

the SHADOW

FREE FOR HOMELESS

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AT BOOK STORES
AND NEWSTANDS

DEC. 1989-JAN. 1990

INFORMATION IS STRENGTH • KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

Dinkins To Homeless: **DROP DEAD!**

- FRIEDLANDER FREAKS OUT AT PUBLIC MEETING!!
- "STINKIN DINKINS" LACKEY SNUBS TENT CITY DELEGATION!!
- FIRE BARREL BATTLE RAGES ON!!
- PARKS PIGS STORM HOMELESS SHELTERS IN TOMPKINS SQ PARK!!
- ABC COMMUNITY CENTER RE-TAKEN BY COMUNITY!!!
- SHADOW REPORTERS BUSTED AT DEMO!!



PHOTO BY DAVID SORCHER

HOMELESS MEN LOOK ON AS THEIR CAMP SITE BURNS DURING RAID BY PARKS PIGS

The Shadow EDITORIAL

1990: POWER TO THE PEOPLE!!

In the past month, the people of the Lower East Side have really taken matters into their own hands. Failing to avert the attack on the homeless of Tompkins Square Park, a group of homeless, squatters and activists took back the ABC Community Center, which was taken from the community on Oct. 26th, while another group simply re-located Tent City from the park to the vacant lot across the street from ABC. Both actions have been met with a lot of support--from neighbors and people bringing food and supplies, to neighborhood priests who have been arrested delivering food to the people inside ABC. On top of all of this, the futures of the Senior Citizens Foundation (the group trying to take ABC from the people) and the Casa Victoria Project (the group trying to destroy La Plaza Cultural) may be in doubt, due to the "HUD Scandal" that ties both groups (and others) to relatives of Senator Alphonse D'Amato and his campaign contributors, along with other charges of corruption and influence-peddling used to push these projects in spite of neighborhood opposition to them.

In the end, it looks like the people will be able to keep both La Plaza Cultural, (the only "people's park" which is an oasis in the middle of a neighborhood marred by burned out buildings and drug dealers nearby), and the ABC building, (which will be turned into a sorely needed community center that will offer its services as a school, meeting space, that will serve every member of the community, run by real people for real people!!) Already, HUD has indicated their willingness to re-consider their financing for Casa Victoria, and the same may happen to the Senior Citizens Foundation.

HAPPY NEW YEAR, AND POWER TO THE PEOPLE!!



****PLEASE NOTE****

Lately, we have been receiving many checks made out to the "SHADOW", even though we ask for cash or postal money orders made payable to "cash". We do not have a bank account under "SHADOW", but we are working on it. Until then, we are holding on to all checks received. If you have sent us a check and want it returned to you, please let us know. Also tell us if you want your original order filled. If so, please do us a favor and send the correct form of payment. Even when we get a checking account, your orders will be held up until your checks clear, so it is best to send send cash. Thank-you.

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**A STATEMENT FROM THE
Underground Front Organization**

THE MOST BASIC PRINCIPLE OF THE UNDERGROUND FRONT ORGANIZATION IS THAT PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IS MEANT TO SERVE THE PEOPLE. NOT THE BANKS OR SOME CORRUPT OFFICIALS. WE MAINTAIN THAT THE NEW YORK SUBWAY SYSTEM IS NOT DESIGNED TO SERVE THE PEOPLE OF NEW YORK. THE DOLLAR FARE YOU PAY AT THE TURNSTILE GOES TO PAYING OFF THE BANKS WHICH LOANED MONEY TO BUILD THE SUBWAYS, NOT TO IMPROVE THE SERVICES YOU RECEIVE. LIKE THE POPULATION OF SOME LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRY, NEW YORK'S SUBWAY RIDERS ARE BEING PERPETUALLY SUCKED DRY TO PAY THE INTEREST ON ANCIENT BANK LOANS WHICH WILL NEVER BE PAID OFF. YOU ARE STILL PAYING THE INTEREST ON, FOR INSTANCE, THE 1890 LOAN WHICH HELPED BUILD THE IRT. THE PREMIUM FROM THAT LOAN IS STILL BEING HELD AGAINST NEW YORKERS ONE HUNDRED YEARS LATER. IN ADDITION TO THE BANKS, MONEY IS STOLEN FROM SUBWAY RIDERS BY CORRUPTION. IN THE 1970S, THE CITY PUBLICLY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS HAD "DISAPPEARED" FROM MTA FUNDS. THE PORK BARREL OF TRANSIT CORRUPTION EVEN EXTENDS TO OVERPAID SUBCONTRACTORS WHO ARE HIRED TO MAKE REPAIRS (WHICH THEY NEVER DO) OR "IMPROVE SERVICES" (WHICH NEVER HAPPENS). THE PEOPLE WHO DON'T GET A CUT OUT OF THIS CORRUPTION ARE THE RIDERS AND THE CITIZENS OF NEW YORK. AND, IF THIS WERE NOT ENOUGH, THE MTA HAS THE AUDACITY TO SELL OUR SUBWAY SPACE TO OBNOXIOUS, FREQUENTLY RACIST, ADVERTISERS.

THE DOLLAR FARE BY ITSELF IS A SIGNIFICANT ADDITIONAL COST IN THE ALREADY HIGH PRICE OF LIVING IN NEW YORK CITY. A HIGHER FARE IS SIMPLY UNREASONABLE. NO MATTER HOW MUCH WE PAY FOR THE SUBWAY, THE RIDE WILL NOT GET ANY BETTER. WE WILL STILL BE FORCED TO SPEND MORE TIME UNDERGROUND THEN A COAL MINER, COUGHING IN THE UNBREATHABLE ATMOSPHERE, SWEATING TO DEATH IN THE SUMMER, WAITING HOURS FOR BROKEN TRAINS TO GET WORKING, TWICE A DAY OR MORE, EVERY DAY. IF WE WANT A BETTER SUBWAY SYSTEM, WE HAVE GOT TO REFUSE TO PUT UP WITH THE ONE THEY'RE GIVING US...

THE UNDERGROUND FRONT ORGANIZATION IS DEVOTED TO FIGHTING BACK AGAINST THE MTA UNTIL WE FORCE THEM TO IMPROVE. OUR DEMANDS ARE STRAIGHTFORWARD: GIVE US A DECENT MASS TRANSIT SYSTEM AT AN AFFORDABLE PRICE. NO MORE. NO LESS. IF THE CITY PLANS TO RAISE THE FARE, THEY BETTER GET READY FOR A FIGHT. WE WILL NOT COOPERATE. WE WILL LET THEM KNOW WE ARE NOT SATISFIED.

WE URGE ALL NEW YORKERS TO NOT PAY FOR THE SUBWAY. WHENEVER YOU HAVE THE CHANCE TO SNEAK IN WITHOUT PAYING, JUMP THE TURNSTILE, LET PEOPLE IN FOR FREE... DO IT! UNTIL THE SUBWAY IS WORTH PAYING FOR, WE WILL NOT PAY. UNTIL THEY START CHARGING A REASONABLE PRICE FOR A TOKEN, WE WILL NOT PAY.

WE ARE THE ENEMIES OF RACIST TRANSIT COPS WHO ARE NOT WORRIED ABOUT STOPPING CRIME BUT JUST CARE ABOUT CATCHING SUBWAY JUMPERS AND ARRESTING INNOCENT PEOPLE SO IT LOOKS GOOD ON THEIR RECORD. WE ARE NOT THE ENEMIES OF UNDERPAID, MISTREATED TRANSIT WORKERS, WHO HAVE TO PUT UP WITH THE SAME SHIT AS SUBWAY RIDERS. WE ASK TRANSIT WORKERS TO LOOK THE OTHER WAY NEXT TIME SOMEBODY HOPS A TURNSTILE. WE ARE ON YOUR SIDE.

AS SUBWAY CONDITIONS GET WORSE, AND AS WE GET CLOSER AND CLOSER TO HIGHER FARES, YOU'LL BE HEARING FROM US. REMEMBER: THE SUBWAY IS HERE TO SERVE YOU, THE PEOPLE OF NEW YORK. HELP MAKE THE RIDE A DECENT ONE.

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BACK ISSUES AVAILABLE:

SHADOW #1 - (March 1989) - "Tompkins Square Task Force" - Liberty Under Siege, Marilyn Buck interview, Gaurdian Angels, Research...

SHADOW #2 - (April 1989) - "Domino Effect" - Squat Building Demolished, Piss Test info, Shadow Shit List, More Shadow Research...

SHADOW #3 - (May 1989) - "HPD Strikes Again" - Another Squat Demolition, Homesteaders Hold Ground, Keystone Kop Comedy Kidnap Kaper, Abbie Hoffman Memorial, Lt. McKenna vs. Freedom of Speech...

SHADOW #4 - (June 1989) - "Death Penalty for Killer Cops" - cops kill black man and spark uprising, Curfew Fizzles on Avenue A, HPD Sit-in, Charter Revision Fraud, Squat defense benefit concert, Secret St. Marks Pl. Block Assoc. vs. Peddlers...

SHADOW #5 - (July/August 1989) - (very few left!) - "Pigs Attack the Homeless" - Intensity in Tent City, Tompkins Square Notebook, Real story behind flag burning case in supreme Court, Skinheads vs. Flag Protestors, Abbie Hoffman Memorial...

SHADOW #6 - (September 1989) - "Tompkins Sq. Everywhere!!" - Tompkins Square one year after pig riot, Day of Outrage - Black teenager killing leads to uprising vs. pigs, Anarchist Convention in SF, Tompkins Sq. Park Notebook, "Down by Law" - legal advice by lawyer, Cop Watch, Tompkins Sq. homeless camp at the United Nations Plaza, Shadow reporter busted, Huey Newton assassination, 20th Anniversary of Woodstock...

SHADOW #7 - (October/November 1989) - "Riot Cops Beat Rap" - Riot pigs attack community center, Squatters foil demolition attempt, Community Board 3 vs. Tompkins Square, Activist lawyer busted for jaywalking, "Homelessness and State Repression", Truth behind the Housing Now march to Washington, "Down by Law" - legal advice, Cop Watch, NYC Charter convention, Berkeley Pot Smoke-In, Yolanda Ward assassination...

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the SHADOW

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PARKS PIGS RAID HOMELESS IN THE PARK—AGAIN!!

At city councilwoman Miriam Friedlander's "public meeting" on November 15, at which Community Board 3 members and cops got priority and members of the public waited outside for an hour, she unveiled her plan for a "help center" for the homeless in Tompkins Square Park, to run for three weeks. It has proven to be nothing more than a thinly disguised referral center for the notorious city shelter system (which she denied at her meeting), providing no more "help" than an occasional cold sandwich, leaflets, and referrals to shelters. It was announced that after the three week period, the Parks Dept would move in and tear down all tents and shelters erected by the homeless to protect them from the cold weather.

Park residents, along with neighborhood supporters and activist attorney Stanley Cohen, attempted to work out a peaceful productive alternative to having their tents and belongings destroyed by collecting hundreds of signatures of people living near the park supporting the right of the homeless to live in the park, and by meeting twice with Mayor-elect David Dinkins' right-hand man, Bill Lynch on December 6th and 8th. In spite of this, park residents expected to be hit on or shortly after December 9th, which was the end of the three week period described by Friedlander.

At approximately 8:00AM on the morning of December 14th, the PEP Boys (Park Enforcement Patrol, aka "Parks Pigs"), once again backed up by 40 cops, once again attacked the homeless residents of Tompkins Square Park. This time, they hit one section at a time, going for Tent City, the most politically active and organized camp in the park, first. Many people, having gone through this already several times over the past six months, refused to allow the parks pigs to have their way, so after taking their belongings and what they needed, many park residents burned what was left, leaving the pigs with raging bon fires and a huge mess to deal with.

At 11:00 or so, it was announced that a demonstration and take over of a warehoused apartment building at 343 East 10th Street was taking place. (This building is owned by the KALIKOW family, the same sleazoids who own the NY COM-POST newspaper, and who own the entire stretch of buildings along the west side of Avenue B, between 10th and 11th Streets, and all the buildings from the corner of 10th and Ave B up to the Public Library on 10th Street. Most of them contain warehoused vacant units, and the rest are mostly on rent strike.) Soon, 20-30 people rushed inside, accompanied by television crews from Channels 2 and 11, and a Village Voice reporter. When the cops came and blocked off the front of the building, people inside escaped down the fire escapes in the back, through the rear of the Life Cafe, and through the windows of sympathetic neighbors.

SHADOW EDITOR BUSTED!! BY CHRIS FLASH

After I entered into the vestibule area to take photos of the demonstrators inside, I was trapped by Captain Savage, Sergeant Spinosa, and P.O. Rollo when they burst through the outer street door. At first, Rollo tried to push me outside, but then Savage blocked my way, saying "you wanna go in?" several times. He then had me arrested for "Trespassing", and Rollo immediately threw me against the wall and tried pathetically to handcuff me as Savage recited "All the world's a stage..." Rollo walked me through the park to get to the paddy wagon with the cuffs on my wrists as tightly as possible. On the way, I passed both Deputy Inspector Julian and Inspector Gelfand, both of whom know me as the editor of the SHADOW. Julian asked, "were you inside?". I told him I was only in the vestibule and that I was reporting for the SHADOW, but he said he couldn't do anything about it. Inspector Gelfand only smiled broadly as he watched me get led away by Rollo.

The paddy wagon took me back to the building, where 13 more people were arrested for trespassing, including three photographers, the editor of the Penumbra, and another SHADOW reporter. We were taken to the 7th precinct on Pitt Street, where we were finger-printed and photographed and placed in a holding cell after they took our shoe laces and belts. (Did they think we would hang ourselves over a "trespassing" charge????) Everyone received DATs (Desk Appearance Tickets) except four Hispanics who lived in the park and had no address to give the cops, and ME. (In my rush to get to the park that morning, I neglected to bring my ID) So, after going through the motions of pretending to try to verify my name and address, P.O. Rollo refused to let me get a DAT, and had me put through the system.

In Central Booking, I met "Gigilo" from the park-- he had been arrested earlier after punching a cop who had pushed and punched him when Gigilo got upset at finding his shelter burning and his belongings missing when he returned from his job. "At least I got a roof over my head now", he said, as he stretched out on the floor. Another brother I met there was Tyrone, who got busted outside the ABC Center by pigs who claimed they were looking for outstanding warrants. (I wondered if they would have paid any attention to him if he hadn't been at ABC). After being in the system for a full 36 hours, I got to see a judge and got released on my own recognizance (known as an "ROR"). The first place I went to when I got out was back to the park!!



PHOTO BY PIPER

HOMELESS MAN HOLDS MIRROR UP TO CAPT. SAVAGE



PHOTO BY PIPER

GIGILO (RIGHT) FINDS HIS CAMP AND BELONGINGS GONE



PHOTO BY DAVID SORCHER

D'AMATO SLEAZE FACTOR JOINS IN LOWER EAST SIDE CORRUPTION CESSPOOL

By NASHUA



"La Plaza Cultural" is a park and garden founded by a coalition of community groups in the 1970's at the corner of East 9th Street and Avenue C on Manhattan's Lower East Side. The park is now threatened with destruction and is at the center of a bitter legal battle that was sparked in 1987 by a plan sponsored by a local non-profit housing development group and funded through the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Section 202 program. The housing group, Lower East Side Coalition Housing Development (LESCHD) wants to build 79 units of senior citizen housing on the site in a project they call "Casa Victoria".

After losing an earlier attempt to stop the Casa Victoria project, a loose knit group of 9th Street residents, squatters and homeless activists known as the "La Plaza Defense League" have filed a suit in Federal Court to bar construction. The original State Court suit was thrown out by a judge who ruled that an environmental impact statement was not necessary for the housing project. The suit filed in Federal Court says that the plans for Casa Victoria are being pursued by New York City and HUD despite allegations that Senator Alphonse D'Amato used his influence to guarantee his supporters a piece of the project.

The Casa Victoria project has been the target of FBI investigators looking into the D'Amato allegations. La Plaza supporters say they have been approached by FBI agent Tom Barton of the Bureau's Long Island office, who has "asked a lot of questions about LESCHD" and, they say, its former director Luis Nieves, who was also chairman of Community Board 3 at the time that Casa Victoria was proposed for the La Plaza site. D'Amato is connected to the Casa Victoria project through a HUD regional director, Joseph Monticciolo, a long time D'Amato crony elevated through the direct intervention of then President Ronald Reagan. According to HUD economist David Burns, who has the authority to recommend or reject proposals, the site at the corner of Avenue C and East 9th Street is too close to other large public housing projects, and therefore, he had intended to reject the proposal. However, Monticciolo made it clear, according to Burns, that the economist's career might hinge on his approval of the La Plaza site for the housing project.

The construction company hired by then LESCHD director Luis Nieves was JOBCO, a Great Neck, Long Island firm that donated at least \$25,000 to D'Amato's campaigns. JOBCO hosted a fund raiser for the Senator, and the company is represented by D'Amato's brother Armand, who heads a Mineola law firm. According to a report by Mark Green, a New York City attorney who ran against D'Amato in the 1986 election, JOBCO managed to land over \$20 million in HUD work in Nassau County, New York and White Plains, although the company's work was described as "incompetent" by agencies it worked with. The White Plains Housing Authority head said JOBCO was "forced down our throat" after pressure by HUD administrator Joseph Monticciolo.

Both Luis Nieves and current LESCHD director and Community Board 3 member Antonio Pagan have said JOBCO was hired because the company had the best qualifications for the job. But JOBCO, citing the need for below-ground pilings due to underground streams flowing under La Plaza, pulled out of the Casa Victoria project in September. According to HUD officials, HUD Section 202 housing is not to be built on pilings, and information on the soil conditions must be included on Section 202 application forms. HUD officials in the New York office say they have been unable to locate the original application forms for Casa Victoria.

Aides to Senator D'Amato have said that no technical or special help was given by his staff for the Casa Victoria project. However, a letter supporting Casa Victoria, dated August 14, 1986, and signed by D'Amato on official Senate stationery, is part of HUD's file on the project.

According to Luis Nieves, who confronted more than a hundred angry neighborhood residents just learning of the housing project, LESCHD was planning to build the senior housing on East 4th Street near Avenue D, but HUD officials in Washington included the site on a list of HUD projects axed for blatant violations of the agency's guidelines. In December 1986, Casa Victoria's sponsors amended the project to the site of La Plaza Cultural. A letter from the city's Department of Housing, Preservation and Development (HPD) supports the site change.

La Plaza supporters say they are in favor of housing, but point out that there are many other already vacant lots nearby that could be used for Casa Victoria without disturbing the community space. However, supporters of Casa Victoria insist that the La Plaza activists are outsiders to the neighborhood. A staunch supporter of the Casa Victoria plan is Joint Planning Council (JPC) member Val

Orselli. He concedes that Casa Victoria proponents could have had "better communication" with people in the neighborhood, but he insists that most La Plaza supporters don't represent the majority of Lower East Siders.

La Plaza supporter Don Yorti calls charges of being an outside agitator "ridiculous", because he says he has lived across from La Plaza for more than a decade. La Plaza supporters also point to HUD guidelines that require at least 50% of residents of Section 202 housing be from outside the neighborhood in which the project is being built.

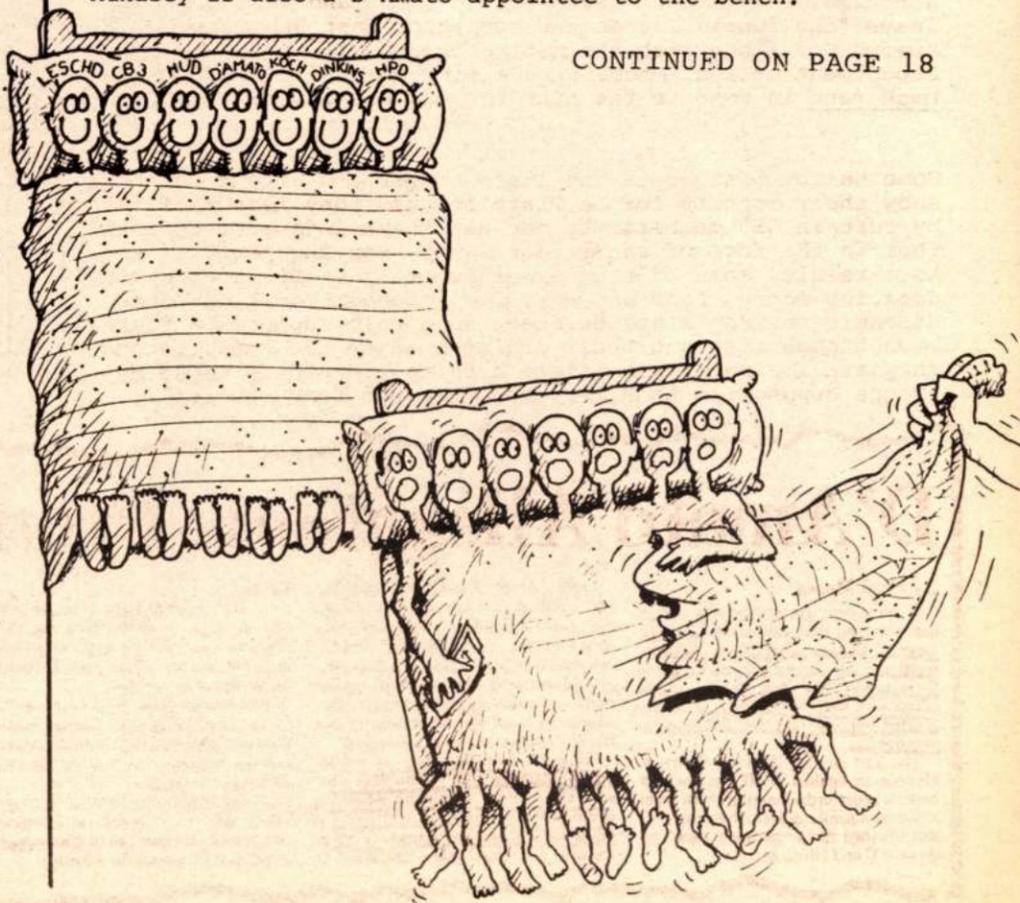
JPC member Philip Van Aver, says that JPC, which represents Lower East Side non-profit development groups, is "out of touch with realities" in the neighborhood. He says the group is "not interested in the issue of shelters" and sponsors no housing programs for single people, like the homeless residents of Tompkins Square Park. Charas, a local community arts group, began La Plaza as a symbol of the community known as Loisaida, between Avenue B and the housing projects along the East River. The corner lot is focused around a small amphitheatre built into a hillside overlooking a paved performance area. On one side is the 9th Street community garden, and the other side is an open green space where homemade playground equipment and a flower garden are shaded by several towering weeping willow trees. On the walls along the south side of La Plaza are huge colorful murals supporting struggles in South Africa, Central America, and against drugs and slumlords on the Lower East Side.

Across the Avenue from La Plaza, a large expanse of empty land stretches east to Avenue D. A block long line of abandoned buildings on Avenue C await demolition. Meanwhile, crack heads and junkies use the structures to sell and consume. On 9th Street, a building is being used by squatters and another squat overlooks La Plaza from 8th Street. The squatters say they have reclaimed their buildings from the drug dealers and together with 9th Street residents, they have kept the park under surveillance and locked up at night to discourage its use as a drug market. A year and a half ago, an aging man named Kalif set up a soup kitchen that fed a thousand homeless people each day. Residents say they closed the kitchen down after a year in operation because police began pushing drug dealers from other corners into La Plaza in order to facilitate busts.

After the soup kitchen phase, La Plaza supporters built playground equipment and encouraged neighborhood children to use the space. On a warm day, groups of children can be seen using the park's meager facilities. Its supporters say La Plaza is an important resource for children in the area, which has been historically short of recreational space.

The suit preventing construction of the Section 202 project on La Plaza is being put on hold for a month after a request for adjournment by HUD. An extension of the HUD money for Casa Victoria runs out at the end of December. Federal Judge Michael Mukasey stepped down from the case, citing his close friendship with former prosecutor Rudolph Giuliani, who is expected to challenge D'Amato for his Senate seat in 1992. Mukasey is also a D'Amato appointee to the bench.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18



HUD SCANDAL INVESTIGATION MAY SAVE LA PLAZA CULTURAL

On Thursday, November 16, 1989 at City Hall, a meeting of the soon-to-be-disbanded Board of Estimate took place. On the agenda was a proposal by the Department of Housing, Preservation and Development (HPD) to sell the site of La Plaza Cultural (described as Block#391, Lots #23,#24,#30, #42, and #43) to the Lower East Side Coalition Housing Development (LESCHD) of 187-89 Avenue B for ONE DOLLAR!! HPD also recommended that the transferred real estate be 100% tax exempt!! (The Casa Victoria project would consist of 79 units in a six-story building, along with a parking lot. Federal funds--our taxes--would pay for the project, which total cost is estimated at \$7,298,670.00, or \$91,233.00 per unit. As planned, each apartment would rent for over \$1,000.00 per month, with the government subsidizing 80% of the rent, while tenants still pay \$300.00 per month. A parking lot would provide space for owners to park their cars.)

The Board of Estimate hearing on La Plaza was scheduled for noon, but did not begin until after 5:30PM. Meanwhile, La Plaza supporters waited patiently. At first, they were told by guards they would have to wait outside until the issue was to be addressed because they are from the area of Tompkins Square, but finally, they were allowed inside, where they waited for over 5 hours. Strangely enough, no members of the LESCHD waited there--they and several members of Community Board 3 arrived together at 5:00. Somehow, they seemed to know exactly when the hearing was taking place!!

Eighteen people from the neighborhood of La Plaza expressed their objections to the Casa Victoria project being built on the site of La Plaza, suggesting many other sites nearby, and urging preservation of La Plaza. In addition, Pastor Wallenberg of the Lutheran Church on East 9th Street gave his letter of support.

During the hearing, different people sat in for almost all of the Board members, including Mayor Koch, Manhattan Boro President David Dinkins, and most of the city's other Boro Presidents. Community Board 3 members were laughing, chatting and passing papers to the sit-ins, who did not appear to even look at any of the documents submitted by the La Plaza supporters. They also didn't seem to be listening to any of the speakers against the Casa Victoria project before they voted to approve the title transfer to LESCHD-- (a decision that appeared to have been made long before the public "hearing", even though Councilwoman Friedlander received over 150 personal letters of support for La Plaza).

After the La Plaza supporters spoke, president of LESCHD and CB3 member Antonio Pagan told the Board that La Plaza is "a vacant lot...a drug-ridden hell hole that should be wiped off the face of the Earth..." Community Board 3 members Krystyna PiorKOWska and Anne Johnson called supporters of La Plaza "outside agitators", and claimed that they don't represent the community around the park. Pagan also told the Board that there are no investigations involving the Casa Victoria project resulting from the D'Amato/HUD scandal, which is untrue.

Two days earlier, on November 14, the city tried to present a "notice of eviction" addressed to "John and Jane Doe", to leave "the fenced lot on the corner of East 9th Street and Avenue C". Along with the notice came a bill from the city's Department of Real Property claiming that \$53,755.00 in back rent is owed to the city for the use of the park!!

Some nearby businesses and store owners are afraid to openly show their support for La Plaza because they fear retaliation by certain CB3 members who can use their influence against them in the form of sanitation fines, denying permits, etc. As a result, most of them are supporting La Plaza anonymously, donating money, food and toys for neighborhood kids. Some Hispanic residents are hesitant to openly support La Plaza, even though they and their children enjoy the park, because they are living in subsidized housing projects managed by groups opposed to La Plaza, and they too fear reprisals.

Since the "hearing", the La Plaza Defense League and local residents have filed a suit in Federal Court to halt the city's plans to transfer title to La Plaza, and to prevent its destruction. The suit is asking the court for "an injunctive relief" pending the outcome of ongoing investigations of the LESCHD, the people that are behind it, and their funding. Some issues raised in the investigations include the relationship between Luis Nieves and Community Board 3, and Nieves' connection to the LESCHD, the reasons behind the sudden reversal of New York HUD's rejection of the La Plaza site for the housing project, the lack of environmental impact studies, the excuse used by JOBCO construction company for their withdrawal from the project, soil tests indicating the need for pile driving in an underground stream, and allegations of political pressure, pay-offs, arm twisting, and corruption on the local, state and Federal levels (which has resulted in what is being called the "HUD scandal")

At the last court date in Federal District Court last December, HUD lawyers requested an adjournment while HUD reviews its decision to finance the Casa Victoria project. The project has been under new scrutiny since a front page article appeared in the NY Times concerning connections between Senator D'Amato and Casa Victoria, as well as other housing projects. Judge William Connor agreed to a temporary restraining order halting the Casa Victoria project until HUD decides on their \$7 million loan for the project. HUD spokesman Craig Stewart said he would try to make a decision by January 10th. So far, in spite of the Board of Estimate recommendation, title to the La Plaza site has not been transferred to LESCHD.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE STRUGGLE TO SAVE LA PLAZA CULTURAL, PLEASE CONTACT: LA PLAZA DEFENSE LEAGUE, 649 EAST 9TH STREET--APT#2D, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10009, OR CALL: (212) 673-6463



NEIGHBORS WORKING TOGETHER ON LA PLAZA CULTURAL.

Federal judge urges legalized drugs

Drugs from cocaine to heroin should be legalized, taxed and dispensed by the state because the so-called war on drugs is failing, Manhattan Federal Judge Robert W. Sweet said yesterday. "I suggest it is time to abolish the prohibition -- to cease treating indulgence in mind-alteration as a crime," Sweet said in remarks to be delivered to the Cosmopolitan Club. The result "would be the elimination of the profit motive, the gangs, the drug dealers," Sweet said. Sweet said the current effort to stem the drug epidemic by putting more people in jail is not working. "The war on drugs has failed to stop the traffic, or to alter the social patterns which produce the phenomena," he said. Sweet is former federal prosecutor and a deputy mayor under Republican Mayor John Lindsay.

D'Amato Allegations Prompt Suit

By Paul Moses
A community group filed suit yesterday charging that the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development and the city are continuing plans for a Lower East Side project despite allegations that Sen. Alfonse D'Amato exerted improper political influence to arrange it.
The suit in U.S. District Court in Manhattan against HUD and the city seeks a court order barring them from allowing a senior citizens housing project planned for a "people's park" at Avenue C and Ninth Street.

Lawyer Harry Kresky, who filed the suit in behalf of a group of Lower East Side residents, said it is based on published reports quoting a HUD official who said he was pressured by a D'Amato appointee to approve the project. A D'Amato campaign contributor was later chosen to build the development, but has since dropped out of the project.
D'Amato said yesterday in a telephone interview that he did not know who the builder would be when he wrote a letter to HUD in support of a grant for the project, known as Casa Victoria. D'Amato is not a defendant in

the suit.
"If they lose 90 units of senior citizens housing, it would be a shame," D'Amato said, adding that he became involved because of the need for housing in the neighborhood.
The Lower East Side community group, LaPlaza Defense League, lost a previous lawsuit it filed over the project in State Supreme Court in Manhattan. The case is on appeal.
The residents are fighting to maintain a park they created on a vacant, city-owned plot that the city has agreed to sell to a developer for housing.

In interviews in The New York Times and New York Newsday, David Burns, a regional economist for HUD, said he was told by a D'Amato appointee, former regional administrator Joseph Monticciolo, to approve the project even though Burns believed there was already too much subsidized housing in the area.
After Burns reversed his findings, the contractor was designated as JOBCO, Inc., a Great Neck, L.I., developer that contributed to D'Amato's campaign. JOBCO later dropped out of the project because of construction difficulties.

NEWSDAY, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1989 NY 19



Abbie's hand.

FRIEDLANDER FREAKS AT PUBLIC MEETING!

SETS THE STAGE FOR TOMPKINS SQ. HOMELESS EVICTIONS...

On November 15, a "public meeting" was called by City Councilwoman Miriam Friedlander and Manhattan Borough President (now Mayor-elect) David Dinkins in order to announce a plan concerning the fate of the homeless residents of Tompkins Square Park. The meeting place, Public School 20 on Essex Street, was surrounded by a multitude of police and their vehicles, apparently expecting the worst from neighborhood people that would be attending. At the corner of Essex and Houston, a paddy wagon, 10 motor scooters, more vehicles and riot cops were seen. Behind the school, more riot cops carrying their helmets in special blue bags were seen, and the front of the school was blocked off with police barriers surrounded by about 50 cops, including ranking officers. One observer commented, "there are enough salaries here to rehabilitate at least one building".

At 5:50PM, approximately 150 marchers coming from a rally in Tompkins Square Park arrived at the school, escorted by scooter cops who pushed them onto the sidewalk by driving their scooters into them. They were forced behind the police barriers, where they waited to be admitted to the meeting.

At 6:00, police allowed members of Community Board 3 (CB3) and the more right-wing elements opposed to the homeless in the park, including Phil LaLumia, Krystyna PiorKOWska, and Antonio Pagan, to enter the school ahead of everyone else, since they had been waiting behind a special police barrier to the right of the main entrance. Also present (and entering ahead of time) was Edgar Kulkin, the "special assistant" to HPD Commissioner Abraham Biderman, who oversaw the demolitions of squatter-occupied buildings on East 8th Street earlier this year, and whose job is on shaky ground now that there is a new Mayor. When asked why he was there, he said, "you know I have an interest in this community...I'm interested in this meeting to see what they're planning for the park". Two video pigs were also present, filming the vocal demonstrators waiting outside.

At 6:20, as rule sheets governing the behavior of those still waiting outside were handed out, special guest stars Henry Stern (Parks Commissioner) and Patrick Pomposello (Manhattan Borough Parks Commissioner) arrived, making the scene look like a movie premiere, complete with police escort. By 6:45, everyone else was allowed inside. The middle of the auditorium quickly filled with neighbors, activists, and the homeless, while the right wingers and anti-homeless, some of them wearing green paper tags which said: "Bring Back the Park", sat clustered together on one side of the room. The ratio of homeless supporters to anti-homeless was about 2:1. As the people filed in, the actors were already on stage--Friedlander, Stern, and Deputy Manhattan Borough President

Dennis DeLeon. Twelve cops stood by manning the exits, and several covered the stage area. Also present were Lower East Side activist attorneys Stan Cohen and Ron Kuby.

Friedlander, acting as the MC, threatened to have anyone evicted from the meeting if they spoke out of turn, using the massive police presence to back herself up. In spite of this, many people loudly voiced their disapproval and outrage over the policies of the Parks Department and the abuse of homeless people in the park. Several times, she tried to have people removed from the auditorium, but each time the cops approached the people, both Kuby and Cohen stood and presented their credentials as the people linked arms with others and refused to move. Each time, the cops backed off.

After introducing the other two actors/politicians on stage, Friedlander tried to prepare her captive audience for her "plan" by entering into a long-winded rambling speech that patted herself on the back, saying, "...we have fought for the rights of all people here to have a home and housing...", among other lies, citing a false record of building rehabs. People on both sides continually asked her to stop talking and to present the plan for the park, but Miriam was not yet done performing and she wanted to milk the show for all it was worth. She said that over a month ago, she "met with volunteer groups and agencies and the Boro President and Parks Dept, and came up with a plan...to see what alternatives were available..." When someone loudly asked if she had talked with people in the park, she lied and said she had. Then, instead of describing her "plan", she introduced DeLeon

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



FLASH FOTO

3 STOOGES--(FROM LEFT TO RIGHT): HENRY STERN, MIRIAM FRIEDLANDER, AND DENNIS DELEON

POLITICAL ACTIVIST FRAMED BY KOCH CRONIES!!

As he left the public meeting set up by City Councilperson Miriam Friedlander at P.S.20 on November 15, longtime political activist Joel Meyers was arrested by 6 plainclothes detectives from the 6th precinct and charged with "aggravated harassment", based on a criminal complaint signed by Tim James, president of the Village Reform Democrat Club (VRDC), which is also known as former mayor Koch's political crony clubhouse.

Tim James, of 59 West 10th St. (phone number:475-2775), is the boyfriend of District Leader Liz Shollenberger (60 East 9th St., phone number:473-2787), who is named as a witness in the complaint. Shollenberger is also associated with the secret "2-3 Saint Mark's Block Association" run by ultra-right-wing-fanatics Krystyna PiorKOWska and Kate Walter that is trying to eliminate peddlers and homeless people from the Lower East Side.

James has been heard speaking publicly, denouncing Joel at length for several months, and has said that Joel lives in Tompkins Square Park, and that Joel was friends with the recently suspected murderer Dan Rakowitz. As a result, many believe that he is obsessed with Joel for some reason. James now claims that he has received threatening telephone calls from Joel from September through November 13, including an alleged bomb threat. James claims that he recorded the calls and he identifies Joel as the caller. James was also present at the community meeting on Nov.15 and pointed Joel out to Detective Louis Richardson, who waited until after the meeting to arrest him.

As Joel was being arrested, Lt. Robert McKenna, of the 6th and 9th precincts, told him, "I know who you are, you know who I am, you know I don't like you, so you're going through the system". Even though Joel gave police more than one piece of positive identification--driver's license, voter registration card, and a pay check stub, Detective Richardson insisted that Joel lives in the park, as he was told by James. He told Joel that he would need people to come forward to verify his address, but when they came to the 6th precinct to do so, they were told that it was too late because Joel had given the park as his address, which was not true. After being rejected for a Desk Appearance Ticket (DAT), Joel was put through the system for two full days before he was released on his own recognizance by the judge, who was apparently satisfied with Joel's ID. Charged with an "A"

misdemeanor, Joel pleaded "Not Guilty", and got a motions hearing set for December 15, in which his lawyer demanded that the evidence be produced for the defense to examine. Wasting no time at all to exploit the false charges against Joel, "reporter" Betsy Herzog, of the Villager newspaper, (who is also known as "police press" due to her very close ties to 9th precinct cops and community board 3 members--so much for "objectivity"!!), wrote in the November 23 issue a thinly disguised accusatory article entitled: "Myers Arrested After Threats To VRDC". She wrote that James claims to have received more calls after Joel was released, and she quoted what was allegedly recorded on James' tape recorder to make it appear that the caller responded to the name "Joel". She also quoted the caller as saying: "...those stinking cops...nearly broke my arm questioning me...", even though no police brutality occurred during the entire time Joel was under arrest. (One can only wonder what Herzog left out of her alleged quotes from James' alleged recording!!)

Joel's lawyer, Bruce Feffer, a former president of the Village Independent Democrat Club (VID), the VRDC's arch-rival political club, of which Joel is a member of the executive board, is very optimistic about Joel's case. The VID has been supportive as well. Joel, who says his case "is based on the lying say-so of Tim James", is concerned about false witnesses being used to frame him. If convicted, he faces a year in jail. His next court date is January 29, at 100 Centre Street in Part AP7, at 9:30AM.



FLASH FOTO

JOEL AT "FRIEDLANDER'S FREAKOUT" MEETING--NOV.15

FRIEDLANDER BREAKOUT

CONTINUED...

who gave the city's standard line that they are "taking steps toward real housing, not HRA shelters". When she introduced Stern, he was met with loud boos and hisses as Stern-o dollars were waved and passed out to the audience. He rambled about "momentous events" in East Germany, and ended by saying the Parks Dept has recommended that the tents and homeless shelters in Tompkins Square Park be removed. He then quickly left the room with a police escort.



Friedlander finally revealed her "plan" in her typical rambling manner: to set up a "Help Center" in Tompkins Square Park for the homeless, to be run by 20 volunteer organizations, that would be open from 10AM-6PM for a period of three weeks. She said that the Help Center would provide "beds in well-supported areas", and stressed that these were "not shelter beds, but protected beds". She also said that the park would not be closed, but said, "we will be clearing the park...the park will be returned as a park after three weeks". This was met with applause by the right-wingers. In spite of several requests by audience members, Friedlander refused to name the groups that would be running the "Help Center". This fueled suspicions that this "plan" was nothing more than referrals to the NY City's notorious shelter system run by the HRA (Human Resources Administration). After more questioning, Friedlander told the audience, "they asked not to be identified". Again she said "they are not shelters", but when even more people loudly demanded to know who they are, she finally caved in and gave a handful of names: East Side Services Center, Manhattan Borough Project, Partnership for the Homeless, Beth Israel, and Odyssey House. One man in the audience angrily pointed out that these groups deal with HRA and the shelter system.

Another issue repeatedly brought up was the ABC Community Center on East Fourth Street. Several speakers told Friedlander that ABC is more than large enough to handle all of the homeless people in the park that the right-wingers are so anxious to get rid of. Many asked for her support in getting the Center returned to the community, but she only seemed interested in making everyone in the room be quiet.

After the meeting, it was revealed that 15-20 people from various social agencies and religious groups that provide help for the homeless were not allowed inside, even though Friedlander requested them to appear there, and though many other people had already exited the meeting. Susanne Ferco, director of "The Street Sheet", which lists places where the homeless can get free meals and clothing, complained that even though she was invited, Friedlander refused to acknowledge her presence. Another person locked out was Father Harvey, the rector of St. Augustin's Episcopal Church, who said that Friedlander's office would hear about this, adding "I'm mad as hell".

As he left the building, DeLeon admitted the "Help Center" won't provide housing, only referrals. He said referrals won't be to shelters, but that "HRA are doing the outreach, and will be staffing the booth and directing services".

Less than two weeks later, at the November 28th meeting of Community Board 3, Friedlander told those present, (including many cops in the audience), that the "Help Center" in the park is a "success". She claimed that 55 homeless people were "served" on the first day of operation and 54 the next day, even though the "services" rendered usually consisted of nothing more than staffers answering questions about the "Help Center", and giving out leaflets and cold sandwiches to the homeless. She also admitted that the "Help Center" refers homeless people to the shelters, including special "work shelters" in Brooklyn, and that the main co-ordinator of the "Help Center" is the HRA!!

SIT-IN AT DINKINS' OFFICE

DEPUTY MAYOR SNUBS HOMELESS

BY CHRIS FLASH

On December 6th, the end of the three week grace period announced by Councilwoman Friedlander at her "public meeting" of November 15th, approximately 20 homeless people from Tompkins Square Park, squatters and neighborhood activists staged a sit-in at the offices of Manhattan Boro President (now Mayor) David Dinkins at #1 Centre Street. They were there to demand a meeting with Dinkins in order to enlighten him on the real situation in Tompkins Square Park that he will be inheriting from former Mayor Koch on January 1st, and to try to prevent the upcoming eviction of the homeless and their shelters from the park. As they waited for their meeting, some called the media and told them what was going on, but when the media called Dinkins' office for confirmation, they were told, "those reports are unfounded". As the hours went on, the sit-ins were joined by their lawyer, Stan Cohen, who was called to represent them, and Father Kuhn of St. Brigid's church, who came to show his support and re-iterate his proposal that 10 city-owned abandoned buildings be made available to the homeless. After waiting for 3 hours, they were finally met by Dinkins' assistant (now Deputy Mayor) William Lynch, who agreed to meet them in two days.

On December 8th, even more people from Tompkins Square met with Lynch in a conference room. They spent the next 3 hours explaining what was really happening in the park, that people in the park lookout for each other--unlike the predators in the city's shelter system, that there is a lot of community support for the homeless, and that Dinkins should not only pay attention to the more vocal anti-homeless minority who are politically-connected and who have formed groups against the homeless, such as the "Tompkins Square Neighborhood Coalition", led by right-wing prick Antonio Pagan, who has been loudly ranting and raving that the park is "a haven for drug dealers and users." (It should be noted that Pagan was appointed to Community Board 3 by Dinkins). They also pointed out that the ABC Community Center building on East Fourth Street could easily accommodate all of the homeless in the park and more.

Before the meeting, Lynch stated Dinkins' position as: "He supports the removal of the structures from the park". At the end of the meeting, he re-stated this position, seemingly unmoved by the speakers and their pleas to find an alternative to tearing down the homeless shelters in the park. However, he did agree to go to Tompkins Square Park "to see for myself what's going on", and said he would be there Sunday, December 10th.

At 11:00 Sunday morning, dozens of neighbors waiting to meet Mr. Lynch were told by Father Kuhn that Lynch's office called to say that he couldn't make it because he was bed-ridden with a cut finger!! Many felt angered and betrayed by Lynch, whose word they accepted as the basis for ending the occupation of Dinkins' offices. Even one of the cops assigned to the park said, "He's full of shit!!" when he heard what Lynch did. As a result of more broken promises and more politicians lies, several people decided to take matters into their own hands and take it to the streets....

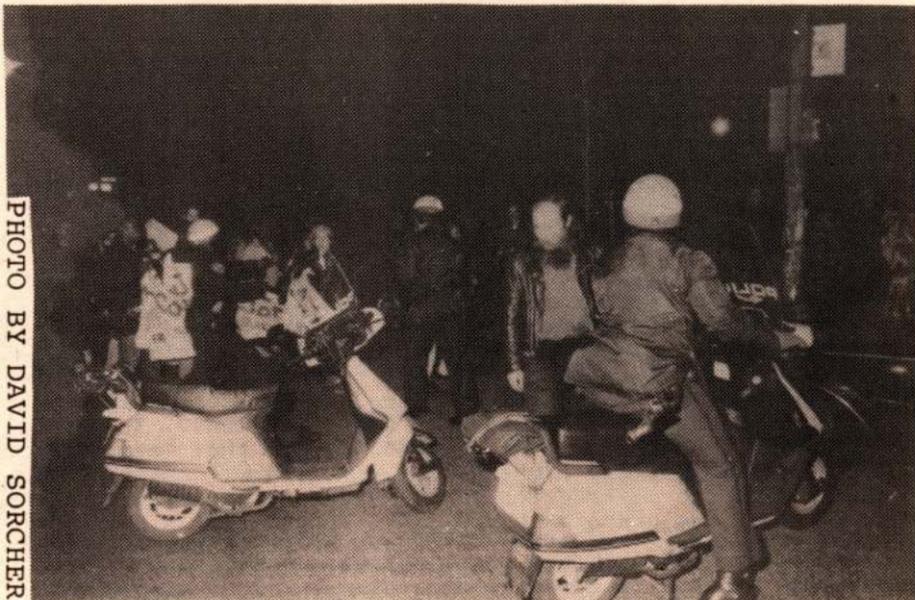


PHOTO BY DAVID SORCHER

Several arrests took place after the meeting on Avenue A near 3rd Street as 25-30 people marched up Avenue A to the park. Some of them were cut off by scooter cops following when they tried to cross the street. When they tried to walk around the pigs, two women were pounced upon and beaten by the pigs. They and two men were arrested and charged with "Disorderly Conduct". They were all released after receiving DATs.

ACT-UP & WHAM

JOIN FORCES AT ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL!!

BY DAVID SORCHER

I can't remember the last time I got up at 8:30 in the morning to attend early Mass. Come to think of it, I've never gotten up on any Sunday morning to attend Mass. That is, not until last December 10th. That morning, ACT-UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) and WHAM (Women's Health Action and Mobilization) staged the largest demonstration ever held in front of St. Patrick's Cathedral at 49th Street and Fifth Ave with 4500 strong. And I do mean staged, for the air was thick with the theatrical atmosphere of The Mardi Gras. Robed and crowned cardinals abounded, carrying placards proclaiming "Safe Sex Saves Lives" and "Play Politics, Pay Taxes". Surreal sisters handed out permission slips for indulgent behavior while colorful clowns amused other protestors with boxing puppets whose right hooks were clearly earmarked for Cardinal O'Connor's chiselled Catholic chin.

And take it on the chin he did as demonstrators chanted and picketed for 3 hours in the sub-freezing winter cold. I stand impressed by the organizational skills of the ACT-UP/WHAM team. Strategically placed ACT-UP marshalls kept the crowd moving and motivated, warning demonstrators of the possibility of arrest should they stand in one place for too long. Regular civil disobedience took place for those who chose to be arrested, lll in all, and legal counsel was on the scene to advise them. Passive disobedience was executed with text book perfection. At one point, a group of people formed a human chain across Fifth Avenue at 49th Street. Seated with arms linked, they blocked the traffic flow. But police soon moved in with bright orange stretchers to carry protestors' limp bodies away to waiting buses. Other arrests were made as the crowd tried time and time again to extend the boundaries of the barricades. These arrests were not quite as peaceful as before, with some people dragged and kicking to the buses. Chanting "North, North!!", the crowd attempted to move the demo one block north so they would be in front of the Cathedral. They wouldn't let us demonstrate there, and the attempt failed. One man kept complaining "Why can't we demonstrate in front of the church? This is not a protest against Sak's Fifth Avenue!!" (Well not yet, anyway)

Tensions rose throughout the morning as protestors continued to apply pressure on the barricades, slowly inching them out into the street. Skirmishes with the cops broke out regularly to heat up the cold winter air. When excessive force was used by cops, someone would quickly get the offending pig's badge number and begin chanting it. The crowd would join in and the officer would back away, confused and fearful. I saw one commander remove one such pig from the front line. It would seem that a lesson was learned about the importance of getting badge numbers, from the 1988 Tompkins Square Pig Riot.

Meanwhile, back at the Mass inside the Cathedral, protestors, cleverly disguised as parishioners, were making their point directly to Cardinal O'Connor. In the middle of Mass, they began chanting while some laid down in the aisles, chaining themselves to the pews. One man who took communion crumbled his wafer onto the floor. A crack team of altar boys moved in quickly to save the host from desecration, but all the king's horses and all the king's men...!! You must remember that according to the tenets of the Catholic faith, the sacrament doesn't just represent the body of Christ, it is the body of Christ.

(I must admit that I found the actions within the Cathedral somewhat questionable. I'm not worried about being offensive to anyone, but I think it's very important not to infringe on anyone's right to worship as they see fit, regardless of how ridiculous their belief system might be. If we do, we then become like them. Like the idea that we fight against. Let them have their Mass, their Sunday miracle. Our message was heard loud and clear from the outside: "Stick to religion. Stay out of politics.")

But it seems that the church, and specifically Cardinal O'Condom, have no intention of staying out of politics. I think they yearn for the old days when church and state were one and the same. And though they no longer have the power they once wielded, it must be remembered that the church has been a major political power in the western world since Constantine convened the council of Nicea in 325 A.D. It was there and then that it was decided by vote that Jesus was no mere mortal, but god himself. The next year, Constantine sanctioned the destruction of all heretical writings that challenged the orthodox hard line. Then, in 331 A.D., he commissioned and financed new copies of the bible. Since in 303 A.D., the pagan emperor Diocletian destroyed all the Christian writings he could find, this allowed the early church orthodoxy to revise, edit, and rewrite the gospels to fit their own particular political agenda.

How the church has dealt with heretics to this agenda is clear and recorded throughout history. We can follow its trail of blood and torture down through the centuries. In 1209 it perpetrated the Albigensian Crusade, the wholesale slaughter of tens of thousands of heretical Christians

known as Cathars, in Southern France. In the town of Bezier alone, no less than 15,000 men, women and children were mercilessly executed--the beginning of a genocidal crusade that was to last for 40 years. When one general asked the Pope's representative how they would know the heretics from the true believers, he was told "Kill them all, god will recognize his own." Two of the heresies the Cathars were said to have committed were the practice of birth control and abortion. In 1233 came the Holy Inquisition. Before the witch hunts ran their course, an estimated 9 million people, mostly women, were drowned, hung, or burned to death.

Meanwhile, back at the protest, things were breaking up. Or so it seemed. And I suppose all the media went home since no one seemed to report on the march that followed the demonstration. 200-300 people took to the streets, marching down Seventh Avenue into Times Square like a victorious army returning home from the front. Bewildered tourists buying half priced theatre tickets looked on in numb surprise as the

ACT-UP group belted out the funniest chant of the day: "We're here, we're queer, we're not going shopping!!"

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PHOTO BY DAVID SORCHER



ABC COMMUNITY CENTER RETAKEN BY COMMUNITY

BY
CHRIS
FLASH

ABC UPDATE:

As we prepared to go to press with our last issue, SHADOW#7, we reported the violent pig raid on October 26th at the Alpha Bet City (ABC) Community Center, an abandoned city school building on East Fourth Street that was used by junkies as a shooting gallery until it was taken over by squatters and homeless residents of Tompkins Square Park who set up a Community Center there. All told, 43 got their charges dismissed and some got ACODs (Adjournments in Contemplation of Dismissal), since their charges were relatively minor - assaults, "obstruction of gov't administration", resisting arrest, disorderly conduct and harrasment. The last two charges resulted mostly from people cursing at the pigs, but recently, the Court of Appeals declared this statute unconstitutional, "concerning the use of foul and obscene language", ruling that this too is "protected speech" under the constitution. 25 cases are still pending, mostly for the more serious charges of "rioting" and various felonies that cops made up as they went along, including "felonious assault" for one man who allegedly threw an egg at the pigs!! About a week after the raid, the cops watching the ABC building around the clock were replaced by a "rent-a-cop" in a heated trailer.



Photo by Mary Blais

On Sunday, December 10th, after demonstrators occupied the intersection of St. Marx and Avenue A for an hour after being stood up by Deputy Mayor Bill Lynch, who had promised to meet with them, the 2nd part of a two day concert and rally for the homeless of Tompkins Square Park, who were expecting a police raid at any moment, began at the bandshell. Suddenly, hundreds of marchers from the ACT-UP/WHAM demonstration at St. Patrick's Cathedral (protesting Cardinal O'Connor's stand on AIDS, abortion rights and sex education) descended on the park as a show of support for the homeless, while dozens of cops tried to keep up with them.

Soon, it was announced that the Alpha Bet City (ABC) Community Center at 275 East 4th Street had been re-taken by the homeless who had been evicted by hundreds of cops in a bloody street battle that resulted in 43 arrests last October 26th. Many people then marched to ABC and were met by surprised police, who watched as banners were unfurled from the top floor windows as the crowd below cheered. The "rent-a-cop" wisely chose to stay in his trailer!!

Deputy Inspector Julian arrived on the scene and said there would be no attempt to remove people from the building, saying, "that's HPD's problem" (Department of Housing, Preservation and Development) and that police would leave when the demonstrators left. After awhile, things heated up when a hole was broken in a cinder blocked window and 3 people quickly slid inside. At that point, Julian ordered people removed from the front of ABC, and as the cops pushed people across the street, 2 women were arrested and beaten for not moving fast enough. By 7:00, only a few cops remained in their heated cars while ABC supporters maintained their vigil at the city-owned vacant lot across the street in the below-freezing weather. Later that night, people freely entered ABC with food and supplies for those still inside the building, expecting a police raid the next morning, in addition to the raid expected on the homeless in the park.

The next day, Dec. 11th, all was quiet in Tompkins Square Park and at ABC, as more people arrived to show their support for the ever-increasing numbers of people inside the building. More boxes of food and medical supplies continued to be delivered to people inside, (even a pizza fresh from the oven), all under the eyes of the cops outside, who only seemed interested in keeping warm inside their cars. Contact was maintained throughout the day with a walkie talkie smuggled in the night before, enabling the ABC people to issue a press statement. On Dec. 12th, Clayton Patterson was sprayed in the face by a cop extinguishing a barrel fire and then he was arrested for "trespassing" because he had been seen inside ABC the day before. As each day passed, people inside and outside were pleasantly surprised that neither ABC nor the park had been raided yet. At one point, cops were seen on the roof of the building next door to ABC with welding

equipment banging on ABC's roof, but they went no further. A few days later, someone discovered that the cops had cut a hole in the roof, so they quickly sealed it from the inside. From that point on, ABC was barricaded and sealed from within by the people inside, who had their tools and materials brought in to them. Channel 2 newsman Chris Borgen was heard reporting that the park would be raided on Thursday, December 14th, so the ABC raid was expected on Dec. 13th. Meanwhile, the encampment across from ABC was growing in size.....

On Dec. 13th, the cops stationed in front of ABC suddenly stopped the deliveries of food, and set up police barriers in front of the ABC building so that anyone crossing the lines to deliver food could be arrested. Julian said, "we're not going to arrest them (people inside ABC) for trespassing...they (his superiors) want anybody who crosses the lines to be arrested." With that, Father Kuhn of St. Brigid's Church told Julian he was going to deliver food and water even if it meant he would be arrested. Julian allowed him to deliver two bundles of food before having him arrested for "disorderly conduct". As the day went on, even more food, supplies, blankets and clothing arrived at the encampment by the carload from people who heard about the re-occupation of ABC on WBAI radio and on TV.

After the pig raid on Dec. 14th against the homeless people of Tompkins Square Park and their belongings, ABC prepared for an imminent attack as well. The new "ABC Tent City" (also known as "ABC in exile") was going strong and increasing every day as more homeless people moved in and set up their tents. In the days following the raid, priests were again arrested twice, after delivering food and supplies to the people inside ABC. On Sunday, Dec 17th, a mass was held in front of ABC by Father Kuhn and Father Pat, and other priests, with their parishioners present. This time, television cameras and the media were present, so the priests delivered more food than ever, all without getting arrested for crossing the police lines.

The next day, many celebrities came to ABC to deliver food to the people inside, including Broadway producer Joseph Papp, actors Kevin Klein and Tracey Ullman and the authors of "HAIR". Ten cops, including Inspector Gelfand, stood by as food was delivered past policelines, and with even more media present than before, they decided not make any arrests. When interviewed, Kevin Klein said, "It (squatting) is against the law. Well, that should be debated. You've got an empty building, you've got a lot of homeless people, you've got freezing weather - what kind of law is that?". As Inspector Gelfand was interviewed by the media, he said: "...we don't intend to be stopping people from getting food...". Later, after the media and celebrities left, students from Carlton University in Ottawa, Canada arrived and began building a wooden shelter in ABC Tent City. For the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22



SGT WAGNER ATTACKS PAMELA STOCKWELL-10/26/89

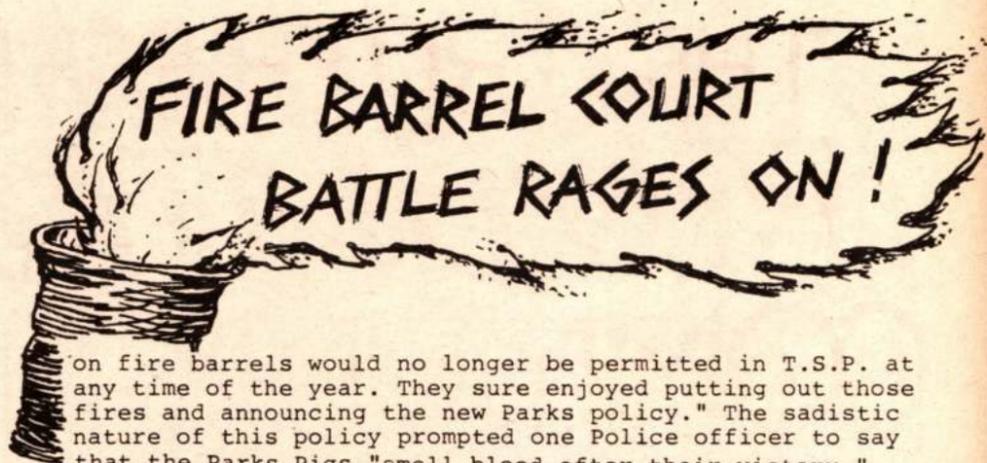
FLASH FOTO

WE DEMAND

- 1 Reopen and re-establish ABC Community Center as it was before, with open public access, in and out the front door, for homeless people and other people in the community, without harrasment from the police.
- 2 We demand that TENT CITY be immediately re-established in Tompkins Square Park.
- 3 We demand that the homeless people in Tompkins Square Park be allowed firebarrels.
- 4 We demand a moratorium on all evictions on squats in the Lower East Side.

A.B.C. Occupational Group

BLIND POWER AND RETRIBUTION



The extraordinary controversy over the right of the residents of Tompkins Square Park to survive by burning fires in this frozen winter has become an insane drama in the continuing struggle for reasonable Dignity in the face of Inexcusable Neglect by the City of N.Y.

The palpable desperation of the homeless has inspired greater action against the repeated attempts by the Parks Department to abuse, deceive and insult them. Even more vicious than the police, the Parks Pigs are led by Commissioner Henry J. Stern, another Koch appointee. This is a man who makes brief cameo appearances at vital public meetings protected by a police escort. His prejudices and fears are obvious in statements about Tompkins Square Park residents such as, "next thing you know they'll have cable T.V.", and "All their stuctures are illegal. It's not like blowing up people's homes." These irrational, emotional, infantile comments reflect a hatred and anger that has resulted in murderous policies such as the offensive assault on Tent City on the 14th of December and the subsequent, unprecedented extinguishing of life-sustaining fire barrels in sub-freezing temperatures.

Since the time of the Police riot of August 6, 1988, the actions of the homeless to defend their remaining autonomy have been met with increasingly reactionary measures by the Parks Dept. to selectively eliminate the population from the park. This has been clearly admitted by Deputy Parks Commissioner Jack Linn, who has called all the residents mentally deranged, alcoholics or addicts, saying that the only way to "drive these people from the park is to deny them their barrels." Their solution to this perceived problem has been to selectively enforce a set of rules intended to retaliate against a threat to their power by advocating a death sentence for those who choose to remain.

Our community's position of responsibility and ability to make vital decisions for our own welfare have been both ignored and insulted. The more organized and independent we become, the more we are being denied our rights. Those who do remain in T.S.P., by Decision, Invitation, and/or Necessity, avoid the official alternative, a "shelter" system that is humiliating, debilitating and dangerous, denounced by thousands of its refugees who refuse to be further "raped, robbed and kelled": up to 1000 beds lay vacant each night, while between 40,000-60,000 people elect to brave the elements instead. And that's the number the City admits to...

In a public meeting at P.S. 20 on November 15, Parks Commissioner Stern along with Deputy Manhattan Borough President DeLeone and Councilwoman Miriam Friedlander informed the homeless, squatters and their supporters that all homes in the park would be destroyed within three weeks. Sleeping would be graciously permitted on benches and in the bandshell. According to their lawyer, Stanley Cohen, and various petitioners and witnesses, not even a hint was dropped of any plan to ban fire barrels. There was no reason for anyone to imagine being invited to sleep in the park without the sole available source of heat which had always been utilized freely in the parks and around the city by people working or living outside in the winter.

During the next three weeks, in numerous discussions with Stanley, residents, and community members, no mention was made by any Parks Dept. Officials, Parks Pigs or Police Officers of any devious plan to selectively enforce a rule against fire barrels. Their statements in the media supported this silence.

In the very early morning hours of Thursday, December 14th the charge on Tent City began. Hours later, after the smoke had cleared, all that was left of the homes and most of the personal property were the fire barrels. According to Stanley Cohen, "a combined army of Parks and Police officers and Sanitation Dept. workers raided the park. I was present throughout this panzer like attack during which all homes were either destroyed or removed. At no time did I see any of the fire barrels removed from the camp sites. At no time did I hear any members of the raiding party inform the homeless that they would not be permitted to use their barrels following the end of this paramilitary assault."

Throughout the rest of the afternoon, in fact, Parks Pigs maintained their silence and deception about the impending plan. One of the park residents who chose to accept the City's invitation to stay explains that "because the Parks Dept. had never done or said anything to stop their use and because the City had told us we could still live there, we all believed that the barrels would stay... With night fall and dropping temperatures those of us who decided to remain started some fire barrels. We were cold, wet, and tired. All our homes were gone, as was much of our personal property and many friends and residents who left this park dazed from the attack that afternoon. Within moments of starting these barrels to get dry an army of Parks Riot Officers surrounded our barrels. They first extinguished them and then took them away, leaving us cold and wet and without any shelters to live in. They told us that from now

REMEMBER EDMOND RUDDER, FROZEN TO DEATH IN TOMPKINS SQ PK, WINTER 1988, AFTER PIGS PUT OUT FIRE!

On fire barrels would no longer be permitted in T.S.P. at any time of the year. They sure enjoyed putting out those fires and announcing the new Parks policy." The sadistic nature of this policy prompted one Police officer to say that the Parks Pigs "smell blood after their victory," and that they wish "to punish the homeless."

Upon hearing of this absurd drama, Stanley immediately applied for and received a temporary restraining order from Justice Bruce Wright of the State Supreme Court, preventing the Parks and Police Depts. from extinguishing eight fire barrels in the park. He then rushed back to the scene, finding "some two dozen people huddled together in freezing weather. They were by-in-large the residents of the park who had lost their homes earlier that day and were without any fire barrels or warmth to speak of at all. I arrived with some friends of residents who brought a small garbage can in which to start a fire. As soon as it was ignited eight to ten riot clad parks enforcement people arrived and again announced the total ban on such barrels. They attempted to extinguish the small contained fire until I displayed the restraining order. The confusion on their faces was matched only by their obvious disappointment. Needless to say these were people enjoying their nights work."

On Friday, December 15th, eight barrels were burning. The Police admitted their disgust over the Parks policy and vindictive performance the previous evening. They even expressed relief over not having to participate in the insanity. Then, at 4:45 P:M, Stanley received a message that the City's Corporation Council attorneys were on their way to the higher, Appellate Division Court to get his restraining order overturned. Racing downtown, he arrived just after 5:00 P:M. Pleading with a security guard the emergency of the situation, he was allowed inside, only to discover that he was indeed too late. Justice Rosenberger of the Appellate Division had already granted a stay on the restraining order, meaning that the Parks Pigs would be free to resume their offensive. Stanley was unable to speak to any judges, who were all quite busy now enjoying their Christmas party. Returning to his office, he tried repeatedly to contact Rosenberger or a Court of Appeals Justice, but his calls went unanswered.

The City's attorneys were able to accomplish this immediate, insidious retaliation through abuse of ex parte proceedings, which are emergency hearings held without all arguments being heard, if all parties cannot be notified. Clearly Stanley was not given adequate time to get to the Court, and having been notified, should have been present. This is not the first time that this game has been played by the Corporation Council in dealing with grave situations involving the homeless and their lawyers. On October 26, during the seige on the ABC Community Center on E.4th St., this exact tactic was used when a stay on the attempted eviction of its occupants was granted ex parte without notifying the attorneys involved, without filing the necessary papers, and without any record being made of the proceedings. In a letter to the Corp. Council's Offices dated November 1, lawyers Ron Kuby, Stanley Cohen and Colleen McGuire insist that they "cease initiating ex parte judicial proceedings under non-emergency circumstances... or where they are not justifiable or permitted." They cite yet another instance of this "deliberate bypass of the adversary system." Obviously in dealing with the homeless the City sees no reason to respect the integrity of the individuals or their lawyers.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23



SOME OF THE NEW "HOMELESS-PROOF" TRASH BARRELS PLACED IN THE PARK RECENTLY

FLASH FOTO

THE TRUTH BEHIND THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST PARTY



By Tad Kepley

RED FASCISTS FUCK OFF!

Marxists and Anarchists have been at each other's throats basically always. And with good reason. Even the dumbest student of/slave to Marxist theory can perceive the stubborn committment to self-government and staunch unwillingness to sacrifice personal autonomy in the name of "revolution" as a threat to their ideology, and they're right. Marxism is a science of economy, Anarchism is never constant --it's usually spontaneous.

Anarchism at its finest, is a punch in the nose to all ideology, all statistics, every asshole who knows better than you how to run your own life. This century-old battle is having its most recent skirmish in New York City right now involving Lower East Side Anarchists and members of the Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade (RCYB) and Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP) who have been trying to infiltrate and dominate the political scene here and recruit new members at the same time.

One of the Anarchists' most fatal flaws has been their seeming inability to learn from their mistakes. Some in the Spanish Revolution seemed to forget about the little party Trotsky and Lenin threw for those guys in Kronstadt, or the hand-shaking conference Mahknovists were invited to--(never turn your back to a machine-gun-wielding Red Army soldier when going for a beer). Things did look up in Paris in '68 though--while the streets were filled with people screaming at the top of their lungs, the French Communist Party heads went on TV begging for a return to order. "We are the only voice of revolution", they sobbed, while their people were beaten and run off strike sites. People involved in the Lower East Side Anarchist scene should take heed of that fine example.

The Revolutionary (sic) Communist Party was formed from the ashes of the SDS (Students for a Democratic Society) in the early seventies. SDS crumbled from within, as usual, because of ideological splits. There was a group of hard-line Maoists who wanted to radicalize the SDS in a way that many SDS'ers didn't particularly appreciate. The Maoists formed the R.U. (Revolutionary Union) which later congealed into the RCP. After all was said and done, the individuals in the R.U. who didn't do what they were told were purged.

Don't let their name fool you like it is supposed to. The Revolutionary Communist Party is about as "revolutionary" as the Republican Party--the RCP doesn't want you to stop being a slave, they simply want you to choose a new master--THEM!! Actually, the RCP and the GOP do have quite a lot in common--they both hate Sex, Drugs, and Rock'n'Roll, they both like to march around and salute abstract symbols, both believe in work as long as they don't have to do it, they're both devoted to "voting" and hierarchical organizational structure, both support censorship, both see prisons as "necessary to preserve order", and both have a strong belief that the best way to deal with dissenters is to, well, "liquidate" them--for the common good, of course.

The RCP are probably the most visible and militant Marxist/Maoist group in the United States at present. The CPUSA (Communist Party USA), filled with 65-year-old college professors, has almost completely crumbled. The SWP (Socialist Workers Party) is a joke, even though they did pull off an interesting coup with their lawsuit against the US Gov't.--(under Cointelpro, the FBI's counter-intelligence program against "radical" organizations, the G-Men had managed to salt the party with agents and provocateurs so well that one-third of the party leadership was found to be police agents...this covert shit was the basis of the lawsuit). But the word is that the membership of the RCP is swelling. Why? Well for one thing, they look cool...all that shiny, slick literature, a regular publication, the "Revolutionary Wamker", rad Mao button collections, silk berets, and the complimentary Ray-Bans. For most "activists", the RCP represent the ultimate cliché--rich kids scaring mom by calling her a "Fascist running dog". You peel back that bullshit veneer, their laughable attempts at playing the role of dashing heroes of the people, and you find an ideology of unabashed reactionism, a political program with its roots in massive genocide, and a card-read rhetoric to match that of any grade school principal or Baptist aisle-roller. These guys are not our "comrades in the glorious struggle", they are Stalinist statist and fascist thugs. THEY ARE the enemy, and should be dealt with as much mercy as Anarchists have gotten from them and their ilk in the last hundred years....

THE SHINING PATH OF GLOMUNISM

Recent events on the Lower East Side, like the formation of the farcical "Revolutionary Homeless Organization" (RHO) and the RCYB's demo-theft at the ABC Community Center on October 27--the night after WE fought the pigs to defend it, and

their usurping control of the December 9+10 Tompkins Square Park protests from the homeless and Anarchists--(c'mon motherfuckers, find me a homeless RCP'er), and infiltration attempts in and around the Sabotage Books Collective have raised the questions again. Should we allow them to work with us, should we "unite and fight?" (huh?), or should we beat them over the fucking head with their ever-present bullhorns and tell them to eat shit?

Why does the RCP always show up at events with the express intent of taking them over? It isn't because they are right--on good activists that they're always skulking and sniffing around for some struggle to usurp as their own, but because they're so goddamn bad they can't organize anything under their own roofs, because no one will participate.

The RCP are energy vampires...they are so painfully lacking in imagination and fire that in order to keep the "ship of revolution" afloat, they play political pirates, overtaking unsuspecting organizational vessels and scuttling them. Unfortunately, the victim ship's crew usually piles overboard in mid-battle, leaving the spoils to the RCP. Such a coup was pulled off with "Vietnam Vets Against The War", whose original membership has denounced the present activities of the organization using that name as fascist commie bullshit.

The main political program of the RCP at present is to "consolidate and ferment revolutionary activity, and subvert and hinder counter-revolutionary activity on the left". Guess what? Anarchism is counter-revolutionary, and so is any group or tendency that doesn't adhere to Stalinist/Maoist authoritarian communist rhetoric. Advocate "individual freedom" and you're asking for denunciation and infiltration. These guys aren't putting the moves on the New York Anarchist scene because they want to "work" together, they're doing it because we are a threat to their ideology, and the way they deal with that problem is to attempt to swallow up and disorient--these slime are not our friends.

MY HISTORY WITH THE RCP

By Bob McGlynn

Fifteen years ago I worked for a short while with a Revolutionary Union (RU, the forerunner group of the RCP. They had a name change when the RU declared itself "The Party" and became the RCP) front group--the Revolutionary Students Brigade. I did so for the same reasons that a lot of anti-authoritarians are attracted to the RCP: the RSB was a militant and organized group, and there was nothing else around. I despised the Stalinism of the RU and was quite up-front about it. Although I refused to call myself an RSB'er because of its connection to the RU, honestly speaking I was de facto RSB. I soon quit that shit and was resolved to never compromise myself like that again. But I'd figured I'd done more good than harm because of my critiquing of the RU in its own milieu--something an insider has more credibility with.

The really good thing is that you learn a few obvious things. In fact, in the short run, the RU/RSB did "good work" such as support work for the Attica Brothers prisoners. (That's part of the seduction.) And the RSB seemed to be pretty democratic. There was no RU Fuehrer ruling the group. But of course that's not necessary--all you need is key people in key positions, and the RU had that in the RSB. The RU also had what they called "secret members" in the RSB and other RU fronts; I suspected a few and found out I was right (Beware of this).

So in the long run, RU strategy worked perfectly, as the RSB (supposedly independent of the RU) became the Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade under the total control of the RCP. The RSB, a national mass-based campus-centered group on its way to possibly becoming another SDS (and minus the RU it could have gone that far), was destroyed as it became an RCP sect. And herein lies a lesson about the RCP for the more pragmatic anarchists out there who work with the RCP. Everything the RCP touches it destroys. Every front it creates collapses. Some examples: The RU used to have lots of local papers. They're gone. The RU/RCP did a lot of workplace organizing. They've dumped that work. They dumped the campus-based work. They set up NBAU (No Business As Usual), which has dissipated. During one period they led physical attacks on other radicals--they beat people up--and forced people out of demonstrations. In their wake, they chewed up and spit out innumerable cadres. I knew a whole generation of them. The number of people who eventually quit the RCP is high. My former girlfriend and I had best friends who joined the RCP and cut off relations with us. Eventually they quit the RCP because of its cultishness and are now our close friends again. And now the RCP winners have the "RHO" bit year at end of explains the situation

Cop watch!



Here are the latest plate numbers seen in and around the area of Tompkins Sq. and on the Lower East Side--(most are Plymouth Gran Furies, and other makes and models are noted wherever possible):

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 4AP-868 | IVL-326 |
| 8VF-772 (Celebrity) | IVL-666(GMC Van) |
| 108-VDY (Chrysler--NJ Plates) | IVR-648 |
| A51-875 | IVS-248(Ford LTD--Peddler Sq.) |
| APA-784 | IWE-709 |
| APH-818 (Bonneville) | IWM-120 |
| APM-456 | IWS-244 |
| APR-302 | IWZ-601 |
| ASG-828 | KXK-708 |
| ASM-974 | LJM-300 |
| ATW-751 | LKG-346 |
| AVD-545 | LKP-107 |
| AVZ-407 | NUA-855 |
| AXB-141 | NZP-804 |
| AXB-623 | OLW-836 |
| AXD-586 | RJD-722 |
| DMG-584 | SWM-667 |
| EUD-85J (Dynasty-NJ) | TCV-497(Century) |
| FUA-485 | TUZ-285 |
| FWZ-743 | VCC-978 |
| GKD-410 | VFM-299 |
| GPU-841 | YWK-725 |
| IUV-877 | YWV-396 |
| IVA-884 | YXM-228 |
| IVL-180 | |
| IVL-233 | |
| IVL-283 | |

Many thanks to all of our Cop Watchers out there--our police mug book is getting fatter all the time!! If you have any photos, plate numbers, stories or any info you would like to see published, please pass it all on to the SHADOW.

For a complete list of almost 100 plate numbers of "plainclothes" cop cars that has been assembled to date, please send \$1.00 cash along with a note to: SHADOW PRESS, P.O.Box 20298, NY, NY, 10009



VIDEO PIGS SEEN AT NOV.15 "PUBLIC MEETING"

Well, it's been a busy few months for the cops so far, what with the homeless situation, raucous community meetings, ACT-UP acting up, and people re-occupying the ABC Community Center. And so there have been more cops patrolling the TSP area than ever before, in marked and unmarked vehicles. Since our last COP WATCH column, almost all of the unmarked cars whose plate numbers we printed have been changed--new plate numbers, new makes and models, the use of rented vehicles and even more from New Jersey!! I guess that proves that the cops are reading COP WATCH carefully, so they are rotating their vehicles to avoid detection. Thanks to our friendly "Cop Watchers" out there, we have collected more plate numbers, information, and photos of "plainclothes" cops than ever, including narcs, who have been very active lately.

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| NARCOS-- | ZAZ-630(Dynasty) |
| 24Y-788(Dodge Minivan) | ZAZ-637(Dynasty) |
| EMY-46U(Dynasty--NJ) | ZAZ-851(Dynasty) |
| KNN-740 | ZFK-421(Ford) |
| KVB-811 | ZFL-840(Acclaim) |



We have received information that cops have been maintaining an apartment at 630 East 9th St, which is strategically located next to La Plaza Cultural and several squatter buildings nearby. We are not sure of the apartment number yet, but we are sure it is facing East so the cops can have a bird's eye view of the streets below. We hope they are watching the crack and heroin dealers at least as much as they are watching the community.

9TH PRECINCT COPS MANHANDLE WOMAN!!

By C.W.

On the evening of Saturday, November 25, a middle-aged woman who came to the ninth precinct as a witness to a crime requested a dollar from the cops present so that she could take a train home. The cops refused, and one of them said "This is a precinct, not a subway station." When she said she would write a letter to complain about their behavior, one cop told her "Go to the SHADOW--they'll be the first to write a story about it." After a while, they finally coughed up a dollar between them, but when she took too long to leave the station house, the 3 cops present (Trucelli#31955, Muldoon #14756, and Murphy#31115) physically dragged her outside as the desk sergeant looked on. When she returned to get her coat, Officers Muldoon and Murphy tossed her out again and told her they'd give her back her coat only if she would leave. When she told people on the street what was going on, the cops inside just laughed and made jokes about her.



THIS LITTLE PIGGY'S CAR HAS NEW JERSEY PLATES



THIS PIGGY TRIED TO STEAL A BANNER AT THE ABC DEMO ON E.4TH ST. ON DEC.10th.



THESE LITTLE PIGGIES WERE SEEN AT ST. MARK'S AND 2ND AVE

ANNOUNCING THE OFFICIAL OFFICER LACKEY LOOK-ALIKE CONTEST!!

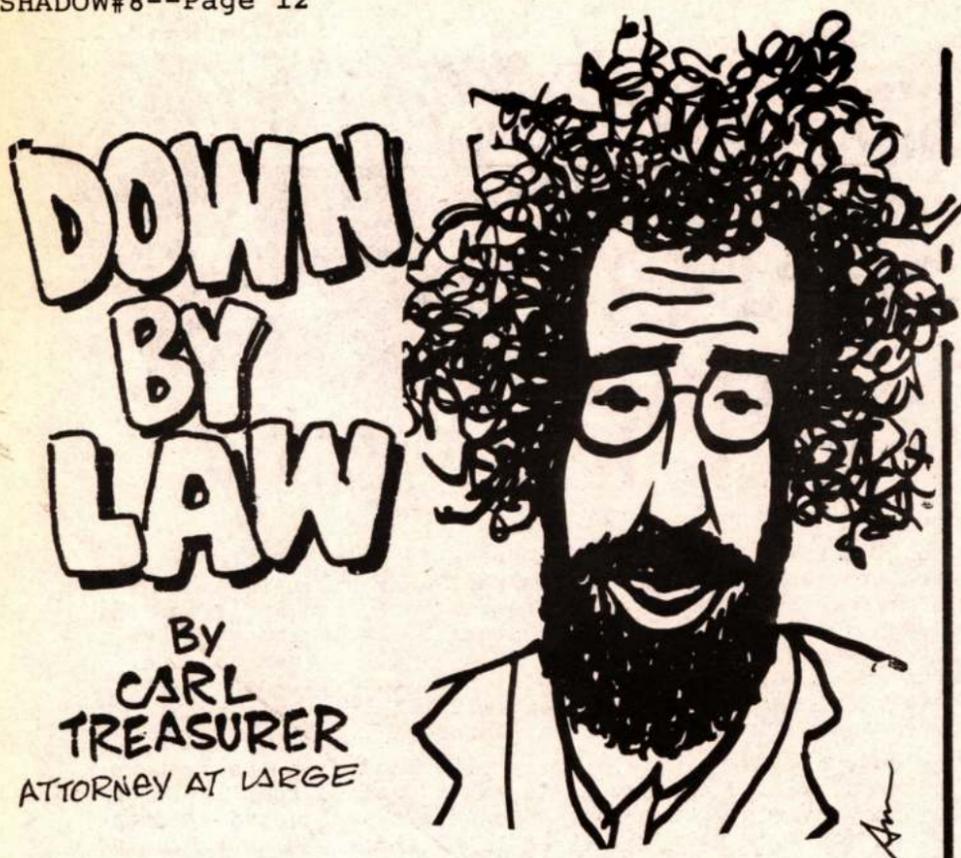


HEY, EVERYBODY... BREAK OUT THOSE CAMERAS AND SNAP A PICTURE OF A COP THAT CLOSELY RESEMBLES YOURS TRULY, AND SEND IT TO ME HERE AT THE SHADOW! WINNERS WILL RECEIVE AN AUTOGRAPHED, ORIGINAL ART, OFFICER LACKEY CARTOON!!!

SEND ENTRIES TO:
OFFICER LACKEY
LOOK-ALIKE CONTEST

BOX 20298
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10009

(CONTEST JUDGES: COSMO & OFFICER LACKEY)



Since the Shadow's last issue, the Tompkins Square Movement has once again proven itself to be one to be reckoned with. Squatters, homesteaders, our Third World community and clergy, along with anarchists, members of RCP (Revolutionary Communist Party), ACT-UP (Aids Coalition to Unleash Power), WHAM (Women's Health Action and Mobilization) and December 12th have united with "Tent City", the homeless and their supporters to forge a powerful alliance. Time and time again, the Movement has shown itself to be a diverse, versatile and daring one indeed. The seizure of "Don't call me Dave" Dinkins' office, the creative defense of Tent City, the expropriation of Kalikow's (as in New York Post) warehoused apartments, the liberation of ABC (the "ABC Community Center"), the settlement of ABC in exile, the creation of the Tompkins Square Legal Defense Committee and its court victories around the ABC 43 and the "Park's Fire Barrels" are but a few examples of the Movement's tenacity and ability to take it to the streets, the buildings and the courts.

The struggles against gentrification and homelessness, and for housing and the Park, require many different actions in a variety of forums. They pose numerous challenges to this Movement and to all others which fight for self-determination and self-defense. Perhaps the greatest challenge, however, comes from the federal, city and state police who serve the predator politicians and land "developers" that own and pillage this City.

With each successful Movement comes government repression; of this there can be no doubt. Two recent books prove the case against the government and its so-called forces of law and order. These thoroughly-researched and well-documented texts are a must reading for every Movement activist. They prove -- surprise, surprise -- that the government and police have used, and continue to use, "legal" and extra-legal force and violence against North American activists who oppose official genocide, both at home and abroad.

The first book, AGENTS OF REPRESSION, THE FBI SECRET WAR AGAINST THE AMERICAN INDIAN MOVEMENT AND THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY, is written by Ward Churchill and James VanderWall. It proves that from the Red Scare of 1919-1920 to the McCarthy period of the 1950's, and from the COINTELPRO (Counter-Intelligence Program) era of the 1960's to today's FBI infiltration of the Central American Movement, the FBI has operated primarily as North America's political police. FBI operations conducted against the American Indian Movement and the Black Panther Party, including murder and a wide range of illegal activities, reveal the lawlessness of the "law enforcers". The second book, WAR AT HOME: COVERT ACTION AGAINST UNITED STATES ACTIVISTS AND WHAT WE CAN DO ABOUT IT, is by Brian Glick. It will help Movement activists to better understand, and withstand, future COINTELPRO attacks, including infiltration, psychological warfare, harassment through the legal system, and violence. Among Glick's invaluable suggestions regarding coping with harassment through the legal system, suggestions previously listed by this column are:

- (1) Don't talk to the FBI or city or state police. Don't let them in without a warrant. Keep records of their visit and what they say and do. Tell others of their visit.
- (2) If the police have a warrant, you still don't have to tell them anything. In fact, you don't have to talk with them in your house, on the streets, or even in jail. Only a grand jury subpoena puts an activist in the dilemma of whether or not she or he will talk to anyone or prefer to go to jail.
- (3) If the FBI or city or state police harass you or your comrades, get the word out and tell everyone to refuse to cooperate. Cooperation is

the enemy of the Movement and the mainstay of the government.

- (4) If a Movement person is subpoenaed by a grand jury for political reasons, discuss it and then try to arrange for a sanctuary, perhaps in a church or synagogue.
- (5) Remember: Anything you say to an FBI agent and/or other member of "law enforcement" may be used against you and other people.
- (6) Don't try to outwit the FBI or other police, even though most of them can be easily outwitted. You can never tell how a seemingly harmless bit of information can help them hurt you or someone else.
- (7) Don't be threatened or intimidated by the FBI or police pretending that they have information about you or your comrades. Let them rave; let them lie; let them make up stories. It means nothing.
- (8) If you are nervous about simply refusing to talk to the agents of the state, you may find it easier to tell them to contact your lawyer. More often than not, once an attorney enters -- particularly a Movement attorney -- the FBI and police usually pull back because they know they can no longer intimidate you.
- (9) If you anticipate arrest, don't carry address books or any other materials that can help the government. Remember: Anything and everything you record, if it falls in the wrong hands, can hurt you and the Movement.

Regarding "Coping with Extra-Legal Force and Violence", Glick advises, as has this column before:

- (1) Establish Movement security procedures appropriate to your needs, including control over access to keys, files, letterheads, funds, financial records and mailing lists.
- (2) Keep duplicates of all your valuable records and files away from your home or office.
- (3) Remember: Homes and cars are easily broken into (especially trunks) and that your trash can easily be searched.
- (4) When harassed, don't go on the defense -- take the offense. Go public. Spread the word.
- (5) Keep records of break-ins, thefts, bomb threats, raids, brutality, and suspicious/conspicuous surveillance, and share your information with other Movement groups.
- (6) Be sure some members are well trained in first aid and keep medical supplies up to date and lists of sympathetic doctors and nurses.
- (7) If you have particularly key people in positions within the Movement and if they are busted, do not allow a vacuum to develop. Have other women and men trained and prepared to take their places.

Remember: The machinery of state will stop at virtually nothing in pursuit of the shameless and greedy policies of the powerful few who control and exploit the many. In any Movement, it is as important to learn as much about your enemy, as it is yourselves. Know the enemy and learn from the mistakes of sisters and brothers who have fought the state and paid the price in the past.

And, finally, remember: Actions speak louder than words. CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

what to do when THE FBI COMES

IMMEDIATELY ASK TO SEE IDENTIFICATION!
(Write it down, or tape the event)

THEY MAY PLAY DUMB AND TEMPT YOU TO TRY TO OUTSMART THEM...

DUH...

IT IS A FEDERAL CRIME TO LIE TO THEM!

THEY MAY TELL YOU TO CALL YOUR LAWYER. THIS IS A TRICK- IGNORE THEM. DO NOT LET THEM IN YOUR HOUSE IF THEY DO NOT HAVE A WARRANT. THEY MAY REMAIN ON YOUR DOORSTEP OR BANG ON YOUR WINDOW. THEY HAVE MORE TRICKS THAT ARE NOT LISTED!!

THEY MAY TELL YOU TO CALL YOUR LAWYER. THIS IS A TRICK- IGNORE THEM. DO NOT LET THEM IN YOUR HOUSE IF THEY DO NOT HAVE A WARRANT. THEY MAY REMAIN ON YOUR DOORSTEP OR BANG ON YOUR WINDOW. THEY HAVE MORE TRICKS THAT ARE NOT LISTED!!

GO AWAY- I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY TO YOU!

SLAM

TALK, PUNK, OR ELSE WE KNOW YOU'RE GUILTY!

WE'RE HERE TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE NOT INVOLVED, OLD BUDDY.

HOW'S THAT CORN ON YOUR LEFT BIG TOE DOING, NICK?

THEY MAY COME ON TOUGH...

THEY MAY COME ON FRIENDLY...

OR AS IF THEY ALL READY KNOW A LOT

ANNOUNCEMENTS + EVENTS = JAN-FEB 1990:

COMMUNITY BOARD 3 MEETING:
JANUARY 23--6:30PM
YMHA/YWHA, 344 EAST 14TH ST.

Department of Housing Preservation Development (HPD)

HPD is offering a free 78 hour building maintenance training course that leads to certification under the housing maintenance code of the City of New York. The training covers plumbing repair, electrical repair, building security, pest control, the heating plant, fire prevention, elevator safety, sanitation codes and general building repairs.

All residents of New York City

The eight weeks training course begins January 29, 1990. Classes are from 9:30AM to 12:30PM on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Call 566-0857 or 566-1020 for an application.

For further information call LaVerne Lum at 566-0857.

ABC TENT CITY (ABC IN EXILE)--Located on East Fourth Street, between Avenue B and C, can use any and all supplies, food, blankets and clothing, and wood scraps for barrel fires.

ACTIVIST HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS interested in getting involved in the Peace and Justice Movement can meet other like-minded students. Call Michael at the War Resisters League:228-0450

THE TOMPKINS SQUARE LEGAL DEFENSE COMMITTEE has been formed to provide legal defense for individuals and groups involved in the struggle for justice on the Lower East Side, in addition to providing self-help and legal advice. They are now fighting in court with the city's Corporate Council lawyers over the rights of homeless to use fire barrels to keep warm in the freezing weather. For more info, call(212)969-0185, or write them at: P.O.Box 20723, New York, N.Y.10009.

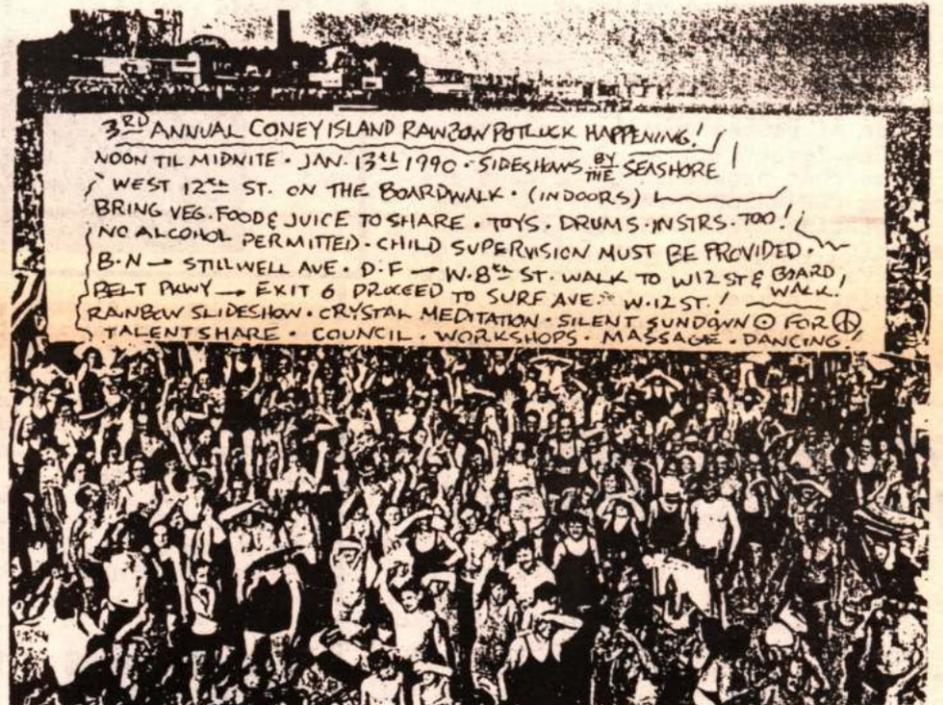
FOOD,NOT BOMBS continues to serve home-cooked meals in Tompkins Square Park every Saturday evening at 10:00PM under the promenade near the bathrooms. For more info, or if you can donate some food, utensils, etc, contact SABOTAGE BOOKS--96 St.Marx Place, or call:260-4010.

JAN.13--INDOOR RAINBOW GATHERING--at "Sideshow by the Seashore", at West 12th Street on the boardwalk in Coney Island in Brooklyn, from noon to midnight. Pot luck picnic--Bring something to share!!

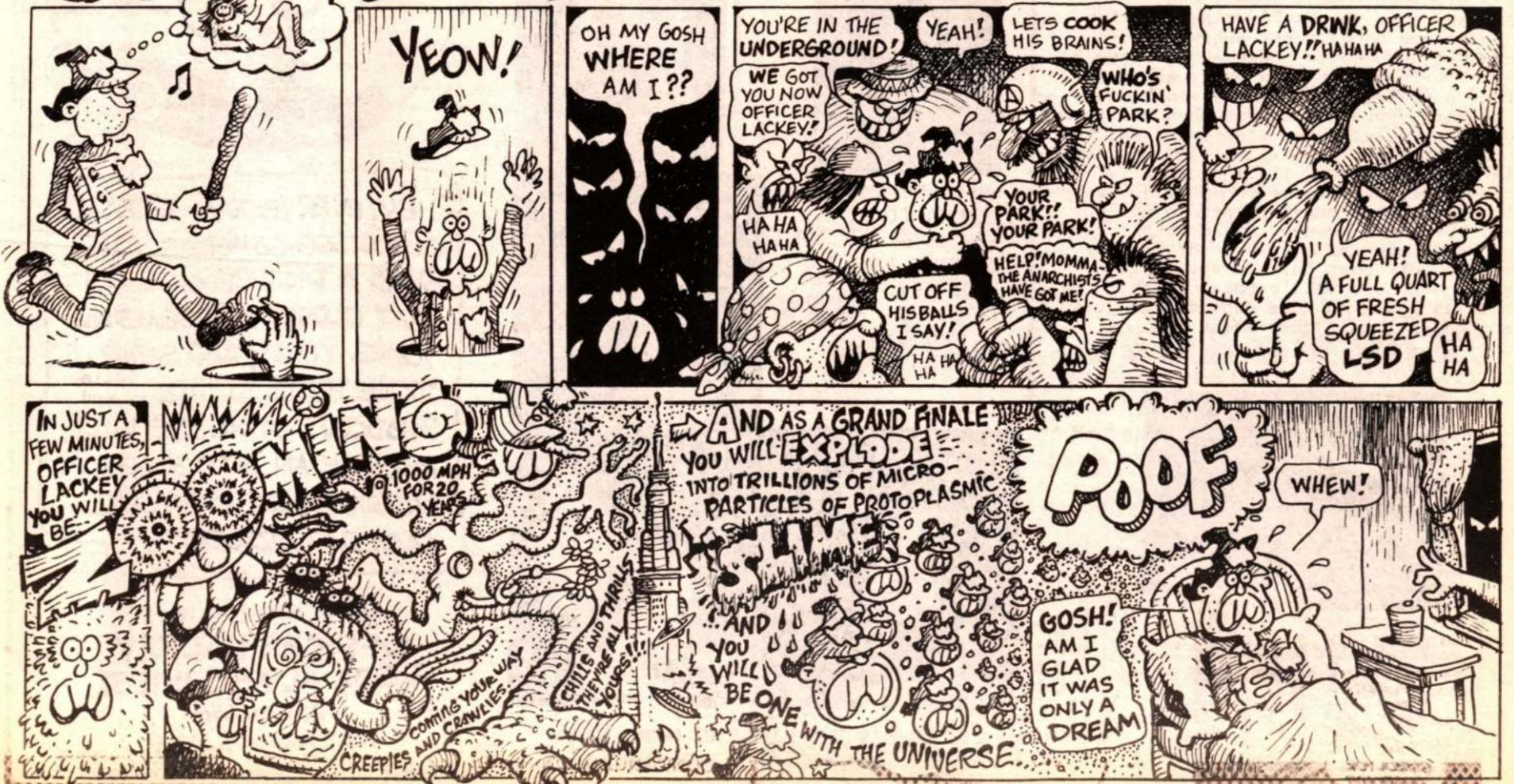
JAN.24--SHADOW/SABOTAGE BENEFIT CONCERT--at Max Fish Gallery, 178 Ludlow Street, 6:00PM on. Support your favorite underground newspaper and underground bookstore at the same time!!

FEB.12--FREE THE HERB/FREE THE POPE BENEFIT CONCERT--at the Pyramid Club, on Avenue A, between 6th and 7th Streets. Music by David Peel and other bands to raise money to help the Pope fight trumped-up pot charges.

HELICOPTER NEEDED for upcoming demonstrations--please inquire c/o SHADOW PRESS--P.O.Box 20298, New York, N.Y. 10009



OFFICER LACKEY by Cosmo 90





SHADOW-P.O. BOX 20298, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10009

Dear Editor,

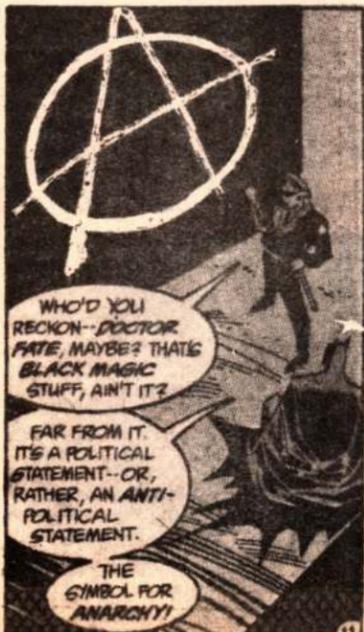
The Oct./Nov. issue of the SHADOW perhaps was the greatest (housing) newspaper that I have read this year. I really enjoyed "Duane the squatter", the letter about the "Homeless for Profit" organizations, many of whom are the poverty pimps of the 80's. I, too, was involved with the NYC Union of the Homeless and the leaders were well dressed, kept nice cash in their wallets and did next to nothing to help the homeless and poor of NYC. Your report on the murder of Miss Yolanda Ward was very interesting and so was the special report on the activist lawyer who was harassed by the pigs for defending the rights of homeless people and squatters, which is outrageous! But the Daily (News), the Post (Rag) cry like a baby every time a pig is shot or killed, yet I ask, "Don't the pigs kill and brutalize people?" Thank you so much for publishing a newspaper that supports the poor and oppressed masses in NYC. The SHADOW is definitely one of the best "people's papers" in this city. Peace and Love, best of luck.

Comrade Eugene
NYC

Dear SHADOW:

I read with interest Duane's article on the National Union of the Homeless (SHADOW letters, Issue 7). Finding it rather incomplete, I'd like to add some facts. I have had first hand experience with these poverty pimps. The National Union of the Homeless was started in Philly and then expanded to eight other cities. Those first nine locals were started by members of the Communist Labour Party. I won't bore you with the differences between this C.P. and C.P.U.S.A. For the most part they are one and the same. Approximately 3 years ago I was unfortunate enough to help found the San Francisco chapter of these asshole sectarian pig fuckers. Continually, homeless people were blocked from determining our issues and even spending organizational funds. Ah, but the best is yet to come. A commie came sniffing around recruiting. Faced with the choice of either ignoring them or keeping an eye out, I joined. Keep in mind that the Sec-Tres was a commie who reported just like clockwork to the party. One thing led to another and I resigned under a cloud as President of the local. Did I learn my lesson? Oh, no, I had to go and join the National organizing team. In Tuscon, I personally watched Chris Sprowal and David Silva (part of the national heirarchy) go to Mexico and come back with armsloads of goodies. They told one sister not to run for the presidency of the local because no one would vote for a woman. Finally I quit after they turned total control of the local to some Leninist pig pile of shit Catholic Worker. It didn't take them long to issue a memo out of Philly that I was a leper and that anyone associating with me would be excommunicated. It goes on more and more, but I agree with Duane. If you want to eat good join the union. Get on the executive board and you'll eat better than George Bush. Anyway, I'll let you go for now. Take care and write soon.

In Struggle,
Mike



Law & disorder

Manhattan: Tompkins Square protesters who brought food to homeless squatters at the PS 105 ABC Community Center or who occupied warehouse apartments have been arrested for disorderly conduct. Orderly conduct must therefore mean that homeless squatters should not be deprived of their historic freedom to starve. Law and order is therefore disorder. The only way to restore real law and order is through more disorderly conduct.

Sidney Simon

Daily News-
12/21/89

Dear SHADOW,

Here is a little something I wrote after witnessing the brutal arrests of 3 young women outside the ABC Community Center on Sunday, December 10th by Officer Rollo of the 9th Precinct:

(To be sung to the tune of "On Top Of Old Smokey")

Rollo-ver, Rollo-ver
You're out in left field.
Poor little piggy,
Go turn in your shield.

It was your ambition
To be a good cop,
But poor little piggy,
You're simply a flop.

Your C.O. is laughing
'Cause you are a clown.
One more big mistake, and
He'll take you right down.

Rollo-ver, Rollo-ver
You've just got to yield.
Be kind to your brothers
And turn in your shield.

By Anne Archy

Dear Hero(ine)s,

For squatters brave and homeless true,
May Santa bring squat peace to you.
May '90 find you free of pigs
In lifelong homes, permanent digs!
May yuppies die (of killer diseases!)
While we enjoy unbreakable leases.
May justice prevail, heal all have-notters.
May we always remember: it started with SQUATTERS!

Yours, Persephone

Dear folks at the SHADOW:

We're sending you the most recent issue of Inner City Press. We've been liking your paper, when we happen to get a copy up here in the Bronx. From what I've seen, it's really gotten better and better. Funny, too, which is good. So look, we saw in your paper that you're down to do "exchange" -- so from now on, why don't we send you ours, and you send us yours? Also, feel free to reprint anything you want, with credit to ICP. Just today one of our homestead buildings was in Bronx housing court and the city in fact dropped the case against us. Look forward to hearing from you. Keep it up,

Matthew Lee
Editor, Inner City
Press / La prensa
del pueblo

Dear Friend,

Hello. My name is Mara. My friends and I are organizing a new group called "EARTH", (Environmental Alternatives to Reform The Habitat). Please send any information you can. We will appreciate all that we can get.

Thank You, Mara

Send To: EARTH
c/o Kathy McCully
3028 Streamside Ct.
Columbus, IN 47203



About the City Shelter Residents' "Advisory Council"

About a year ago, N.Y.C.'s "Humane" Resources Administration (HRA) undertook to establish Clients' "Advisory Councils" in their Shelters. The idea was, ostensibly, to give the Shelter Residents a voice in their own affairs by first electing their own Representatives from each "wing" of each Floor which should have totalled, at that time, 20 Representatives (since then, 2 Floors have been vacated). However, virtually from the beginning, under the sponsorship of HRA, the "Council" was installed (and given official "blessing") while composed of a tiny group (fluctuating from 4 to 5 in number of compliant "stooges" who really represent nobody but themselves!!

Notwithstanding the above undemocratic manner in which it was formed, had it demonstrated the remotest inclination to take up the cause of Residents' rights, instead of slavishly parroting the HRA line when it is trotted out once a month before the Community Board (an assembly of handwringers about the "Homeless Problem"), it might have been possible to say a good word about it! To give a few examples: a request by a Resident for a report on the Asbestos hazard in the Shelter was brushed aside by a "Councilmember" with: "Only one floor is affected"! Also, when 140 Residents were abruptly transferred to other Shelters in October, the "Council" was silent.

Efforts to complain about the above situation to (so-called) "neutral" agencies like the Ombudsman City Councilors, and the "Coalition" were met with the proverbial wall of silence and/or "brushoff". The "Coalition" flak's response was the usual bullshit about "everything in the Shelter takes time."

It would now seem that this "Council" has been craftily designed to forestall and deny genuine Resident representation under the guise of phony "empowerment"! Also, it is the policy of the Administration and their stooges to keep it an "internal" secret and to block any outside publicity about it (the Community Board doesn't count here as it goes along with HRA on this!!)

Regardless of the reservations about "Shelter Clients", justified or not, genuine Homeless Advocates should put them aside and get more involved in this situation to open another "front" against the "Humane" Resources Administration and their lackeys in their Shelter/Custodial Institution "Warehouse".

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

Signed: Shelter Watcher

Tompkins Square

By FREE-I

Community Power vs. City Shelters --
Support ABC & The Community Center 43

AlphaBet City Community Center was founded as a direct response to the crisis we are facing within our community: the crisis of homelessness and the violence, loneliness and alienation which results when people's homes are taken from them. Homelessness is the direct result of the plans of the gentrifiers and landlords who would obliterate Loisaida and replace it with yet another sterile, superficial yuppie ghetto. The brothers and sisters who came together to establish ABC on September 24th of this year were fighting to save our neighborhood. They moved into the old PS 105 on East Fourth Street and within 24 hours had accomplished what the police and the city had been either unwilling or unable to effectively deal with, namely, return the long-abandoned school, which for years was a haven of drug dealing and prostitution, into a positive vehicle for change. It was something we, as Loisaiders, could have been proud of.

Within its first few weeks, ABC had established a referral network for homeless people providing medical care, free food, free clothes, drug counseling, classes in job skills, language, political education and the arts. Drawing on the richest resource -- the skills and talents of the people who live here -- ABC had a full schedule of recreational, athletic, cultural and educational programs to offer anyone who walked through its open doors. ABC is a solution which came from the people who are directly affected by homelessness. It was their exercise of their constitutional rights to self-determination, a right which was stripped from them on October 26th, when the police illegally entered and occupied the school, touching off a brutal 14 hour confrontation between the residents and supports of ABC and the police. 43 people are currently facing charges and many could receive sentences of up to 4 years for defending this unique experiment in community self-empowerment.

At the November 15th so-called "public meeting" chaired by Miriam Friedlander, the City spelled out its plan for the renovation of Tompkins Square Park and the homeless who, since the eviction of ABC, have no other choice but to live in the park or face incarceration in the shelter system. Riot police were called in to surround the assembled members of our community and keep us from voicing dissent. A free and open assembly where people of divergent opinions could attempt to reach agreement on how and when we want to begin renovation of Tompkins Square Park was subverted at gun point. Miriam and her rent-a-thugs were not interested in what the community had to say. They would impose their plan on us with no regard to our consent.

In typical liberal style, Miriam laid out the City's offer to throw a lot of money into a "Help Center" in the Park. This Help Center has since opened in the Park, and those who have gone in seeking assistance have discovered that it is no more than a ticket to a work shelter in Brooklyn. Do these liberals really conceive of work shelters as help? Isn't it just a convenient way to get rid of "undesirables" a la Hitler and Stalin? One thing's for sure, sending our neighbors to shelters in Brooklyn only accomplished what their supposed "political enemies" have been trying to implement in this community for years -- spacial deconcentration: the forcible removal of economically poor people from the inner cities and the breaking up of culturally diverse communities to facilitate the plans of the gentrifiers and landlords. Any hand-outs the liberal politicians have and will continue to offer are, in fact, no more than a smoke screen to cover up their plans to obliterate Loisaida and, at the same time, appease the guilty consciences of those who daily step over people taking shelter in the doorways of their condominiums.

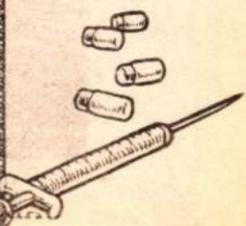
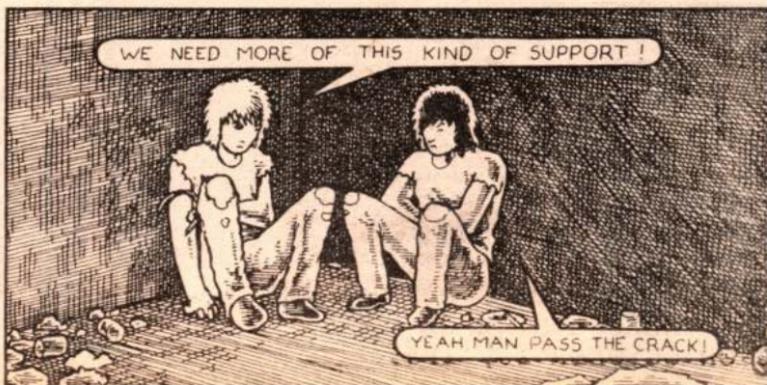
NOTEBOOK

The plans for the Park call for the strict enforcement of the Parks Department regulations sometime during the second week of December, just in time for Christmas. This will result in the tearing down of homeless people's tents, the confiscation of their mattresses and the extinguishing of the fires they need to keep warm. All they will be allowed is one bag for their belongings and a blanket. HRA vans and the infamous Help Center will relocate many to shelters outside of the Lower East Side. If they refuse the City's offer to "live" in the shelters, they may be picked up by "Operation Help" and forcibly institutionalized. Once all the homeless people are "out of the way", the Park may be completely closed for "an indeterminate amount of time" for renovation.

ABC never sought hand-outs from the government. It ran on the strength of the people, for the people and by the people of Loisaida. It put forward self reliance, self respect and cooperation. The Help Center is recruiting people into an alienated and degrading existence. If the City is not interested in killing off those of us who find ourselves homeless, why does it continue to override the people's solutions with a multi-million dollar shelter system that nobody wants?

ABC was evicted on the excuse that the government (via HUD) had given the lease to the property to the NY Foundation for Senior Citizens to provide senior citizens housing. (One wonders why this line wasn't used to evict the drug dealers.) We who support ABC share the concern of senior citizens to secure safe, affordable housing. In fact, many of those who lived and worked in ABC were seniors who have now been forced to return to the park benches where they will certainly become seriously ill if they cannot return to the security of ABC before the winter weather wears much further on them. It is, however, true that the proposed senior citizens center has a 7 million dollar budget and could easily be built on an alternative site, preferably one closer to public transportation. There were several possibilities people in the community could offer if the City was interested in listening to us. We also believe that given the HUD scandal and the dubious connection of Alfonse D'Amato to the proposed connection, a full investigation into the project should be done to keep the people from getting ripped off again.

The last thing any city administration wants to see happen is people solving their own problems and meeting their own needs. To make the government irrelevant is a militant act. It strips them of their authority and leaves them no recourse but brute force to reestablish control over the renegades. On the night of the eviction of ABC, battalions of riot police engaged in paramilitary tactics against the swarming mass of angry protesters in the streets. Innocent people were injured, and others were grabbed, cuffed and dragged into paddy wagons for walking out of their apartments. Anyone perceived as being a "ring leader" was taken in and many face double felony charges. (While, on the other side of the blue line, the last of the charges brought against the cops following the August 5, 1988 police riot were dropped, despite extensive video and photo evidence of their brutality.) A deliberate attempt is being pursued by the Ninth Precinct to crush resistance to their fascistic policies by targeting individuals. Unnamed sources within the Police Department have confirmed the existence of a "shit list" of people to be targeted for arrest. Inspector Julian has admitted that he is "prepared to arrest the 10 people who can change the world." Armed police officers wearing bullet-proof vests are routinely called in by Community Board 3 whenever Tompkins Square Park is on the agenda. They have stuck us, threatened our lives, locked us up, evicted us from our homes, but they have not intimidated us! When all is said and done, the cops go back to Long Island or New Jersey; THIS IS OUR HOME. When you're fighting for your home, there's no backing down.



WHO IS THE ABC OCCUPATIONAL FORCE?

By WIII

We are here to re-establish the ABC Community Center as it was. We support the programs and demands of the ABC Center as it was run before the police raid and eviction of Oct. 26, a place where homeless people were defining and creating solutions to their problems.

When ABC is re-established, and its doors re-opened to the public, the occupying group will no longer be necessary and will dissolve. Members of the occupying group will not make any claim on the building or claim any special privilege within the ABC Center as a result of this action.

The re-taking of the AlphaBet City(ABC)Community Center and the subsequent occupation are very important for the squatters movement on the Lower East Side. By re-taking a building that had been evicted, we showed the system that it is not so easy to close down a squat. Through our use of the media, we made the public aware of the connection between squatting and solving the problem of homelessness.

I went into the ABC Center on Sunday, December 10 after being advised by my lawyer, Carl Treasurer, shortly after it had been re-taken. I saw the struggle for ABC, the struggle for the park, and the struggle for the squats as one struggle. I knew that shit was coming down really heavy that week, and figured that since I'd be arrested sooner or later, "I might as well go for it now". I assumed that the police would storm the building and we'd be in jail in a day or less.

Once inside, I found an odd assortment of people, some homeless people, some squatters, some liberals, and some RCP supporters. The first few days of the occupation were hell because the liberals and communists did not really understand squatting. While we were barricading doors and trying to work out the basics of surviving in this very dangerous situation, they were debating communism, feminism, and all the other isms. But by the end of the first week, this and other problems had been ironed out and we began to work as a team. We disagreed on many things, but we all agreed that our goal was to re-establish the ABC Center as it had been before the police attack on October 26.

Every morning, we expected the police to attack, and every night we were amazed that we got through another day. Every day we got stronger and more organized. By the second week, we were wondering what the fuck was going on. Why hadn't they moved on us?

The fact that the police have been hesitant to attack us shows how much public opinion is on our side. This is an important turning point for the squatter's movement. For years we have said that the solution to the housing crisis is to take the abandoned buildings. Now people are starting to see that.

By the end of the second week we decided we had to go beyond just holding the building as a fortress against the cops. We had to re-open the Community Center and start doing things for people. We decided to have a christmas party with art and bands. We knew that opening the doors to the public would be a big risk because the cops could come in and re-take the building. Our lawyer advised against it, but we felt we couldn't sit on our asses and just wait to be attacked.

In three day's time we arranged a concert with six bands, including Missing Foundation and High Risk Group. A number of artists painted murals on the walls.

On christmas eve, the night of the party, we broke through cinderblocks on the front door and opened them to the public. At first, the cops let people walk right in. There was a moment of real euphoria. Had we really won? Was it that easy?

Suddenly, the cops rushed the door. We slammed the door closed to keep them out. A lot of people, bands and audience alike, panicked and split. But the police did not try to re-take the building. Instead, they formed a line in front to keep people out. The party went on, Missing Foundation played for those inside and out the window for those outside and the police were not able to ruin the show.

Our plans are to now have more activities at the Center, both cultural events and services for the homeless, in spite of police harrassment. Since then, more homeless people have moved into the Center. The R.H.O. has been going to shelters and recruiting homeless people for this project. We have had some defeats and some victories, but the squatters movement now has more public support than it ever did. People now see that we are right. That means there are going to be all kinds of people who want to join in: Catholics, Liberals, Black Nationalists, and yes, Communists. We must deal with all these people and remember we never did this just for ourselves.



FLASH FOTO
PIG ATTACKS BYSTANDER NEAR ABC ON OCTOBER 26, 1989



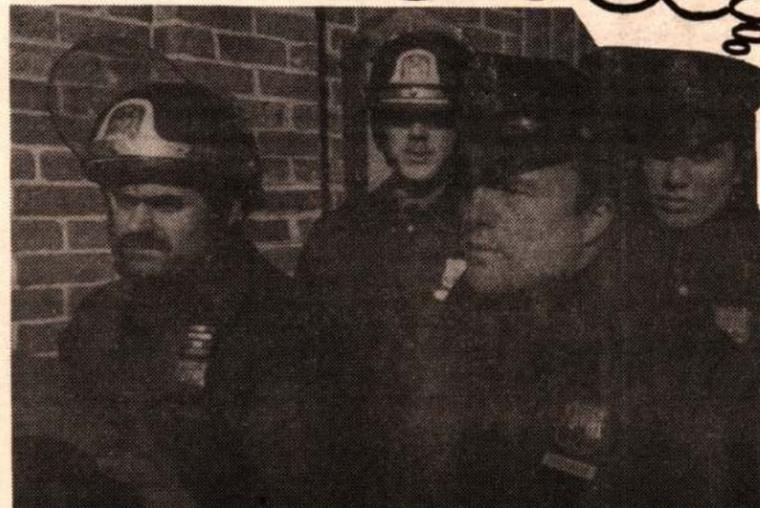
At about 4:00PM on December 10th, as a demonstration in front of the newly re-taken ABC Community Center began to increase in volume, a young woman was set upon by 6-8 pigs who attempted to arrest her for allegedly tossing a bottle at a parked police paddy wagon. Frustrated by his men's inability to handcuff the woman, Deputy Inspector Julian angrily joined in the groping and twisted her arm, scratching her wrist, even though she was not resisting arrest. In self-defense, she kicked Julian in his shin, and was then shoved into the paddy wagon where she was handcuffed very tightly. Inside the wagon, she was called a "fucking cunt", and other sexist comments by one of the arresting cops.

Soon, two more women who are sisters, and who had come from the ACT-UP/WHAM demonstration at St.Patrick's Cathedral earlier, were arrested as cops pushed people across the street from ABC. The two sisters, "K" and "M", who is a Catholic missionary, were on the sidewalk in front of the ABC Community Center, sandwiched by cops who blocked them from moving forward, while other cops told them to move across the street. K politely asked P.O.Gullickson (Badge #13218) to let her pass, but when she did not move fast enough for his liking, he pushed her onto the hood of a parked car. When she refused to be intimidated by him, she and her sister M were pulled by their hair and shoved into the paddy wagon by pigs who caused the women's heads to jerk back violently. Inside the wagon, after the doors were shut and as other cops stood by, Gullickson beat both women, banged their heads into the steel wall, and repeatedly called them "fucking bitches" and "stinking cunts" and other vile names. He also said, "Why do you bitches have to do this before christmas?" After Gullickson punched M in her face, breaking her glasses and giving her a fat lip, another cop, P.O.Rollo (Badge#8684) finally intervened and suggested that Gullickson stop. As Gullickson beat the two sisters, the first woman arrested stood up, fearing that she would get beaten up also, Gullickson grabbed her arm, which was handcuffed behind her back, and threw her across the van head first into the wall.

As the cops sat in the heated front cab and made up their side of the story, the women waited 45 minutes in the below freezing cold rear before being taken to the ninth precinct, where they were once again subjected to verbal abuse and sexist remarks by cops. One said, "They're not the wild bitches they were on the street a little while ago", and another cop said, "These girls are assholes--they're lucky we don't lock them up and rape them". While the women were being processed for DATs (Desk Appearance Tickets), cops sat around watching football and "Star Search" on television. After 4 hours, they were finally released. They were charged with: "Resisting Arrest, Disorderly Conduct, Aggravated Harrassment, and Obstructing Governmental Administration", all of which are the same "catch-all" charges that the pigs use against political activists.

K and M's trial date was postponed to February 7th because their fingerprints were lost by the pigs. The first woman's trial date has been moved to January 18th, which is the same date as the ABC 43 trial for those arrested at ABC when the riot pigs raided the Community Center last October 26th. IF YOU WITNESSED ANY OF THE POLICE BRUTALITY THAT OCCURRED DURING THEIR ARRESTS, PLEASE CONTACT THEIR LAWYER STANLEY COHEN AT: (212)243-3196.

SEXIST PIGS!!



FLASH FOTO
P.O.s ROLLO (LEFT) AND GULLICKSON (RIGHT) GUARD HOMELESS "HELP CENTER" FROM THE HOMELESS.

D'AMATO SLEAZE FACTOR

Five blocks to the south of La Plaza Cultural is a city-owned abandoned school building that homeless people have been trying to transform into a community center, calling their group the "Alpha Bet City (ABC) Community Center". However, city authorities, justifying brutal assaults by police in efforts to evict the squatters from the building, say there are plans to use the building for another senior citizens housing project, also funded by HUD's Section 202. The group seeking to take over the abandoned school is the "New York Foundation for Senior Citizens".

The foundation has strong ties to Senator Alphonse D'Amato. The Senator's office admits to giving technical aid to a project in East Harlem that the foundation was planning to build with a HUD Section 202 mortgage. A letter from D'Amato's office supporting the foundation is similar to a number of others from D'Amato supporting other Section 202 projects, including Casa Victoria. In fact, about two-thirds of all successful HUD senior citizen project applications had at least one D'Amato supporter involved in the deal.

Eventually, the East Harlem community ran the Foundation group out of the neighborhood. The Foundation cited the stiff opposition to their plans as their reason for giving up.

A member of the Board of Directors of the New York Foundation for Senior Citizens is D'Amato's mother Ann, as well as a close political aide. D'Amato defended his support of the Foundation, saying it is "a great group" that deserved his backing.

Support for the Foundation's plans to develop the school building (the former P.S.105 on East Fourth Street) is coming from the Joint Planning Council (JPC), which supports the construction of Casa Victoria as well. The group has a reputation as a progressive organization made up of 30 community groups to influence development on the Lower East Side.

However, JPC projects are invariably large institutional settings financed by the city, state and federal governments. While they have been successful in housing construction for low income, it has not been without criticism.

JPC-connected people have been accused of getting tax breaks for projects that provided housing for people with incomes as high as \$48,000 a year. JPC spokespeople have also yet to adequately explain why absolutely no public hearings were held before Community Board 3 approved both Casa Victoria and the NY Foundation for Senior Citizens project JPC is supporting for the site of the ABC Community Center.

Most people "in the know" point to the connection between JPC and Community Board 3, where many JPC members have been appointed by city councilwoman Miriam Friedlander and Manhattan Borough President (now Mayor-elect) David Dinkins to the Community Board.

Critics of JPC point to the fact that JPC builds no housing for single persons. With thousands of homeless people roaming the streets of the Lower East Side, there are still no projects to provide single room occupancy style apartments. Another criticism of JPC revolves around the relationship between member groups like LESCHD and Senator D'Amato, through the recent HUD scandal involving the Senator and his special interest groups. A decision by Mayor-elect Dinkins' newly appointed Consumer Affairs Commissioner Mark Green to drop his request that the Senate Ethics Committee investigate D'Amato's role in influencing projects seems to illustrate the connection.

According to published reports, D'Amato backed cosmetics heir Ronald Lauder in the Republican Mayoral primary against Rudolph Giuliani in order to help incumbent Mayor Ed Koch's re-election bid. Koch, who has had a reputation as a "Reagan Democrat", has made the gentrification of the Lower East Side a personal ambition, along with the support the NY Post newspaper has given the Mayor. The family of Post owner Peter Kalikow owns many warehoused apartments in buildings surrounding Tompkins Square Park.

Koch and Dinkins, beside the issue of race, are not as different as they may seem to be. Dinkins comes from the same Manhattan Democratic machine that produced Koch, and both are labelled as so-called "liberals". But in reality, they are proof that there is no difference between Democrats and Republicans. Both parties work together to crush the resistance to gentrification and genocide against the homeless.

H.U.D. Economist Says Bosses Pressed Him to Approve Grants

Two Projects in Manhattan Had Ties to D'Amato

By MICHAEL WINERIP

The two regional administrators, Joseph Monticciolo and Geraldine McGann, are longtime associates of the Senator. Both were sponsored for their H.U.D. jobs by Mr. D'Amato. All three have denied any impropriety.

Mr. Burns, in his own words, "caved in." Within months, a Long Island-based construction company, Jobco, was chosen general contractor for the Lower East Side project. Jobco is a major campaign contributor to Mr. D'Amato, and it employs the Senator's brother as a lawyer.

In 1988, Mr. Burns recalled, Mrs. McGann pressured him to approve a senior-citizen housing project at 105th Street and First Avenue in Manhattan that Mr. Burns had planned to reject because he thought the area already had too much subsidized housing. Again, Mr. Burns says, he gave in, and the project was approved for a non-profit group whose board includes the Senator's mother and a former aide to Mr. D'Amato.

Mr. Burns, who has held his post for 15 years, said the two projects were "the worst sites I'm aware of that were approved" by the H.U.D. office in recent years. He described the neighborhoods as already filled with subsidized housing and abandoned buildings, and he called them dangerous for the elderly.

A lawsuit by a neighborhood group has prevented construction on the Lower East Side project.

Mr. Burns's assertions, taken along with recent Congressional testimony by another former high-ranking New York administrator, Alexander Naclerio, portray an office where H.U.D. regulations were often bent, broken or waived to justify and mask political or personal favoritism.

In September, Mr. Naclerio testified that Mr. D'Amato's influence was so extensive that Mr. Monticciolo made

sure "things were cleared with Senator D'Amato," and that his H.U.D. phone had a rapid-dial button to the Senator.

This month, the Housing Secretary, Jack F. Kemp, disciplined Mrs. McGann, moving her from New York to the Washington office, after an internal investigation concluded that she had violated ethics rules in connection with a program in her hometown of Island Park, L.I., in which her son and a cousin of Mr. D'Amato were among those awarded subsidized houses.

Mr. Monticciolo was the fourth regional director that Mr. Burns worked for as economist, and Mr. Burns said he had never been pressured this way before. He said he felt the pressure was improper because he was being asked to issue a false recommendation. Mr. Burns said the interference occurred most frequently on Section 202, a program for building senior-citizen housing. Both the Lower East Side and the New York Foundation projects are under Section 202.

An examination of H.U.D.'s New York records indicated that about two-thirds of the successful applicants for Section 202 grants during 1986-88 had at least one major participant who was a D'Amato contributor. Several of those contributors said in interviews last summer that they gave because they believed Senator D'Amato had major influence in the office.

The Senator's mother, Ann, and his former aide, Deborah Smith Bernstein, joined the foundation's 29-member unpaid board that year. The next year, New York again approved the project, and this time it won a \$5.7 million grant.

As economist, Mr. Burns had the power to reject a site if the area was "unduly concentrated" with subsidized housing. "You don't want another Yonkers," he said, "with all the subsidized housing loaded in one area." He said he only rejected a site if it was "a complete disaster."

In 1987, Mr. Burns intended to reject a site in Manhattan, at Ninth Street and Avenue C, proposed by the Lower East Side Coalition Housing Development. His rejection would almost certainly have killed the project, he said, because there are few available sites that meet H.U.D. criteria in the area where the coalition wished to build.

"It was a low-income area with an overriding concentration of assisted housing," at least 60 percent, he said. "Putting it there was almost a policy of segregation. This is exactly what the law didn't want to happen."

First, he said, he was asked to change his decision by two of Monticciolo's lieutenants in the housing department. Then, he said, he was called in by Mr. Monticciolo's assistant at the time, Mrs. McGann, who showed him a memo supporting the site.

To make sure he wasn't being unreasonable, Mr. Burns said, he asked several colleagues to evaluate the site, including John Kemp, the H.U.D. economist for New Jersey, who is not related to the current housing secretary. In an interview, John Kemp said he, too, thought the site should be rejected.

"Then Monticciolo told me we were going to take a ride and look at the site, and took along McGann and Jerry Blue," Mr. Burns said. Mr. Blue was a special H.U.D. assistant whom Mr. Monticciolo had hired from Senator D'Amato's office.

A Car Ride Changes a Rating

"They really wanted this project for whatever reason," Mr. Burns recalled. "We hadn't left the garage, when Gerri McGann said to me, 'David, try to be objective.' I said, 'You try to be objective.' Monticciolo told me to shut up."

"We got near the project, and Monticciolo said, 'This doesn't seem bad.' And then there was block after block of devastation. He got very quiet. All of a sudden he wasn't talking. Almost glum."

"I went into his office afterward. I said: 'Joe, I'd like to get along with you, I'd like to be a loyal employee. But it would make a farce of everything I do to change my recommendation. It would make my job meaningless.' He said, 'We'll see.'"

"Two weeks later, Monticciolo saw me. He said, 'Look, David, you're going to have to change your recommendation.'"

Mr. Burns gave it a passing rating. The Lower East Side project was financed from Secretary Samuel Pierce's discretionary list, which was often used to satisfy political requests.

On Aug. 26, 1987, Mr. Monticciolo informed the Lower East Side Coalition of the approval, and a few months later the group selected Jobco of Great Neck, L.I., as general contractor. No bidding is required by H.U.D. in such selections.

Favoritism Charged In Hiring Jobco

According to Federal election records, Jobco's owners have given \$9,600 to Mr. D'Amato's campaigns and were the hosts of a fund raiser for his 1986 campaign. Armand D'Amato, the Senator's brother, has done legal work for Jobco for years. Though Jobco was the third and last choice of White Plains officials and was not the low bidder, H.U.D.'s New York office intervened and Jobco was picked.

Mr. Monticciolo told the panel he had followed his specialists' advice. But when Mr. Naclerio, who supervised the specialists, testified last month, he said Mr. Monticciolo "urged and told me he wanted Jobco."

The former director of the Lower East Side group, Luis Nieves, said three companies had responded to requests for proposals. He said Jobco was selected by his board based on its 40 years in the construction business. "I had no discussions" about Jobco, Mr. Nieves said. "No one asked me to call them, to pick them."

The president of Jobco, Robert Pascucci, said no one from H.U.D. or the Senator's office had aided Jobco in getting the Lower East Side job. He pointed out that Jobco had been doing Federal housing work for a decade before Mr. D'Amato became Senator. He said Jobco withdrew from the project last month because studies of the site showed "bad subsoil" conditions that would require expensive below-ground piles, so the project would not be profitable. He said Jobco had not received any compensation.

Paul Terry, a member of the group opposing the project, said the opponents had called Mr. D'Amato's office seeking help in stopping it but were told the Senator supported the project.

If Mr. Burns had rejected the senior-citizen foundation site, it would have killed the project. "The area was 90 percent subsidized housing," he said. "It wasn't a place for the elderly. I can tell you emphatically, we've got plenty of sites in the city much better."

After the foundation received H.U.D. approval, the site was opposed by local residents. Ultimately, the nonprofit group decided to seek a location in another part of Manhattan. But because of H.U.D.'s 1988 approval, it is still eligible for the grant.

(Excerpts from NY Times article of Oct. 26, 1989)

FIRE BARREL BATTLE

When Stanley finally returned to T.S.P. in the evening of December 15th, most of the fires had already been extinguished by the Parks Pigs. The rest were surrounded by people refusing to allow these thugs to continue carrying out their orders. Police were now refusing to assist in this idiotic exercise. High ranking Police officers said that the barrels posed no threat to anyone and that lives would be endangered or lost without the heat provided by these contained fires. Frustrated Parks Pigs contacted their leader, Henry Stern, at home, who called Deputy Mayor Brezenoff. A Fire Department officer was dispatched to the scene. After inspecting the barrels and their sites, he pronounced them safe, posing no threat to the residents of the park and the community at large. Several Parks Pigs were grumbling guilty remarks about following orders from the "very top." At midnight they were forced to give up when "the department" promised that the barrels could remain burning until Stanley was given a chance to reargue the case the next day.

By daybreak on the 16th, the hungry pigs were drooling for revenge. "Parks enforcement people swooped down on the sites of the barrels," claims Stanley. "They once again extinguished and removed all of them, leaving the people without any source of heat during one of the coldest days in recent years." Stanley finally reached Justice Rosenberger later that morning, who agreed to reconsider provided a meeting could be set up including representatives of the Parks, Police, Fire Depts. and the Corp. Council. This was accomplished, and a two hour hearing took place including Deputy Commissioner Linn and Parks Enforcement Chief Spellman. Near the end Rosenberger had Stanley call Deputy Inspector Michael Julian, the Commanding Officer of the 9th Precinct. He was asked whether there was regular and sufficient Police presence in T.S.P. to monitor the use of fire barrels, and if they were prepared to intervene if the barrels became unsafe. He claimed he would assume responsibility for the issue of safety.

At that, Rosenberger reinstated the temporary restraining order preventing the Parks Pigs from interfering with the fires, and giving the Police and Fire Depts. the authority to do so only if there is evidence of immediate danger. At least until Tuesday, December 29th, when the lawyers could then file for a preliminary injunction, the first step to a permanent check on this abusive, murderous rule.

On the 19th, the temporary restraining order was extended until after Christmas, on the 28th, the new date for the hearing. On the 27th, Corp. Council pleaded for additional time to prepare their case, and the hearing is now scheduled for January 11th. The restraining order has been extended indefinitely.

In using selective enforcement of its own rules, the Parks Dept. not only discredits itself but exhibits an abuse of the law designed to feed a set of personal prejudices. Their rules became retribution, their policies became punishment. This is unsound and untrustworthy behavior to preserve undeserved power. The Parks Dept. deceived the population of the park and Denied their Immediate Needs, even their basic right to survive. They have lied, claiming that this regulation has always been strictly enforced. They have obviously only enforced those regulations that suit their preference when and where it has been convenient to achieve their subjective desires, which include eliminating all residents from the park. Simply put, they are using the threat of death to "force the residents into City shelters," as admitted by Commissioner Linn. He also told Stanley in a conversation following the hearing on December 16th that they were "afraid of the encampments." Finally he said that preventing Parks Pigs from putting out fires would lead to a "reduction of their power." This is a department ruled by fear, hatred and ignorance.

In a letter to Commissioner Stern dated November 7, lawyer Ron Kuby writes, "Everyone agrees that a park is not the proper place to live. The homeless in Tompkins Square Park are the first to endorse this proposition. If the City finds decent housing for these people, rather than drug and crime filled shelters, I am certain that everyone will opt for a home over the park. But solving the 'problem' in Tompkins Square Park depends upon solving the problem of housing. This cannot be done by the police."

The presence of fire barrels has existed historically within the parks and throughout the city at industrial and construction sites, empty lots, open markets and other heavily trafficked areas. In Tompkins Square Park the presence of fire barrels has been apparent and accepted for decades by the community, Police and even the Parks Pigs, who would often use these fires to warm their own hands in the cold. They have supplied firewood after trimming the park's trees.

The single infamous incident involving Parks Pigs extinguishing a fire resulted in the death of Mr. Eddie Rudder, who died of exposure a little over a year ago on December 11, 1988. This was no doubt a successful strategy since they sought to reinstate it this year, after the weather had become sufficiently cold to kill.

The presence of fire barrels has been considered safe traditionally and specifically, yet the Parks Dept. stoops so low as to discredit the ability of the Police and Fire Depts. to respond adequately if an emergency occurred. Those very departments have opposed the irresponsible policies of Stern and his sadistic soldiers in the park, and reiterated their belief in the safety of the barrels and their own competence. Is there a pattern emerging here?...

In sworn statements supporting the application for preliminary injunction (which will be heard by Justice Leon-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

Keeping homeless' fires burning Judge's ruling warms Tompkins Square Park

By ROBERT GEARTY
Daily News Staff Writer

About 30 homeless men and women kept warm in front of three trash-can fires in Tompkins Square Park yesterday, a day after a judge issued a ruling permitting the fires.

The ruling by Manhattan Supreme Court Justice Ernst Rosenberger is the latest development in a 16-month battle that has pitted the homeless against police, the city Parks Department and neighboring residents.

On Friday, Rosenberger banned fires in the park, but amended that order Saturday after listening to arguments that the fires were necessary to protect those camped out in the park from the cold.

Life and death

"Without fire barrels, we are going to have people falling asleep, and they are going to die," said Stanley Cohen, an attorney for the homeless. "We have on our hands a life-and-death situation."

Mindy Kallus, a city attorney, had argued that the fires should be put out and the homeless should go to shelters if they are cold.

The victory for homeless activists

came in a week when police tore down a ramshackle tent city in the park. Protesting squatters set fire to some of their tents and sheds as police moved in Thursday.

A further hearing on the fire issue is set tomorrow.

Parks Department officials have maintained that the fires are dangerous. Last month, a squatter burned to death when his makeshift home accidentally caught fire.

"The existence of fires is an invitation to people to come to the park, spend the night and place themselves at risk," said Assistant Parks Commissioner Jack Linn.

Officials also fear that permitting fires will encourage squatters to rebuild shacks.

"That's the old argument if you give them an inch, they'll take a mile," said the Rev. George Kuhn, pastor of St. Brigid's Church, which faces the park.

"It's insulting to say that if you start a fire to keep warm, you'll put up a sheet to cover yourself from the wind."

He maintained that the issue is not fires or shanties, but adequate housing for the homeless.

STAN MACK'S REAL LIFE FUNNIES THE GREEN MEANIES

PREFACE: NEW YORK CITY TRADITIONALLY ALLOWS CONSTRUCTION CREWS, NIGHT WORKERS, VIGIL KEEPERS TO USE FIRE BARRELS FOR WARMTH (THIS HAS INCLUDED THOSE IN TOMPKINS SQUARE PARK).

THAT NIGHT, AS THE HOMELESS GATHER AROUND THE FIRE BARRELS, THE PARKS DEPARTMENT'S TACTICAL ELITE (THE GREEN MEANIES) MOVE IN AND PUT OUT THE FIRES.

STANLEY, LAWYER FOR THE HOMELESS, QUICKLY PETITIONS A JUDGE, "WITHOUT WARMTH, JUDGE, THESE PEOPLE WILL FREEZE..."

THE JUDGE SIGNS AN ORDER ALLOWING EIGHT FIRE BARRELS IN THE PARK. THE POLICE AGREE IT WILL SAVE LIVES, THE MEANIES ARE FURIOUS!

DEC 14 - THE CITY SAID THE HOMELESS COULD STAY IN TOMPKINS PARK, BUT SHOULDN'T BUILD SHELTERS.

DEC 15 - THE MEANIES RACE TO THE APPELLATE COURT AND, CLAIMING AN EMERGENCY SITUATION, GET THE JUDGE TO OVERTURN THE ORDER.

THAT EVENING, IN SLEET AND FREEZING COLD, THE HOMELESS, JOINED BY FATHER PAT AND FATHER GEORGE, LIGHT THE FIRES. THE MEANIES CALL IN THE POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS FOR SUPPORT.

BUT THE FIRE DEPARTMENT SEES NO DANGER AND THE POLICE SAY THE BARRELS CAUSE NO TROUBLE. "WE'LL BE BACK TOMORROW," THREATEN THE MEANIES.

DEC 16 - THE BELOW FREEZING WEATHER CONTINUES. THE MEANIES RETURN AND DOUSE THE FLAMES AND CARRY OFF THE BARRELS!

THAT AFTERNOON, STANLEY IS GRANTED A SPECIAL HEARING BY THE SAME APPELLATE COURT JUDGE, OPPOSING STANLEY ARE THE CITY'S CORPORATION COUNSEL AND THE PARKS DEPARTMENT.

STANLEY SPEAKS PASSIONATELY TO THE JUDGE, "THIS IS A MEAN-SPIRITED ATTEMPT BY THE PARKS DEPARTMENT TO PUNISH THE HOMELESS... BY DENYING THEM MINIMAL HEAT..."

THE JUDGE AMENDS HIS OWN ORDER AND RULES THAT THE PARKS DEPARTMENT CAN NOT INTERFERE WITH THE FIRE BARRELS - THEY WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF POLICE AND FIRE...

AND SO, IN THIS HOLIDAY SEASON, THE HOMELESS OF THE LOWER EAST SIDE THANK COMMISSIONER HENRY STERN AND HIS GREEN MEANIES FOR THEIR GIFT OF WARMTH.

BAM! HUMBUM! THIS IS NOT THE END!

ACT-UP & WHAM | HUNGER STRIKE AT VETERANS' SHELTER

--By A. Bertoli

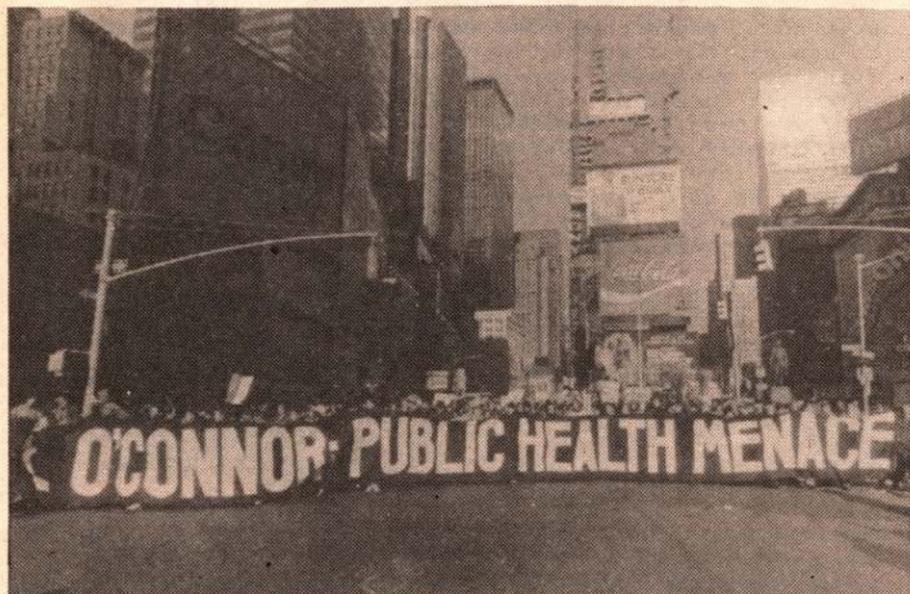


PHOTO BY DAVID SORCHFR

Led by a huge black banner that spanned the entire street with material to spare, proclaiming in bold white print "O'Connor-Public Health Menace", the march seemed more like a celebration than a protest. But then, at 42nd Street, there was more civil disobedience. Protesters sat in the street to block traffic. Police moved in with stretchers. More arrests. Then we were on the move again, escorted by a sea of blue and flashing red lights from cop cars. We had quite a good time playing "confuse-a-cop"-- they would get out in front of us, and the group with the banner would continue moving forward while everyone else would fall back and slip down a side street. It was lots of fun, but the cops always seemed to be there waiting for us on the next Avenue. They've learned how to use those little scooters quite effectively in crowd control situations. They work in formation to control, direct and block access. Those boys sure must practice alot. But in this game of cat and mouse, we were ultimately the victors, for we took our illegal parade all the way downtown, straight through St. Marks Place, and into Tompkins Square Park to join a rally there for the homeless. We lost some people along the way. Some couldn't see the connection between the two demonstrations. thinking them separate issues, not understanding that oppression is oppression no matter who, where or when it is dictated. The issue is not just separation of Church and State. It matters not whether they are together or separate, for they are both instruments of authoritarian oppression. When we entered the park at Avenue A and St. Marks, we were still a hundred strong...very strong!



PHOTO BY MOLLY

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
WHAM/ACT-UP
 (212) 989-1114

On December 27, members of Tompkins Square Park's Tent City and Lower East Side squatters attended a press conference held by residents of the Borden Avenue Veterans' Residence in Long Island City. The press conference was called in order to expose and protest the oppressive living conditions at the shelter, which is run by the Salvation Army (a front for the Mormon church). Many residents told the reporters that were present about the inadequate medical care, religious proselytizing, the arbitrary infraction system used against them, and the atmosphere of disrespect and hostility by staff members, among other things. Their attorney, Norman Siegel, Executive Director of the N.Y. Civil Liberties Union, distributed a statement by the residents which read in part:

"The administration of the Borden Avenue Veterans' Residence has been and is, arrogant, dictatorial, unresponsive and iron-fisted in its treatment of the homeless veteran population...Although homeless, we ask no more than what we as veterans and as human beings are entitled to: protection by the guarantees of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights from arbitrary and capricious violations of our rights."

The statement goes on to list a number of demands, including the creation of a co-operative management structure that would include homeless vets, improved medical care, discontinuance of religious proselytizing, modification of the curfew policy (which further states that the present 10:00 PM curfew for adult veterans "is insulting, arbitrary and embarrassing to grown men"), an end to random drug testing, and calling for an independent audit of the shelter.

Two of the residents who spoke with reporters have been on a hunger strike since December 17. One of them, a middle-aged Hispanic veteran, said of the hunger strike: "I am taking a stand here in this shelter for all homeless vets... I've been on hunger strike for these demands and I'm not turning back." The residents speaking were inspirational and were appreciative of the support shown by the Tent City/Squatter contingent. Some of those present from the Lower East Side were Casanova, John Penley and Frank Morales. Morales said, "even though we are opposed to shelters, we should all support these demands of the vets, particularly those which move toward the vets themselves running the place. After all, until we can move toward mass building occupations (squatting) and the creation of affordable housing, it's only right that the more oppressive aspects of shelter existence be removed."

The last of the residents speaking said that through their actions and commitment, they hope to spark similar protests throughout the shelter system, a system that is genocidal, racist, and an enemy of the human spirit.



Retrospective: 1989

The indispensable function of 'Liberal Deceit'

Of the 101 positions in the book of the *Kama Sutra* illustrating THE WAYS YOU GET ROYALLY FUCKED by the big-bellied Kingpins of latter-day Babylon, none is more delightful than 'WESTERN-STYLE'.

A light breeze stirs the perfumed air. You're on your way to the voting booth. Suddenly! You're seized with an uncontrollable desire! An overwhelming, titanic, inexplicable LUST to vote LIBERAL! SAVE MY BLEEDING HEART! FRIEDLANDER! DINKINS! OO LA LA! You return from the brothel of the voting booth strangely refreshed, a slight smile animating your lips. CARRAMBA! That's what the natives call 'WESTERN-STYLE'!

Now, having been called 'a liberal' by people who couldn't tell a political concept from a roach in an ashtray (the insect variety) I have to point out to my liberal friends (some of my best friends are liberals) the ONUS the word has acquired and the reasons behind this. 'Liberals' are *personas non gratas* simply because people have begun to intuit the KNIFE-IN-THE-BACK ROLE that certain unconscionable freaks of nature have been playing, having made themselves known to the general public as 'liberals'.

So let's take a look at 1989, the 'long hot summer' that just won't fucking stop!

FEBRUARY, 1989

Mob-related arson destroys a squat building under construction at 318 E. 8th Street. *Already planned* for the site is a 'liberal' project, an 100-unit AIDS housing building controlled by Cardinal O'Connor. (you figure it out)

MARCH, 1989

Under threat of a phony Buildings Department demolition order, 'liberals' on the local community board and elsewhere REFUSE to prevent the arbitrary destruction of Tya Scott's building, 316 E. 8th Street, bulldozed on Saturday, April 1st, by MOB-CO DEMOLITION COMPANY. The bulldozer operator points across the street to 319 EAST EIGHTH STREET and says, "That's next". (ask Tya Scott)

APRIL, 1989

Lo and behold! Less than 3 weeks after the little announcement by the bulldozer operator, 319 EAST EIGHTH STREET is set ablaze by arson at 8:00 AM on April 20, 1989. By 11:00 AM (the fire's barely out) a demolition order is filed by the Buildings Department. When later confronted about this, George Sakona, Manhattan Commissioner of Buildings, remarks, "Yeah, I guess it was a little fast".

'Liberal' Chairwoman of Community Board Three, ANN JOHNSON, writes an ingenuous 'letter of support' for RECONSTRUCTION OF 319 EAST EIGHTH STREET to HPD Commissioner Abe Biderman. The next day JOHNSON sends to Biderman a second facsimile letter, "with better wording" considerably weakening the text of the original letter, thus signaling to HPD the completely false and expedient nature of her 'support'. (ask Ann Hayes, secretary, CB3)

TOM BRASWELL, secretary to 'liberal' Councilwoman MIRIAM FRIEDLANDER, continues to be 'unable to reach Miriam' who is somehow 'on vacation' and BRASWELL continues to hem, haw, and BULLSHIT until the day an infantry battalion of 1100 COPS IN FULL BATTLE GEAR arrives on May 2nd, 1989, for a four day seige to protect MOB-CO DEMOLITION crews as they tear apart the heart and soul of the Lower East Side. 'Liberal' MIRIAM FRIEDLANDER suddenly appears saying she 'can do nothing'. "I can't stop it," says 'liberal' Miriam. Cost of demolition, 319 EAST EIGHTH STREET, *between one and two million dollars.*

THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER

The homeless and their genuinely liberal supporters, among others, valiantly fight the Parks Department and the Police for the civil right of the homeless to take shelter on the public commons, Tompkins Square Park, in the face of a Real Estate/Construction Industry/City Government CONSPIRACY to *deliberately restrict NYC housing supply in order to artificially elevate the costs of rents and housing prices to DOUBLE and TRIPLE* affordable levels. 'Liberals' throughout the city continue to maintain their deafening silence on this quite obvious price-fixing game with DEVASTATING HUMAN CONSEQUENCES.

'Liberals' in the local Joint Planning Council, Community Board Three, Cooper Square Housing Office, etc., continue to support a double-speak Housing Plan of BAMBOOZLEMENT that delivers for a song the previously MOB-DEMOLISHED NEIGHBORHOOD to REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT under the laughable pretext that some of these same 'liberals' are going to employ (under the directorship of their own well-paid managerial positions) MOB-CONTROLLED COMPANIES to perform unnecessary gut-rehabilitations on a paltry number of city-owned abandoned buildings (50 buildings is the hoped-for figure here, and I emphasize the word 'hoped-for' though 'fraudulent' is probably more accurate). Price per unit on these 'affordable for whom?' housing renovations is usually \$70,000 to \$100,000. (ask Val Orselli about the Cube building)

That's the situation folks. All vacant lots are being sold to the REAL ESTATE MONOPOLY while some of the money from these sales is being kicked-back in the form of subsidies to the same REAL ESTATE MONOPOLY for high-priced 'rehabilitation' of the few properties that remain in spite of the onslaught of arson/demolition in the past 20 years. They've thrown a bone to the 'liberal' dogs who expect to manage these properties as a demonstration of their 'concern' and 'big-heartedness', etc., while coincidentally employing THE SAME DOGS as small-time bureaucrats to oversee little showcase 'housing fiefdoms of their very own' for which they'll be handsomely remunerated. (JPC, COOPER SQ., RAIN, LESAC, etc.) And this is the kind of fluff and snow about 'affordable housing' swallowed and regurgitated at tonnage levels by the NY Times and similar state-sanctioned media outlets.

Good Cop 'Liberal' Hypocrites vs. the poor and everyone else

In a plutocratic WESTERN-STYLE democracy or "WOW! IT WORKS. LET'S EXPORT IT!"

BY ISSAR

The 'liberal' showcase CROSS-SUBSIDY PLAN (50/50 plan) is a TROJAN HORSE for the enrichment of mob-contractors and 'liberal' bureaucrats and will result in THE FORCED EXODUS OF THE POPULATION OF THE LOWER EAST SIDE. On top of the cake is a sweet icing. Inside of the cake is A BOMB. As Molloy said when he heard that DONALD TRUMP, after the demolition of 316 E. 8th St., had given the homeless Tya Scott a free month at the Chelsea Hotel: 'A LITTLE HONEY COVERS A LOT OF HORSESHIT'.

ALSO THROUGH THE SUMMER OF '89

City-wide 'liberal forces' enthusiastically and unanimously aid and abet the RE-HIJACKING OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT by the 'Charter Review Commission', 15 Koch-appointed clowns including media-star-liberal-stuffed-shirt FRED FRIENDLY (up-your-PENUMBRAE-nose-with-a-fire-hose!!) thus rendering the democratic pretensions of this society into so many particles-of-nether-dew.

SEPTEMBER, 1989

'Liberals' finally achieve orbit velocity by nominating cigar-store statue DAVID DINKINS to mayoral candidacy under the Democratic Party Banner. Euphoria sweeps the city! At last! Gravy train time for black politicians and NOT MUCH ELSE. But I'm getting ahead of myself.

OCTOBER, 1989

Previously unknown, unborn PENUMBRA voodoo-doll KATE 'LIBERAL' WALTERS achieves a lasting place in East Village history by publicly declaring her preference for dog-shit over human beings in the NY Times.

NOVEMBER, 1989

The city narrowly escapes annexation into the Fourth Reich, when Wishful Thinking triumphs over Racial Paranoia and DAVID DINKINS becomes New York's FIRST BLACK MACHINE POLITICIAN 'MAYOR-ON-A-LEASH'. Exciting plans for the inaugural include DAVID'S barking out 'Jingle Bells' on hind legs atop circus drum while Donald Trump, Peter Kalikow, and Sam Lefrak, all dressed as monks, crack red, white, and blue whips across the bare backs of the homeless chained below the stage.

THREE WEIRD MEETINGS

(not one, not two, but three)

'Liberal' Commissioner of Parks, HENRY STERN, (acting through puppet KRISTINA PYRKOWSKA) fails to force Community Board Three to support the destruction of tents in Tompkins Square Park because the targeted meeting (meeting #1) is also attended by approximately 100 voiciferous anarchists, homeless, squatters, etc., on Oct. 19. Being thwarted, STERN calls on 'liberal' (and former Communist/Stalinist) FRIEDLANDER, to cook up another brilliant plan that goes something like this: "FUCK THESE LITTLE SHITS! Let's call a SECRET meeting so these morons can't interfere in The Processes of OUR Government!"

And so it came to pass... Less than 10 days later, the SECRET meeting (meeting #2) is duly called and attended by those laughingly referred to as 'Community Leaders' at the exclusive invitation of 'thoroughly modern' MIRIAM.

Described by the ubiquitous DONNA ELLABY as 'CREEPY MEETING, CREEPY MEETING', the 'creepy meeting' mainly functioned as flypaper to attract and capture certain social service groups who would 'provide the honey on top of the horseshit', being necessary to the maintenance of FRIEDLANDER'S image as 'Someone Who Cares'.

For the befuddlement of the attending gallery of useful idiots, FRIEDLANDER then staged a terrific performance at the secret meeting, (a la Eizabeth Taylor in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolfe?*) by arguing vehemently with Park's Commissioner HENRY STERN over the timing of the crackdown (too close to Thanksgiving). That being taken care of, the only minor detail that remained for the 'government in microcosm' STERN/FRIEDLANDER TAG-TEAM was to inform the public.

Suddenly the word was out. A 'PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING' (meeting #3) was scheduled on Essex Street, November 15th, concerning everybody's favorite subject, Tompkins Square Park. AND WHAT A MEETING! Nearly 500 people filed into the Great Hall. Clouds of smoke rose from great pots of smoldering incense, that burned on either side of the dais where the Vampires were seated, grinning fiercely. "The liquid flames of Hades" reflected upon their faces. Soldiers of the Dead lined the aisles guarding the peanut munching crowd. As The Edict was declared, even seasoned Shadow reporter Issar could take no more. (it could have been the acid)

"As I hurried from that accursed Hall, I suddenly realized that THIS WAS REAL. It was A PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING and we were living... I shuddered at the thought IN TRANSYLVANIA!! (a district of RUMANIA) It was the RUMANIAN MINISTRY OF PUBLIC INFORMATION IN ACTION and I, Issar, had witnessed it..." So ended November. The tents were coming down.

DECEMBER, 1989

A lot of moves were made by both sides in December, so that DECEMBER began to resemble a giant Chess Game being played out for high stakes with the future of hundreds of people hanging in the balance.

FLASHBACK: AUGUST, 1989

Certain persons, fed up with what they know is a deliberate corporate/governmental policy of spatial deconcentration in full swing, decide to take matters into their own hands, by initiating a program of emergency housing for the homeless at the old PS 105 on East Fourth Street. The project is enormously successful for several months until the inevitable POLICE RAID comes down on OCTOBER 26th. 43 people are arrested in the ensuing confrontation, many accused of felony riot charges threatening sentences of up to four years in prison. By December our brave heroes are ready to retake the ABC COMMUNITY CENTER.

DECEMBER, 1989

Events leading up to the liberation of the ABC COMMUNITY CENTER are as follows: Faced with the threatened destruction of tents in the park, certain genius-type 'strategists of the movement' organize a surprise occupation of the office of 'MAYOR ON A LEASH-ELECT' DAVID DINKINS. True to 'liberal' form, as soon as the office is occupied by our brave soldiers, Dinkins-people immediately start 'to negotiate' (read BULLSHIT). By the end of the day, a meeting is scheduled two days hence, on a Friday afternoon, between THE OCCUPATION FORCE and BILL LYNCH, former Dinkins campaign manager, and recently named Deputy Mayor of the City of New York. The meeting takes place, as scheduled, between two and four pm, Friday, December 8, 1989. Attending are members of the city's supine media as well as our own evolving media representatives.

No stone is left unturned at this most eloquent and unusual session. Poker-faced LYNCH appears to suck up the information presented like a sea-sponge, only occasionally allowing the corners of his mouth to curl into an unmistakable sneer. REMEMBER! THIS GUY'S A 'LIBERAL'. CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT! LABOR MOVEMENT! BLAH BLAH BLAH.

Approximately 4:00 PM. Attorney STANLEY COHEN presents in oblique, but unmistakable fashion, the negotiating position coming from Tompkins Square Park: The encampments will be narrowed to specific areas, thus opening the majority of the park to that 'general use' so coveted by the vocal, complaining PRIVATE PROPERTY HOLDERS (minor segment) of the populace. In return for this concession, the homeless expect to be allowed to initiate the proposal of FATHER GEORGE KUHN of St. Bridgid's: OPEN TEN BUILDINGS FOR HOMESTEADING AND RENOVATION BY THE HOMELESS! A few minutes after 4:00 pm, LYNCH'S response is the following:

"I have heard the position".
"I understand it and acknowledge it".
"I will speak with the Mayor-elect".
"I will come to Tompkins Park on Sunday at noon with our answer".

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

The man who in his own words 'did not cop out', liberal BILL LYNCH, fails to arrive at the appointed hour. A phone call to FATHER GEORGE KUHN from Lynch's office reveals the pretext for his absence: CUT FINGER.

CUT FINGER? AYE! CUT FINGER!
And there the rub, boys. LIBERAL MONSTER MORON BILL LYNCH HAS A CUT FINGER! That's why you're being ELIMINATED boys! CUT FINGER!

So... in one swell foop, the highly painted liberal facade shatters, revealing the galling emptiness and treachery of these double-faced freaks for all to see! CUT FINGER!

In response, our brave boys and girls RETAKE the ABC COMMUNITY CENTER on East Fourth Street, December 10th, 1989. Days go by.

Suddenly, PARKS POLICE arrive in Tompkins Square Park, December 14, 1989, and begin brutally demolishing the encampments of those who are really the collective conscience of this society. Rather than allow the destruction of the encampments at the hands of traitors, THE HOMELESS BURN TO THE GROUND THEIR OWN STRUCTURES, thus carrying into the 21st Century the age-old tradition of REVOLUTION and DEFIANCE for all sleepy humanity to see.

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall...

Later events unfolding include a State Supreme Court order enjoining the Parks Department from putting out the barrel fires of the homeless in the park. This legal action has the unintended side effect of delaying the reconstruction of tents because many of the homeless fear to lose both fire barrels and tents in the continuing bitter cold.

As this issue of 'the Shadow' goes to press, the ABC COMMUNITY CENTER is awaiting another police assault, sure to come. Outgoing Mayor Ed Koch has reportedly said, 'It's okay for the police to use violence against these people because they are occupying city property illegally'. In fact, HPD is attempting to steal this property from the people of LOISAIDA so that bureaucrats can speed up the process of forcing the elderly out of rent-controlled apartments and into nursing homes. But will they be able to get away with it?

So... sad, mad 1989 in the Village ends in a draw. Am I wrong? "Though logic-choppers rule the town", ABC LIVES! TENT CITY LIVES! And for the scores of friends, lovers, sisters, and brothers who have together in this year, 1989, taken up arms (the human kind) against 'a sea of troubles', NEVER SAY NEVER! FIGHT ON, BRAVE SOLDIERS! Fight on until the day the Indian Wars have been stopped in their tracks, the Idols of this False Nation have been smashed to pieces, and blind humanity bows before Justice which sleeps in its heart.

ISSAR

Editor's Disclaimer: The author of this 'article' is a paranoid schizophrenic who believes that 'the Mob' is out to get him. All references herein to 'the Mob' are therefore simply the generic ravings of a logical lunatic and should be interpreted as roughly 'the System', 'the way it is', etc.



LETTERS

CONTINUED....

CLAYTON PATTERSON RESPONDS TO LETTER IN SHADOW #6--

I think that there's been a lot of misdirected, counterproductive effort expended by people trying to get a handle on who I am and what I believe. I say it's misdirected because one of the major obstacles to progress in our project, or scene, or movement, or whatever, has been that we are preoccupied with paranoid reverse-elitism directed against people who could be contributing energy and ideas, instead of focusing on the real problems and the real enemies. It's counterproductive because it does half of the cops' job for them. People who pride themselves on having held secret meetings for ten years with an ultra-inside group of three people whom they've known since birth haven't accomplished much, except to keep everything a secret instead of getting the message out where it ought to be. It seems that we're so scared of the authorities that we've let them bully us into becoming ineffectual whisperers of what should be shouted from every rooftop here and in Harlem, in the South Bronx, in Brownsville and in Jamaica. I've tried to be as loud and upfront as possible, and I've spent a month in jail and a month in court for it, but I've gotten the message out through TV and video to a lot of people. If ten or twenty people were willing to make a small sacrifice like that, we'd have ten or twenty thousand new supporters.

To attack me as a capitalist collaborator is pretty much a cop-out. I mean, there are a lot of big, rich, evil assholes out there, and to attack me just goes to show how well-protected they are and how they're so entrenched that they've made themselves invisible. Just because I'm there, showing my face in the park and at ABC, I'm an easy target. Just because they stay at City Hall or in the Upper East Side they're immune, as long as the energy is being expended against me. The billion-dollar boys must think it's pretty funny to see someone with a hundred bucks harpooning someone with five hundred bucks as a capitalist fat cat, while they are reaping another million off some condo development or city tax abatement.

Don't get me wrong; I think we have achieved a lot. We've got a building (ABC), a newspaper (The SHADOW) and a bookstore (Sabotage). We've got support from all kinds of people, worldwide media awareness, and we've put Dinkins under a cloud before he even takes office. We've made the city realize that they can't just come in and take whatever they want from us. We've exposed their lies and their real underlying motives, and we've removed some of the worst cops from the picture, although they've been replaced by others.

I think we need to step up to the next level. We need to take what we've won and really go somewhere with it, to turn it into something positive and something bigger than just a demonstration or a leaflet. Now that the world is watching, we should take the upper hand in choosing the values and structures which determine our lives and the life of our neighborhood.

-CLAYTON PATTERSON

OPEN LETTER TO DAVID DINKINS:

I was in Tompkins Square Park when police in riot gear and the Parks Department moved in (Dec.14). I watched in horror as they destroyed the tents and shanties of the homeless until a halo of smoke and flame shrouded the park. I will never forget the laughing faces of the police officers as they delivered the city's Christ-mess present to the homeless.

I listened to the protestors who shouted, "WAR ON THE POOR" and "GENOCIDE". I remember I used to think they were politically paranoid. I no longer think so. Not after hundreds of police sealed off Eighth Street last year so they could tear down a building. Not after the arrests of 43 people whose crime was to clear a vacant school building of crack dealers and begin renovations on the building. Not after the arrests of three photo-journalists trying to cover a story. Not after the arrests of clergy trying to deliver food to the homeless.

I've heard the city's argument that the parks belong to the people. Are the homeless not people? They are, and they are the most desperate people the city has to offer. I've heard the argument that there are drugs and prostitution in the park. How many drug dealers and prostitutes are homeless? In the many days and hours I've spent in the park, I've never been offered any drug harder than marijuana, and the only flesh extended to me has been a warm handshake.

As I watched the police in outrage, I kept asking myself, "Is this America?" Finally the answer came. A clear and resounding YES. Yes, this is the America where democracy was born and nourished on the blood of nine million Indians. This is the America which gave us slavery and the need for civil rights marches. This is the America whose history is stained with the words Vietnam, Nicaragua, and El Salvador. Tompkins Square Park is clearly a battle ground between the rich and the poor. David Dinkins has chosen to stand on the

side of the rich. He's made his decision by supporting the police action in the park. On the coldest day of the year, his statement that the homeless can stay in the park, but that they cannot build shelters or light fires is a death sentence for them and for the city. David Dinkins has chosen to spend a quarter of a million dollars for his inaugural dinner while on the Lower East Side, fires are being put out, homes are being destroyed, and preists are being arrested for trying to feed people. Mr. Dinkins, if this how you heal a city, the coroner should already begin filling out his autopsy report.

Clayton Brooks

The participation of the RCP/RHO (Revolutionary Communist Party/Revolutionary Homeless Organization) in the ABC Center struggle is rooted in opportunism, is a racist presence, and should be opposed. Their aim is anti-squatting, ie: they do not advocate the take-over of abandoned buildings by autonomous groups, homeless squatters, alienated and angry people. They censor squatter information from their newspaper and leaflets, leaving out squatter-related demands in the ABC struggle, for example. This is in part due to the fact that they have no strategic or ideological desire to really consolidate use of the ABC space. They are not squatters! Their presence in the ABC struggle is only to generate enough attention to lure new members into RCP conformity, to join the party, to buy the "lie in the sky" of armchair pseudo-leftist politics of fantasy. Instead of channeling resources to the repair of buildings in solidarity with the people, the RCP would rather play at squatting, sucking the spectacle denying it's actuality. To deny squatting is to side with the racist promotion of the shelter system.

A. Bertoli

ABC RETAKEN

next few days, rumors abounded as to just when ABC would be hit, but finally, it was revealed that the police refused to evict people from ABC until the HPD could come up with a plan to keep the building sealed.

As the x-mas holidays approached, the people inside ABC, feeling "cabin fever", decided to re-open ABC's doors to the community, cops or no cops. They planned a x-mas party with performers that included Tuli Kupferberg, "Missing Foundation" and other bands. Over 50 people got inside the freshly painted and decorated party room that was once the main shooting gallery in the building when the junkies were in residence. Even when cops finally blocked the doorway, the party went on as people came and went freely from the rear of the building. When Missing Foundation-the only band that made it inside-played to the people inside and outside ABC, fireworks were set off and some bottle-rockets were shot at the cops. At that point, Julian cleared the street and then had the entire block sectioned off with police barriers.

For the next week, police kept the usual car with cops stationed outside ABC as ABC Tent City has been growing. Another party was held at ABC on New Year's Eve, and this time, the 2 cops in their car stayed put, as people came and went freely all night while hardcore bands played. Apparently, there were more important things for the cops to do that night.

In less than a week on January 10th, the ABC Occupational Force will have occupied the ABC Community Center building for 30 days, in which case, the "30 day law" will be in effect, requiring HPD to go through the legal process to get the Community Center evicted, which means that ABC will have several months to prepare a legal defense. Every day the ABC building remains in the hands of the people of the community, the more likely it will stay in the hands of the community!!



MISSING FOUNDATION PLAYS AT ABC X-MAS PARTY

Photo by Matthew Slothower

DOWN BY LAW

ACTIVIST UPDATE...

Beginning with this month's column, Carl Treasurer, attorney-at-large, will periodically provide a brief update on cases and issues of interest to the Movement. The lead story this month is the acquittal of Ray Levasseur, Patricia Gross Levasseur, and Richard Williams following their two-year trial for seditious conspiracy and racketeering:

This case, the longest sedition trial in the history of the United States, involved a ten-year investigation and cost taxpayers millions of dollars. The government alleged that they, and other members of the "Ohio Seven", belonged to the United Freedom Front, a clandestine group which took credit for scores of bombings of corporate, government and military installations to protest United States genocide in Puerto Rico, El Salvador, South Africa, and elsewhere. The Levasseurs, Richard Williams, and other members of the Ohio Seven are revolutionaries who struggled both above and under ground against such policies for over two decades. Despite unlimited resources, wholesale misconduct by the FBI and other police, and a trial which denied the accused their right to expose the criminal activity of the United States at home and abroad, the jury returned Not Guilty verdicts after 21 days of deliberation. As noted in the "Sedition Committee /Newsletter":

"The jury has spoken. They have refused to convict. They have refused to accept the government's bright shining light that the Ohio Seven are criminals and racketeers. We commend the courage of the jury in the face of a very vindictive and politically-motivated prosecution."

As to Richard Williams, he has been returned to New Jersey to stand retrial for the murder of a New Jersey state trooper which he allegedly committed while living underground. Williams' first trial ended in a mistrial after six months of testimony, at a cost of over \$1 million, with most of the jury voting to acquit. He was represented by Lynn F. Stewart who, along with Stanley L. Cohen, will defend him at his retrial scheduled to begin next fall. The retrial is another example of the government's attempt to criminalize and punish those who oppose its policies. When will it ever learn?

Speaking of Lynn Stewart, she had a major personal victory this week in a landmark New York State case. Stewart, the noted revolutionary attorney who represented Larry Davis, was subpoenaed by the Special Prosecutor to give testimony about another client before a grand jury. Vowing to go to jail before she would ever become a "snitch" for the government, Lynn and her attorney, Stanley L. Cohen moved to quash the subpoena in State Supreme Court. After

losing Round 1, they appealed to a higher court which, with a rebuke to the Special Prosecutor and the lower court, ruled that the subpoena could not be enforced while Ms. Stewart continued to represent her client.

Remember the case of Richard Luke, the 25 year old black man who was killed in police custody last May? His death sparked numerous demonstrations in Queens, with members of the Tompkins Square Movement joining the protest. The police claimed, and the Medical Examiner ruled, that he died of acute cocaine ingestion. This finding came as a shock to the Queensboro community who knew Luke well, and to the witnesses who saw him brutalized by the Housing Police that had responded to his mother's 911 call for a medical emergency for her son. Well, the New York State Commission on Corrections handed down its report into Luke's death, after a six-month investigation, during this past week. According to this independent agency, Luke did not die of a cocaine overdose, but as a result of choking to death on his own vomit while being improperly and, perhaps, illegally manhandled and immobilized by a restraining jacket. The Commission's report issued numerous recommendations regarding how police should respond to emergencies; some of these were already in place and ignored by the police who responded to Luke's medical emergency. It looks like the Office of the Medical Examiner will no longer be able to gloss over the countless deaths of Blacks and Latinos at the hands of the police in this City. Remember Michael Stewart, Eleanor Bumpers --- .

Finally, congratulations to the Tompkins Square Legal Defense Committee (see story elsewhere in *The Shadow*), a recently-formed group committed, among other things, to the free criminal and civil representation of the Movement and its members. In recent weeks, TSLDC has successfully represented dozens of the ABC 43 and stopped the Parks Department in its potentially murderous policy and plan of extinguishing fire barrels in the Park. For more information, TSLDC can be reached at (212) 969-0185.

Have a Good Year, and remember: There are those who read history, and those who make it.

In Struggle,

Carl Treasurer

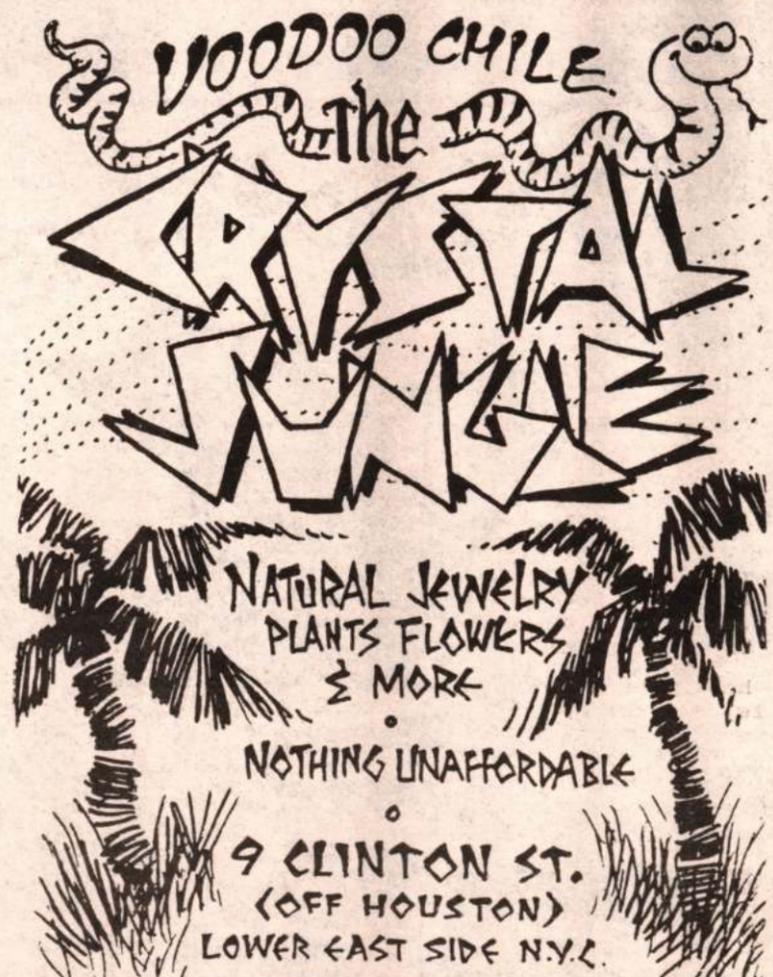
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FIRE BARREL BATTLE

ard Cohen of the N.Y. State Supreme Court, on Jan. 11), members of the community, residents of T.S.P. and local clergy all testified to the long-standing tradition of fire barrels, their safety, and their utterly essential nature. Father George Kuhn writes, "The crisis of homelessness is one which affects the entire city. That the 'shelter' system does not and cannot address this problem is beyond dispute... The fire barrels presently burning in Tompkins Square Park are small in number and essential for the health and life of its residents. They pose no threat to anyone, or any property. They are no different than the hundreds if not thousands of similar barrels which burn every winter throughout this city with the approval of its government and its agents. Though these barrels are not a solution to the problem of homelessness they are essential to the minimal needs of the poor, the homeless and those who work out of doors during this time of year. What distinguishes these eight barrels from the others throughout this city is the Park Department's attempt to impose a destructive short sighted policy without any sound basis in this 10 acre area of New York known as Tompkins Square Park."

Our community's outrage and response must be clear: by reason of insanity the Parks Dept. has shown itself incapable of exercising sound discretion. We can no longer trust or rely upon them. They must be restrained from issuing further ultimatums of death upon the residents of our park. Who's fucken park?

The Tompkins Square Legal Defense Committee defend the rights of those who are involved in progressive struggles on the Lower East Side with a focus on issues of housing and homelessness. They are presenting the lawsuit against the Parks Department in reference to the issue of fire barrels. If you or your organization has seen, used or wish to support the continued use of these life-sustaining, contained fires, please call 969-0185. Or write to them at P.O. Box 20723, N.Y., N.Y. 10009. They will be happy to provide you with further information on what you can do to support the case. The next court date is January 11, so time is of the essence!



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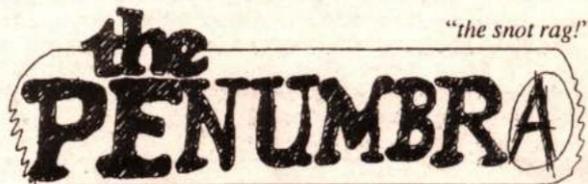
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