

FREE U. IS SAT IN ON

MFU Nest Becomes Peoples' Office

The Washington's Birthday weekend, 1970 was to be quiet and a time for the top brass (of the Free U) to take the weekend off. Fred Nelson went down to L.A., John Dolly spent the weekend relaxing on the beach at Santa Cruz, Phil Trounstein locked himself inside his darkroom, Lesley got stuck with a dead vehicle at Pescadero, and of course the Lovell people did their annual George Washington's Birthday Psychodrama Marathon.

Meanwhile the Free U nest was all mine. I sat on the couch in the front room Saturday morning. I hadn't opened up the place yet and was reading the Chronicle and scratching my butt when I heard knocking at both doors. So I moseyed over to the back door, opened it and saw about 15-20 weekend revolutionaries running around looking for an open window. I announced my presence and they acknowledged my presence and went in the open door.

I asked several of their bunch what was happening. They said that it was all written down on their demands, which they couldn't seem to find anywhere. Then it dawned on one of the prospective young revolutionaries that Tim Gadus had the demands and Tim was locked out the front door, so I opened the front door and Tim Gadus, Jim Mayer and Jack Hawks ambled in, looking kind of like the hip answer to the Fuller Brush Man, each carrying attache cases.

The first case was opened and it contained all kinds of revolutionary posters, with jargon like Free Jim Smith, First Minister of Jerking Off and End National Committee of Prohibition Marijuana Week, or something like that. The second attache case was opened, and it turned out to be a phonograph which got set up and began playing. Most of the records were people like Eldridge Cleaver and John Sinclair yelling about revolution. The third attache case contained things like coffee cans with slits in the top for people's spare change and labels on the side such as "People's Bail Fund", "L.S.D." and "The Revolution."

I was presented with a list of several interesting demands which I read and digested.

The next hour was spent with me working on some of the things I had planned to work on and the occupying forces took care of answering the phones. Gadus even had his people vacuum the floors; when our vacuum cleaner fucked up one of the revolutionary chickies went home and got mommy's. All this while Tim was instructing his forces in the proper techniques for answering the phone; he also occasionally would make decisions like there wasn't enough sunlight in the room and get up and open the drapes.

At about 1:00 o'clock the decision was made to go over to the marathon and present Vic Lovell with their demands for Free U liberation. They made several attempts to type up copies of their demands to take to the marathon. It took a lot of work by Jim Mayer and Ted Rebenstein, but they finally got something



THE FREE YOU

Volume 4 · Number 4

March 3, 1970

tied up and about 10 of the nest's occupiers split for the marathon. A half hour later they came back into the nest, realizing a page of demands hadn't been typed. The demands were packed up and they were off again. An hour later they returned, and I found they were stopped from getting into the marathon by Janelle, but the demands were left for Vic.

So during the rest of the afternoon the White Panthers and I sat around doing our things simultaneously. At around 5:00 o'clock the number of occupiers had dwindled to about 7 or 8 and they then called a planning meeting. The consensus of the group was that the reaction from the Free U they received was a little different from what they expected. Gadus tried to explain that the Free U was run by a small group of radicals, etc., but the group decided to declare the office liberated. The attache cases were packed up. Our final communication was when I asked them if they planned to come back Monday and they told me they had to go to school Monday.

John Milwitt

White Panther Statement

The Free University has been an existing power in our community for quite a while now. In its conception it was presented as a counter-part for state and private universities. The preamble and statements following supposedly explain where the Free University

is at, but is that where you're at?

We, People from the community, feel that the Free University has been falling away from the standards it has set up to help change our society. We realize that new blood has tried to work its way into the Free U, but there still remains the hang-ups of a few who have enough power to keep the Free U separated from reality in the community.



The Free University has not related to or supported the activist organizations which are struggling for change and freedom in our community. No concrete support has been given to any actions taken by these organizations.

It is also apparent that the resources of the Free University are available only to those who can afford to pay for their use. This includes the Free U bail fund which is not available to anyone in the community who gets busted. This does not help keep brothers and sisters free on the streets.

The Free University has virtually no contact with the younger people in the community. Remember, youth makes the Revolution!

Any great philosophical discussions which supposedly abound in the Free U classes never reach the masses, thus the educational system extends no farther than the individual's mind and definitely can't affect the community as a whole.

Thus the Free University must begin now to openly take action in the community on its beliefs and principles as seen in your preamble. This can begin to be implemented by working with us to bring about the following demands:

We demand:

#1 The Free University begin to partake in the actions initiated by the activist groups they claim to support. This would include action with Stanford groups, ecology action groups, the Black Panther Party, high school groups and street organizers.

- Phone tree consisting of connections with various organizations interested. - Would be used to inform groups of any shit coming down on any of the groups also relay information of important meetings, rallies, or benefits.

#2 That the Free University printshop scale it's costs according to the ability of the purchaser. This includes allowing qualified printers to use the presses and any other qualified volunteers the purchaser can bring in to reduce the cost of printing.

-Info should be available to the movement groups about printers and money.

-The printshop be open to bartering with commodities other than money.

#3 That the Free U bail fund be opened to all members of the community on any type of arrest. The

bail fund must not be limited to just Free U people of those deemed worthy of their freedom.

- The Youth International Party (White Panther Tribe of Palo Alto) is at this time setting up benefits to enlarge the bail fund only on the condition that it be open to all the community.

No more brothers and sisters in jail.

#4 The Free University direct their media to more relevant shit that's coming down in the community, in America and throughout the world. - The Free U and Newsletter are relevant only to those who are into the Free U. The articles are not educating people about the rising tide of fascism in our community as well as all of America; it will eventually destroy any deviation from the norms of the running dog imperialist pig lackeys of fascist Babylon.

#5 That the Free University present to the entire community, not just to the hip bourgeoisie, speakers of diverse opinions concerning the crucial issues confronting the people. This includes rallies and discussions which hopefully will bring physical, not merely metaphysical, action from the community.

#6 That the Free University prepare a mailing which will include our demands and the Free U's feelings towards them, and what will be done about them. This should be mailed to all organizations and people on the Free U mailing list. Then and only then will we cease to operate The Peoples Office from the Free U nest.

Hopefully this will be an educational process for us all. We all need to learn more from each other and then we will be able to reach the goal we are all striving for.

FREE HUEY, BOBBY, AND JOHN SINCLAIR

ALL POWER TO THE IMAGINATION,

FREE LOS SIETE, POWER TO THE PEOPLE.

The White Panther Tribe, Youth International Party
Radical Student Union



Meeting The Panthers

The White Panther takeover of the Free U office found me in Santa Cruz, enjoying the sun and attempting to forget Free U business for a day or too. I am sorry that I missed one of the grooviest things that has come down in our office for some time. So I invited the Panthers to come over and rap with me and some other Free U people about their demands. We went through them one by one, discussed our differences, found our common ground and rapped and rapped. Our main theme was working together in the areas in which our goals overlap and to educate each other about ourselves. A lot of energy came out of the meeting and I was impressed with the changes that had come over

them, since my dealings with them last summer. The Palo Alto Tribe of the Youth International Party had matured. They are together, have energy and commitment mingled with responsibility for what they are doing and want to do. Commitment to what? To social change, to education of the people about what is happening in Palo Alto, and in America today.

The greater part of discussion was on demand #3- the question of bail funds. Tim Gadus told us that they would be willing to organize benefits for the fund (only if it were open to non Free U members). We dug it and hoped that together we could make it happen. They agreed to attend Coordinating Council Meetings, will send some representatives to the Editorial Group to keep it informed about other movement groups which the Panthers had contact with and a few of them even took up our invitation to Tuesday Night Psychodrama.

I then asked them about Sinclair Park. The Tribe wanted to have a benefit on January 24, for the National Legalize Marijuana - Free John Sinclair Week. John Sinclair is the National Chairman of the Youth International Party (which is a coalition of the Yippies and the White Panthers), who is currently serving 9½ to 10 years in an Illinois jail for "distribution of pharmaceutical products" (two joints) without a licence. His appeal is being held until a trumped-up conspiracy charge can be cleared in some court or another. The Palo Alto Tribe went to all available facilities looking for a hall for their benefit. Everyone turned them down including the School Board. The Board's reason I found most amusing. Use of school facilities fall under the following priorities, student groups, school groups (PTA), and citizens, under citizens there are three divisions: political, cultural and recreational. The Panthers submitted a letter, upon the board's request, on who they were and what they wanted to do. They were turned down under the judgement that they did not fill any of the three conditions for citizen use. Frustrated by their inability to secure a place for the benefit by following the accepted channels, they decided on the vacant lot next to the Plowshare Bookstore.

About 25 people spent the better part of the two days preceding January 24 in clearing the lot. Garbage was collected to be hauled away, dirt was raked, flowers planted and a set of steps leading into the lot were built. The words SINCLAIR PARK and PEOPLES LAND appeared on the walls surrounding the park and a community bulletin board was installed. Over the weekend Downtown Palo Alto Inc. managed to get a building permit and had a fence put in blocking the park from University Avenue-installed on Sunday night. Tim Gadus's greatest complaint about the park did not stem from the city's action, rather from the street people who walked by told the Panthers what to do, and moved on without putting in any personal commitment. On this point the Free U people could well empathize.

Tim mentioned two things which I found interesting. The Palo Alto Tribe of the Youth International Party is the second most active chapter in the United States, second only to the home office in Ann Arbor, Michigan. And that they are the ones who last summer cleared out and cleaned up the vacant lot behind The Full Circle.

The Panthers are currently planning a benefit on March 14. 50% of the proceeds are to go to the Nariobi Cultural Center, the rest to the bail fund. Further details will be announced in the next Free You.

Jean Tarshis

City Fathers Protest Beer On Circle

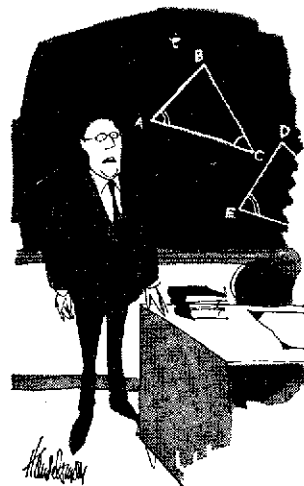
With a couple of hour's notice, Mark Jensen (the manager of the Full Circle), his attorney, and his friend Bob Cullenbine attended the February 16 Palo Alto City Council to speak on the issue of a protest to the ABC over an on-sale beer license.

On one hour's notice, I borrowed a camera and toted my four-year old daughter to the Council Chambers. "It's a meeting", I told her, "so you've got to keep quiet." After watching the Councilmen (sitting on the dais) discuss issues with the City Manager and Planning Staff (sitting in the pit), and the small audience staring at them blankly, Lisa whispered "Daddy, why do they only talk? Can't we talk?" An answer to this question was difficult to procure. "This isn't a Free U meeting, Lisa," I offered. "Only some people can talk." "Why?", she asked.

Someone announced that PG & E was raising the gas rates. Mrs. Dias suggested that the city absorb the \$50,000 increase instead of raising utility bills an average of a dime a month. This led to an unbelievable amount of debate, including the observation that if paid as properly, taxes instead of as a utility payment, Mr. Homeowner could deduct the dime from his income tax! Mrs. Dias lost, so you'd better cut out one coke a month if you live in Palo Alto.

Lisa kept asking why we couldn't vote too. "Let's go up there, ok daddy?" "No Lisa, we have to sit here." She walked to the front stairs anyway, but reconsidered and spent most of the rest of the meeting dashing up one empty row of seats and down the next, swinging her jacket in circles over her head, asking if she could borrow the camera, and going in and out to use the water fountain and the toilet.

Finally, the agenda moved on to booze licenses. The question of an off-sale license for Town and Country Market was first. The Palo Alto uptight School District objected because T & C is near Paly High. With no debate and no time for the owner to register an objection (Lee Bros sold beer and wine



"Some of you students have urged me to teach that bourgeois society is corrupt, so here goes. Bourgeois society is corrupt. Returning now to the question of congruent triangles..."