Soledad Brothers Defense Committee
Berk. Tel. 848-6742 S.F. Tel. 285-2360

Three young black prisoners at Soledad prison are on trial for the murder of a prison guard. They will be railroaded to the gas chamber unless we make it impossible for the state of California to execute them.

Almost 4 out of 10 inmates in O Wing are on some kind of medication. Pills that depress and tranquilize the inmates. There is no close supervision of these narcotics, many of the forty percent who get them sell them to the remaining sixty percent. When one is coming down off of these pills he is usually very irritable and truculent. It is common to hear the inmates calling "Bring that medication you ——— ——— Bull!" or something to that nature.

Eyewitness at scene of "outside inmate"

"On January 13, 1970, seven Blacks and eight Caucasian were released to O Wing yard for exercise. There was no gang fight as was reported to the news media, only seven inmates equally engaged in physical combat to the best of my knowledge. The first shot killed N. who was only a few feet from me and as I turned to go to him and see how bad he was hurt, E. and M. were only a short distance from me and called to me to watch out and I turned to face the attack directed at me by two Caucasian who were running towards me. E. turned for N. to presumably see how badly he was hurt and to protect him from being attacked while he was down. But he was shot dead a few feet from N., before he reached him and M. was shot dead trying to come to my assistance. There were NO warnings of any kind given before the shooting, there was NO gauging up on any inmate by Blacks. The guard in the tower leaned out of the window with his gun from the time the first Black inmate arrived on the yard.

I looked at the tower guard and he was aiming the gun toward me and I thought then that he meant to kill me too, so I moved from the wall as he fired and went over to stand over inmate M., all the time looking the guard in the gun tower in the face. He aimed the gun at me again and I just froze and waited for him to fire, but he held his fire. After I saw he was not going to fire, I pointed to where inmate M. lay, with two other Black inmates bending over him, and started to walk to him very slowly.

I stopped and begged him for approximately ten minutes to let me take M. to the hospital but all he did was shake his head. Then I started forward with tears in my eyes, expecting to be shot down every second. The tower guard told me, "That's far enough." Then another guard gave me permission to bring M. off the yard and I was ordered to lay him on the floor in the officers' area and go to my cell.

1. Stop all cruel and unusual punishment and harassment.
2. Stop all unfounded data and the compelling of inmates to sleep on dirty sheets.
3. Remove all prejudice and racialism from tower guards and refrain from shooting above the knees.
4. Limit the duration of time being warehoused on max-row (maximum security) to six months.
5. Better grade and non-repetitious foods.
6. Twenty-four hour complete, effective and quick medical and psychiatric access for physical and psychological problems.
7. Better clothing such as not limited to shoes, sweaters, etc. and not the present over-rain.
8. Individual wet phone with a working three channel switch for Jazz and Rhythm and Blues, Hard Rock and Country and Western, and Chicano and Calypso music.
9. Daily regular visiting room visits and privileges.
10. Two hours yard (outside) exercise daily and not the present 30 minutes inside exercise period and 23½ hours immured in our cells.
11. Special library for max row including but not limited to World encyclopedias, medical encyclopedias, law encyclopedias and up to date magazines and newspapers and other books of our self desired choice.
12. Accredited all conceivable college courses.
13. Our own personal comb and brushes.

Convicts of Max Row

The list of demands sent to prison authorities was signed by a Black inmate, a Caucasian and a Chicano, acting as spokesmen for the other prisoners on O-Wing.

Hunger strike in Solano

Prisoners at the Maximum security wing at Soledad Prison have been on a hunger strike for the past week to demand humane treatment and to show support for the Soledad Brothers. 3 hunger strikers accused of killing a prison guard. The strike, involving 70 of the 72 inmates, began with a demonstration on July 7th, during which inmates burned filthy mattresses and other objects on the wing.

the east

korea

Eldridge Cleaver and ten other American revolutionaries arrived in Pyongyang, North Korea, on Tuesday.

People don't generally understand that everything which happened in Southeast Asia from 1945-54 was happening in Korea, too; only there the imperialists were United States troops under the guise of the United Nations. All the stuff that has flipped us out about the Vietnamese' ability to do incredible stuff—rebuild roads in a night, move anti-aircraft guns every single day, live in tunnels and caves—that all went down in Korea, too.

People's war doesn't relate to national boundaries.

Since they negotiated their independence, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has gone through and rebuilt itself from total ruin (there were only two buildings standing in the capital, Pyongyang, after the war) to being the second-most industrialized country in Asia.

They have this idea, called Juche, which means self-reliance, and they really practice it. During the war, when they couldn't depend on shipments from China and Russia to reach them—and when they wanted material that was specific to their terrain—they just sat down their scientists and said, build us a locomotive. Now, there are only about 10 countries in the world that build their own locomotives. But North Korea is one of them! Not starting with anybody's blueprints or anything. Long live the victory of people's war!

In South Korea only the rich landlords, big bourgeoisie and military flunkeys eat rice once a day. South Korea is richer than North Korea. But every North Korean eats rice daily.

Juche also means helping out the brothers and sisters in struggle. North Koreans who came to Cuba to cut cane brought all of their own equipment so that the Cubans wouldn't have to pay to outfit them. In certain areas of their production they use 1/3, save 1/3, for when the imperialists try to invade their country again, and send 1/3 to Vietnam. Just the other day Sihanouk announced that he had to turn down the offer if North Korean volunteers to fight in the Cambodian liberation struggle.

How come this happened? Because, like in Cuba, Vietnam and China, the revolution was led by individuals who had to become part of their people in order to understand their needs, and to effect necessary changes through struggle. Kim Il Sung, the Premier, was the leader of guerrilla mountain band fighting against Japanese imperialism in Korea. Eventually he and his group merged with another group, split to the second group's area as leader of both, and became leader of the entire resistance movement.

Naturally the Worldpigs don't dig this much. In the last half-decade thenumber of attacks on North Korea, by South Korean and Amerikan troops and planes, has increased drastically. It appears that the heavy pigs in this struggle are going to be Japanese, not Amerikans. Japan has recently invested hundreds of millions of dollars in economic co-operation into South Korea, which is run by one of the most vicious dictatorships in the world. These investments have been concentrated in transportation and communications systems which will later be useful for invasion.

In 1965 Japan (which wasn't supposed to re-arm after World War II at all) concluded the South Korea-Japan Treaty which gave them access to Korean territory. Even before that they had drawn up plans for aggression against Korea; after it the Japanese, South Koreans and United States staged a joint military exercise. During the Pueblo and EC-121 spy plane incidents when the North Koreans moved against Imperialist espionage work—the Japanese backed the US totally and offered Japan as a staging area from which to attack Korea.

These military plans, for Japan to take over an increasing role from the United States, parallel economic plans. Under the guise of "Asian self-help," the Japanese now own vast portions of Korean wealth, such as 80% of the shipbuilding industry and 30% of the fibre industry.

At home in Japan, the 600,000 Koreans are organizing and demanding rights as a national minority. Many of them identify with North Korea in this struggle. The militant Japanese student movement has understood the importance of fighting Japanese imperialism against Korea abroad and at home.

The crisis appears to be coming quicker and quicker in Korea. Therefore, last summer a world-wide conference of journalists was held in Pyongyang, partly so that people would not be as blind as they had been when Vietnam began to blow. But in the United States—which is behind it all, and which owns Japan AND Korea—the movement does not understand how much the Korean people have done or how the confrontation is coming down there.

So 11 people are in Korea for a month. They include Eldridge and Elaine Brown from the Panthers; Alex Hing of the Chinatown Red Guard; and five Berkeleyans—Anne Froines of the Conspiracy, Jan Austin of "Ramparts" Magazine, Robert Scheer fromerly of "Ramparts," Andy Truskier and Gina Blumenfeld. The othe;people are from Boston Women's Lib, New York Newsreel, and Movement for a Democratic Military. They're not doing much talking about why they went, but when the come back they're going to have a shitload to say.

cambodia

by Otis

"If North Vietnam also occupied this area (between the Mekong River and the Vietnam border) or the entire country (Cambodia), it would mean that South Vietnam was completely outflanked. And the forces of the Americans in this area, as well as the South Vietnamese, would be in an untenable military position."
—Richard Milhouse Nixon announcing the "this is not an invasion of Cambodia."

After the biggest "allied" operation of the Indochina War the military situation is just as Nixon described it in his paranoid fantasy of several months ago.

How did the U.S. fuck up so bad? Stupidity, arrogance, racism. All that. But let's go back a bit to the days of Sihanouk.

Prince Norodom Sihanouk struggled for years to maintain the borders and neutrality of Cambodia. Borders from traditional enemies: Thailand and (southern) Vietnam. Neutrality to keep American firepower from blindly levelling the country.

Sihanouk maintained power in Phnom Penh by balancing left and right. He had no organized political base but was popular with the people.

To his left, the Khmer Rouge, a vanguard revolutionary party with the peasantry as a base and a small, but organized, following. They numbered less than 3,000. They criticized bureaucracy and corruption in the government but never attacked Sihanouk personally. Too popular, the Father of his country. Their main target: "the American stooge," Lon Nol.

To his right, General Lon Nol, a true pig with Cambodia's small and rather poor army as his power base. Lon Nol, prominent anti-communist and U.S. puppet.

Sihanouk, poor liberal, tried to win over his opponents. As a result both Lon Nol and the ambitious Sirik-Matak were given positions of great power. Lon NOl, premier, Sirik-Matak, deputy premier.

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women

starvation and slavery. But we also see oppressed peoples getting it together to fight back and gaining strength through their struggles. Their spirit is beginning to emerge victorious over The Man's technology.

This power of retaliation and victory comes from a sense of being able to change ourselves and others, to affect objective conditions, and in seeing ourselves as a force of history rather than being swept along by it. The Cubans and Vietnamese, Huey and Eldridge, Joan Bird and Erika Huggins understand it, Bernadine Dohrn understands it, and all women must begin to get the sense of strength that comes from fighting back. We must begin to fight harder on all levels as the only way to overcome our oppression. The struggles against male chauvinism and imperialism are not mutually exclusive and must be looked at in perspective. We must struggle against our brothers to overcome their chauvinism, but it is absolutely necessary that we struggle along with them in order to smash imperialism. Our strength lies in our ability to come together and join the blacks and Vietnamese who are leading the fight against the imperialist pigs. None of us can be free until we are all free. We will not let our oppressed brothers and sisters fight alone. We must realize the power we have to help us all be free. All power to those who fight back.

the New York Panther 21, the Connecticut 8, Bobby Seale, Ericka Huggins and Huey Newton.

On Saturday, July 25, permit permitting, there will be a festival in Dolores Park, in San Francisco. The Women's Street Theater and the SF Mime Troupe will be there; bands will play; political groups will be around to rap, Cuban children's art will be displayed; and food will be provided, even. Come and celebrate the victories of peoples war.

If you got questions or ideas or wanna help, call 648-5655.

★ JAIL HOUSE ROCK ★

On the fourth of July in North Philadelphia, 400 Black brothers trashed Holmesburg Prison. 34 guards and 82 inmates were injured. No comment on how many were killed.

Fighting started when the 440 inmates in cell blocks B and D were eating lunch. Cell blocks B and D are mostly made up of what the pigs call "detentioners." Detentioners are brothers who haven't had the bread to make bail and are waiting their trials. Two-thirds of the inmates at Holmesburg are "detentioners".

Holmesburg is a 74-year-old Chamber of Horrors. There are no windows. There are 1200 prisoners in a structure built for 600. Only one-fifth of the inmates have prison jobs. The boredom is tense. Rape is as common as smack.

A former inmate said Holmesburg was "like a plantation in the old South." 80% of the inmates are black; 50% of them are Muslims. The cells are segregated. Guards do not allow black and white to even talk to each other.

It's so over-crowded at Holmesburg that there were only six guards for every 300 inmates at lunch. And at lunch on a hot 4th of July, a black detentioner beat up a white guard.

The inmates battled with sharpened spoons, meat cleavers, knives and homemade guns. The pigs sprayed the room with buckshot. 60 handmade weapons were found in cells in the shakedown immediately following the revolt.

35 inmates have been transferred to individual cells in the former city prison. The prison had been closed down but was opened especially to isolate the prisoners. They're being held under maximum security, believed to be the leaders of the riot. Holmesburg top pig, Warden Hendrickkk, said if there aren't some changes made, more riots would come with hot weather.

"When the prison gates open, the real dragon will fly out."—Uncle Ho.

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