



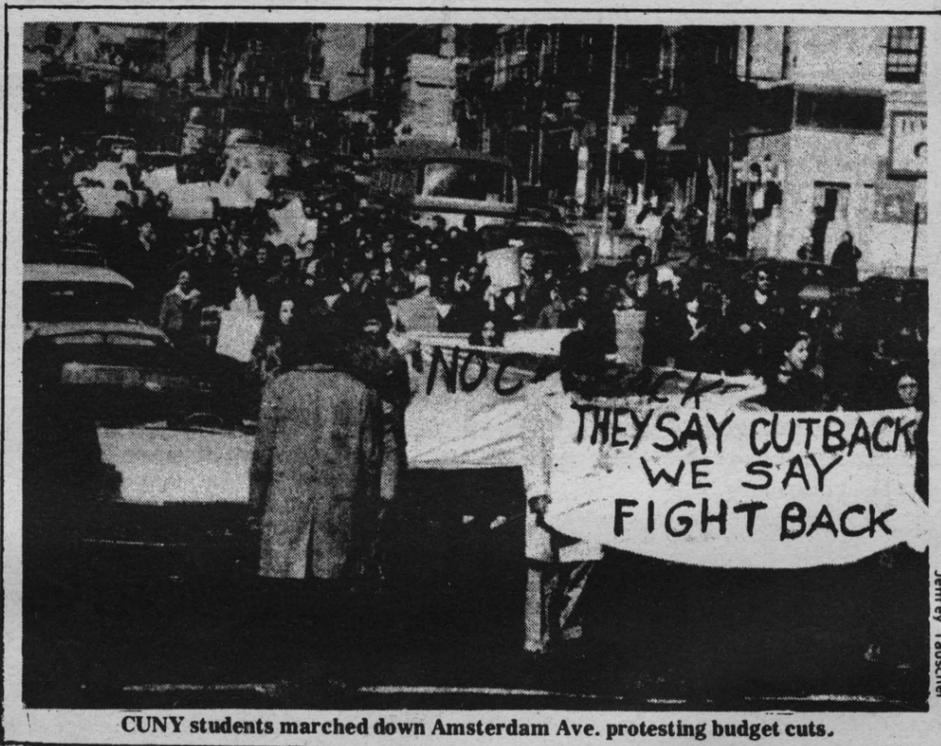
TIGER PAPER

manhattan community college

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STUDENTS FIGHT TUITION



CUNY students marched down Amsterdam Ave. protesting budget cuts.

LAST Tuesday, March 27, 800 City University students demonstrated in front of the State Office building at 125th Street, protesting the threat of tuition at CUNY.

The demonstration was called at this time because a report of the Rockefeller-appointed Keppel Commission is before the State Legislature. The Keppel Commission wants to impose tuition at CUNY, just like at SUNY.

Why? The Keppel Commission states: "The State's projected supply of college-educated citizens appears to exceed the economy's projected demand for those who complete

the Baccalaureate degree." (Sec. 29, page 16.)

In other words, there are too many people with college degrees. Because the economy doesn't need so many graduates, the Keppel Commission is trying to prevent many students from attending and from finishing college.

The students most affected by the Commission's proposal are Third World and white working class students.

The four demands the students are making are those formulated by the CUNY Third World Coalition. They are:

- (1) No tuition at CUNY!
- (2) End attacks on open admissions!
- (3) No cutbacks in SEEK, College Discovery, special programs, or Financial Aid!
- (4) Expand open admissions!

.....

At MCC many organizations support these demands, including Third World Coalition-Student Government (Room A230a), Union Estudiantil Betances (B402), and the Attica Brigade (D325). If you want further information or if you want to work on this, contact any of these organizations.



THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE HAVE WON A HISTORIC VICTORY OVER U.S. IMPERIALISM. THE UNIFICATION OF THE COUNTRY HAS NOT YET BEEN ACHIEVED, BUT THAT DAY WILL COME. IMPERIALISM IS DIGGING ITS OWN GRAVE. (PP. 6-7)

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VOLUME 2, NUMBER THREE DECEMBER, 1972

TIGER PAPER

Tiger Paper is published whenever possible by an editorial collective of Manhattan Community College faculty and staff.

Tenured members of the collective: Kathy Chamberlain, Bill Friedheim, Mary Kellogg, Jim Perlstein, Naomi Woronov.

Untenured members: anonymous to protect them against administrative harassment.

* * * * *

It's true that sooner or later there is some kind of a hearing, Pittman gets laughed at, and the ridiculous charges--whatever they are--get thrown out.

But in the meantime, students and faculty have been harassed, tied up in endless bureaucratic proceedings, and denied their right to an education or threatened with the loss of their jobs.

But there isn't any reason to get discouraged. There is a Black and a Puerto Rican Studies Program. There is a child care center. Students do have greater control over their funds in the BMCC Association. Jose Antonio Irizarry has been rehired. In spite of the harassment, the arrests and the suspensions--over a number of years now--people have struggled and have won on many important issues.

* * * * *

Letter to the editor

(In a letter to the faculty dated March 1, President Draper stated, "Representations have been made to me that there exists considerable concern and fear among members of the faculty in reference to being physically assaulted by students." He requested that faculty "communicate to my office any instances when you have been either threatened or actually been the victim of physical assault or violence by anyone at the College.")

The following letter speaks to the issues raised by the President.)

To the editor of Tiger Paper:

A San Quentin Warden once said, "If we would get a better class of inmates, we could run a better prison."

President Draper's March 1, 1973 letter addressed to the faculty reveals his weaknesses as a leader, educator and administrator. His office can function only by alarming his faculty and playing upon their fears.

To assert his "authority", his promise to deal appropriately with all "offenders" is an open invitation for further harassment, intimidation and provocation, which can only widen the gap between the two classes--teacher and student.

According to my experiences, as a white, middle-aged, female freshman, I have only witnessed a real working relationship between students and educators--a desire to learn on one side and an eagerness to teach on the other.

The President's letter only serves to undercut this relationship by pitting faculty against students.

Frieda Josephs
636 Brooklyn Avenue
Brooklyn, New York

REPRESSION

Administration threatens

students and faculty

The President and his Deans are stepping on people as if they were afraid repression might go out of style tomorrow.

In the past four weeks alone, we have seen:

- mass arrests of students and faculty who were engaged in legitimate protest.
- wild raving by Dean Pittman, in open court, accusing arrested students of membership in the Black Liberation Army, murders of police, and drug pushing.
- illegal suspensions of all arrested students without a hearing.
- delayed disciplinary hearings without public notice, held at changing times in changing locations.
- letters from the President and the Deans whipping up hysteria around alleged physical threats against the faculty by students.
- interference with the content of the syllabi and exams of faculty members.
- efforts by the administration to assemble political dossiers on individual faculty.

The repressive tactics of the administration aren't hard to explain. First, the administration is unwilling to respond positively to demands for a community-oriented curriculum under joint student-faculty control, because it would mean the erosion of the administration's own dictatorial powers. Second, the administration is unwilling to struggle to gain the additional funds needed to meet the financial, medical, legal and housing problems that students bring with them from home.

Because the administration will not respond to legitimate discontent in a positive way, the administration tries to crush it with lies, threats and intimidation.

The administration doesn't care at all that its tactics are usually illegal. The administration doesn't care, because it knows that the police and the courts and the Board of Higher Education never question whether arrests, summonses and suspensions are called for. The administration knows that officialdom is always considered right, and that ordinary people are always considered wrong.

(Cont'd top of next column)

What We Want

What We Believe

● WE SUPPORT THE LIBERATION STRUGGLES OF ALL OPPRESSED NATIONALITIES.

At MCC in 1973 this means that we actively support the struggle for autonomous Black and Latin American Studies Departments, that we oppose racism in all its forms, whether it be tracking, text and curriculum bias, or administration-faculty attitudes.

● WE SUPPORT THE FIGHT AGAINST IMPERIALIST WARS OF AGGRESSION. (BY IMPERIALISM WE MEAN THE ECONOMIC &/OR POLITICAL &/OR CULTURAL CONTROL OF ONE COUNTRY BY ANOTHER).

At MCC in 1973 this means that we actively support campus struggles for an end to continued aggression in Indochina. We actively support the struggle for the national liberation of Puerto Rico, and the struggles for national liberation on the continent of Africa.

● WE SUPPORT THE STRUGGLES FOR DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS AND OPPOSE THE GROWTH OF FASCIST REPRESSION.

At MCC in 1973 this means that we support a governance proposal that will give genuine power to students, staff and faculty. We demand an end to the use of police, academic dismissal, and financial blackmail as a way of solving problems.

● WE SUPPORT THE FIGHT FOR THE LIBERATION OF WOMEN.

At MCC in 1973 this means that we actively support free health care and counseling for all MCC people, a greater leadership role for women at the college, continuation and expansion of child care and women's studies, and an end to the tracking of women into clerical programs.

● WE SUPPORT THE STRUGGLE AGAINST RULING CLASS ATTACKS ON THE PEOPLES LIVING STANDARDS.

At MCC in 1973 this means that we actively support the demands for higher wages and improved working conditions for staff and faculty. We support expanded financial aid and expanded work-study at higher pay for students. We support the struggle for a non-profit bookstore and cafeteria. We support the struggle for free transportation for all between campuses.

DRAPER TALKS TO TIGER PAPER

On March 15th Tiger Paper interviewed Edgar Draper, Pres. of MCC. Because the transcript of the talk is 21 pages long, we excerpted a few of the comments we consider most important. More of this interview will appear in the next issue. If you want to see the complete transcript, call us at ext. 3733.

ON THE RECENT ARRESTS:

Draper: I met, long before this incident occurred, with a group of students. We had a very nice conversation. [But on FEB. 13th], . . . They were taking over the telephones and when the calls would come in, they would say, "Black Studies", and it's just that they had disrupted the office. We just couldn't function there. Now, I think that's going too far. One expected this to happen back in the 60's but now students have found new patterns in trying to achieve their ends. And I certainly would like for them to talk rather than to resort to tactics of this nature. . .

I think that I do everything I possibly can to talk to students. I really do. I don't know whether you're aware of it, but I deliberately go out of this office to walk down the hall; to sit in the lounge. I TALK to students; I try to find out what they're thinking. I walk over into the Student Government Office on occasion; I sit down with them. Tiger Paper: I don't think that calling in the police is going to pave the way for better understanding.

Draper: It's a terrible thing to do, to call in the police. I agree with you.

Tiger Paper: Why did you do it?

Draper: Because I felt that the students had reached a point where they couldn't listen to reason and they were adversely affecting the total college.

WHEN IS A DOOR NOT A DOOR?

Draper: A lot of people don't think my door's open. But my door has really been open.

Tiger Paper: It was locked the other day.

Draper: It certainly was. But let me say this. Anybody who wants to see the President can see the President. But more than that, I think that's true of the Dean of the College, of the Dean of the Faculty. I think it's also true of the Dean of Liberal Arts.

ON THE SUSPENSIONS:

Tiger Paper: The students who were arrested were also suspended, as I understand it. Don't you think that that constitutes double jeopardy, being punished twice?

Draper: This question has often come up for discussion. But the courts take the view that they don't want to hear these cases unless there has been some kind of disciplinary action by the college. It is for this reason that the University set up disciplinary procedures for all colleges to observe.

Tiger Paper: Shouldn't it be that students would have a hearing first and then be suspended if found guilty? Why would they be suspended before they had a hearing?

Draper: Under normal circumstances what you're saying is the case. There would be a hearing and the normal decision process would follow. But where students are disrupting the college, preventing the college from operating effectively, we have to do something immediately. And that calls for immediate suspension. Then their cases are heard. . . .

Tiger Paper: Suspensions mean you have to stay out of class, which means you overcut and fail the courses. . . .

Draper: You're talking about the regulation as to the limitation on the number of absences. Oh yes, that's true.

Tiger Paper: And then if the students violated the suspensions and came back, they could be arrested again. It's like four possible pun-

ishments for simply sitting in your office. It seems to me it's very extreme punishment.

Draper: No teacher would ever fail a student who was out because of suspensions.

Tiger Paper: I've heard to the contrary.

Draper: No, this is not going to happen. These are excused absences and such students will certainly be given consideration.

Tiger Paper: Can we quote you on the excused absences?

Draper: I'll consult with the Dean of Faculty and if you think there's real confusion we'll send out a memorandum to the entire faculty.

JUST ASK...

Draper: . . . MCC is working on a splendid new campus. It's going to cost about \$64 million; it will be located at Chambers Street and the West Side Highway. . . .

Tiger Paper: Are you aware that some of the students and faculty have been saying that they think, in terms of open admissions students, that this location is an unsatisfactory location; that it's too far from a lot of the neighborhoods that people live in?

Draper: I would imagine that if the community, or those neighborhoods, would request a community college, serious consideration would be given to having community colleges in these neighborhoods. I think those neighborhoods ought to request the Board of Higher Education to build community colleges in those areas.



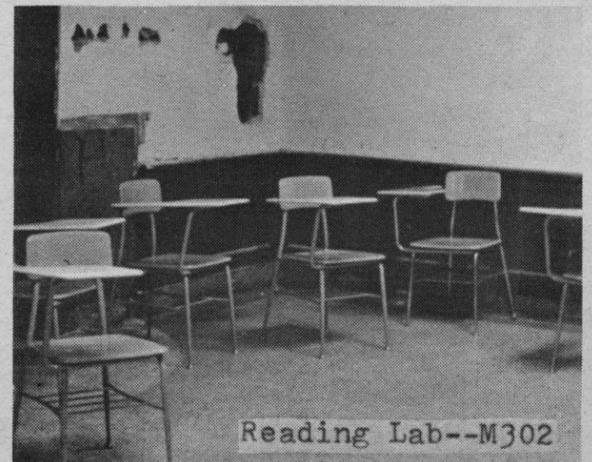
(As we go to press nothing has been done to improve rooms M502 and 302.)

Tiger Paper: What would you say about slum conditions at MCC? For example, one classroom, M502, has an enormous hole in the wall, and there is a lot of noise because of plaster and other things constantly falling inside the wall.

Draper: "Slum" is an institutional word that grows out of the sociological analysis of a community. And I don't think the 70th Street Association, of that building, would consider that community a slum. But there are conditions in that building that need to be improved. We certainly have been working on them. I'm not familiar with the room M502, but we have been through that building to correct the most serious conditions. . . . Generally, we've taken care of the serious problems in that building and I shall personally make a visit tomorrow to M502 to see what the problem is! Because I'm amazed that there is a room in that building that you would consider a slum. The large hole there, those things continually dropping, and so on-- this amazed me. I shall check it tomorrow and make sure it's corrected.

Tiger Paper: The room below M502, the reading laboratory, has big holes in the wall also. I don't think these kinds of conditions are unique to room 502.

Draper: Well, I know that we've had some difficulty with the facilities. I suppose this college, as a community college, is fortunate in comparison with many others. Many community colleges in this country have gotten started in barns, in out-of-the-way places, but we got started in midtown Manhattan, one of the finest facilities that one can find. . . .



Reading Lab--M302

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



June Mosca-Attica Brigade



Sandra Johnson-Black Workers' Congress

ON MARCH 7, over one hundred people celebrated International Women's Day at MCC. June Mosca, speaking for the MCC Attica Brigade which sponsored the event, gave a brief history of the holiday. She emphasized that genuine women's liberation cannot be won without fighting to transform a society which oppresses all working people.



Barbara Masekela

Barbara Masekela, a South African woman, gave a clear example of this concept. She noted that in South Africa Black women are legally owned by their fathers, their husbands, or even by their sons, (if both father and husband are dead). However, Barbara said, women establish their position as human beings not by fighting against their men, but by playing a significant role in the political struggles of their people--in a nation where thousands of Black men are jailed daily, and then forced to serve their jail terms doing slave labor for white farmers!



Vivian Rivera-Puerto Rican Socialist Party

Vivian Rivera of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party also spoke of the importance of not separating the liberation struggles of women from those of all oppressed people. But she noted that male chauvinism has helped to hold back the great strength and abilities of Puerto Rican women. These attitudes also help uphold white supremacy and imperialism here, in Puerto Rico, and all over the world.

Vivian also talked about the special kinds of oppression Third World women suffer; for example, on the job, and by being used as experimental guinea pigs for American drug companies.

The wages of Third World women are the lowest of any group of workers in this country. Puerto Rican women often end up working under slave conditions in New York's garment district. Even these jobs are constantly jeopardized by a company policy called "Runaway Shops."

In the last three years, 141,000 workers in the garment industry have lost their jobs. Rather than give these workers a living wage, the companies have moved their shops (the "runaway shops") to the South, where workers are not yet so well organized and can be forced to work for much lower salaries.

Vivian went on to say that, without their knowledge or consent, Third World women are used as subjects for drug experiments. In Puerto Rico birth control pills were handed out liberally (so they could be tested on Puerto Rican women) ten years before they were introduced on the American market.

Sandra Johnson of the Black Workers Congress talked about how women, especially Third World women, are used



Youngest woman in the audience

as a cheap labor force in the U.S., and are manipulated through welfare, child care and workfare.

First, she said, Third World men can only get jobs with salaries so low they cannot support their families. Women, then, have to work to support themselves and their children. But their salaries are too low to pay for babysitters, and they cannot use the city day-care centers unless they are on welfare.

If they then have to go on welfare, there is a reason for this "service" being available to them: now they can be forced on to "workfare", that is, to take jobs formerly held by working women and perform them for no salary--just to get their welfare checks. Forbidden to join unions or to organize in any way, they now do the jobs of workers who had these rights.

Sometimes women who have been fired from already low-paying jobs, or who have been forced to quit because they had no access to child care, have found themselves, on workfare, back at their old jobs for half the money!

After the speakers, the Attica Brigade showed "The Women's Film", which illustrates how the leadership of working women in the women's liberation movement is a great source of strength for everyone.

WOMEN'S LIBERATION: 2 DIRECTIONS

THE STRUGGLE for the liberation of women in the U.S. today is moving in two main directions. One line approaches women's liberation as an issue separate from all others. The other, recognizing that women cannot be free in an unfree society, links the liberation of women to the struggles of all oppressed people in America.

The line that focuses on women alone is a well-publicized movement. It is the fight for equal job opportunity, equal pay; for acceptance as responsible human beings in the legal, social, and political structure of this country. It is the fight for democratic rights under capitalism.

The importance of this segment of the women's movement cannot be underestimated. Thousands of women throughout the country raised the consciousness that oppression and exploitation of women exist; this movement contributed greatly to the politicization of many women and men. (cont'd page 8)

AT MCG

Sojourner Truth, a slave until 1827,

then a domestic servant--always a great feminist and abolitionist--spoke these words in response to a minister who argued that women were poor, helpless creatures not entitled to civil rights:

That man over there says women need to be helped into carriages and lifted over ditches, and to have the best place everywhere. Nobody ever helps me into carriages or over puddles, or gives me the best place--and ain't I a woman?

Look at this arm! I have ploughed and planted and gathered into barns, and no man could head me--and ain't I a woman?

I could work as much and eat as much as a man--when I could get it--and bear the lash as well. And ain't I a woman?

I have borne thirteen children, and seen most of 'em sold off to slavery, and when I cried out with my mother's grief, none but Jesus heard me. And ain't I a woman?



YESTERDAY AND TODAY

The ruling class in America promotes its own history, ideology and culture. The history of those who have fought on the other side (the side of the masses of working people) is very threatening. One especially threatening area is the history of the often militant part that women have played in these struggles.

Currently, workers in the Farah plants in Texas and New Mexico (85% of whom are women, mostly Chicano) are striking for a wage they can live on, and an end to a vicious, inhumane premium-bonus system, which speeds up production from the bosses' point of view, but leads to injuries and intolerable pressures for the workers. The women have been fighting the company--a major manufacturer of pants--and its hired scabs for ten months. The pants are sold all over the country. Because they are sold in New York at various stores, like A & S's, a strike support movement is gathering strength here. The company has refused to agree to collective bargaining with the workers. They earn \$69 a week before taxes. The only way to get more money is through the premium system; that is, for example, if a worker can sew on six belts a minute instead of five, (which the women say is impossible) she is promised a few cents more an hour. The struggles for decent wages and living conditions are part of the continuing fight of Mexican Americans to overcome the racism and repression which exploit them.

We have to fight the same fights over and over again. One example of this can be seen by comparing the Farah strike of today with the 1912 strike of textile workers in Lawrence, Massachusetts, where similar issues were overlaid in the same way by repression.

There, entire families had to work in the mills. Wages were less than \$9 a week (for an adult). People were living four and five to a room, with no toilet facilities, in conditions "good enough for Hunkeys, Poles, and Wops". Just as in the Farah plants, a premium system had been introduced to speed up work, which led to unbearable pressure and tension. A spontaneous strike of 20,000 workers, half of whom were women, led to one of the best organized strikes in history. It aroused public sympathy all over the country. During a violent clash between the strikers, scabs and police, an immigrant woman was shot and killed. While the women were trying to evacuate the strikers' children, police "closed in on us with their clubs, beating right and left, with no thought of the children who were in the most desperate danger of being trampled to death." (from the report of the Women's Committee of Philadelphia) The strike was successful greatly due to the militant participation of women, who, as each tactic was declared illegal under martial law, readily developed another. James Oppenheim was inspired by the Lawrence women to write the following words:

As we come marching, marching in the beauty of the day,
A million darkened kitchens, a thousand mill lofts gray,
Are touched with all the radiance that a sudden sun discloses,
For the people hear us singing: "Bread and roses! Bread and Roses!"

As we come marching, marching, we bring the greater days.
The rising of the women means the rising of the race.
No more the drudge and idler--ten that toil whereone reposes,
But a sharing of life's glories: Bread and roses! Bread and roses!

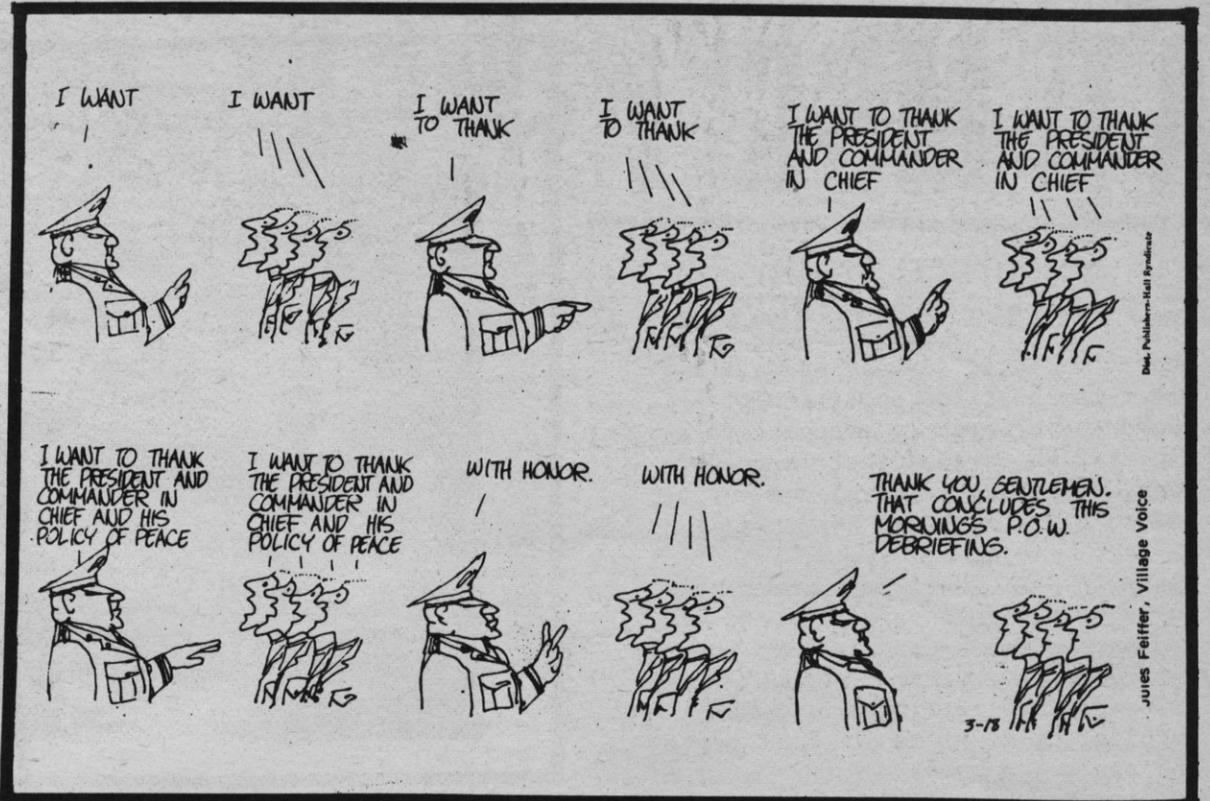


(photo by Bay Area Worker)

Women's Day in San Francisco--dramatization of
speech by ex-slave Sojourner Truth

March 8 was proclaimed an international working women's holiday in 1910 by the International Socialists Congress. It was proposed in honor of the women of New York's Lower East Side who had been fighting since 1857 for improved working conditions.

VICTORY FOR VIETNAM



PRESIDENTIAL SWEETALK about "peace with honor" and the phony heroics of carefully staged POW returns cannot turn a U.S. defeat in Vietnam into a victory.

Nixon is trying to fool us by playing upon our understandable sympathy for men long separated from their families. The majority of POW's, however, are elite Air Force officers who volunteered to bomb North Vietnam "back into the stone age".

They failed. Yet Nixon has them come back to brass bands, free automobiles and paid vacations because he wants to cover up the defeat of the U.S., and take attention off the

other returning veterans--the hundreds of thousands of working class and Third World soldiers who came home as victims of this brutal war: many of them addicted to heroin, many more unable to find jobs; over 50,000 maimed and crippled, and 49,000 dead.

The recently signed cease-fire accords do not bring "peace with honor" to the U.S. Instead they lay the groundwork for a total victory by the Vietnamese people in two important ways:

- (1) They clear the path to reunification of the North and South by establishing the principle that Vietnam is a single,

- independent, sovereign nation.
- (2) They call for withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Vietnam while those of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North Vietnam) and the Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG-South Vietnam) remain in place.

Without U.S. air and ground forces, the puppet Thieu regime might as well pack its bags and head for the French Riviera.

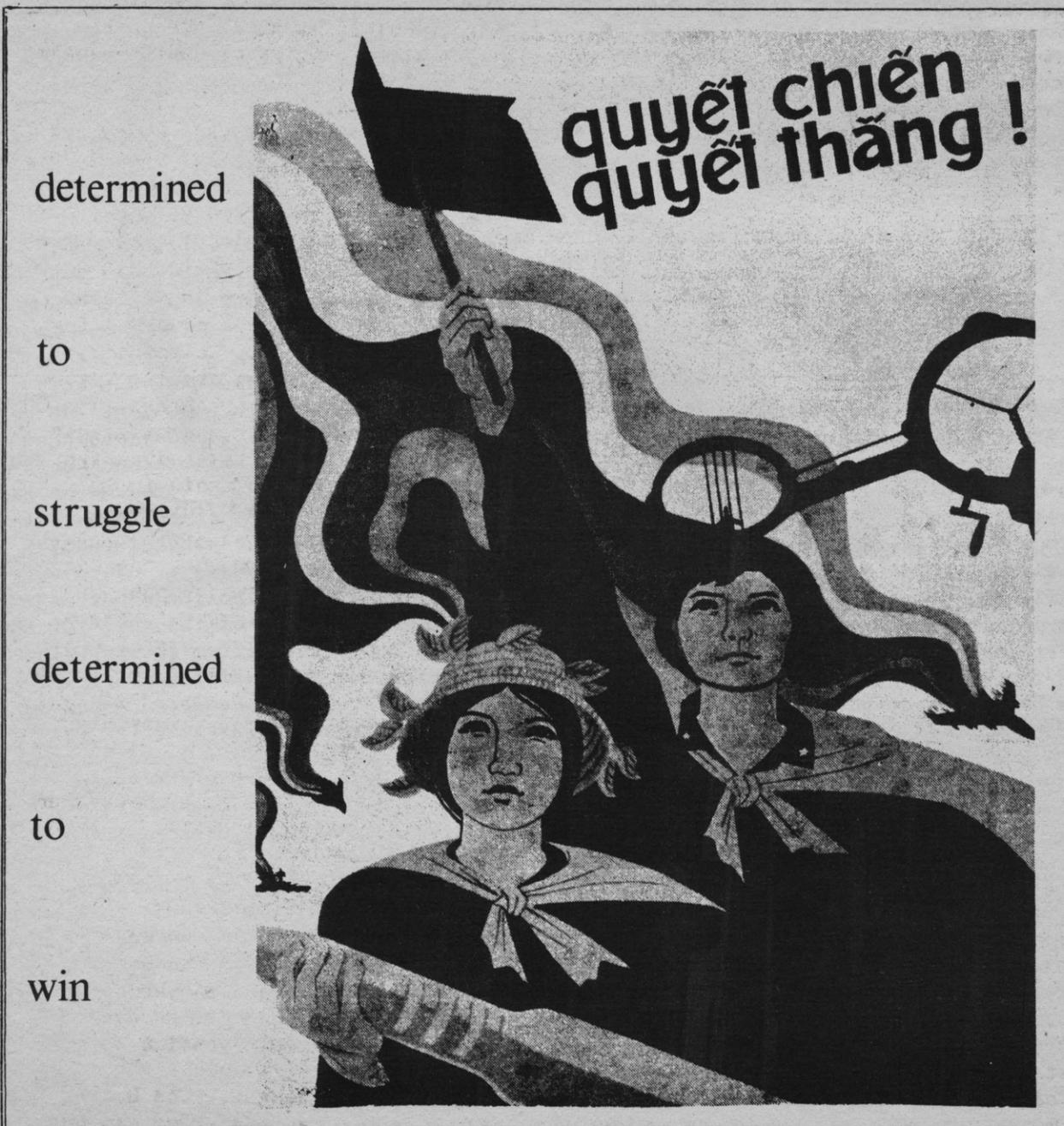
The Saigon dictatorship faces defeat on two fronts. Politically, it does not have the popular support necessary to survive a peace. Militarily, if it decides to renew the fighting by continuing its massive violations of the accords, the liberation forces will overwhelm it.

History shows that even massive American military and economic aid cannot prop up a puppet army that has low morale, an incredibly high desertion rate and a corrupt officer corp (which sells most of its U.S. equipment on the black market). It is no match for a well disciplined people's army whose high purpose and self reliance enable it to make infinitely more effective use of its relatively limited resources.

The main enemy of the Vietnamese people, however, is not Thieu. He and his puppet government are only front men who faithfully serve and do the dirty work of the real enemy: the small elite of monopoly capitalists who rule the U.S. and who try to make super-profits off the backs of hundreds of millions of people throughout the world.

American imperialism, having suffered a defeat in Indochina, is now trying to reverse its losses by increasing exploitation at home. That is why the big defense contractors cheer Nixon when he increases the military budget by \$5 billion and cuts back over 100 social service programs. The ordinary taxpayer foots the bill.

There is a lesson in all of this. If a tiny underdeveloped nation can defeat the Goliath of American imperialism overseas, then we can cut it down to size here at home, too. In the words of one famous revolutionary, "Dare to struggle, dare to win!"



determined

to

struggle

determined

to

win

IMPERIALISM

MONOPOLY CAPITALISM

...Imperialism is a word that is often used, but rarely defined. If people are to come to grips with what's going on in this world, it is important that they understand what imperialism means. That is why, in the article that follows, we try to explain what it is, point out why it is so dangerous, and show why its fall is inevitable...

PROFIT IS THE MOVING force behind capitalism.

John D. Rockefeller (Nelson's grandfather) couldn't stop after he made his first million. He went on to make another three billion.

The big capitalist, just like the little one, cannot survive unless he continues to turn a profit. Even the biggest of the big, a multi-billion dollar corporation like General Motors, cannot let up. If it does, its competitors, such as Ford and Toyota, will move in, take over its markets, and drive it out of business.

Competition forces the capitalist to wheel and deal endlessly for profit. If he falters, competition can destroy him. Yet if he succeeds, his success brings him face to face with an important contradiction built into the capitalist system — overproduction and underconsumption.

An economy that puts profit before human need cannot help but create tremendous extremes in wealth and poverty. (In the U.S., for example, less than a dozen corporations account for nearly 50% of the gross national product. At the other end of the scale, the income of 50% of all American families falls below the federal government's "maintenance level"—the average income needed to maintain a family with the basic necessities of life.) As a result, the corporate rich have the wealth necessary to produce a tremendous amount of goods for the market. The poor, however, do not have the money to buy them.

This contradiction becomes clearer when we see that the capitalist, constantly pressed by his competition, is forever trying to increase his profits by cutting his labor costs. He does this by keeping wages to a minimum and with the resulting profits, buying machines that enable him to lay off part of his work force. He now makes an even greater profit. The problem is that the ordinary consumers, whose wages or unemployment place a limit on what they can buy, do not have the purchasing power to consume everything that an economy based solely on profit is capable of producing.

To get out of this double bind of competition and overproduction, the big capitalists

(1) force the small capitalists out of business and create monopolies, so that they can control production, prices, wages and markets, as well as limiting competition to the giant corporations; and

(2) expand overseas in order to control vital raw materials, obtain new markets for goods that they cannot sell at home, and find investment outlets for their profits.

This stage of capitalism, the one we live under now, is called monopoly capitalism. It is the highest stage of capitalism and is the same thing as imperialism.

Ho Chi Minh, the father of the Vietnamese revolution, put it most clearly, when he said that imperialism is a two-headed leech, one head sucking the blood of workers and oppressed races at home and the other that of colonized peoples abroad.

In its push for super profits, imperialism has killed two million Indochinese and 50,000 Americans in South East Asia. It buys chromium (necessary for the production of jet planes) from the racist Rhodesian government, directly exploits Puerto Rico as a colony and tries to overthrow a freely elected government in Chile (the ITT-CIA scandal). Here in the U.S. it spends billions on advertising to create an artificial demand for useless and often harmful products such as vaginal deodorants, cosmetics, Geritol and electric toothbrushes—because that's where the big money is. They don't build low cost housing or needed schools be-



cause there are no super profits in that.

Monopoly capitalism brings the productive forces of the system to their fullest development. A monopoly such as General Motors, with its money, machines, experts and assembly line work force, can produce and distribute more automobiles, more efficiently than 10,000 small capitalists could putting together cars by hand in backyard garages throughout the country. But while GM is capable of producing cheap, long lasting, pollution-free automobiles, it won't. It is more profitable to market shoddy and over-priced products. Gillette has the technology to make a razor blade that will last 50 years. However, we will never see it because it would destroy Gillette as a money-making operation.

Monopoly capitalism has built productive forces that are capable of freeing the world's entire population from want and hunger. Instead, however, the system uses technology to create instruments of death—napalm, jet planes, "H" bombs—and line the pockets of a few imperialists with super profits.

If we look at recent history, we can see concretely how basic contradictions in the imperialist system are working to bring about its certain destruction.

Imperialism has set itself against the majority of humankind. By expanding capitalist exploitation overseas, it overextends itself and makes enemies on many fronts. At the same time, the drive for control of the world's markets pits the imperialist powers (like the U.S., Japan, West Germany) against one another, weakens them and leaves them open to eventual defeat.

When the war in S.E. Asia weakened the American dollar, the other big capitalist powers, particularly Japan and West Germany, were quick to take advantage and forced a devaluation. (In 1914 and again in 1939, competition between imperialist powers actually escalated into World Wars.)

The defeat of U.S. imperialism in Vietnam has served as an example and inspiration to other oppressed peoples. A revolutionary tide is beginning to sweep the Third World as liberation forces near victory in Portuguese Guinea, Angola and Mozambique (all in Africa) and in Laos and Cambodia.

At home, the ruling circle of monopoly capitalists creates still more enemies by making the masses of working people pay for their losses abroad—with inflation, wage control, and cutbacks in government spending on housing, health, education and welfare, while funding for defense is increased.

But people fight back—at Wounded Knee, in Watts and Detroit, at Southern University and in the coal mines of West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Kentucky. Black and Brown workers take the lead in the hospital unions, in the lettuce fields and grapevineyards of California, in the Farah strike and in almost every basic American industry. The struggle continues to widen.

Imperialism is digging its own grave. The better we organize, the more we fight, the sooner we can put it to death.

THE LOWDOWN ON LATE GRADES

IT'S OUTRAGEOUS. MCC students did not receive their fall grade reports until March 7, nearly six weeks into the spring semester.

Worse yet, in spite of extra work by people in the Registrar's office, the reports are full of errors--incorrect grades, omission of courses taken, wrongly computed grade-point averages. It may be months before most of these errors are corrected, we were told. Some may never be set right unless students themselves alert the Registrar to possible mistakes.

The whole mess began a year ago when the administration ordered, and then totally bungled, a mail registration for the Fall 1972 semester. Because mail registrants never got any official confirmation that they were enrolled, many registered a second time in September, not always for the same courses and sections.

Straightening out the double registrations slowed up the preparation of accurate class lists (rosters). So did the fact that an entire drawer full of IBM cards for non-matriculating students was permanently lost somewhere in the wilds between the M Building on 70th St. and the A Building on 51st. Nearly 1000 registrations had to be redone by hand in the Registrar's office.

Regular student drops and adds during the first month of the Fall term had to be processed, too, amidst confusions caused by cancelled and newly created sections.

Women's liberation: CONT'D

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The right of women to control their own bodies, and the right to equal pay for equal work are examples of important struggles which are being won by the many women working in this direction.

It's becoming increasingly clear, though, that this line of the movement, seeking women's democratic rights under capitalism, is not dealing with the fundamental oppression of women as a whole. The middle-class and mostly white women who are identified as leaders of this part of the movement emphasize those forms of oppression experienced by their own class.

On the abortion issue, for example, they fight for women's right to obtain abortions, but not for free abortions, which would especially benefit low-income women. In employment, they seem to be fighting only for the same privileges as middle-class men--in other words, to get a few more high positions for women like themselves. But adding a few women to the top of the wage pyramid can do nothing to improve the continually worsening conditions of the majority of women.

There is another force in the women's liberation movement, however, that is moving to confront these conditions. Seeing that women are exploited not only psychologically and

The people working in the Registrar's office put in several Saturdays trying to undo the mess caused by the chaotic registration and the troubles in Data Processing. (They didn't receive extra pay for this work, but only "compensatory" time off.) But when instructors turned in final grades, there were still about 1500 adds and 2000 drops to be hand-processed in the Registrar's office, each involving several time-consuming steps and possibilities for new errors to creep in.

Nevertheless, the work could have been done in time to issue grade reports promptly--if the administration hadn't set up two additional road-blocks.

The first was scheduling the start of the second semester--and a new registration--a week earlier than any other school in CUNY.

The second, and main, reason for the delay was Pres. Draper's get-tough order that every single W grade--about 2000 of them--had to be checked to see if the student either had officially withdrawn from the course or was an entering freshman. Every other W, Draper ordered, had to be changed to an F. Because the symbols indicating entering-freshman status hadn't been included on the rosters, some fresh-

men entitled to W's got F's instead.

A get-tough order came down on incompletes (I's) as well. Official policy, made by the Faculty Council, is that all incompletes must be made up by the first day of the semester following the one in which the I was given. This rule, which is much stricter than at most other schools, was never enforced before. Now it's being applied drastically, and without warning to either students or faculty. Many students who were given I's never even knew it, because the I's were changed into F's before the grade reports went out.

The inefficiency of Draper and his administration is an insult and a scandal. But the sudden get-tough academic policy is a positive threat, another hidden attack on Open Admissions. Taken together with lack of adequate financial aid, slum conditions, and inadequate counseling services, it means that MCC students have to be practically superhuman to survive. The school is run against them, not for them. If the Board of Higher Education wanted things to be different, they would have gotten rid of Draper and his crew long ago.

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All students who think that their grade reports may contain an error should file a grade-challenge form. The forms are available at the Registrar's office, A 307, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Evening students who cannot get to the Registrar's office before 5 p.m. should call (262-3580) and ask that a form be sent to them.

sexually, but also because of race, or because of degrading, low-paying job situations, this force in the movement regards its struggles as a vital part of the fight to change the conditions of all oppressed people in America. While trying to deal with specifically women's issues and struggling to change anti-woman attitudes among men, these women are fighting side by side with men to change the system.

One clear example of the difference in direction between the middle-class and working-class lines in the women's movement can be seen in the recent strike of the maids at Columbia University.

The maids at Columbia were paid \$118 a week for the same work that janitors did for \$136. When the men demanded higher wages they were told they could be replaced by women who'd take a lower salary. When the women demanded wages equal to the men's, 23 of them were fired and replaced by 15 male workers.

Women's liberation groups on the Columbia campus argued that the strike was a women's issue only, and that men should be excluded from the struggle.

The maids themselves, however, saw the issue as part of the larger worker's struggle, and insisted that the janitors be included in decision-making and action. This is the course that was followed, and it was the right one.

Through this united struggle, the men came to understand how their slightly higher salaries and token privileges were used against them. With working-class women in the leadership, the workers saved the jobs of the 23 maids and also those of the 15 newly hired janitors. In the future, the university will not be able to pit the men against the women in their fight for better conditions. Clearly, seeing women's issues as part of the workers' movement benefits everyone.

Newspapers, magazines, and TV portray the women's movement as totally middle class, and ignore the struggles of Third World and white working-class women. This is no accident. The media serve the interests of the capitalist structure. If pressured to do so, the capitalist system can survive the addition of a few women to its corporate and governmental elite. But capitalism cannot afford to lose great numbers of women as home-oriented and beauty-oriented consumers, or as the cheapest and most easily available reserve labor force.

It certainly cannot afford the threat which would be posed by women fighting together, and along with men, for a better life for themselves and for all people--a solution that would change this whole capitalist society.

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