

LIBERATED WOMEN



Photo by Yohannes Besserat



AN EVENING AT

roberta

There were some nice things happening at Dwinell to Women's Day. The East Bay Queers were silk screening Power to the People clenched fist drawn inside the fence cents and Don Mitor asked me to get his done too (He Commune was doing another design — the figure of a woman). We also posted, It Ain't Me Babe Comics and other imaginative and stirring poetry was read by a few women. I remember thinking several times during the evening that there was a lot of hate hostility being put down towards us. I felt heard seen their shit towards us, but other men and women too and places where men get together to put down the gays and the Army — and I sort of feel the same way. I don't want to know what we're about, don't want to know with, then by a mean and tough motherfucker. But...I

ested, why not be

A LETTER FROM HUEY ABOUT WOMEN

During the past few years, strong movements have developed among women and among homosexuals seeking their liberation. There has been some uncertainty about how to relate to these movements.

Whatever your personal opinions and your insecurities about homosexuality and the various liberation movements among homosexuals and women (and I speak of the homosexuals and women as oppressed groups), we should try to unite with them in a revolutionary fashion. I say "whatever your insecurities are" because, as we very well know sometimes our first instinct is to want to hit a homosexual in the mouth and want a woman to be quiet. We want to hit the homosexual in the mouth because we're afraid we might be homosexual; and we want to hit the woman or shut her up because we're afraid that she might castrate us, or take the nuts that we might not have to start with.

We must gain security in ourselves and therefore have respect and feelings for all oppressed people. We must not use the racist type attitude like

the White racists use against people because they are Black and poor. Many times the poorest White person is the most racist, because he's afraid that he might lose something, or discover something that he doesn't have; you're some kind of threat to him. This kind of psychology is in operation when we view oppressed people and we're angry with them because of their particular kind of behavior, or their particular kind of deviation from the established norm.

Remember, we haven't established a revolutionary value system; we're only in the process of establishing it. I don't remember us ever constituting any value that said that a revolutionary must say offensive things towards homosexuals, or that a revolutionary should make sure that women do not speak out about their own particular kind of oppression. Matter of fact it's just the opposite: we say that we recognize the women's right to be free. We haven't said much about the homosexual at all, and we must relate to the homosexual movement because it's a real thing.

And I know through reading and through my life experience, my observations, that homosexuals are not given freedom and liberty by anyone in the society. Maybe they might be the most oppressed people in the society.

And what made them homosexual? Perhaps it's a whole phenomena that I don't understand entirely. Some people say that it's the decadence of capitalism. I don't know whether this is the case; I rather doubt it. But whatever the case is, we know that homosexuality is a fact that exists, and we must understand it in its purest form: That is, a person should have freedom to use his body in whatever way he wants to. That's not endorsing things in homosexuality that we wouldn't view as revolutionary. But there's nothing to say that a homosexual cannot also be a revolutionary.

And maybe I'm now injecting some of my prejudice by saying that "even a homosexual can be a revolutionary." Quite on the contrary, maybe a homosexual could be the most revolutionary.

EN DO THEIR THING



Photo by Gary Freedman

G AT DWINELLE

roberta

ing at Dwinelle Hall, up at U.C., in an evenings celebration were silk screening shirts, pants and other things with the inside the female symbol. I had my work shirt done for 50 s done too (He better live up to it!). Derby Street Women's the figure of a Vietnamese woman carrying a rifle. There ics and other literature for sale. Some very beautiful, ima- oy a few women and others played music and sang. But I g the evening that I was glad my old man wasn't there cause t down towards men. I know it's a two-way street and have t other men are turned off and angered by male exclusive- ther to put down women — like bars for Men Only, clubs, el the same way about female exclusiveness. If most men don't want to change the attitudes they've been inculcated fucker. But...if some men or your man is willing and inter- ed, why not be warm?



Photo by Yohannes Bessarat

OMEN'S -- AND GAY -- LIBERATION

When we have revolutionary conferences, rallies and demonstrations there should be full participation of the gay liberation movement and the women's liberation movement. Some groups might be more revolutionary than others. We shouldn't use the actions of a few to say that they're all reactionary or counterrevolutionary, because they're not.

We should deal with the factions just as we deal with any other group or party that claims to be revolutionary. We should try to judge somehow, whether they're operating sincerely, in a revolutionary fashion, from a really oppressed situation. (And we'll grant that if they're women, they're probably oppressed.) If they do things that are un-revolutionary or counter-revolutionary, then criticize that action. If we feel that the group in spirit means to be revolutionary in practice, but they make mistakes in interpretation of the revolutionary philosophy, or they don't understand the dialectics of the social forces in operation, we should criticize that and not criticize them because they're women trying to be free. And the same is true

for homosexuals. We should never say a whole movement is dishonest, when in fact they're trying to be honest, they're just making honest mistakes. Friends are allowed to make mistakes. The enemy is not allowed to make mistakes because his whole existence is a mistake, and we suffer from it. But the womens liberation front and gay liberation front are our friends, they are potential allies, and we need as many allies as possible.

We should be willing to discuss the insecurities that many people have about homosexuality. When I say "insecurities", I mean the fear that they're some kind of threat to our manhood. I can understand this fear. Because of the long conditioning process which builds insecurity in the American male, homosexuality might produce certain hangups in us. I have hangups myself about male homosexuality. Where, on the other hand, I have no hangup about female homosexuality. And that's phenomena in itself. I think it's probably because male homosexuality is a threat to me, may-

be and the females are no threat.

We should be careful about using those terms that might turn our friends off. The terms "faggot" and "punk" should be deleted from our vocabulary, and especially we should not attach names normally designed for homosexuals to men who are enemies of the people, such as Nixon or Mitchell. Homosexuals are not enemies of the people.

We should try to form a working coalition with the Gay liberation and Women's liberation groups. We must always handle social forces in the most appropriate manner. And this is really a significant part of the population both women, and the growing number of homosexuals that we have to deal with.

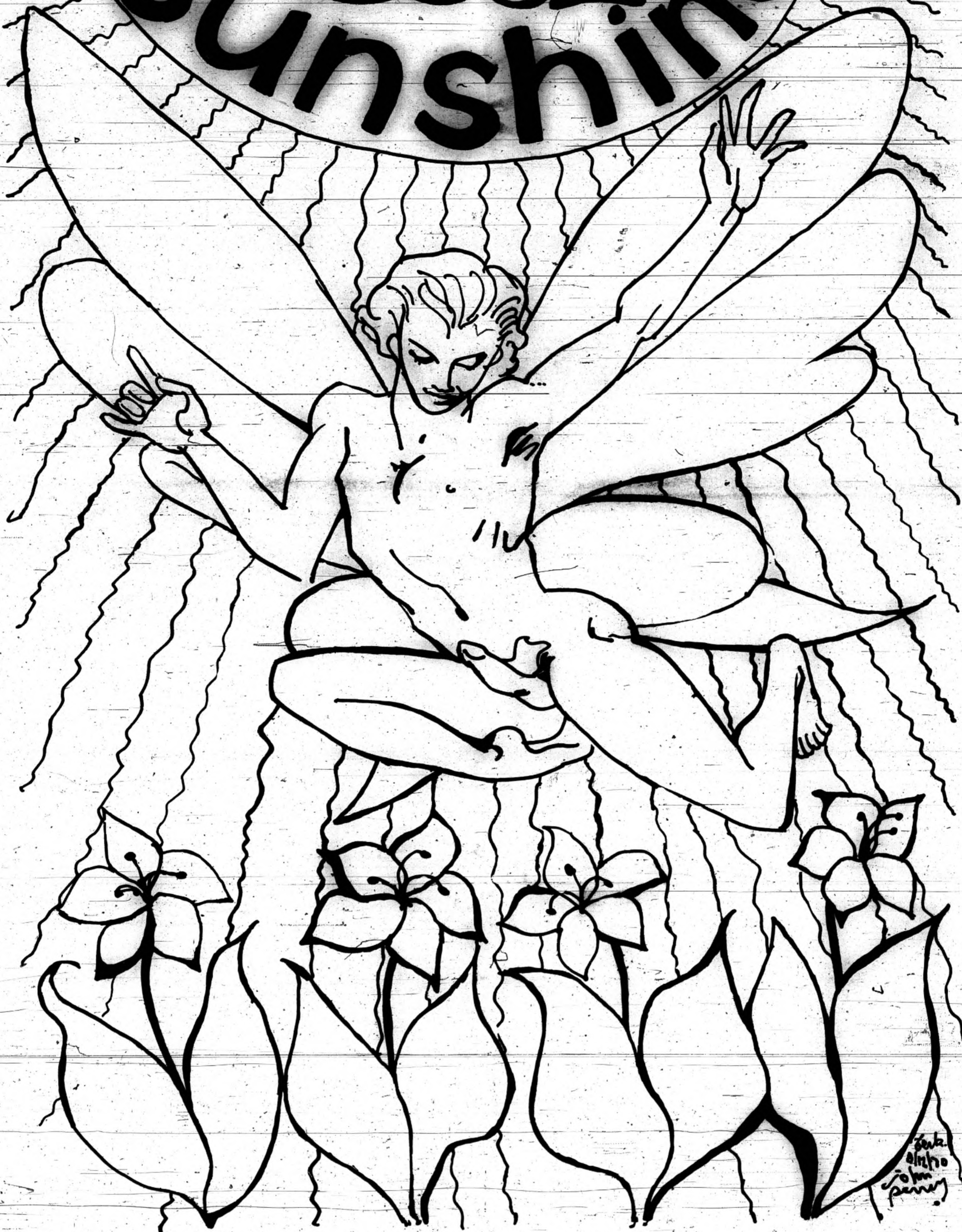
ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE!

Huey P. Newton,
SUPREME COMMANDER,
Black Panther Party

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25¢

GAY Sunshine



FIVE YEARS IN SOLEDAD

I have been locked in prison for over five years now so you can see that I am way behind as far as what's happening. Probably the main reason that I have not been paroled yet is that I know no one in California, and that is my main reason for writing to you. I have been following the gay liberation very closely in your paper and I think it is beautiful. Since I fit in that category I was in hopes of maybe getting some contacts that may be able to help me get out of here and get a job. Below you will find a light resume of myself and if you know anyone that may be able to help me out please let them read it.

I am a 28 year old caucasian and am in prison for the crime of Robbery and Escape. I graduated from high school in 1959 and since then have worked at many jobs. I have Electrocardiograph Technician Certificate and some training in hospital attendant work. At present I have learned quite a bit of accounting through the job I am working. I am working in the canteen at North Facility and will be going to the board in January of next year. As I say I have a very good chance of getting a parole but a little help from the outside would cinch it. I also have quite a bit of experience in clerical work and feel that I could handle any job in that area.

I am going to explain a little about how these pigs are holding me in here because I am gay and proud of it. A person normally does 3 and 1/2 years for the crime I am in here on and so far I have done 5 and 1/2. I have a perfect work record and have broken no rules for over three years. When I went to the parole board last January they denied me another year for two reasons. The first reason was because I tried to commit suicide last year and the other was because of what they called homosexual activity. I have tried many times to write to the Gay Liberation and every time they shot my letter down because they said I could not write to a gay organization. The letter you got from me slipped by them because it was addressed to the Tribe instead of you. I guess I am kind of fighting a battle of my own in here because I refuse to change for them. They think I can turn straight anytime I want but what they don't know is I don't want to. I hate the life in prison because for a person like myself I have to get a Daddy and this Daddy is usually a straight guy who takes advantage of you but will not give anything in return. I am a very emotional person but cannot live on one way emotions and sex. I am not weak by no means but I am very versatile and enjoy sex all ways. The life in prison for the gay stinks and I hope that I will get out of here soon.

With Love,
Your Brother,

Tommie

welcome home, huey

KPFA Pacifica Interview August 12, 1970

Question: There are many groups of women today categorized as Women's Liberation, and yet they represent a variety of groups, only some of whom politically conscious. And there are other groups like the Homosexual groups. I would like your thinking of their relationship to what you are talking about.

Huey P. Newton: They definitely have a place in the revolutionary movement. Some of the Women's Liberation Front groups are politically conscious. Those groups which are politically conscious, we would like to unite with them, and we would like to also have unity with the Homosexual groups who are also politically conscious. We've had meetings with representatives of the Homosexual groups and also the Women's Liberation Front. Now the Homosexual groups have been oppressed so much and so badly till it was hard to convince them that the Black Panther Party is relating to them. But we see that Homosexuals are human beings and they are oppressed because of the bourgeois mentality and the bourgeois treachery that exists in this country that tries to legislate sexual activities. Most of the laws are not laws to promote freedom. I believe that one of the most essential things that man universally strives after whether its internal freedom or external freedom--in other

words, freedom from compulsions and obsessions. Man is not happy when he feels forced. These are the internal things when he's oppressed and feels compelled, whether its through religious reasons or backwards value reasoning, even if he carries those values, he's unhappy. When we start legislating from the outside, there's force on the outside also, and this is on the laws on the lawbooks saying that adult people can't have any kind of sexual relationships they want to. I don't think that the Homosexuals should be harassed and badgered and brutalized because of their desire to have a sexual relationship that is not popular--at this time. So we plan in the future to make sure that we have solidarity with all oppressed people.

Gay Liberation Front of Berkeley sends greetings to the Black Panther Party Minister of Defense Huey P. Newton on the occasion of his release from prison--a victory for Black people. We also warmly acknowledge his support for Homosexual liberation in his recent speech. The oppressor of Homosexual women and men is also the oppressor of Black people everywhere, the racist, sexist capitalist U.S. empire. Ours is a common struggle. Victory to the Black peoples struggle for liberation! All power to the people!

Suicide—Jim Wagner, age 20 or 21, died last month, Gay brother.

Entrapped—David Dickson and another Drag Queen, taking a cab to get a bottle after hours. Said the cab driver, "I know a closer place," and he drove them into the basement of the Hall of Injustice and busted them for sexual soliciting. When David pleaded innocent, Judge O'Kaine said, "Alright, come back and be convicted." Jury trial August 19.

r.i.p. offs

Police fill up the Queen Tank every weekend. Watch out for policemen posing as cab drivers.

Beaten and Busted—Pat Brown and Gary Alinder, singing in the Saturday morning sunshine in front of a party at Sacramento and Stockton Sts. Witnesses from the party said police pushed the brothers up against the wall, pretended to search for ID's and announced loudly, "No ID, no ID," to which Gary responded, "The sun's my ID." The pigs then beat our brothers with clubs. Other sisters and brothers from the party came down to plead with the cops to stop, but they continued while threatening to bust everyone. "One day they'll be beating our brothers and we'll be ready. Right on with the revolution," said Lai Lani Adona, one witness who scattered. Gary was charged with resisting arrest and being under the influence of dangerous drugs. Pat was charged with being under the influence of dangerous drugs, resisting arrest and possession of narcotics, a felony.

Pat, because he wore a Gay is Good button and beautiful blonde hair down to his waist, was illegally searched and busted at Lands End last summer for possession. Charges were later dropped. In November he served two days for contempt when he affirmed "Power to the People" when defendants from the Gay Liberation Examiner protest came before the judge. At the KGO-ABC protest Pat was busted with Steve Matthews for chanting "Suck Cock, Beat the Draft." Pat handled his own defense, explaining to the straight jury that sucking cock was a beautiful part of Gay lifestyle. He asked the arresting officer on the witness stand if "Violating Section 288a of the California Penal Code, Beat the Draft" would have disturbed the peace. The judge ruled that and many other questions irrelevant, and the jury found both brothers guilty. Their conviction is on appeal.

Suicide—Dale Switzer, age 32, treasurer of SIR 1968-69, died last month Gay brother.

Hassled—Konstantin Berlandt, hitchhiking home at 5 a.m. from San Francisco Gay Liberation dance, taken into police station for ID check. "What crime am I suspected of?" Officer: "I think you might be an escapee from a mental hospital. I'd suspect anyone who has a beard and is wearing a dress."

Busted—Four brothers in one night in Buena Vista Park. Suspicion of oral copulation.

Other Busts—100s of brothers and sisters busted in Golden Gate Park and Lands End by Honda Hog Golden Gate Gestapo. 300 "runaways"—tourists who don't spend money--in Berkeley.

HELP! Bail fund raising, property owners willing to sign as references, attorneys willing to make at least initial defense free. Coordinate through Gay Switchboard, 843-6982. Let's get our sisters and brothers out of jail. Organize now in your own defense.

Beaten and Busted—Tom Mitchell, marching in Macy's picket line, attacked and slugged by a straight couple. Stunned, he fell out of line, walked to the corner where he was jumped by a plainclothesman who arrested him on two counts of battery. Co-chairman of the picket line Bill Plath, owner of the Orpheum Circus bar, insisted Mitchell was not busted on the line but for cussing out straights. Did SIR try to bail him out? "SIR (a \$86,000/year organization for the defense of the Gay community) has no bail fund," said Plath righteously.

I don't want
to set the world
on fire
I just want
to set a
flame in
your
heart

TO THE MEMORY OF
FRANK BARTLEY
(murdered April 17, 1969 by the
Berkeley Pigs)

i don't hear
the cry of a dead man
the dead don't cry out
that is left for the living

Brother Bartley
was murdered by a Berkeley Pig
and his murder was sanctioned
it could have been you or me
brother
we who live must cry out about this
injustice
and find its justice in the streets

no - you won't hear that
dead man cry out
that is left for the living

homosexuals let us take up our bodies
we are the weapons of the war
let us out in the streets
die or survive
let us not die singularly
at the hands of the pigs
no - let us stand as brothers arm
in arm
homosexuals our justice
awaits us in the streets

charles p. thorpe



your own
cigarette now,
baby

CITY COUNCIL'S MICRO-IKES:

'BERKELEY'S JES FINE, BOYS'

by G.K.

Everything's fine in Berkeley - at least this week, according to the City Council Tuesday night. There are no "poor people", there is no "drug problem", and the Berkeley police are just a bunch of peachy guys.

However a look at the Council's agenda for Tuesday reveals the following "claims for denial and referral to City Attorney": 1. Berkeley Community Health Project, 2398 Bancroft Way, in sum of \$2,000,300, resulting from police incident.

"2. Ronald Yank, 1264 Ninth ave, SF, in sum of \$250,000, re-

sulting from police incident."

"3. Karen Burke, 2510 Waverly St., Palo Alto, a sum of \$25,000 resulting from police incident."

Not bad for just one night's agenda!

The City of Berkeley has no - repeat no - police insurance. Why? "Resulting from police incident" has happened so goddamned many times, that every major and minor insurance company in the whole world has put in a "denial and referral to city attorney."

This has not penetrated the skulls of the Berkeley establishment. But something did come out this week - from councilman Borden Price: he found a "new" min-

ority, the "small homeowner who can't pay his taxes."

Shedding copious crocodile tears for the "new" minority, he and the majority of the council - voted against granting \$100,000 to the Centro Cultural Mexicano-Latino and the EOO-BA.

This turndown came after over two hours of debate in which EOO-BA director Paul Cobb field questions from DeBonis and the Major (see related story this issue). But all the logic put forth by Cobb and Councilman Ron Dellums fell (again) on deaf ears.

At 10:30 pm, the council emerged from a secret meeting in the Mayor's chambers (called, for the record, "personnel matters").

Then they proceeded to defend the Berkeley Police from all sides from the ACLU which issued a detailed statement on police-actions in violations of personal and civil liberties, to "that wonderful report" of the City Council on police behavior.

This committee was headed by Sweeney. He called his own report, "wonderful".

Councilman Dellums, however, thought it stunk.

He pointed out that since the council "has no authority" over the police, then just what the hell are we bothering the people for in the first place?

The City Manager (Hanley) hires and supposedly fires the police.

Hanley felt that the management of the department is "efficient, fair, and responsive to the people."

Just Sweeney felt his committee's report was "wonderful", so does Hanley feel his police department is "wonderful".

Now - isn't this a pile of shit? What is coming out of all this turgid thinking on the part of the Power Structure is public pressure to remove the city manager from the department and the establishment of 8 neighborhood police boards. This will be aired at a public council meeting, 8 PM Tuesday, August 25.

PENTAGON-WARMING

Cop
Petition
OK

The Charter Amendment petition calling for community control of Berkeley police has been validated by the Alameda County Clerk's office.

The Gazette reports that the Clerk's office checked 12,000 of the more than 15,000 signatures offered and qualified 7,937.

7,935 signatures of qualified voters were needed to get the proposed amendment on the ballot in the November 2 general election.

The petition proposes that the police department be broken up into three units, each with individual administration by neighborhood council in three areas: Black, White, and Campus, and that police live in the community that they work in.

HUEY
RAPS ON
GAY LIB

Gay Lib, whose position in the Movement has always been somewhat uncertain, got a welcome boost from Huey P. Newton.

Speaking on KPFA Tuesday night, Huey said that both Women's Lib AND Gay Lib had a place in the revolutionary movement.

He said that the Black Panther Party would welcome a coalition with "those groups of women who are politically conscious," as well as with politically conscious homosexuals.

Huey noted that "the homosexual group has been oppressed so much, and so badly, (that) it was hard to convince them that the Black Panther Party is relating to them. But we see that homosexuals are human beings, and they are oppressed because of the bourgeois mentality and bourgeois treachery that exists in this country (and) tries to legislate sexual activity."

Throughout the broadcast, Huey stressed the importance of unity among ALL oppressed peoples-- which, for the first time, seemed to include the gay community. "I don't think that the homosexuals should be harassed and badgered and brutalized," he said, "because of their desire to have a sexual relationship that's not popular at this time."



PHOTO BY GARY FREEDMAN

The Pentagon opened Monday night with about 150 G.I.'s and civilians coming to see the Bay Area's first G.I. coffee house.

The project was made a reality by Claudia Zeiler, Lee Thorne, Curtis Rose and a couple of dozen little kids from the neighborhood.

The movement groups represented here are M.D.M. and Pacific Counseling Service.

The goals of Pentagon are to give servicemen a place they can be a part of and a place to get some solidarity between the G.I.'s and the community.

SGT. PEPPER ON THE WALL

by Sgt Pepper

The Berlin Wall will be torn down and free access between East and West Berlin will shortly be announced by Premier Alexei Kosygin of the Soviet Union.

The Premier visits West Germany this month. The announcement will be made then.

This fits the growing pattern

of Russia securing its rear borders before it take on Red China in the upcoming war (which will use nuclear-tipped missiles called 'Scale').

When Kosygin told the editor of a pro-Moscow daily in New Delhi, The Patriot, that the USSR is seeking peace "in the direction of a detente", he never mentioned Red China once.

Last month, the USSR changed a caption under a photo of the "Nazi Destruction of Minsk" to "War Damage Suffered by Minsk" in a photo-display in England.

This was done to "avoid embarrassment of the West German government" according to a Ruetter's dispatch in the London Times.

Sgt Pepper has just returned from both East and West Europe, including both sides of the Berlin Wall. The destruction of this barricade will have a bigger impact on the West Berliners than the East.

All along the West side is the German symbol for "concentration camp" marked in white paint on the wall.

'CAPITALISM + DOPE = GENOCIDE'

A KPFA interview with Michael Cetewayo Tabor, one of the New York Black Panther 21, will be broadcast by the station Friday at 8 PM.

Al Silbowitz of KPFA gave BARB a preview of the Wednesday interview that points out a reason for the current epidemic of smack that is infesting ghetto and hip communities.

"There was always a dope problem in the ghettos, but it wasn't until '66 after Watts went up that the ghettos were flooded with dope."

He mentions a study that was done of a 40-block area in Harlem. Among the 18 thousand "hard core addicts" found in the area, many of them were between seven and 15 years of age.

"When the singing and the sit-ins stopped and the Blacks started rising up against brutalization the power structure realized it would have to devise new and more effective ways of keeping Black people in a state of bondage," Tabor says.

"They escalated the brutality. They began inducting more Black youths into the army. They in-

creased the use of birth control. And they flooded the ghettos with dope. That is one of the most effective ways of destroying resistance and the will to fight."

Tabor is the author of a pamphlet entitled "Capitalism Plus Dope Equals Genocide" which can be bought from the Black Panther for a quarter.