



Bishop Thomas J. Gumbleton, Auxiliary Bishop of Detroit, addressing an Indochina Conference in Philadelphia this past December. He spoke of his experiences in Vietnam investigating the political prisoner situation. That night Bishop Gumbleton spoke at a joint Catholic and Episcopal Peace Fellowship dinner arranged by local chapters in Philadelphia. Such joint events might be helpful to many groups working locally on the plight of the prisoners. Bishop Gumbleton's visit to Vietnam last Easter was recounted in the May 2, 1973 National Catholic Reporter. Reprints can be obtained from: Indochina Program AFSC, 112 S. 16 St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19102.

FOR THE VICTIMS

by Bob Oliva

As the seasons pass, all those who worship find themselves continually attempting to hear with new attention and openness the prophets of their traditions. They try to do so while on every side modern society rushes forward with its explosive advertisements, its self-absorption, and the din of cash registers. The clash becomes particularly severe, and more ironic, during the high holy days, Christmas and Chanukah, Easter and Passover. Times that should be engraved with a particular concern for the imprisoned, the tortured, the parentless, the homeless and beaten are all too often rather a time of heightened indifference and introversion.

This opening paragraph to the Fellowship of Reconciliation's FOR THE VICTIMS pamphlet became particularly meaningful to the Catholic Peace Fellowship members in Brooklyn and Queens this Christmas. We knew the war in Indochina had not come to an end but merely changed complexion. The agony of our inability to alleviate the continued suffering of the Indochinese weighed heavily upon us. Statistics and eyewitness statements concerning the plight of possibly 200,000 political prisoners plus an untold number of refugees and orphans added to our concern.

As the Christmas season came upon us it was decided at a local CPF meeting to act on behalf of those suffering in Indochina. We would implement the FOR THE VICTIMS program

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THE MIDDLE EAST WAR

The Yom Kippur War raises anew the need for peace in the Middle East. The "peace movement" has responded by splitting into factions supporting either the Arab's war for "justice", or the Israeli's war of "self-defense". A third force, generally silent until the last few months, is the pacifists. Their view is that both sides' use of violence is wrong and brings into question the rightness of both the Israelis and Arabs. For their beliefs, the pacifists are castigated by both sides. An attempt to revoke the awarding of the Gandhi Peace Prize to Daniel Berrigan (he subsequently refused to accept it) is one example of the pressures brought to bear on pacifists who speak out on the Middle East.

These reprisals will not improve the situation in the Middle East. In the Arab states grinding poverty is the lot of most of the people. The governments are mostly military regimes or out-dated monarchies, repressing the most basic human freedoms. In this stifling atmosphere, a refusal to recognize the state of Israel and making war on it, serves as an outlet for pent-up energies that could be better spent improving the lot of their own people.

Likewise, Israel continues to occupy land which is not hers. Poverty among her non-European people is common. Since her beginning, Israel has created hundreds of thousands of Palestinian refugees, refusing these people their homeland, while Israel herself is finally coming to rest after being similarly homeless for centuries.

Complicating this situation even further is the Middle Eastern governments' reliance on, and manipulation by, the major powers. The U.S. and the U.S.S.R. control the weapons flow, and the stability of the economics of, all these countries.

How, then, is there to be peace in the Middle East? New beginnings must be made, new solutions sought. To find these, a wide ranging discussion of the wrongs committed by both sides, and alternatives for correcting them, is necessary. This discussion will not happen when gentle people, genuinely concerned for the lives of all people, are called "anti-semites", and their views discounted by supporters of the Arabs and Israelis. We of the U.S., by arming both sides, have helped create this situation. Together, we must help find solutions.

The Committee on New Alternatives in the Middle East (CONAME) has been working for three years to promote greater understanding of the conflict, and to present just solutions to it. For more information on the Middle East, or for their literature list, write to CONAME at 339 Lafayette St., N.Y., N.Y. 10012.

Also, copies of Daniel Berrigan's speech, "Sane Conduct.... or Violence in the Middle East", and a sampling of essays commenting on it, are contained in a new booklet entitled "The Great Berrigan Debate" edited by CONAME. Highly critical of Israel, it has aroused a storm of protest and forced pacifists to rethink their positions on the Middle East.

MOVING?

If you are, then don't forget to let us know. Please send us both your old address and your new one, including both zip codes. This makes our work a lot easier, and keeps you on our mailing list. Thanks.

AMNESTY IS NOT A THEORETICAL QUESTION

The situation of three men who are in prison now as a result of their opposition to war and the United States' crimes against the people of Indochina is recounted here as a beginning to the realization of the urgent need for amnesty. The fact that these three cases are chosen does not intend to mean that the needs of thousands of other people suffering exile, living underground or with a bad discharge or criminal record hanging over them are any less important. But these three cases should bring home the urgency of amnesty.

ARTHUR BURGHARDT BANKS

Arthur Burghardt Banks is a black actor and playwright who refused induction after his conscientious objector status was denied. He was convicted in 1968 and after losing appeals went to prison Nov. 10, 1971 to serve an unusually harsh maximum sentence of five years. He first went to Danbury, where he spoke out for better working conditions and a minimum wage for inmates' labor. A strike of the inmates ensued. In prison the result of such exercise of basic human rights is solitary confinement. This wasn't enough to "rehabilitate" him so he was sent to Terre Haute, a maximum security prison. There he joined 200 blacks protesting a racist incident where only a black inmate was disciplined. But Arthur alone was singled out for this protest. In being dragged off to solitary after refusing to go willingly he was beaten and maced by a dozen or so guards, and allegedly he assaulted one of them in the process.

For his trial on these new charges, Arthur chose Bill Kunstler to represent him. But the trial judge refused to allow Kunstler to defend him and appointed a lawyer of the judge's choosing. Arthur refused to go along with this railroading and appealed. The judge's decision was overturned and the Court of Appeals ordered that Arthur be allowed the lawyer of his own choosing. This decision was then appealed by the government and now Arthur is waiting for the case to be heard by the Supreme Court. While he waits he sits in solitary confinement.

The Committee to Free Arthur Burghardt Banks, located in our office, recommends that people send letters to: Mr. Norman Carlson, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice, H.O.L.C. Building, 101 Indiana Ave. N.W. Washington, D.C. 20534, protesting the violent and cruel treatment Arthur has been subjected to at the hands of the federal prison system. Such physical and mental torture is supposedly used to instill socially acceptable values in violent criminals. But in this case, no less so than all others, they are trying to break Arthur for his resistance and organizing against repression and racism.

Also write to Maurice Sigler, U.S. Dept. of Justice, U.S. Board of Parole, Washington, D.C. 20537, urging him to immediately consider this outrageous case of a principled war resister who refused to be sent into the Army to kill but is now being branded as a violent criminal.

PETER MATURESWITCH

Peter Matusewitch, a friend of many of us here in N.Y.C. and a one time nonviolent trainer with the Quaker Project on Community Conflict, entered prison last December 20, beginning a 3 year sentence for refusing to register with Selective Service. He would have received a much more favorable sentence had he been subsequently willing to submit to registration but his conscience dictated against the easy way out and Peter stood firm. He would appreciate letters. Write to: Peter Matusewitch 79978-158, Federal Prison Camp, Box 1000, Montgomery, Pa. 17752.

RICHARD BUCKLIN

Richard Bucklin is a private in the Army who was just sentenced after returning from a four and a half year exile in Swe-

den. He left his Army unit in Germany in 1968 and turned himself in at Ft. Carlson, Colo. last July. Thinking he was going to get an Undesirable Discharge with little delay he took advantage of a 30 day leave to look for a job in New York. However, the Army's lenient policy on U.D.'s (administrative discharges requiring no court martial and much less bureaucratic red-tape and expense) which had been encouraged to help clear the Army of "misfits" and dissenters was just being tightened up. Accordingly he was called back for account martial but the notice to return never reached Bucklin in time.

When he did return he was charged with another count of being AWOL. The trial judge refused to allow a defense based on reasons of conscience. Convicting him of both counts of AWOL, the nine man court sentenced him to a prison term of 15 months and a bad conduct discharge. This was an unusually harsh sentence in light of the favorable testimony to his character and conscientiousness. But it should serve as warning that there is no de facto amnesty already in effect by federal courts or military tribunals.

THE CPF SPEAKING TOUR

The speaking tour that Joanne Sheehan and Rick Gaumer had planned for the fall never happened, as many of you realize. This was due to lack of money and time in putting together the peace education materials. It has now been rescheduled for March and April. Joanne and Rick will pack up the car with peace education materials and other CPF literature around the first of March. They will head out as far as Denver, then down to Albuquerque and back. We are sorry that they cannot make it to the West Coast, but time does not permit.

While on tour Joanne and Rick will be meeting with teachers and students concerning the implementation of the CPF peace education resources. (Brochures describing the packet will be available soon.) They will also be speaking in high schools, colleges, to church and community groups. Possible topics to be covered include: non-violence, alternate life-styles, and the situation of the political prisoners in South Vietnam, among others. They will have resource materials with them on many topics, including the slide show "The Post-War War."

Nonviolent training sessions will be offered, which run from one to three days. These sessions deal with action and organizing for peace and social justice issues. The group may decide on a particular issue to focus on, or it may be a general session. Sessions include role plays, and scenario games as well as discussions on nonviolence.

The size of the group visited is not important. People's desire to learn more about peace, nonviolence and alternate life-styles is. Joanne and Rick do not plan on raising money on their trip. All they hope is that their expenses are covered, and they are given food and shelter.

If you have not already been contacted about the trip and you are interested, please call CPF immediately. Our phone number is (212)673-8990.

The CPF BULLETIN is published irregularly by the Catholic Peace Fellowship, an affiliate of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. This issue was edited, typeset and printed by Joanne Sheehan, Rick Gaumer, Bill Offenloch, Georg Bryan and Tom Dunn. Articles for future BULLETINS and comments on past issues should be sent to 339 Lafayette St., N.Y., N.Y. 10012. Printed at Come! Unity Press.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL NEW ENGLAND C.P.F.

CONFERENCE

Saturday, March 23 at Mount Marie
(Sisters of St. Joseph Mother House)
Holyoke, Mass. off Route 91

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. General Session starts at 10:00. Morning workshops will include such topics as Amnesty, Political Prisoners, War Tax Resistance, and a special workshop for high school students on organizing. The afternoon session will be on community, with people from the Catholic Worker, Community for Creative Nonviolence, and Jonah House participating. Discussions will include building community even if you do not live in one. Supper will be a communal meal, with an evening session following. For further information contact Pat Wieland, Rt. 1, Box 399, Belchertown, Ma. 01007 (413) 323-4055 or Mike True, 4 Westland St., Worcester, Ma. 01602.

DEAR FRIENDS,

God knows there is enough to read -- in fact, truth be told, far too much! Despite that, I do want to recommend FELLOWSHIP magazine to CPF Bulletin readers. The magazine has undergone some major changes in recent months, and the correspondence -- the new subscriptions -- that the recent issues have occasioned have been very encouraging.

There have been quite a number of excellent articles. The writers have included Howard Zinn, Gary Wills, Moby Warren, Cesar Chavez, Dan and Philip Berrigan, Jessica Mitford, Honey Knopp, Gary MacEoin, Diane Leonetti, Alfred Hassler, Solzhenitsyn and several others. We've had some extraordinary artwork and photographs, too -- from Vo Dinh, Tom Lewis, Bob Fitch and others.

But editors shouldn't get carried away with praise of their own publication! So, instead I just want to extend an invitation to CPF Bulletin readers to write in for a sample copy, which we'll be delighted to send, or -- if, sight unseen, in St. Thomas fashion, you think you'll like it -- just send a \$5.00 check for a year's subscription, and we will give you the first copy free.

If you're particularly interested in any recent back issues, mention which one and we'll try to send that along as well. If you are interested, but lack money, please let us know. In Peace,
Jim Forest
Editor

HELP!

New York area folks, here's your chance to be the movement. During Joanne and Rick's tour in March and April, our national office in NYC will have no full-time staff. Thus, we appeal to you, even if you only have one day a week free, and would like to use your free time to promote peace and justice through nonviolence, and also occasionally open mail, type letters and answer phones, please come and visit soon. We are conveniently located by an IRT and IND subway. For more information, call (212) 673-8990.



*Springtime at the
cpf office. Wouldn't
you like to work
here?*

"DEAR SIR"...

... is how many letters are addressed that come into CPF. Men and women share equally in the work done here. On any given day Joanne, Rick or Bill may answer the mail. We would appreciate it if you would stop and think about this practice, which fails to recognize the presence of women in such work as ours. Using "Friends", "Sisters and Brothers", or a simple "Hi" would break this sexist pattern (and end the unnecessary formality.) Thanks.

SSS IN THE SCHOOLS

Junior ROTC isn't the only challenge facing the high schools from the military or its so called civilian friend -- the Selective Service System. An article in the December CCCO Draft Counselors Newsletter outlined a procedure in many states whereby SSS has been suggesting that high schools provide someone, generally on the counseling staff, to become a voluntary registrar for the draft.

Since the counseling staff already has access to student records this procedure effectively enables SSS to have every eligible persons' birthday and address as well as other information on students. Is not such collusion questionable if the schools are supposed to be an institution independent of the military?

If you know of any such practices in your local schools, you should contact: CCCO at 1251 Second Ave., San Francisco, Ca. 94122 or 2016 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19103.

IMPEACHMENT MOVEMENT GROWS

With Congress returning from the Christmas holidays, a major task facing it is the impeachment of Richard Nixon. Removing Nixon from office will not solve our problems. The military and corporate elite will still control our society, with the violence and poverty they cause remaining. The destruction of our natural resources will continue.

However, for basic changes in this society to take place nonviolently, the people must have some sense of self-respect and personal responsibility. Many people feel that if Nixon remains in-office, what little of these qualities remain will dissipate. His blatant "high crimes and misdemeanors" cry out for redress.

Many groups have programs favoring impeaching Nixon. The North Country Peace Campaign has a guide for local organizing. The National Campaign to Impeach Nixon is planning a series of actions culminating in a demonstration in Washington this spring. The National Lawyers Guild is suing to have the '72 election overthrown. For more information, and to help impeach Nixon, write to these groups: North Country Peace Campaign, 2421 E. Franklin Ave., Mpls., Mn. 55406; National Campaign to Impeach Nixon, 1404 M St. NW, Wash. D.C. 20005; National Lawyers Guild, 23 Cornelia St., NY, NY 10014.

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in order to raise awareness of the situation and collect funds to be sent to the victims.

The program would center around a liturgy celebrated to demonstrate our solidarity with the victims of the Indochina war and the strife and oppression which have continued after the withdrawal of American forces. In expressing our solidarity we reminded ourselves that although direct American military involvement in Vietnam is over, we still bear a deep responsibility for its victims. The liturgy reminded us that we all must overcome the amnesia to which we are all tempted and remember that the joy of the Christmas season is meant for all peoples, especially the victims of a long and senseless war.

The mass was held at the Brooklyn College Newman Center, attended by 50 people and celebrated by Fr. Alden Brown, the chaplain. After the liturgy the NARMIC slideshow, "The Post-War War" was shown. A discussion followed concerning what positive steps can be taken. As a beginning, \$90 was collected.

The Fellowship of Reconciliation's FOR THE VICTIMS project is a new effort to combine work for peace with efforts to help those who are suffering because of war. The inspiration for the project is the School of Youth for Social Service in Vietnam and other groups of similar spirit that are associated with the Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam.

Funds raised through FOR THE VICTIMS will help the School of Youth for Social Service and similar projects in Vietnam in working for the release of prisoners, in providing material help and support to those who remain in prison, in assisting orphans, refugees and the injured. The project will similarly encourage work for an end to the war and its injustices, as well as a greater attention to simplicity of life for ourselves and our society.

Project resources include facts sheets on the continuing situation in Vietnam, guides for special religious services, public actions and other activities, a poster and collection containers. Write to Tom Cornell, Projects Coordinator, Fellowship of REconciliation, Box 271, Nyack, N.Y. 10960. Please see literature enclosure for further information.

NONVIOLENT TRAINING SESSION

The Fellowship of Reconciliation and the CPF are co-sponsoring a weekend training session in nonviolence beginning Friday evening Feb. 22nd and going to Sunday afternoon, Feb. 24th. It will be held at the FOR headquarters, 523 N. Broadway, Nyack, N.Y.

Joanne Sheehan of the CPF and Carl Zietlow of the FOR will be co-trainers. The weekend will deal with action and organizing for peace and social justice issues. The plight of the political prisoners, Native Americans and the farmworkers are issues we have dealt with in the past on such weekends. We are open to suggestions from the group. We will be acting out possible conflict situations surrounding these issues.

Meals and clean-up will be a communal effort. Bring sleeping bags, but a few beds are available for those who need them. Also bring musical instruments. A donation of \$10 is suggested, for food and registration, but we will turn no one away for lack of money.

In order to run a weekend such as this effectively, we must keep the number of folks to 25. Therefore, pre-registration is necessary. If you are interested, please call or write the Catholic Peace Fellowship, (212) 673-8990.

The December FELLOWSHIP contains an article by Carl Zietlow entitled "Nonviolent Training and Saigon's Prisoners" giving an account of a training session held on Long Island last Sept. If any of you are interested in such weekends, but do not live in the N.Y. area, please let us know and perhaps we can set something up in your area. Joanne and Rick will be available to run nonviolent training sessions while on their cross-country tour during March and April. Please contact us immediately if you are interested.

the catholic peace fellowship

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LITERATURE DEPARTMENT NOTES

Please Note

Due to a financial crisis at the FOR, who process our orders for books, we must ask that all orders be prepaid and that you include 10% for postage and handling.

New Items

"The Great Berrigan Debate", a 40 page pamphlet containing Daniel Berrigan's speech on the Middle East and a sampling of essays commenting on it, is available from us for 60¢.

The "For the Victims" Packet contains materials useful in implementing the FOR/CPF program for aiding all the victims of the war in Indochina. Materials include fact sheets on the victims, a manual of possible programs and liturgies, a poster, collection containers and a description of how monies collected will be spent. The cost is \$2.