

Utilities Attempt Trashing of Nuke Safeguards

The California State Energy Commission has unequivocally confirmed what most of us already knew: nuclear power is not necessary to meet electrical demand in southern California. Their official report released in late January recommends that the proposed Sundesert nuclear generating station conform to California laws regulating the safety of nuclear power plants.

San Diego Gas and Electric and its partners in the Sundesert project want to be allowed to build the plant in complete disregard of the nuclear safeguards laws which have guided the industry since 1976.

A bill that effectively allows the energy monopolies such as SDG&E to attend to matters of safety at their whim (e.g., such as when it wouldn't cost anything) has been passed by the state Senate. The bill, introduced in defiance of the Energy Commission ruling, is presently awaiting action in the Assembly Energy Resources Committee. Governor Brown said he will veto the bill if it is passed by the Assembly and sent to him.

San Diego Assemblyman Larry Kapiloff is presently trying to work out

a compromise between the governor and the utilities. In the past Kapiloff has promoted a public image of being critical to nuclear energy. Now, however, he wants to play both sides. His proposed compromise would give the utilities their nuclear plants in return for a "promise" that they'll try to develop alternative energy sources.

Of course, to fulfill their part of the bargain all the utilities need to do is point out their experimental geothermal project out in the desert and their solar heated test houses in the east county. Both of these projects are insincere decoys built for just such an occasion. In other words, they must promise to do no more than what they've already done in exchange for trashing the only nuclear safeguards we have. If Brown accepts the "compromise" it might reflect his desire for campaign contributions for the gubernatorial race this year.

It will be a tough decision for the governor. Would the money be enough to counteract the consequential wishy washy image? Already, hundreds of disappointed voters have called Kapiloff's office to denounce his turnaround. Many citizens were

shocked to hear Kapiloff's endorsement of Sundesert come from one side of his mouth while "I'm still against nuclear power" passes from the other.

The one question all this backroom dealing leaves up in the air is: if nuclear energy is definitely not needed, then why do the utilities insist on developing it to the neglect of safe, renewable, clean sources of energy? As a way to boil water it is the most expensive (\$2-3 billion per plant), most inefficient (only provides 54% of what they were designed for), and most dangerous (plutonium, one of

many radioactive byproducts, cannot be securely isolated from the environment but can be manufactured into nuclear weapons).

In the past the utilities simply replied, "Because California needs it."

So now that it's obvious we don't need it, how can they justify ruining our health, our environment and the lives and environment of everyone born for many generations to come?

This is a moral question. It will not be funny watching them avoid a responsible decision.



Class warfare in the coalfields? Carter's national energy plan requires cheap coal but can the UMW miners afford it?

--See back page

new indicator

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Abortion Is Still Option for Pregnant Students

The January 24 issue of the **new indicator** published a letter from a Right-to Life committee member who protested a political cartoon dealing with abortion. The reply to this letter explained the legal status of abortion in the U.S. at this time. In sum, the Supreme Court ruled last year that no state may outlaw abortions, but they can refuse to spend public funds for Medicaid abortions. This was followed by the passage of national legislation which denied federal funding of abortions for women on welfare unless the woman's life was endangered. Since then, only 15 states and the District of Columbia still pay for public abortions.

These actions mean that a large number of poor women in the U.S. will now be unable to obtain safe, legal abortions. But since this tragic situation and its implications have already been explored in the previous article, I would like to focus now on services offered to women at UCSD, and some details on what an abortion actually involves.

If you are a woman at UCSD and think you might be pregnant, you may call the Student Health Center and set up an appointment to have a pregnancy test, free of charge. The test is a simple

urine analysis, the results of which can be determined in two hours. If the test is positive, and you are pregnant, you may set up an appointment with the Contraceptive Counseling and Education Clinic (CCEC) to discuss the alternatives available to you. If you decide you want an abortion, (this is your own decision; no one tells you what to do) the CCEC refers you to a local doctor. All costs of the operation are covered by your school insurance, regardless of whether or not you paid the optional five dollar fee (that fee involves hospitalization services). Free abortions have been available for UCSD women for the past few years; it is not a new service.

If you are three months pregnant or less, the doctor will perform a suction abortion, one of the safest of all surgical operations. It is a simple technique for sucking the fetus out of the uterus through a narrow tube which is inserted into the uterus through the cervix. Suction abortions can be performed in an out patient clinic, the operation itself taking less than ten minutes. Most women have menstrual-like cramps during and for a short time after the operation, but these are neither severe nor dangerous. In fact, the operation is

considerably safer than childbirth.

After the twelfth or thirteenth week of pregnancy, the fetus is too large to be removed safely by suction abortion. Instead, a concentrated salt solution is injected, killing the fetus and stimulating the uterus to push the fetus out, in effect, stimulating a miscarriage. Throughout the saline abortion procedure, the woman must remain in the hospital.

The similarity of the salt-induced miscarriage to normal childbirth makes this type of abortion an unpleasant experience for the pregnant woman; the risks involved are about as high as those of normal childbirth. For the woman's safety, abortions should be performed before the twelfth week of pregnancy so that suction abortion can be used and saline abortion avoided.

Although the prevention of pregnancy is preferable to the interruption of pregnancy, the alternative of abortion is one that should be available to all women. Abortion involves the right to control one's body, the right to reproductive freedom, and should not be denied by those who oppose it morally to those who do not. Furthermore, it should not be denied to poor women by more-privileged, predominantly male politicians who enforce their value judgments through financial manipulations.

(For more information on related services available at UCSD, call CCEC at 452-2669.)

Chavez Wants Study of Mechanization

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 16—At a Regents' hearing in Los Angeles Feb. 16, Cesar Chavez of the United Farm Workers union called on Governor Brown to appoint a "blue-ribbon" commission to study the University of California's role in farm mechanization research.

Critics of UC's role say that the university serves as a research center for agribusiness. Tom Hayden, former candidate for the Democratic Senate nomination and co-founder of the Campaign for Economic Democracy, backed Chavez' position.

Hayden called for legislation requiring: 1) social impact statements for farm mechanization; 2) a tax on machinery to be used to retrain displaced workers; 3) advance notice of changes due to mechanization; 4) severance pay for displaced workers.

Although a UC spokesman said no jobs were really at stake, Hayden said that UC's agricultural economics division is incapable of objectivity, and is made up of puppet economists in the service of agribusiness interests.

The UFW demonstrated outside the hearing, and critics of the research said that they would continue to try to expose the issue to a public debate.

—special to the **new indicator**

'Struggle Is Not Racial'

Black S. Africans Give Views

A seminar on Southern Africa was held in Revelle Cafeteria at 8 p.m., February 6, featuring Niko Ngwenyama, Chairperson of the Zimbabwe African Peoples Union (ZAPU) in the U.S., and Thami Mhlambiso, Representative to the U.N. of the National Congress of South Africa.

Both speakers emphasized that the liberation movements in Southern Africa are not racial struggles. "Our struggle is not against whites but against a system," said Niko Ngwenyama, "it is a struggle to liberate people from oppressive institutions. Whites are only instruments of institutions. We want to create new institutions to help everyone, whites included."

Categorizing the army of Ian Smith's

regime as "mercenary," he estimated that it included from 1,000 to 3,000 white mercenaries and drew attention to the fact that 2/3's of it is made up of blacks who join because they cannot find work sufficient to sustain themselves and their families. "Unemployment among blacks is very high. These soldiers are 'hired hands.' It is not really in their interest to win. Mercenaries are unreliable; they are fighting for pay - to live - not win. Mercenary armies are fragile and inefficient."

"We also consider as mercenaries the 125,000 whites who have immigrated since 1965, doubling the white population to 250,000."

He warned the audience against unreliable press reports, stating that the

CIA plants stories in the U.S. press and mentioned the case of one reporter in Salisbury using 5 different names to write the same story for 5 different newspapers, with a different slant each time.

Asked about the role of the socialist countries, he said, "The socialist countries have always materially supported the liberation forces," but pointed out "China's image was tarnished in the Angolan war when it fought on the side of South Africa, also in Mozambique."

Asked to comment on the war in the horn of Africa, he said, "It is unfortunate Somali has decided to go to war. All the African states have accepted the borders. If we try to define the borders by ethnicity, there would be chaos. For this, the liberation forces identify with Ethiopia. We are not fighting ethnic

Wars, but against colonialism."

Both representatives appealed to the audience to help change U.S. policy in Southern Africa and particularly to encourage divestment by U.S.

"Our struggle is linked to the struggle of exploited people the world over," said Thami Mhlambiso, "to defeat the capitalist system which has created so much suffering everywhere, even in this country. We have a common struggle and common enemy. When we think of the imprisonment of Nelson Mandela, we have to think of the imprisonment of Rev. Ben Chavis of the Wilmington 10. We remember George Jackson when we think of Steve Biko; and we cannot think about Winnie Mandela without being reminded of Angela Davis."

The event, attended by 120 people, was co-sponsored by the Working Committee on South Africa, NIA, and UCSD's Political Education Group.

Mind-Boggling Logic

"We also take issue with the protestors' assertion that last year's referendum vote—when some 1300 students voted to cut all UC ties with the CIA—proves the student body finds the CIA ad offensive. Only about 17 percent of the student body voted last year to sever CIA connections with the university. We hardly find such a vote conclusive proof of campus opposition to CIA ties with UC."

So reads the latest instance of the *Triton Times'* mind-boggling logic. True, "only" 1300 voted to sever CIA ties, but "only" 890 voted to keep them. Any opinion poll would regard that as a very large majority within a very significant sampling. (Most opinion polls involve only a few hundred samples.) In fact, more students voted to sever CIA ties than voted to institute the new AS government, which was, incidentally, supposed to use the referendum vote for guidelines in actions to pursue. Does the TT, following its editors' own weird logic, now withdraw recognition of the AS?

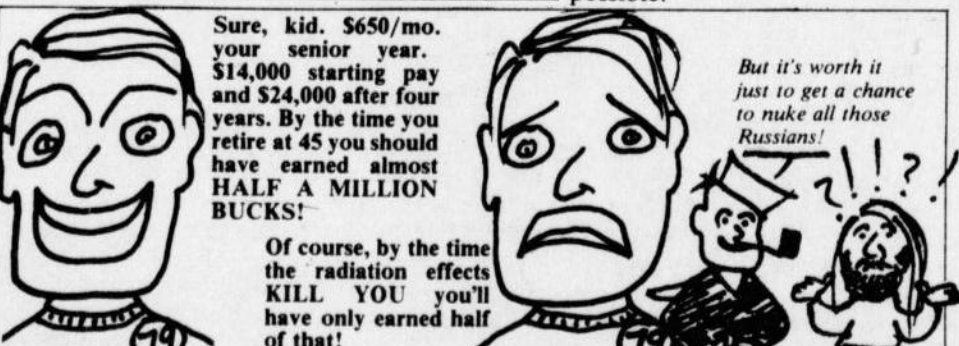
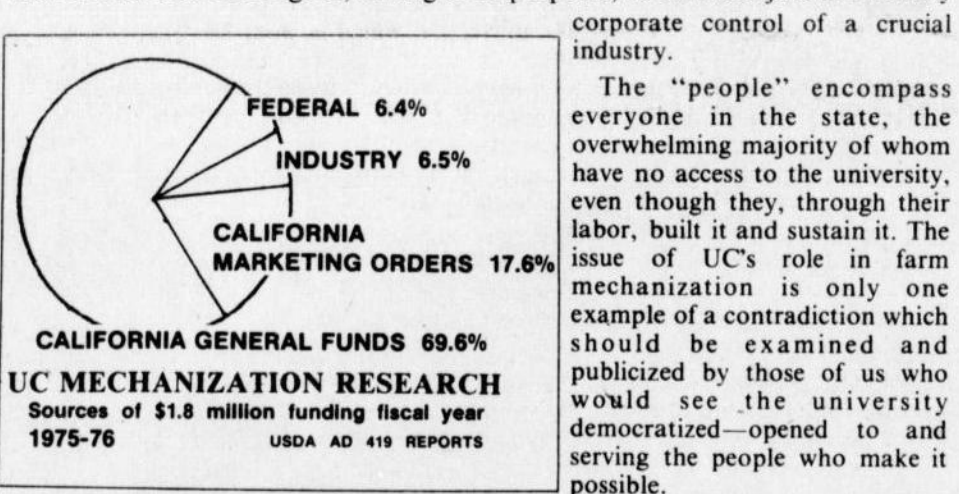
UC Role in Society Central Question in Farm Mechanization Issue

Last issue we ran an article detailing UC's role in the mechanization of agriculture. The subject raises questions about automation as well as about UC's relation to the various sectors of society—large corporations, small farmers, farm workers, and the rest of the public who contribute to the support of the university.

Proponents of automation have always heralded a new age in which fewer people will have to work undesirable jobs and in which we will all have more leisure in which to develop ourselves as human beings.

Unfortunately, the dynamic of the system has prevented this happening. In fact, as increasing numbers of people are thrown out of work, they do not find themselves with more satisfying jobs or with leisure in which to develop, but as part of a burgeoning "reserve labor army" which enables employers to be more "selective" in hiring, to pay lower wages, to demand subservience, etc. When the reserve army grows so large as to pose a threat, ruling class propagandists and technocrats advance population control programs for the disenfranchised. The object is a state in which those who work fear for their jobs, and those who don't take what jobs they can get. And far from lowering prices for the consumer, machine-intensive industry under our system simply means a greater profit margin for the large corporations who alone can afford sophisticated machinery; and prices continue to rise.

As the article last issue pointed out, UC's role in this scheme is clearly to help the agribusiness conglomerates harvest and sell the crop without the "problem" of workers who demand a voice in the process. A glaring contradiction in this scheme is that, while UC traditionally does the bidding of corporate giants, as shown by the accompanying graph, it is the people who work and pay taxes who support the great bulk of the research designed, among other purposes, to eliminate jobs and solidify corporate control of a crucial industry.



Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate

Be the first on your block to get genuine radiation induced cancer—see your NAVY RECRUITER TODAY! (And say "No Thanks!")

The Committee for World Democracy and Third World Studies are sponsoring a series of films about and from the Third World:
The Traitors—March 9, 7:00 p.m., 2622 USB.
The Sense of Loss—March 16, 7:30 p.m., 1330 HSS.

Gay Students' Alliance at UCSD is an open group to explore and encourage expression of human potential without repressive discrimination by gender, sexual orientation, age, economic or social status. GSA, c/o Gay Center for Social Services, 2250 "B" Street, San Diego, CA 92102 (237-7528), or c/o Student Organizations Center, UCSD, b-023, La Jolla, CA 92093.

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 UCSD, b-023
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My Aim Is True

This month's west coast version of the Attila award must surely go the *Triton Times'* editorial editors for their tortured rationalization of the CIA ads. Not that we shouldn't expect it. After all, UC itself has been tight with the hired barbarians of the state-corporate apparatus from the start. Scripps, Naval Electronics Lab, etc. are heavily involved in war research; other depts here have CIA contracts (eg., Econ.). And UC has developed every nuclear warhead.

So it's no surprise when the "official" student rag drops pretenses of etiquette and soils its hands with some of the blood-drenched green. Especially when that green is needed to cover big stories like beer busts, watermelon drops or the Chancellor's latest pearls of wisdom while ignoring the trashing of day care, the firing of jr. professors and the denial of a university education to working class students, etc., ad nauseam. What is galling, if not embarrassing, is the rag's 3-pronged rationalization for the act. To wit:

Censorship—a de facto censorship is already at work in advertising: eg., thousands of dead Chileans, Iranian political prisoners, 30,000 victims of the CIA's Operation Phoenix in Vietnam, etc., cannot really raise the cash to purchase TT space to oppose the CIA. On a more mundane level, the *LA Times* & other bastions of corporate media have denied space to porno ads, as has *San Diego Newsline* on grounds of degradation & exploitation. Are CIA actions any less degrading?

Denial of Information (to students who might want to work for the CIA)—would the TT, by the same logic, carry Hitler's ads for gas chamber technicians? As for allowing free choices, the TT also makes a choice, in the stories it chooses to report or ignore, etc. In this case they have made their choice in favor of CIA bucks. It is also noteworthy that the CIA allows its victims precious little "choice."

Offensive Ad?—the TT, in thinking its readership unoffended by the ad, underestimates the UCSD community. I should hope. If not, those of us who retain some sense of human dignity owe it to our peers to disseminate information on the CIA and the nature of a "free press" in the U.S. By a process of circular reasoning, the TT helps mold public opinion by ignoring the crux of CIA activities and its function in the state-corporate apparatus, and then uses public ignorance to help justify its policies. (Despite which a large majority favored severance of UC-CIA ties in last year's referendum—1,345-890).

Myths About the CIA

The mistaken nature of two media myths about the CIA needs examining: one, that the CIA has only engaged in "renegade" actions, apart from general U.S. policy; two, that it has, in essence, changed. The CIA used dirty, disgusting, "nefarious" tactics because they were what was needed to enforce U.S. policy, that of protecting multinational corporate interests against growing movements of national self-determination. In other words, to preserve the \$3 return per \$1 invested in Latin America, not to fight off the Russians. Were the U.S. truly benevolent, the Russians would have no inroad, anyway.

And although a highgrade move is in progress to add a public relations gloss to the Agency, it will continue to function as needed. And the effects of its "nefarious" actions persist: the totalitarian, torturing regimes in Iran, Guatemala, Chile, Uruguay, Argentina, etc.

The CIA can undergo no more than a facelift because of its function as an enforcer for monopoly capitalism. In these latter days of imperialism it does the work openly done by the military in imperialism's younger days. That work was accurately described by one military man who came to understand his function. As Marine Corps Major

"THE PEN IS MIGHTIER THAN THE DAGGER."

General Smedley Butler put it, "...I spent most of my time being a high-class muscle man for Big Business, for Wall Street and for the bankers. In short, I was a racketeer, a gangster for capitalism."

And one function of UC, it seems, is to train new, more efficient and modern "gangsters for capitalism" (even if most of them will simply kill indirectly, from behind desks). And the function of "official" student media is to help promote the mindlessness necessary to such an occupation, to reflect the cynicism of the dominant ideology by justifying pandering for barbarians under the guises of "free speech" and "equal opportunity."

—Analyst

Glaring Contradiction

Letter to the Editor:

Speaking of contradictions, there was a "glaring example" of one in your last issue. The article on farm mechanization tells how jobs have been lost to machines. Yet, how many times have I seen references in the *new indicator* about the alienating and dehumanizing characteristics of those same jobs.

I don't care how many people are put out of that kind of work. It is really better for them to be without those jobs—as long as they can eat nutritious unpoisoned food, find adequate shelter, receive good health care, live in an unpolluted environment and make satisfying human contact with other human beings!

The problem is not the loss of jobs and money; the problem is the hesitancy of our society to allow people to live in styles that will not exploit nature or humans. Jobs such as the one you mourn are the exact material method by which exploitation of humans and nature is achieved.

If those jobs are lost, a celebration is in order—but only if the basic human needs are satisfied for everyone. As most of us who work know, neither jobs nor the loss of them has much to do with that.

Brian Ritter

No one in the NI collective would disagree with the wish to do away with alienating and dehumanizing jobs. Some might say, though, that the organized power of workers in those jobs holds the greatest potential to create truly humane conditions of work. If agribusiness interests and their UC cohorts were really interested in the workers, it would be one thing, but we think that the mechanization they plan will just exploit fewer workers, who will be less organized and less powerful, while those who exploit will be in firmer control of the conditions of the production of everyone's food supply. (After all, it's the agribusiness interests that have been dumping poisonous chemicals on our food and the farm workers, not the workers themselves; and only the union has had any success in fighting that practice.)

Letters



Who Rules the Universities?

A recent symposium here examined the historical development of the concepts of "intelligence" and "meritocracy" and the evolution of the university toward its present role in society...

Two scholarly critics of the educational system in the United States spoke and took part in a discussion in UCSD's North Conference Room here last month. Prof. Gil Gonzales of UC Irvine and David Smith, author of *Who Rules the Universities?* held forth on such topics as the history of the concepts of intelligence and meritocracy, and the development of the university into a vital arm of the U.S. power structure.

According to Prof. Gonzales the concept of intelligence is a historical phenomenon emerging with the advent of monopoly—as opposed to free market—capitalism. Around the turn of the century capital became extremely concentrated (one-third of all wealth was held by the Rockefeller and Morgan banking groups) and labor became organized, thus exacerbating the class conflict. Large scale national strikes resulted in a perceived threat that the country could even go socialist. Those in power responded by centralizing the state apparatus in accordance with the centralization of capital.

At this point the old capitalist ideology of competition, property acquisition, Horatio Alger myth, survival struggle (of which class struggle was a recognized form) lost their primary usefulness. Prospects for individuals to compete and prevail on their own greatly diminished. An intellectual reformation, personified by the work of philosopher

"Company contributions [to higher education] have now been tested by experience over a long enough span of time to be proved a sound investment. They are not philanthropy. Guided by reason and a clear purpose, they are an aspect of good management in the conduct of business."

—Council for Financial Aid to Education, 1956

William James, putting forth a theory of instincts, primary among them that of "intelligence," ensued. The basis for the social order was no longer seen as struggle and property, but as "intelligence." The organic unity of all societal elements was laid to "intelligence," and existing relations of power were rationalized on the basis of the "intelligence instinct."

The development of "intelligence testing" followed the establishment of the "intelligence" concept. As the tests were biased in favor of certain racial and socioeconomic sectors, they greatly limited the numbers of people authorized to make important decisions, and thus served to legitimize the centralization of power.

Smith, who wrote his influential study of the university while an undergrad at UC Berkeley, likened the concept of "merit" to that of "intelligence" as a legitimizing force in the university. The notion of meritocracy, he said, is a direct product of class struggle and the conscious domination of business interests.

"In every organism there must be diversity of members. There will be head, and hands, and -- we must venture to say it-- feet, too"

--"Plain Truth," an early opponent of the Free Academy, 1847

Smith outlined three basic periods in the development of the U.S. university to illustrate his point. These periods began after the Civil War had seen the victory of industrial and mercantile capital; up to that point U.S. colleges had been limited mostly to classical and religious studies.

The first period, lasting until the 20th century, consisted of uncoordinated philanthropy, paralleling the random development of capitalism. Between 1865-70 twenty science departments were founded, whereas there had been none before. Business departments also began to spring up. Such financial barons as Cornell and Stanford got into the act, often contributing to schools in return for services rendered (research, etc).

The second period, lasting until WW II, came with such generous souls as J.D. Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie, who dispensed millions, with strings attached. Carnegie insisted on the systemization of the educational system: degrees, courses, terms of study, etc. were all systematized at this time (early 1900s). At Carnegie's demand, 50% of the religious institutions dropped religious ties to secure his funds. During this period the need for an educated class was still small and no pretense at a "meritocracy" was necessary—education was still largely the province of society's financial-social elite.

The period from 1940 to the present has seen the consolidation of the university into the state/corporate apparatus. Whereas the Depression had created widespread fears of chronic unemployment under capitalism, the war lifted the economy. Federal



spending on scientific experimentation soared. Three billion dollars were spent during WW II for construction of scientific research facilities (here in San Diego, sonar was developed and much submarine research done).

The war economy continued after the armistice, through the Cold War, and the Korean and Indo-Chinese "actions." Educational spending continued to grow 20 percent per year until 1960, and the rate of growth has not decreased much since then.

After the war the U.S. found itself in the new position of an imperial giant, but still in fear of depression. Perceiving the need for technological skills and bureaucracy to run the empire, capitalists undertook a collaborative effort to provide the educational apparatus to administer their needs. Between 1952-56 various groups joined a council on higher education. In 1956 the council published a first pamphlet outlining corporate purposes and methods for educational development (General Electric, for example, stipulated conditions for its cooperation, including a stable social environment for corporate operations.) Following the corporate plan, the university since the 50s has by and large become a factory for production of scientific knowledge and people to fill the technocracy.

The last two decades have seen an astounding growth in the numbers attending college, from 3 million in 1950 to 10 million in 1970 to 12 million at present. Fourteen percent of the labor force has had at least four years of college.

Discussing socio-political developments in the university since the 60s, Smith perceived a different character in today's students. The protesting students during the 60s, he said, were naive, the first to face the shock of human beings treated like IBM cards. They experienced a direct self-understanding of dehumanization. Fully 40 percent of the struggles then centered around experiential phenomena of regulations regarding academics, dorms, admissions, etc. Subsequent generations, he said, accept the dehumanized situation as normal. They know what's being done to them, but largely adapt to the process of trying to prove themselves suitable to be selected out of the pack on the basis of "merit."

The moral sense of being debased which hit the 60s student is not likely to recur, Smith said, but two economic factors may spur students to protest: cutbacks and the increasing inability of the economy to absorb "white collar" workers.

There is a glut of educated people in the U.S., caused in part by the developments of the 60s which propelled women and minorities into the educational and occupational picture. Ruling class analysts have perceived a need to re-transform higher education into an elite institution. So far they have not worked very hard on the problem. For now, they are trying to reinstate the idea of meritocracy, which, in a way analogous to Prof. Gonzales' interpretation of the use of the intelligence concept, would serve to justify an

"If business and industry could not draw upon a large reservoir of educated manpower, they would be handicapped in every phase of their operations. American education does a job for business and industry."

—Frank Abrams, ex-head of GM

irrational and prejudicial distribution of "the good life," or in other words, of the existing and worsening socio-political-economic relations of U.S. society. We will see a more concerted effort to instill the meritocracy when the economic situation deteriorates further. (As precursors of this trend, we have the Bakke Case, the new UC Admissions Plan, etc.)

The concept and practice of democracy fade with the concentration of monopoly capital, said Smith, and an ideological effort ensues to condition the idea of democracy out of people. Thus, within the confines of the university, which is, after all, where we are, Smith noted the need to work to democratize it in every sector, to struggle to open it up to the working class, to expose people whenever possible to the workings of a democratic process.

Aside from producing politically desirable results, he maintained, this process is needed for psychic survival merely in so far as it puts us in contact with other people and introduces us to the practice of solidarity as opposed to the individual struggle for "merit" which the system pushes us toward.

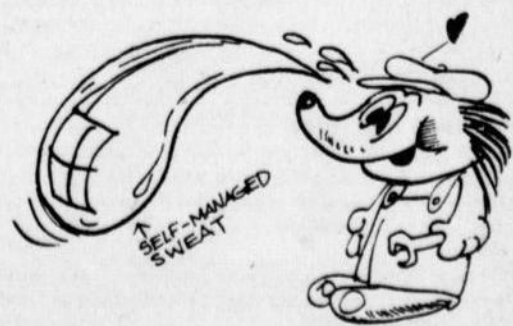
After the talks by Smith and Gonzales, the audience participated in a lively discussion about what can be done, concretely, to fight the prevailing antidemocratic and one-dimensional trends in the university without burning out and losing effectiveness. Intellectual struggle in the classroom, political unity, and participation in small struggles were among the suggestions offered.

(Smith's book, *Who Rules the Universities?*, is in the UCSD library and is also available in paperback at Groundwork Books in the Student Center.)

the print co-op is a student-run printshop offering quality offset printing at low prices.

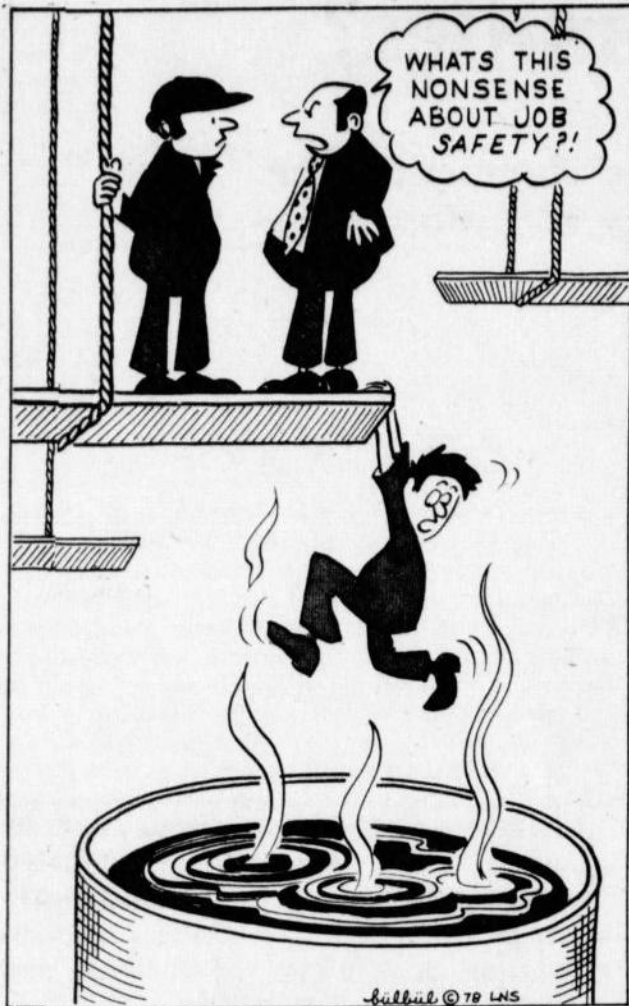
the print co-op is located in the south wing of the student center.

the print co-op is open monday thru friday, 10 am to 3 pm.



the print co-op is having a grand opening this friday, february 24, at 5 pm, with the Groundwork TGIF.

Long Stories In Short



Court Rules Workers May Not Refuse Unsafe Working Conditions

(LNS)—Workers lost a key element of on-the-job protections in January, when a U.S. Court of Appeals in New Orleans ruled that a major construction company could fire an ironworker who left his 15th-story post and refused to return to work because of high winds. The firing directly violated Labor Department

rulings under the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

In 1976, the Labor Department stated explicitly that a worker cannot be punished for refusing to work under circumstances in which it appears "there is a real danger of death or serious injury." But the judges interpreted this as giving workers a right only to complain—not to act. The court appeared to be more concerned about protection of company profits than workers' lives. The judges buttressed their decision by saying, "an overriding concern of Congress was its fear that workers might abuse the rights granted and disrupt or terminate the employers' business operations as a form of intimidation or harassment."

New CIA-Press Links Come to Light

(LNS)—New revelations elaborating links between the CIA and the U.S. media continue to surface three months after Carl Bernstein's article in *Rolling Stone* uncorked a torrent of investigation. Recent documentation substantiates the CIA's pivotal role in creating political havoc in a number of foreign countries as well as influencing public opinion at home.

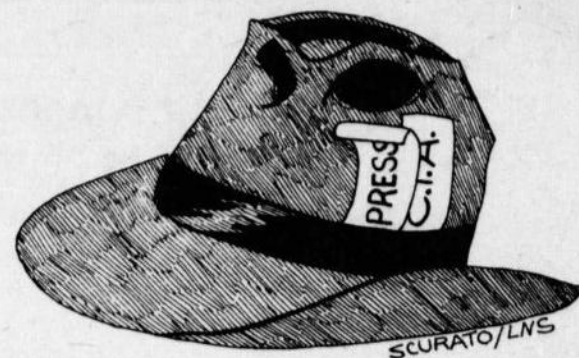
Among the new information unearthed is evidence that:

—IN 1970 the CIA gave a "false briefing" on Chile to *Time Magazine* in order to sway public opinion against socialist president Salvador Allende. Allende was described as "an extremely ambitious, very vain man, a symbol of sartorial splendor and capitalistic amenities."

—the CIA attempted to discredit critics of the Warren Commission report on President Kennedy's assassination so as to "inhibit the circulation of such claims to other countries."

—Most recently, the CIA attempted to discredit Elias Demetracopolus, a Greek journalist and business consultant who lives in Washington and who was a persistent critic of the military junta. The CIA provided documents on Demetracopolus to the *NY Times*, which ran a profile on him this past December.

This last case is particularly significant, CIA critics point out, since it involved current leadership and practices of the Agency. And it reveals that—despite CIA claims to the contrary—CIA manipulation of the media is hardly just a thing of the past.



GIs in Europe Organize Against Neutron Bomb

(LNS)—Active duty U.S. soldiers and their wives and dependents in West Germany are currently circulating a petition against the neutron bomb. The response has been positive among the lower ranking soldiers—despite daily threats and harassment from superiors.

Two soldiers—Private John Vitu of Cleveland, Ohio, and Specialist 4 Ken Ulrich of El Cajon, Calif., have spoken out against the Neutron Bomb and are being discharged as a result. In an interview with *Fight Back*, a GI organizing project in W. Germany, the two said that approximately 75 percent of the lower ranking soldiers they talk to oppose the bomb. The text of petition follows:

"We, the undersigned American soldiers and civilian personnel stationed in the Federal Republic of Germany, are against the deployment of the Neutron Bomb.

"A weapon that kills people while saving property may be good for property owners, but not for those of us who have only our lives to lose.

"We are against a weapon that makes war more likely."

—compiled from SD Union & LNS

As President Carter has said in his Saturday, Feb. 17th press conference, "the future of the union, the future of an effective collective-bargaining process, the future of the coal industry, and the welfare of our nation depend on the success of these negotiations". In so far as Carter has based his national energy policy on the use of coal he is certainly telling the truth. But in this context, what does "success" mean?

Both Carter's recent threats to either temporarily "nationalize" the coal industry or invoke the Taft-Hartley back-to-work law (essentially declaring war on the miners) and the contract which the industry has offered the miners points to the fact that to them a "success" would mean breaking the United Mine Workers—a very serious business considering the UMW is one of the oldest, most democratic and most militant unions in the country.

The Contract

Gone from the contract the miners have been working under are demands the miners laid out at their last convention: the right to strike; a full-time safety committee person; and a streamlined grievance procedure system, with some provision to force companies to settle grievances at the mine site instead of tying them up in arbitration. Even the demand for full reinstatement of cuts in the UMW health card, which triggered a 10-week wildcat strike last summer, is not to be found.

In their place, the contract proposal offers a health benefits scale which would require miners to lay out \$325 for "deductibles." The current Health and Retirement Fund, which has been jointly administered by the union and coal operators, would be replaced by individual plans totally controlled by the companies. And, most significant, a harsh disciplinary system would penalize miners who even tacitly engage in wildcat strikes.

Miners would have \$20 deducted from their paycheck for each day out because of an unauthorized work stoppage. And

Coalminers Fight For Their Lives



companies would be able to fire all instigators of wildcats, and to suspend for 30 days without pay any miner who even tacitly participated in a wildcat strike by refusing to cross a picketline—a time-honored tradition in the coalfields—as well as a vital strike tool.

"That's an unbelievably harsh provision and it's a great way for the companies to go singling out so-called troublemakers," Tom Bethell, a former UMW staff researcher now with the publication *Coal Patrol*, told LNS.

Bethell sums up the proposal as "fairly fat in terms of wages up front, and extremely lean and harsh in every other provision." The wage increase is \$2.35 an hour over three years—a 3 percent increase.

In addition, the proposal calls for the payment of back health and pension benefits which were cut off during the strike, and a couple of bonuses "that would be used as kind of sweeteners to try to get miners to go back to work—

since they would appear in the first paycheck."

But judging from their reaction thus far, miners are unlikely to swallow this. "If they had sent that (contract) down here, we would have laughed them under the table," one rank and file miner from southwestern Virginia told LNS. He had just learned of the contract proposal.

"The feeling in this part of the coalfields is that the negotiating team has been sitting on their cans for the last 4 months, ignoring the real problems we're facing. And why they would ever send something like this to the bargaining council to try to be ratified, we just don't understand."

Militance Grows as Stockpiles Dwindle

Given such strong sentiments, the Council's refusal to speedily okay the current contract proposal hardly came as a shock to most observers of the bargaining scene. The UMW leadership has kept district leaders as well as the

rank and file almost totally in the dark about contract developments during the strike. And it was widely expected that the proposal would meet with strong disagreement from District representatives who must answer to an increasingly militant and determined rank and file.

Meanwhile, all the major coalmining areas have been the scene of open class warfare for the last two months as state troopers and armed company guards have tried to limit the movements and activities of the UMW pickets. A second UMW miner was killed February 3rd in a gun battle between striking miners and scabs at a non-union mine in Indiana. And the same day in Alabama more than 200 state troopers were called out to disperse 800-1,000 striking miners who, according to newspaper reports, were holding seven scabs hostage in a house.

Mixed in with this tension is the hardship of being out on strike over two months with no strike benefits and all health coverage cut off. But many miners share the feeling that having stuck it out this long, there's no way they'll return to work without a contract that gives them what they want.

"We have no other choice but to stand tall for what we think is right," one miner from a local in Southwestern Virginia told LNS in a telephone interview February 7. "We know that if we don't get a good contract this time, that our union will be broke, and we'll never be able to ratify another contract. We feel like we've been out 66 days now and we're ready to sacrifice another 66 if that's what it takes..."

And Kenny Dawes, president of District 12 in Illinois and a member of the bargaining council, told LNS shortly after the council had recessed, "I hope that all the UMW members understand that after suffering for 64 days, they shouldn't accept an agreement that basically they could have had from day one."

"This union never gained anything easy. It's going to continue to be hard for a while. But there's one thing about coal miners—they're tough."