precise (and there is good reason why they are not). I am talking about the social value of the movie in the broad sense. Its shortcomings and distortions should be analyzed in this perspective.

This is why I disagree with Barry Hyman's analysis. He downplays this very important problem. It is like the tree blocking the whole forest.

It seems to me that Hyman does not realize the times we are living in. Something that the Anarchist Emma Goldman, and the Communist John Reed did realize, and the movie shows it very well.

If I am to mention distortions in the movie, I think that the last part of it was particularly deceiving. It is well known that Reed was not disillusioned with the Russian Revolution at the end of his life. The most important meetings between him and Lenin took place in this period. They met several times after Reed returns from Baku. This is far from the isolation and frustration portrayed in the movie. It is here where the movie leaves the audience with an ambivalent feeling. It is also important to point out the omission of people of color. At the second congress of the Communist International, Reed delivered one of the first major presentations by a Communist on oppression of Black people in the U.S. This was left out of the movie.

It is in this sense that "Reds" is unwilling to take a clear stand, which is a weakness typical of Hollywood movies reluctant to alienate viewers and jeopardize profits.

But this certainly does not invalidate the value of the film.

To prove my point I can bet that the movie will not be allowed to be shown in countries like El Salvador, South Africa, Argentina, and some others, and not precisely for the reasons that Barry Hyman argues against the movie.

A. Reader

Funky La Jolla

Doghhouse Riley for Rambling Rosie

Anyone knowing the whereabouts, or offering clues leading to the discovery of Rambling Rosie, are urged to contact us soon as possible...So far all leads followed by our investigators indicates that she may have fallen victim to the state's attempt to silence a long-time foe.

She has no known relatives, only many friends, well wishes, and enemies within the university administration and various agencies of the state...Many have joined in the so far unsuccessful search for R.R.

She was last seen Monday March 8th in downtown San Diego at a fundraising reception, mingling with the crowd, at a fundraising reception for John Van de

Kamp—candidate for California State Attorney General. An ambush has not been ruled out...

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Advertisement for Warm Bodies and Cold Cash, featuring a graphic of a person and text: RESIST THE DRAFT! DON'T PAY WAR TAXES!

The Draft and Prosecution Non-Registrants

This article was written by Kathy Gilberd, a member of the Military Law Task Force and the San Diego Military Law Panel.

As this is written, President Reagan's "grace period" for non-registrants has come to an end. While Selective Service says that it will not have the final figures on registrations in January and February until some time in April, the initial numbers are not impressive. SSS has now admitted that over 925,000 young men have failed or refused to register. In mid-February, they indicated that some 200,000 had registered during the "grace period," but one must subtract from this the men normally required to register during that time. Although SSS spent a great deal of time and money to convince non-registrants that this was their last chance to avoid prosecution, the threat appears to have been less than successful.

The Justice Department does not expect to have word from SSS about late registrations during the "grace period" until some time in April. So far, local U.S. attorneys have not received any new instructions from Justice, so that December's suspension of prosecution remains in effect for the time being. We can expect, however, that the 40-50 young men facing prosecution in December may be indicted some time this spring; a Justice Department spokesman estimated that the first indictments would come down in April or May.

SSS has not issued any formal statement about late registrations occurring after the end of the "grace period." In Congressional testimony, SSS Director Turnage indicated that he thought every young man would be given a chance to register (and indicated that SSS would continue to send out warning letters). Likewise, spokesperson Joan Lamb has come very close to saying the practice of allowing late

registration will continue, noting that the purpose of SSS activities is compliance rather than punishment. While we have no definitive word on this, it is extremely likely that Selective Service will continue to offer second and third chances to non-registrants for some time to come.

For the time being, other non-registrants do not face immediate prosecution, since SSS has not yet enacted any "active" detection program. It does appear, however, that SSS is moving towards the implementation of such a program. They have received Congressional, but not yet Presidential, approval to use social security numbers to detect non-registrants.

At the end of 1981, the Military Selective Service Act was amended for the first time in some years. An amendment to Section 453 (the registration section) authorizes the issuance of regulations which may require social security numbers at registration. The section does not require men who have already registered to supply SSS with their social security numbers, and does not moot the Wolman suit. SSS has not promulgated the regulations allowed by this section, and has given no indication of when they may do so. A second amendment, to Section 462, states that the President may require the Secretary of Housing and Human Services to provide information on groups of people who may be required to register; such information is to be used only for enforcement. This provides a limited exception to the Privacy Act, for social security and other HHS records. Significantly, the amendment does not make reference to Treasury records, although SSS had previously indicated that they wanted to use IRS records to obtain addresses for non-registrants. (The Tax Reform Act of 1976 prohibits the use of tax records for such investigative purposes.)

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Progressive Student Conference

racism must grasp something about neo-colonialism and imperialism. "Whether we like it or not we must choose a side." Speaking of the students he said, "you may need a grant and I hope you get the grant, but you must keep in mind the bigger vision."

I.F. Stone, an anti-war activist and independent journalist was the second speaker. His speech focused on the problems of the Reagan administration. Stone spoke about Reagan and his administration representing the rich, and how they run on simple-minded premises. The first of these premises is that all one needs to run foreign and domestic policy is to unleash free enterprise. The theory on how to make the world safer is to hand out weapons to everyone. And lastly, that everyone would be content in Latin America if the United States could stop the peasants from reading books like Marx's Das Kapital—then they would gladly lapse into starvation. He continued his speech with some statements that brought unpopular responses from the audience. He compared progressives and the army, stating that both groups feel that Reagan's defense budget is too large. However, he failed to put his statement in context—the army's aggravation over the enlarged budget stems from its bad publicity, while progressives feel that this money should be spent in funding such services as health, education and welfare. Even more dissent was expressed in the audience when I.F. Stone spoke of the woman's movement

as bringing about a dilemma for children's rights. Once again he missed the bigger question at stake. If indeed there is a problem with children lacking attention from their parents, then we must look for other solutions—like fatherhood, cooperative living spaces, more children's centers, etc.

The rest of the first day was spent in small groups attending panel discussions and workshops on various topics, such as Third World people in the U.S., nuclear weapons and the role of the University, budget-cuts in education, draft resistance, ERA, and students organizing, to name but a few.

The various organizations that were at the conference all agreed on the necessity of working within a network. There was very little conflict between the conferees.

The second day began with a speech by Deirdre English, the executive editor of Mother Jones magazine. She focused on the women's movement as well as the difference between the 60's and the 80's. The 60's movements were powerful, but the people involved in them separated themselves from the rest of the community. Her hopes for the "new new left" is that they will be able to communicate better. In the 60's there was an irrational fear of the American Dream being snatched away. Her hope for the 80's is that we'll be able to express that liberation for the poor and the minorities brings liberation for everyone.

The conference can be considered a success—at least in its ability to bring students together to address pressing issues—and has laid the foundation for communication between student groups throughout the state to help build a strong coalition of progressive students.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAMPUS:

New Indicator Collective, Student Center, UCSD, 452-2016 Tuesday, March 16, 6pm: UCSD Student Center, Rm. 209: New Indicator Collective meeting. To discuss current issue and plan future issue. Volunteers welcome.

Tuesday, March 23, 6pm: UCSD Student Center, Rm. 209: New Indicator Collective meeting. To discuss copy for next issue. Volunteers welcome.

Friday/Saturday, March 26/27, all day: UCSD Student Center, Rm 210: New Indicator production. Volunteers welcome to produce next issue of paper. No experience necessary.

Groundwork Books Collective, Student Center, UCSD, 452-9625 Friday, March 26, (& every 4th Friday of month), 4:30 to 6:30pm: Work Party. Hard work & some conversation. No experience necessary. Come meet the Groundwork Collective people.

Friday, April 9 (& every 2nd Friday of month), 4:30 to 6:30pm: TGIF. Lively conversations on how to smash imperialism. Refreshments.

COMMUNITY:

Committee Against Registration and the Draft, 283-6878, 753-7518 Saturday, March 27, 7pm: 2378 Grand Avenue, Pacific Beach: Benefit for CARD. Come and party while you help support the anti-draft movement in San Diego. Music and munchies. No-host bar.

Committee In Solidarity with the People of El Salvador, 692-9476 Tuesday, March 16, 1pm: SDSU Aztec Center Rm. L&M: Arnoldo Ramos, FDR official representative will speak. 6pm: 1711 Edgemont St. (230-1217): CISPES Fundraiser, featuring food, entertainment, and speaker Arnoldo Ramos. \$5 donation.

Monday, March 22, 11am-12:20pm: Grossmont College Quad: Debate on El Salvador. Rev. Blase Bonpane vs. Union Editorial Writer Robert Caldwell. (Sponsored by MEChA and ASGC). 4-6pm: Grossmont College, Rm 220: El Salvador-Another Vietnam (pt. II), film, and speaker Sister Patricia Krommer-Archbishop Romero Refugee Fund, L.A. (sponsored by MEChA). 7-9pm: Montezuma Hall, SDSU Aztec Center: No Nukes! and El Salvador-Another Vietnam, films. (sponsored by CEAN and CISPES).

Grass Roots Cultural Center, 1947 30th St. at Grape St., 232-5009 Thursday, March 18, 7:30pm: GRCC, \$3: Nicaragua slides and discussion by Robin Andersen on daily life and social projects in Nicaragua since Somosa.

Friday, March 19, 7:30pm: GRCC, \$3: Ireland Free music, theatre, dramatic readings and slides in cooperation with Irish Rights Committee and Irish Northern Aid present a vision of new and healthy society born from pain and suffering.

Sunday, March 21, 7:30pm: GRCC, \$3: Commemorate Sharpville. African Films "South Africa Belongs to Us" & "You Have Struck a Rock," award-winning films to commemorate turning point in South Africa's fight for freedom.

Tuesday, March 23, 8pm, Horace Mann Jr. High (4345 54th St.): SAN FRANCISCO MIME TROUPE, Third Anniversary Special Event! "Factwino Meets the Moral Majority" spoofs the new right and explores many social issues.

womancare A FEMINIST WOMEN'S HEALTH CENTER 424 Pennsylvania Avenue - San Diego, CA 92103 298-9352. Services include: Pregnancy Screening, Self Help, Abortion - to 16 weeks, Fertility Awareness, Lesbian Well Woman, Birth Control, Childbirth Information. Speakers Bureau. THE CERVICAL CAP IS NOW AVAILABLE.

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Groundwork Books UCSD Student Center 1-5 to Gilman, left at wooden footbridge, right into parking lot 452-9625 Mon-Sat 11 am-8 pm. Categories: GAY • LABOR • LATIN AMERICA • ECOLOGY, MARXIST-HUMANISM • POLITICAL ECONOMY, WOMEN • MEN • BLACK • NON-VIOLENCE, MID EAST, HEALTH, ENERGY, ART, ALBANIA, SCIENCE FOR THE PEOPLE • ASIAN AMERICAN, NUCLEAR POWER • MARXIST/LENINISM • IRAN, LEGAL HASSLES • YOUNG PEOPLE • CHICANO, MARXISM • NATIVE AMERICAN • ORGANIZING, FOOD • US LEFT • LIBROS EN ESPANOL.

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MARCH/APRIL PROTEST CALENDAR

Friday, March 19, noon
PEACE RALLY

Free Speech Area, San Diego State University
Sponsored by Student Peace Education Committee.

Saturday, March 27, 12-4pm

PROTEST FRAUDULENT EL SALVADOR ELECTIONS

Speakers Corner, 6th and Laurel, Balboa Park

Rally to protest the fraudulent elections in El Salvador and demonstrate solidarity with the FDR-FMLN, featuring speakers and entertainment. After San Diego rally there will be a caravan to LA protest rally. Sponsored by Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES) and Peace and Justice Coalition. For more information call: CISPES 692-9476. (This is the local CISPES demonstration for the national March 27 CISPES protest call, to culminate in a protest march/rally in Washington, D.C.)

Sunday, March 28, 12-4pm

LAST CHANCE TO STOP SAN ONOFRE

Doheney Beach, Los Angeles

Rally to protest licensing and testing of San Onofre II, featuring speakers, music and entertainment. Car pools are available. Sponsored by Community Energy Action Network (CEAN). For more information call: CEAN 275-1162.

Saturday, April 3

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST GENOCIDE

organized by the National Black United Front. Details forthcoming.

Thursday, April 15, 5pm-midnight

TAX DAY PROTEST

Midway Post Office, San Diego

Protest the use of your tax dollars to fund military spending by coming to the Midway Post Office after 5pm. Bring signs. Banners and props will be provided. Sponsored by the Peace and Justice Coalition, Catholic Worker, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.



More than 200 protesters gather outside the Federal Building downtown San Diego on February 19 at a rally organized by the Committee In Solidarity with the People of El Salvador and the Peace and Justice Coalition of San Diego County. Speakers voiced opposition to Reagan's "certification" of human rights in El Salvador, U.S. intervention, and the training of Salvadorean troops in the U.S.

photo: Bernie

Long Stories In Short

People Demand Housing in Spain

Rapid industrialization in Spain since the 1950's has encouraged mass migrations from the poverty of rural life towards the promised prosperity of life in the cities.

In the 1960's alone more than 4 million people emigrated to cities resulting in a great housing shortage. In response, a massive squatting movement began.

The squatting movement was strong from 1976 until 1978. In this period there were numerous occupations in Madrid, Seville, Malaga, Las Palmas, Valladolid, and Bilbao.

Co-operation was strong. Squatters and their neighbors assembled to discuss the housing shortage and to organize squats. Entire neighborhoods were mobilized. Committees were formed for different projects: locating and investigating empty living spaces; legal action committees; finance committees; organizing new squatters and newly occupied buildings; defending against eviction by security guards; spreading the fight and co-ordinating the assemblies of squatters and their supporters in other neighborhoods.

Evictions happen only where the movement is not strongly organized. But the government has been weakening the movement everywhere. Two tactics are used: a partial alleviation of the housing crunch through new systems of allocating and distributing government

housing; and the creation of Mixed Commissions with members of the government ministry and representatives from neighborhood organizations.

The creation of mixed commissions has succeeded in slowing the development of squatters' organization and initiative. It hides the fact that government policies are the cause of the housing shortage and that the government is unable, and basically unwilling, to provide adequate housing. The commissions only serve as a buffer to the misery of living in poverty in the nation's cities.

Open Road

Shut 'em Down

One third of the USA's nuclear power plants were shut in February, many of them victims of problems including a hydrogen explosion and various equipment failures leading to radiation and water leaks. Of the 72 US nuclear plants with operating licences, 24 are shut down temporarily, and three others—Dresden 1 in Morris, Illinois; the Humboldt Bay unit in Humboldt Bay, California; and Three Mile Island in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania—are closed down indefinitely for major repairs and may never reopen.

Industrial Worker



Reagan's Killer Cheese

A nation-wide outbreak of bourtism has killed thousands of former food stamp recipients only hours after they nibbled on surplus cheese distributed by the Reagan Administration earlier this week. According to Professor Brie of the CDC (Center for Disease Control), a definite link has been established between bourtism epidemic and the killer cheese.

Before distribution, the surplus cheese has been stored in an Army warehouse that also contained surplus biochemical warfare agents left over from WW2 and the Vietnam war. Some of the metal drums holding bacteriological agents developed leaks, contaminating much of the cheese.

When asked to comment on the situation at a No News conference today, President Reagan grinned from ear to ear and said, "Well, it's just too bad we didn't have this available when I was Governor and the SLA forced us to give away all that food in California."

Overthrow

"Civilized" State Brutality

According to the Bureau of Justice statistics, the US prison population has jumped by more than 20,000 in the first half of 1981. Most of the increase, 19,000, occurred in state institutions.

Indiana's inmate population grew 34% in the last 18 months after it abolished parole. Institution capacities are now doubled, causing what state officials are calling a crisis.

North Dakota, however, had a higher rate of increase, 59%, which is attributed to the boom atmosphere surrounding energy exploration in the state.

Fourteen states have reported gains of more than 10% in their prison populations during the first half of 1981.

There were five states that had decreases during the same period: Colorado (which reduced the average length of sentences), Nebraska, New Mexico (this decrease began after the bloody 1980 riot), Oregon (which revised paroles to control inmate population), and Wyoming.

Wisconsin increased by 5%, bringing the total to 4,099 Wisconsin citizens in prison, 700 beyond capacity.

There are now over 350,000 men and women in US prisons, bringing the national rate of incarceration to 147 for every 100,000 persons. This places the US in the top 3 (along with the Soviet Union and South Africa) among nations of the "civilized" world.

Waupun World

IRA Accounts

Two members of the provisional wing of the IRA were arrested by the U.S. Immigration agents when the pair attempted to cross the Canadian border to invest their group's funds in an IRA account in America. Both have vowed to fast until they're released or reach the age of 59½.

No News Service, reprinted from Overthrow

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