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DIRECT ACTION

for a nonviolent world



New England Committee for Nonviolent Action
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Telephone: 203-376-9970

January 20, 1966

Number 65

TOWARD PEACE IN VIETNAM by Trudy Jacobs

The senseless, brutal butchering, bombing, burning and bleeding continue month after month, day after day, moment after moment -- right at this very instant.

We are all haunted by the desire to do something. Some have immolated themselves. Increasing numbers have committed civil disobedience and received jail sentences. Many have demonstrated and have had red paint, eggs, and tomatoes hurled at them. But the bitter battle goes on.

There are things to be done: People are willing to go to Vietnam and to risk their lives there for peace instead of killing. We need money to send them. Time and again we hear that the "average person" needs to be told the truth. We could leaflet, get on radio and television, place ads in the papers and demonstrate more effectively if we had more money. Our Peace Caravan went to some colleges. We have been urged to have another Peace Caravan, to go to more colleges. We would like to get to the high schools. But to do more we need more money.

We affirm that the horror of war must be stopped and we are devoting our time and energy to this end. Can you send financial help to bring the world a little closer to a nonviolent existence?



A burning cross was the first event in several nights of harassment at New England CNVA Farm beginning January 1. Cherry bombs and firecrackers, blown-out mailbox, destruction of our sign in front of the farm, and invasion of the farm property all ensued. Identification of two of the cars of the vandals and subsequent visits to the owners, plus publicity, plus cold weather seem to have put a stop to the incidents. Above: Brad Lyttle, chairman of New England CNVA; Dona Cedrone of Norwich, Conn. and recently returned from civil rights work in Albany, Georgia; and Andy Scruggs of Selma, Alabama, resident at the farm, view the cross.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE AND NEW ENGLAND CNVA

A number of our readers may feel that we have left them hanging on a cliff as far as our relations with the Internal Revenue Service are concerned. The latest developments are:

1. The New England Committee is considering whether to apply for tax-exempt status. The decision may be academic, because Mr. Bileski, the local Internal Revenue Service agent, has stated that he does not consider us eligible for such a status.
2. Mr. Bileski visited the farm on January 4. He returned the records he had borrowed, and shortly thereafter sent us a detailed statement of the money he believes we owe the U.S. Government. For the years 1961 through 1964, he has assessed New England CNVA as such \$7467.92 in taxes, and \$2240.30 in penalties--this on an income that far from being profit-

able, leaves us with a constant \$2000-\$2500 debt! In addition, he has assessed Bob and Marj Swann and Ken Meister a total of \$3042.68 in income and social security taxes--this on maintenance and an occasional dollar a week allowance!

Some Committee members believe that we should start a vigorous campaign against the IRS immediately. Others believe that, except for holding our bank account down to its present low level, we should not initiate action until the government actually starts to proceed to act against us. We are agreed that if a struggle should become necessary, New England CNVA intends to wage it strictly by means of nonviolent resistance and action rather than through legal action initiated by us. We are also agreed that we shall ask for all possible help from you at that time. Erica Enzer

Peter Light of Canada, who was jailed in Albany, Georgia with the Quebec-Guantanamo peace walkers, is writing a book on nonviolence, the bulk of which will be made up of examples of conflicts which have been met nonviolently. If you know of or have experienced such incidents on an individual basis or in the context of a demonstration, please write Peter, 60 Albany Avenue, Toronto 4, Ontario.

Paul Salstrom is attempting to initiate an organization to be called "Pen Pals for Prisoners." He is requesting from our readers suggestions of well-known figures, in particular ex-convicts or persons in government or criminology, who could be approached to serve as Honorary Sponsors. The service would be for all convicts, not merely COs. Individuals desiring to serve as pen pals are urged to volunteer now by writing Paul Salstrom, in care of New England CNVA.

Marjorie Swann has resigned as co-coordinator and Executive Committee member of New England CNVA because she believes it wrong to cooperate with Internal Revenue Service in offering and giving them our financial records. "The important point, it seems to me, is to refrain from voluntary cooperation -- from taking that token step which in a subtle way connotes approval of what the government is doing with the tax money it collects," she states. She remains as a staff member, with no responsibility for dealing with IRS matters.

We regret to notify you that A. J. Muste's daughter, Connie Muste Hamilton, whom many of you knew from the days when she worked with the Fellowship of Reconciliation, died on January 4 of cancer. You may wish to write A. J. at 5 Beekman Street, New York 38, or Connie's husband and children: Doyt Hamilton and family, RFD, Greenfield, Indiana.

Although recent events with regard to the war in Vietnam look slightly more hopeful, this is no time to let up on our efforts for peace. Write to President Johnson, your Congressmen and editors. Remember we are still bombing Laos heavily... Women's Strike for Peace is carrying on a 2-week lobby in Washington until January 25... New York Workshop in Nonviolence (5 Beekman St., Rm. 1033, NYC 38) has black armbands with the single word "Vietnam" which they ask us all to wear if bombing of North Vietnam is renewed, along with a fast and/or vigil... The National Coordinating Committee to End The War In Vietnam urges all of us to converge immediately on Washington for mass demonstrations should Congress declare war officially or should Hanoi or Haiphong be bombed.

PRELIMINARY REPORT ON FALL PROGRAM - Bob Swann

Although centered around the general concept of a "nonviolent peacekeeping corps", the general direction of New England CNVA's Fall Program meetings was toward an "Independent Peace Corps" concept, or as sometimes referred to, "a SNCC-type operation" on a world level.

Some of those attending the conferences had specific proposals to make for immediate action. Most of these proposals revolved around Vietnam, but although it was recognized that Vietnam is the issue around which to organize, there was agreement that long-range action should center on the so-called "third world", particularly Southwest Africa and Rhodesia, and Peru and Brazil in South America.

In addition to the six full-time participants, including a SNCC worker and an SCLC worker, both from Alabama, and one man formerly with the Peace Corps in Tanzania, a total of over 150 persons attended the series of five weekend conferences. We are working on a more complete report and proposals and hope to have these ready soon. Let us know if you would like a copy.

THANK YOU We want to thank all those who replied to our December fund appeal. We aren't "out of the woods", but the response did help a great deal. Following are acknowledgements of gifts received from the time of the November Direct Action Bulletin through December. If you do not see acknowledgement in our Bulletin (we save on postage and time by not sending out receipts), please let us know, because mail may get lost or our records may not be accurate. Dr. & Mrs. GC 5; FL 9.05; MR 10; JS 50; AS 10; DA 3; MK 42.50; PB 2; RS, NP, PE & BL 5.50; DG 25; BC 10; SP 1; PK 20; GA 5; JR 10; R&VC 10; MD 25; Mr. & Mrs. TT 10; LM 10; FC 60; AU 25; F&HP 5; JJ 5; FM 19; Anon. 3; LLH 10; HVM 3; DEF 3; MC 1; Ethical Soc. of Greater Hartford 26.28; SF 2; PS 5; MT 50; BS 10; WWW 10; EFB 6; PB 5; MCF 5; Dr. & Mrs. MFG, Jr. 3; WCL 10; RWA 10; WM 15; Sympathizers at Fort Devens 8; SB 4; A&JS 6.50; C&EJ 50; PBS 2; DF 6.50; LM 10; T&RD 1; BB 2; GN 5; PE 100; E&NN 3; S&BS 1; J&AR 1; Dr. & Mrs. HK 25; DLL 10; FMB 5; L&EB 2; WH 2; TO 'M .50; NN 10; A&CE 5; J&HS 10; TO 'M 6; DM 25; GN 2; GC 5; HRR 1; DW 1; EP 10; PCB 10; JH 1; JV 2; WH 3; R&BF 50; RAR 10; RD 5; Amherst Coll. SDS 50; OK 5; KMcQ 20; GDR. 50; IB 5; FA 20; WH 5; BC 125; BH 4; D&JR 10; MC 25; H&BD 10; HC 15; C&MP 2; GC 3.90; JPS 10; BD 20; ES 5; JE 5; ES 5; MB 2; CS 10; GM 5; GS 10; JL 7; DW 10; JS 6; DF 6.50; JS 5; SB 2; EB 1; KM 5; GG 10; W&OU 10; LK 3; FW 10; JB 5; MAR 1; KM 1; HB 2; JS 1; B&FM 10; HB 5; C&BW 25; GP 5; HH 5; CG 10; VM 10; WD 30; Anon. 2; HSH 25; MR 10; MAK 12; HC 20; W&JN 20; HWM Jr. 16.33; MB 20; DR 13; TdeP 11; AN 5; JB 5; HEM 6; CL 5; JR 5; VM 5; HS 15; PG 15; GC 10; GJ 20; Natl. CNVA 6.90; CND Maidenhead group 14.01; MAK 12; GC 1; BD 11; AS 4; AU 10; RW 5; PS 4; BW 2; SMB 10; BL 4; SF 8; M&ES 2; DP 1.50; BW 10; A&MN 10; DS 1; RE 3; HL 3.30; DSJ 10; HO 'C 25; MD 25; AR 6.50; RD 6.50; GB 6.50; AL 6.50; KLPN 6.50; TR 6.50; MT 10; RM 6.50; JA 6.50; LR 18; DB .50; BS 2; WF 5; R&JP 5; MT 10; P&VW 10; TS 10; JS 1; JJ 5; WJM 40; P&PB 5; CK 5; Humanist Meeting in Prov. 6; A&TU 30; JS 2; R&PC 5; MKC 10; CG 10; MM 100; BD 100; DPM 6; N&RC 5; WS 1; FS .07; FE 5; TBC 5; HBS 5; NC 10; BS 10; H&MK 25; HK 10; JR 10; L&AP 5; DM 25; Rev. & Mrs. K 25; LMcC 10; PSB 10; O&BL 100; BD 5; L&EB 10; RAL 5; JB&AHJ 25; L&MN 25; W&EH 5; S&JA 5; JR 3; J&JM 25; Anon. 2; WMF 2; G&MK 25; RGT 2; PG 1; DD 2; M&ER 10; AT 15; G&EB Jr. 10; JVH Jr. 3; BD 100; A&JK 10; G&SM 25; SJP 5; L&ED 20; Anon. 10; A&MM 10; Anon. Waterbury, Conn. 1; RM 10; EEJ 4; ET 25; MF 5; KV 3; JSV 2; JB 1; SR 3; D&BS 12.50; DG 20; JLB 25; R&CG 2; MC 25; JF 25; AV 20; CDM 10; D&JJ 9.21; RO 50; AS 5; CW 20; MT 25; NS 10; EU 5; DL 8; 6RH children 12; MTH 10; LMcF 1; L&NL 5; Mrs. FKE 5; FT 5; TB Rambler station wagon; ES film strips on Vietnam; MM&MCB clothing; GS and sons, electric train; JP&DO 'B electric train; JR 1953 Chevrolet sedan; H&JO 'C Volkswagen microbus; RK 2 cans silk screen paint; Providence group, food supplies.

Tom Rodd, former New England CNVA staff member and Quebec-Guantanamo peace walker, and 17 others were arrested at the CNVA demonstration on December 29 at the Vertol Helicopter plant in Morton, Pennsylvania. The helicopters are used by attack forces of the American and South Vietnamese governments.

Approximately 250 people took part in the demonstration, holding a vigil in front of the plant for nearly three hours. Fourteen of those arrested were charged with "loitering in a loud and boisterous manner" when they attempted to sit down in the driveway, or, in the case of Ed Gottlieb, national chairman of the War Resisters League, to enter the plant to talk with the workers. Four others, including Dr. William Davidon, chairman of the newly-formed Philadelphia area CNVA, were arrested and charged with "littering" while attempting to distribute leaflets.

Tom Rodd, coordinator of the demonstration which was sponsored by Philadelphia CNVA and national CNVA and supported by New England CNVA (with a delegation of 13 participants), was among the civil disobedients, and thereby broke the terms of his probation set by the judge at his draft refusal trial. Tom had done over a year of work with the American Friends Service Committee in Philadelphia but felt he could no longer remain passive in face of the intervention and escalation of the war in Vietnam by the United States. On January 7, Judge Louis Rosenberg of Federal District Court in Pittsburgh sentenced Tom to four years in prison. (See enclosed statement by Tom Rodd.)

The vigilers were met by a counter-picket of approximately 150 people led by members of the American Legion. Throughout the afternoon, remarks of hostility and racism, interspersed with dozens of eggs, tomatoes and beer cans, were hurled at the pacifists from the opposite side of the street. Many of the vigilers' signs were grabbed from them and destroyed.



Brad Lyttle, Charles Walker, and Ed Gottlieb confer just before Ed tried to enter plant. Headless character in forefront is said to be the head of national CNVA Executive Committee, Gordon Christensen.

Late in the afternoon, the Legionnaires grew bolder, and formed a flag-carrying parade which marched back and forth on the highway in front of the pacifists. The police allowed the parade, and blocked off the street at both ends of the block.

Vertol employees gave much attention to the demonstration. Many vigilers turned to face the factory so that their signs might be read by the employees. The signs stated: "Stop the War in Vietnam," "Love Not Hate, Bread Not Bombs," "Vertol Helicopters Kill Children." The counter-pickets also carried signs which said: "Our Boss Stopped the Bombing, Did Yours?", "Tom Rodd Is A Fink," "You Forgot They Gassed the Jews, Didn't You?" and others.

Very little physical violence took place, although when the work shift changed at 4:00 p.m., some of the Vertol workers pushed and shoved against the vigilers. At the end of the demonstration, 4 pacifists were assaulted by counter-demonstrators but the attackers were quickly interrupted by the police. At 4:40 the vigilers marched quietly to the train station to return to Philadelphia.

A Delaware County magistrate found all of those charged with "loitering" guilty and assessed fines of \$300 each or 30 days in jail. The "litterers" were given \$50 fines plus costs or 30 days in jail. Ed Gottlieb was acquitted for lack of evidence, and the case of a juvenile has not been disposed of yet. Nine of those arrested refused bail before trial. All cases are now being appealed and the defendants are out on bail at the present time.



Police take one of the egg-throwers into custody, as counter-pickets and local Legionnaires look on.

COs IN PRISON

Murphy Dowouis was sentenced on January 12 in Federal District Court in New Orleans to 2 years on each of four counts connected with his draft refusal. The sentences are to be served concurrently. George Jalbert, serving 2 years, has been sent to Chillicothe, Ohio...Dennis Weeks and Jay Moss have been released since Christmas.

CALENDAR

- Sat. Jan. 22 - Demonstration at commissioning of Polaris sub George Bancroft, 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. at Naval Underwater Sound Laboratory, New London, Conn. Come and bring others.
- Sun. Jan. 23 - Meeting of Executive Committee of New England CNVA, at AFSC office, 44A Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass., 1-5 p.m. Other interested persons welcome.
Same place, 7:30 p.m., meeting of Boston area people to discuss formation of Boston CNVA
- Fri. Jan. 28- - Weekend workcamp and seminar for high school students, at Polaris Action Farm, led by
Sun. Jan. 30 Brad Lyttle and resource persons. Topic: "Nonviolence and Revolution." \$6 contribution
- Sun. Jan. 30 - Benefit concert for Greater Boston Coordinating Committee to End the War in Vietnam, Brattle Theatre, Cambridge, 1:30 p.m., Club 47 Chamber Players. \$1.50, and \$5.00 sponsors
- Sat. Feb. 12 - Walk for Peace and Freedom, Roxbury section in Boston, followed by public meeting. Support southerners as they demonstrate in South for "Freedom Now, withdrawal Now" by going to the South, by joining the Boston demonstration, or by planning your own
- Wed. Feb. 16- - Peace Caravan on Nonviolence, Conscription and Vietnam; speakers, films, freedom singer,
Wed. March 16 up-to-date literature. Contact New England CNVA for dates for your campus or community
March 25-26 - Some unusual proposals for these International Days of Protest Against the War in Vietnam being formulated. Begin your planning now, and contact New England CNVA for ideas, literature, posters, organizing help.

Please fill out and return to NEW ENGLAND CNVA, RFD #1, Box 197B, Voluntown, Conn. 06384 Tel. 203-376-9970

Send me the following: film strip on Vietnam (done by Emmy Schroeder, civil rights worker who has done film strips on civil rights and on poverty; contribution of \$2.00 requested); copies of "A Veterans' Appeal to the Members of the Armed Forces" (written by a veteran for Fort Devens demonstration, but applicable to any situation involving contact with armed services, and signed by 11 veterans; single copy free, 50 copies for 25¢, 100 copies for 50¢ plus postage); copies of Tom Rodd's statement to Judge Rosenberg (one of the best we've seen; reprinted for leaflet distribution; single copy free, 100 for 75¢ plus postage); copies of leaflet on Presque Isle, Maine (reprint of New York Times story and Norwich, Conn. Bulletin editorial on economic boom in small town after Air Force base was closed; single copy free, 100 copies for 75¢ plus postage); vigil statement on Norman Morrison and Roger LaPorte (free); copies of Camp Ahimsa folder (free); copies of Robert Scheer's pamphlet, "How The United States Got Involved In Vietnam" (75¢ each).

Please reserve a place for me at the Jan. 28-30 workcamp and seminar for high school students.

Enclosed is \$_____ for the work of New England CNVA. I pledge \$_____ per month.

(Please correct name and/or address below if they are not right. Add your zip code if we do not have it.)

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Jan. 20, 1966 #65



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