

the

25 CENTS

CRUSADER

VOL. 1

NO. 1



"This country with its institutions belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing government, they can exercise their constitutional right of amending it or their revolutionary right to dismember or overthrow it."

Abraham Lincoln, First Inaugural Address

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT?

PLENTY!

WHO IS TO BLAME?

WE THE STUDENTS!

WHAT ARE WE DOING TO IMPROVE OUR SCHOOLS?

NOTHING!

It's true we don't make the rules or the decisions concerning the operation of our public schools, nor do we elect the people who do. They make the rules, they make the decisions, they make the mistakes, but we let them. We know what is wrong with our public schools yet we do nothing.

The public schools in the District of Columbia are one of the worst in the U.S. They are plagued with many problems, which both the School Board and Congress have done very little in solving. Though recently several proposals on ways to improve our schools have been made, none have yet been approved or put into immediate use. It is very doubtful that any significant action towards improving our schools will be taken in the near future. In the meantime our schools are getting worse. We realize this and we complain about it, but what have we, the students, done about improving our schools ourselves.

Oh yes we complain. We complain about the lack of trained teachers, about the overcrowded classrooms, the quality of the education we receive, the school policies, and everything else that is wrong with our schools. But when it comes to doing something about our school's problems it's a different story. The main problem is apathy. There are too many students that are not willing to try to improve the school situation themselves. They say they can't do anything because they are just one concerned person, or that the School Board and Congress will do something eventually, or they just don't care enough. Isn't it about time we do care and do something now!

Ralph Bowen

fascism USA

After listening to various speeches at the recent Vietnam Moratorium and the various emotional reactions among friends and acquaintances during this time I have decided that too much loose talk has been floating around about this country. This is especially true in the case of the word "fascist". In America today we do not live in a fascist state. Compared to Mussolini's Italy we live in a relatively free society. The real question is, "is the United States moving in the direction of fascism?" I think we are (to make a mild understatement!).

I base my aforesaid conclusion on two recent incidents. The first one is the Chicago 8 trial in which Judge Julius Hoffman convicted 5 of the 8 on a conspiracy law which to me seems to violate all free speech rights and 7 of them on contempt of court charges because they made a fool out of him. The eighth victim, Bobby Seale, was let off because the racist courts wanted to get him on a murder charge which, of course, involves much stiffer penalties. The second thing is Spiro Agnew, who for some reason holds the office of Vice-President of the United States. It was only a few years ago when people were talking about how terrible it was to have a right-wing lunatic like George Wallace gain so much power. Today we have a man equally as bad for as Vice-President, who is obviously supported by his boss, who after all made him what he is. What bothers me is that Spiro was elected by the majority of the United States. Between calling peace marchers "effete snobs" and accusing our conservative media of being biased to the liberals, I could tell months ago that our country was being led into the trough of a pig's sty. Now it seems that the people in this country are following, and they seem to want a militaristic society full of plastic ceremonies celebrating war-heroes and christian soldiers along with infinite power for the police (more pleasantly known as law 'n order). And

film

Z

I personally have seen a number of films in the last few months but of all of them I think the finest was Z. The story is based on an incident in Greece that occurred before the recent military Coup d'Etat in that country. The story itself is very good and although it is quite devastating the dialogue is very humorous at times. As for the non-verbal parts there is a combination of violent, gory, funny, sad, and touching scenes in which all the characters are portrayed by very good actors.

However, the really amazing part of this film is the actual filming. It has a perfect medley of sound, action, and special effects besides the fact that the photography is beautiful. One of the outstanding features is the incredible use of color; by incorporating a subtle blend of browns, blacks, whites, and soft colors and only using the bright colors (so often over used producing a fake feeling) only when called for.

The film is in French with English subtitles which are very well done. Z is now playing at the Cerberus 1,2,3 on M st. in Georgetown. The Cerberus, by the way, is worth seeing in itself for it has a very unique theatre and projection system. Special praise to Costa Gravas, who made the film, Z.

Wayne Horvitz

As for the recent repudiation in the schools, especially in the south, of desegregation, this is only another perfect example of America's immediate systematic rejection of anything alien to their puritanical tradition. Don't kid yourself, there's no revolution in Middle America where, "Spiro's are hero". On Main St. most people think Abbie Hoffman is a Jewish tailor and Rennie Davis is a used car dealer.

I contend that there is no one way to deal with this problem. Some say to work within the system. How can you work within a system when what your fighting is the system? Nevertheless, by both working within and without the system something can be done to better our predicament. It may take a total revolution or it may take much less. But some sort of revolution must take place, not so much a take over and change of the system but a change, or should I say a destruction of the whole puritanical beliefs that have been with us since the Pilgrims hit Plymouth rock. That's where the fascism is, in the people, now super-imposed on the system; and although the system certainly has its faults, what this country really needs is a cultural revolution, not a political one.

Power to the People???

Wayne Horvitz

HIGH SCHOOL RIGHTS

A DOCUMENT OF STRUGGLE

One of the many things to come out of the SMC conference in Cleveland was the drafting of the long overdue High School Bill of Rights. The High School Bill of Rights is a generalized document outlining the basic political rights of high school students. Its function is to inform and educate the students about the rights they do indeed have, and to help those students who are struggling today put them into use.

This document is not meant to be a legalistic document, but a statement of basic rights that all high school students should have and can achieve by united action. It can be used by all students or student organizations whatever their cause may be. Since all schools have different situations, The High School Bill of Rights is a guideline which can conform to the specific needs of the school.

This type of document has long been needed at both Woodrow Wilson and Alice Deal. Students at both Wilson and Deal should urge their student councils to establish a High School Bill of Rights in their schools. Note well both student councils; if you don't take action in establishing and put into practice a High School Bill of Rights We (the students) will. In fact this paper is already establishing a movement at Deal for a High School Bill of Rights and urges other activists at Wilson to do the same. In order to achieve true academic and political freedom in school we need a High School Bill of Rights

EDITOR

High School Bill of Rights

I. STUDENTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO EXERCISE ALL RIGHTS ENUMERATED IN THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION, THE BILL OF RIGHTS AND ALL OTHER AMENDMENTS AND THOSE ESTABLISHED BY THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

Freedom of Speech and Press

THIS DOCUMENT WAS DRAFTED BY THE STUDENT MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE TO END THE WAR IN VIETNAM
1029 Vermont Ave. NW #907
(202) 737-0072 Wash. D.C. 20005

Freedom of Political Activity

II. STUDENTS HAVE THE FULL FREEDOM OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY IN THE HIGH SCHOOLS.

1. Students may form political and social organizations in the school, including those which champion unpopular causes and regardless of the political and social views of the organization.
2. Students have the right to full use of school facilities--bulletin boards, auditoriums, public address systems, mimeo facilities--to advertise their ideas and activities that take place inside and outside the high schools.
3. Students have the right to plan and carry out forums, assemblies, seminars and other school programs in order to expand the educational process. These are to be carried out at a time chosen by the students. Speakers chosen by students may not be rejected by administrators and/or faculty.
4. Students have the right to distribute any leaflets, pamphlets and political material freely inside and outside the school and school grounds without authorization of the principal or any body of the school administration or the Board of Education.
5. Students have the right to wear any symbol of their political beliefs, such as buttons, arm-bands, and style of dress which expresses their opinions.
6. Students have the right to choose their own method of expressing their beliefs and to refrain from saluting the flag or from attending any assemblies which they so desire.
7. Students have the right to strike.

III. STUDENTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND THE PRESS.

1. Student publications must be controlled by the students and may in no way be censored by the administration or faculty. Editing will be done by the student editors. Any student organization has the right to have access to the school newspaper to advertise its ideas and activities.
2. Student publications (newspapers and magazines) which are not "official" school publications are to be treated with the same rights as (1) above with full use of school facilities to produce and distribute them.

Due Process

IV. STUDENTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO DUE PROCESS.

1. Students have the right to a fair hearing which includes representation by counsel, with the right to question witnesses prior to any disciplinary action. The hearing shall conform to all present laws pertaining to court procedure.
2. Students may not in any way be penalized by administration or faculty for any political or moral beliefs which they have or upon which they act.
3. Students have the right to receive annually upon the opening of school a publication setting forth all the rules and regulations to which students are subject. This publication shall contain a statement of student rights.
4. Students and parents have the right to see their personal files at any time.
5. Students have the right to appeal any decision on a disciplinary action with a transcript of the trial provided by the school administration.

Free Elections

V. STUDENTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO FREE ELECTIONS IN THE SCHOOLS.

1. Students shall have the right to run in any school election for any office. There shall be an end to arbitrary administration requirements and screening of candidates.
2. All students in the school shall have the right to vote. Scheduling of balloting shall occur at a time when all students are present during regular school hours.
3. All candidates shall have the right to wage a real campaign with full use of school facilities to freely advertise their full election platform.

No War Machine

VI. STUDENTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO END HIGH SCHOOL COMPLICITY WITH THE WAR MACHINE

1. The student body has the right to be free from the presence of any influence of federal agencies not directly involved in the educational process.
2. There shall be an end to all military programs like ROTC in the schools and to all military recruiting in the high schools.
3. There shall be an end to the use of police to settle disputes within the schools.

VII. STUDENTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO HELP DETERMINE THEIR CURRICULUM AND EVALUATE THEIR TEACHERS.

1. There shall be no discrimination on the basis of sex.
2. The tracking system shall be abolished.

SAVE THE PRIEST

CHARGE 2, SPECIFICATION 6

IN THAT ROGER LEE PRIEST, JOURNALIST SEAMAN APPRENTICE, UNITED STATES NAVY, DID,...WITH DESIGN TO PROMOTE DISLOYALTY AND DISAFFECTION AMONG MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE U.S., CAUSE TO BE PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED A PAMPHLET ENTITLED "OM, THE LIBERATION NEWSLETTER," WHICH SAID PAMPHLET CONTAINED STATEMENTS DISLOYAL TO THE UNITED STATES.

If you printed material such as OM and passed it out on the street you might receive some hostile looks, some stares. The man with the badge would tell you to get a permit or, better yet, to get lost. But Roger Priest, the editor of OM, faces up to 39 yrs. in jail for what he has printed. Why? Because Roger is in the United States Navy. With his own resources and on his own time, this serviceman expressed his opinion of this country today, voiced his disgust and contempt for the American involvement in Vietnam, and exposed the military brass and their peers in Washington for their mistakes in Vietnam and in the military in general. Since it seems to be the habit of the military and the government to conceal their mistakes and blunders Roger, one man thinking and speaking out, must be silenced.

Navy harassment of Priest began after he designated the War Resisters League as his GI insurance beneficiary and counseled other servicemen to do the same. But it was when he related L. Mendel Rivers to a pig that legal action began. Rivers in a letter to the Navy, ordered that Roger be "silenced;" a General Court Martial was the solution the Navy came up with. Roger has been followed by as many as 25 Naval Intelligence Agents; the Washington D.C. Sanitation Department provided special pick-up of his trash, and he was transferred from the Pentagon to do sanitation work at the Anacostia Navel Station.

Whether or not you agree with the opinions expressed by Roger Priest and the OM, the first amendment guarantees Roger or anyone else the right to say or publish whatever he wants provided it isn't slanderous or untrue. The Navy, Mendel Rivers, the Government, or anyone else do not have the power to deny Roger Priest of his constitutional rights and should not be permitted to do so. In a sense the navy is not just court martialling Roger Priest but the First Amendment as well.

If you support Roger Priest and feel that his court martial is unjust and would like to show your support, or would like more information on what is happening; you can contact;

Roger Priest Defense Com.

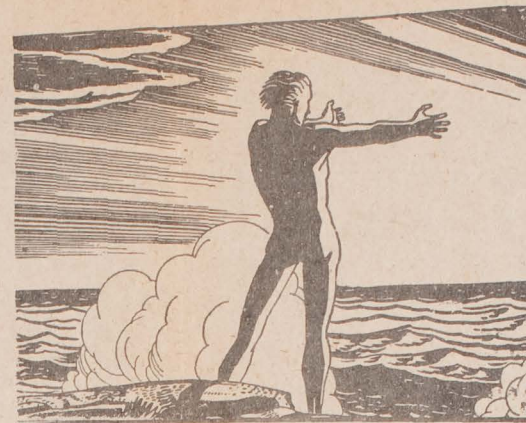
1029 Vermont Ave. N.W. Rm. 200

Washington D.C. 20005

or call: 638-4216

The trial is supposed to begin sometime in April. Mass public presence at the trial is being organized by the New Mobilization Committee. If you wish to attend, call or write to The Roger Priest Defense Committee at the above address and phone number or call the New Mobe at 737-8600.

Ralph Bowen



The CRUSADER fights for you.

Buy The CRUSADER.



We would like to express special thanks to "The Quicksilver Times" for all the assistance they gave us with the printing of this paper.

Buy Quicksilver!

DOES NIXON'S PROGRAM TO STOP INFLATION REALLY WORK?
WE THINK SO: NEXT ISSUE ONLY 20 CENTS!

"The idealists and visionaries, foolish enough to throw caution to the winds and express their ardor and faith in some supreme deed, have advanced mankind and enriched the earth."

Emma Goldman



None are more hopelessly enslaved than those who falsely believe they are free."

Goethe



WHO PAYS FOR THE WAR? WE DO.
WHO PROFITS FROM THE WAR? THEY DO.
STOP PAYING! STOP THE WAR!



"In peace children bury their parents; war violates the order of nature and causes parents to bury their children."

Herodotus

WE ARE FIGHTING IN VIETNAM TO HELP ITS PEOPLE DEFEND THEMSELVES FROM THE ENEMY.

Is this the Enemy!



THE CRUSADER

HE ASKED, WILL YOU CARRY A GUN FOR YOUR COUNTRY?
I ANSWERED THE EFFBEE— AYE "YAY!"
I WILL POINT A GUN FOR MY COUNTRY,
BUT I WON'T GUARANTEE YOU WHICH WAY!
I WILL POINT A GUN FOR MY COUNTRY,
BUT I WON'T GUARANTEE WHICH WAY.

Woody Guthrie

APRIL 13-14 15 MARCH STRIKE

THE SPRING ANTIWAR OFFENSIVE IS ON!

Spring has come and so has another Vietnam moratorium. It will take place on April 13, 14, 15; a list of events is published below.

1. On April 13 and 14 there will be teach-ins, rallies, and other various student activities on campuses such as A.U., G.W., plus similar activities on some High School and Junior High campuses. For more information on exact times and meeting places call the Student Mobilization Committee at 737-0072 or April action Committee (a coalition of SMC, Moratorium Committee, and various student anti-war groups) at 783-1834.

2. On April 15 mass teach-ins etc. will be held all over the country and in Washington. At 4:00 P.M. there will be a rally and mass picket line at the Department of Internal Revenue. At 5:45 P.M. there will be a rally at Lafayette Square located at 9th and Constitution Ave. where there will be speeches and music protesting against the use of our taxes for the war machine. Afterwards there will be a mass march to the Capitol where another rally will be held.

3. All during the week of April 15 welfare mothers will picket the White House protesting the use of money for war instead of poverty.

Join The Spring Offensive!

I LOVE MY FLAG

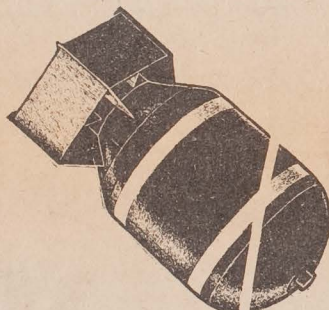
I LOVE MY FLAG, I DO, I DO,
WHICH FLOATS UPON THE BREEZE
I ALSO LOVE MY ARMS AND LEGS,
AND NECK AND NOSE AND KNEES.
ONE LITTLE SHELL MIGHT SPOIL THEM ALL
OR GIVE THEM SUCH A TWIST
THEY WOULD BE OF NO USE TO ME
I GUESS I WON'T ENLIST.

I LOVE MY COUNTRY, YES, I DO,
I HOPE HER FOLKS DO WELL.
WITHOUT OUR ARMS AND LEGS AND THINGS,
I THINK WE'D LOOK LIKE HELL.
YOUNG MEN WITH FACES HALF SHOT OFF
ARE UNFIT TO BE KISSED,
I'VE READ IN BOOKS IT SPOILS THEIR LOOKS;
I GUESS I WON'T ENLIST.

Patricia Renshaw, The Wobblies,

Double Day Anchor Book, 1968, p. 169.

VIETNAM : ITS NOT IF WE
WIN OR LOSE
BUT HOW WE
FIGHT THE WAR



Peter Martinson, an ex-GI who was stationed in Vietnam from Sept. 1966 to June 1967, said in a Dec. 17 press conference that during the time he was in Vietnam he witnessed the torture of many "detainees" by U.S. officers and enlisted men.

"The officers were always involved in the most severe forms of torture," Martinson said. The most common device used against "detainees" was the standard Army field telephone, which runs on batteries and a generator. Interrogators attached it to "any body extremity, ears, fingers, genitals," Martinson said. "You crank it up and it gives a nasty shock, a very nasty shock, quite painful." Martinson said the standing joke during interrogation training was, "wire him up on the telephone and ring him up. He always answers."

(The following dispatch from South Vietnam by Tom Tiede appeared in the Nov. 22 Cleaveland Press.)

CU CHI, South Vietnam: Some time ago Capt. Frank Smith (Bravo Company, Second Battalion, 27th Infantry) passed the word down to his First Platoon that he needed a patrol near the Cambodian border.

The platoon, however declined to go.

Smith, faced in fact with mutiny, said immediately that he was not asking for volunteers. He was ordering the platoon into activity and he expected instant compliance.

The answer was still no.

What followed then was, according to Capt. Smith, "the damndest thing I ever dealt with" and one of the most blatant illustrations of this war's deteriorating discipline.

A group of 21 GIs, all with extensive combat experience, told the company commander that they didn't think it was fair for them to go on another patrol for action.

They claimed they each had less than 30 days to serve in Vietnam; and the captain was violating an unwritten but time-honored unit rule against "short timers" into hazardous action. (The Army says there is no such rule, unwritten or otherwise)

With that, the 21 men refused again to obey the patrol order, and their officer was forced to use another platoon.

This example of troop rebellion, of course, is not without precedent in this late days of the Vietnam war.

Not long ago, a company of U.S. soldiers received world-wide news notoriety when some of its members balked during battle action.

But the hitherto, unreported case of Capt. Smith's platoon may be the most serious of all. It involved greater numbers of men than the others. The GIs went to greater lengths of disobedience than most others.

Says Capt. Smith: "At the time, I never did get those men to obey me. I tried. Because if they had changed their minds then and gone on patrol, I probably wouldn't have had to take any further action. But they just wouldn't go. So I had to bring charges against all of them for military violations."

Herein, says Smith, was the real rub of the affair. He says the men were given little more than slaps on the wrists:

"They were dead guilty. That's all there was to it. No subordinate in war has a right to tell his commanding officer

when he will and when he won't go on patrol....

"But even so, the men were just found guilty and reprimanded. That's all, reprimanded. Even the ringleaders, the guys I felt should be really penalized, were just reprimanded.

"Hell, they weren't even sent to other companies. Some of them have gone home, after normal tours expired. But the rest of them are still right here in my unit."

Smith, a 17-year Army veteran, and many other career soldiers in Vietnam complain that the disposition of this particular example of mass disobedience hardly assures the prevention of such things in the future....

Troop discipline, the topsoil of military organization, is steadily eroding here.

Just look around.

A troop on guard duty is playing poker in the shade. A newly promoted sergeant sews his stripes on upside down. A major hands out an antiwar poem during an honor ceremony.

"You never know any more," says one concerned NCO. "If you tell a man to do something, you just never know if he will."

GI MORALE

Don't Let Bobby DIE



America has decided that Bobby Seale must die. Why? Because Bobby tried to free the oppressed people in this country from the capitalistic society they live in. Inserted inside this paper is a copy of the Black Manifesto explaining the pre-planned murder of Bobby Seale by the government. Read it-then save it, or post it on the wall of your school or in your community. Don't throw it away! The Black Panthers fight for everyone who is oppressed (by the state, by the police, by the draft, and by the in power etc.). The Black Panthers are not anti-white! This is only the impression given by the media and the government who try who try to control and oppress them. The Panthers want to free the people. We, the students, must help them in their cause. Right now Bobby Seale is being accused of first degree murder, kidnapping, and "binding with criminal intention" The sentence given to him at the Chicago 8 trial wasn't enough to silence him for good. The electric chair seems to be the only solution that the government will accept. If you want to help visit the Panther office at:

2327 18th St. N.W.
Wash. D.C. 20009

or call- 265-4418

Rap with them, pick up some literature and read it, ask them how you can help them. If the white people in this country don't stand up and fight now, the black man will have to do it by themselves.

Become an Activists not an Apethists

Origin of a Species

The origin of "The Crusader" was that we had noticed that neither Wilson High nor Deal Junior High had a newspaper which represented the feelings of the students, and needless to say the students are a very important part of a school. Also, the only papers which have been printed have never survived for any extensive length of time, and this we hope to do. We will print any articles as long as they are 1) well written and 2) they are backed up with researched facts. All articles must be signed! All contributions (articles, photos, money, etc.) should be sent to: The Crusader
4821 Linnean Ave. N.W.
Washington D.C. 20008

Wilson and Deal needs a community and we hope to start one. If you contribute by working, writing, yelling, starting, shitting, living, etc. maybe we can get one. All this paper wants to do is voice our views. Also, we do hope and will get bigger if you help. Right on!

City

A ray of light through a broken window of a factory that once bellowed thick gray smoke into the sky, only to fall down onto the street below

City

only this is left to tell its tale

and as I rest my feet in
the cold brown water of a canal,

I think of what my city will become

where will my city, only blocks away,

where will it go

it will die after I die

but not after my life dies

for it cannot live long,

it is built by man

and as I look at the deteriorating factory, I watch
the lichen, devouring it slowly

destroying slowly, the dirty brown stone
which man put there to build it.

but lichen will never destroy what
its own kind creates

and the city is only
a human zoo

William Galton
(1969)

Staff

Perry White	Editor
Ralph Bowen	Asst. Editor
Wayne Horvitz	Asst. Editor
Clark Kent	Chief Staff Writer
Lois Lane	Woman's Liberation News
Jimmy Olsen	Cub Reporter
Spiro Agnew	Editorials

THE CRUSADER

Board of Trustees

Bruce Wayne
Daddy Warbucks
Richie Rich

You say that we are scum

because we sing;

You shout that we are vile

because we dance;

You rush to punish us because

our hair is long

our legs are shown,

we earn our keep,

we do not want to fight.

Because we will not take your favorite drug

Because we will not follow in your ways,

you use the law to injure us,

But none of us have ever said:

OLD MEN

You have been ruling for 1000 years,

Why: Is the world still half illiterate?

Why: Is two-thirds of the world still hungry?

Why: Do 800,000,000 have no work?

Why do you hover on the brink of war each night?

Why do you loath the likes of us

Who want to pass their time on earth right happily?

YOU ASK FOR GRATITUDE

For what? For schools where lies are taught?

YOU ASK FOR US TO BE PROUD OF US

For what? Your only true reward is money.

YOU ASK FOR OUR RESPECT

For you! Who squabble all day long among yourselves?

YOU SAY YOU DIED THAT WE SHOULD LIVE.

What cock! You died to save yourselves

From the biggest mess you ever made-

Except the next-which you are busily preparing.

Oh, my dear Fathers,

You are a ten-ton, thousand-year-old flop.

Your systems do not work,

Your politicians lie

Your Army, Power and Police

Only make matters worse.

Yet you are ours and we are yours

And when you're old we will comfort you

And when you're tired we will nourish you,

And when you're dead we will bury you

With fife and flute and drum.

But do not try to make us be like you.

No doubt we have some tears to come.

Men always do. And they shall be our own.

—Christopher Logue, reprinted from
International Times