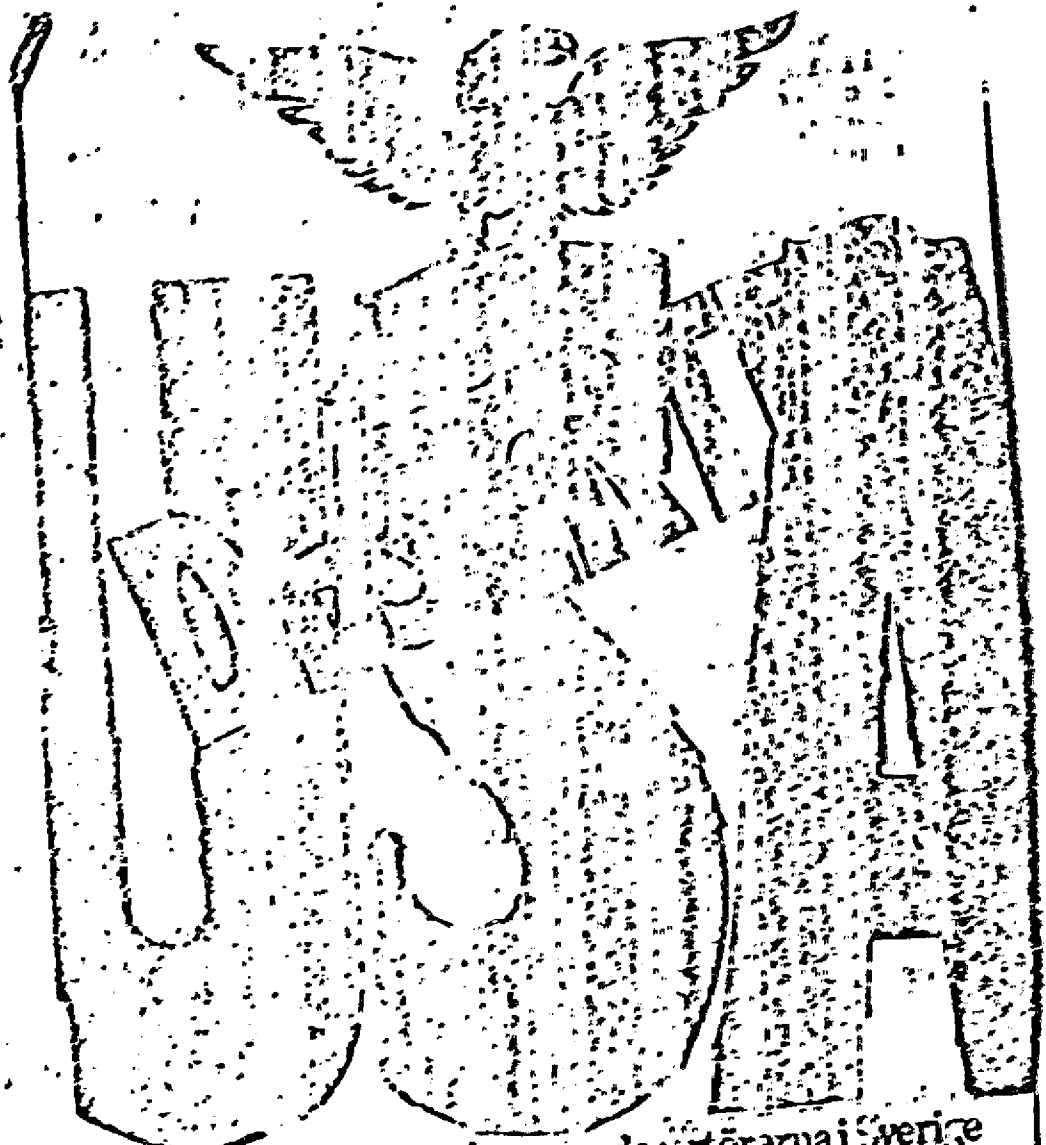


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Date 06/13/88

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# THE PAPER GRENADE

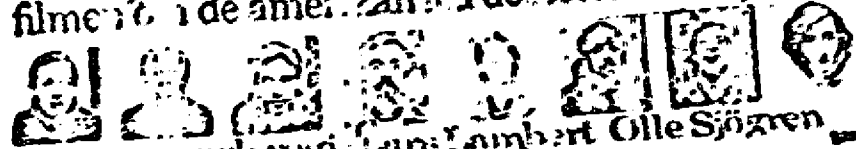
NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN DESERTERS COMMITTEE, UPPLANDSGATAN 18, STOCKHOLM



ISSUE NO. 3

April 4, 1969

filmerna i de amerikanska deserterarna i Sverige



manus och regi: Lars Lambert Olle Sjögren

PREMIERING WED APRIL 16

AT THE CENTRA THEATER

## MONEY AND RIGHTS by Harry Evans

Where are the rights that a man should have but doesn't have? Look at it this way. Big businessmen have power through their money. What they wish becomes law. People who own big businesses say they want friendship with workers. Friendship isn't possible with our present system. One reason is that workers have to work to eat, have housing and plan some kind of future. Big business pushes for profits. Each side is fighting the other, one to live and one for power. The power, for example, to run labor unions for their interests and not for the workers.

I've learned why life for me was so hard to accept. Accepting things that seemed to make people act, think, live and be happy. Happiness gotten by stepping on people who had less. This sucking from people who have less gets carried all the way down the line until it reaches the bottom of society. Thus the people who have the least are forced to be killers, thieves, drunks and drug users. But people are forced to do these things because they think that they're fitting into the society in the only way possible. For example, killing is a way of life for men in the military. Generals think that it's a game of chess. Ordinary soldiers think that it's their duty because they were born into a country or a freedom that, in fact, doesn't exist. Thieves steal in order to make money without working. Drunks exist from pressure put on them by things like worrying about feeding their families. They have the responsibility to make a living not only for themselves but also for their families — but not just to live because society teaches them that they must have "status symbols", like higher priced cars, big wardrobes or going to Church and giving money. THE MONEY PART STANDS OUT MOST OF ALL.

Working for a higher, easier and more satisfying life stops.

Building a classless system was started when America was fought for and won. But people have taken that first step of improvement long ago to end the need of any further improvement. WITHOUT ANY CHANGE, ADVANCEMENT STOPS. The reason: a change would endanger the capitalists' interests, his power to control and his freedom to do as he pleases without being questioned for it. If money no longer existed, he would be forced to live as an equal with the rest of us. He would have to work for what he needed. He would have to treat people that he thought were below him in a fair and honest way.

Drug users come from somewhat the same things. Although a user knows why he is escaping, he also knows that it isn't a one-man job to change things and that if he did speak what he believes in public he would be thrown into jail. The system also causes suicides, neuroses and schizophrenia.

I could go down to the States and maybe after a short time in jail be able to get out and work with the system, make some kind of a living — maybe even a decent one. Except, I will stay here with my beliefs and also act upon them as I learn how to help the most. If I did it the other way, I would probably end up going on drugs like I've done before.

**FILM: DESERTER USA**  
by Don McDonough

Lasse Lazerbert's and Olle Sjögren's film, Deserter USA, will premier April 16, Wednesday night, at the Cinema theatre, Birger Jarlegatan 41.

According to enthusiastic critics, the film is a masterpiece in the James Bond tradition...an artistic interplay of intrigue, drama, humor, and sex.

Deserter USA traces the development of the first handful of deserters into an active political community, through the trials and tribulations caused by so-called Swedish friends, CIA, and the American Embassy. The film also offers a good insight into the significance of desertion to the Swedish political scene. It makes a good case for political asylum, but of course, ending with the question of political asylum still unanswered.

More skeptical critics say the film is at least good for a few laughs, thanks to the presence of some real live deserters on camera.

It is important that this film have high attendance figures on the first few evenings, as the figures determine how widely the film will be shown in Sweden. Free tickets will be available at the ADC office. Get your ass down here.

Speakers Bureau by Vince Strollo

Since an important part of our work depends on the Swedish people becoming aware of what we are doing here in Sweden and all the details of our deserting what? where? how? etc. we have seen the need to start what we call the Speakers Bureau

Ever since the ADC started we have been going out to speak with the people in many towns throughout Scandinavia, but since the beginning of our political asylum campaign which has put desertion in public spotlight in Sweden we have been getting more and more invitations from all types of organizations to speak at their public gatherings.

In the last issue of the Paper Grenade there were articles about trips during Deserter Week. In the next issue we'll have some article on the upcoming Vietnam Week. We have been invited to speak in more than 20 towns throughout Sweden and Norway

These speaking tours are really important because they establish the much needed contact with the people in the countryside. It is also important because we are able to sell our publications at these meetings thereby spreading even more information and making a little bread at the same time.

We would like to have the cooperation of all of you in regard to the Speakers Bureau. So if anyone would like to travel off to the countryside for a few days (or possible to a school right here in Stockholm) please contact me C/O A.D.C. Upplandsgatan, 18 Stockholm. --All expenses are paid by the inviting organization.

Some of the places the guys are going are listed below:

Hedemora and Avesta -- Joe Augustine      Södertälje -- Rod Ruth  
Hälsingborg, Ängelholm, Svalöv, Lund -- John McLoughlin  
Borlänge -- Lou Simon      Göteborg -- John Woods  
Kiruna, Malaberget, Jokkmokk -- Ray Krizminsky  
Katrineholm -- Don McDonough      Luleå -- John McLoughlin

Feb. 6, 1969

**J. S. MASS MEDIA DISTORT LEGAL STATUS OF DESERTERS' IN CANADA**

by the American Deserters Committee

Since the formation of the American Deserters Committee in Montreal was made public with the issuing of the December Manifesto (see Paper Grenades 1 or 2) followed by publication of stories in the GUARDIAN and LIBERATION NEWS SERVICE in January, establishment media have attempted to obfuscate the legal status of American deserters in Canada so as to counter the increased flow of deserters from the war in Vietnam. This attempt has focused around the distortion of changes recently made in policy by the Immigration Department in Canada to make it appear that Canada is closed to deserters.

The changes, noticed with alarm by some counseling groups in Canada for the last six weeks, first were publicly acknowledged in a story in the Toronto GLOBE AND MAIL on Thurs. Jan. 30th which quoted Bill Spira, head of the sub-program dealing with deserters, connected with the Toronto Anti-Draft Program. In the article, Spira charged that the Immigration has suddenly changed its policy and was discriminating against deserters at Ontario land borders.

The article quoted James Cross of the Immigration Department as acknowledging that on July 29th 1968 a memorandum was sent around to immigration officers advising them that they could take the fact of desertion "into account" but that desertion was not sufficient legal grounds to deny immigrant status. In fact, Cross denied that deserters were banned from Canada and stated that they could not be deported to the U.S. What he did say was that great latitude was given to immigration officers in interviewing immigrants. This twisting of the law, which the ADC considers illegal, does not constitute the end of safety for deserters in Canada as the Friday Jan 31 TIMES article would seem to indicate. In fact, Cross said, "There's no legislation which would permit us to refuse landed immigrant status on that basis (of being a deserter) alone. The TIMES article omitted all the positive factors concerning the current status of deserters in Canada which were revealed in the GLOBE AND MAIL article. Spokesmen for the ADC report that they received a phone call from the TIMES Toronto Bureau on Thursday Jan. 30th and that an office worker who spoke to the reporter informed him that the problems encountered recently in Ontario at land borders had not manifested themselves in cases known to the ADC in Montreal, that contrary to the assertion that no one had received final landed immigrant papers in the last six weeks, Robert MacLeod of the ADC had received his in December in an unusually short period of six weeks. Nor did the ADC know of any cases where a deserter had failed to pass his points assessment (50 out of 100 points on the immigration scale are necessary to immigrate). The only problems the ADC knew of were delays in the granting of work papers. This information was not included in the TIMES article. The office worker suggested that the TIMES reporter call back later to speak with the head counselor of the ADC for more exact information. The reporter responded that he had a story to set out and couldn't bother to call back.

The Montreal STAR's coverage on Feb. 1 of the same policy changes emphasized the positive aspects in regard to status of deserters in Canada. In a story by W.A. Wilson of the STAR's Ottawa Bureau, entitled Deserters Find Homes in Canada a spokesman for Manpower and Immigration Minister MacEachen was reported to have outlined the policy as follows: "If an American soldier on leave comes to Canada and then decides not to return to his unit he becomes a deserter under American law but this country (Canada) will do nothing to return him to the U.S. authorities. The reason is that to do so would indirectly extend the application of US laws into Canada. In the case of this man, an application for landed immigrant status would be considered with no reference to the fact that he was an American deserter. If he was eligible to stay in the normal way he could do so.

his own government and there would be no suggestion of extra-territorial application of American laws." In such cases the deserter would probably be denied entry.

This report from the Montreal STAR jibes with reports the ADC receive earlier from informal sources within the Department. It clearly explains the source of the crisis in Ontario where most deserters apply at land borders rather than at internal offices of the immigration department in major Canadian cities.

It is clear also that this policy indicates that the Canadian government is bending to the pressure of the American government. It makes immigration more difficult for many deserters because they forfeit 10 points for pre-arranged employment, for which they are eligible only at points of entry. Thus a deserter now in reality must get 50 out of 90, a difficult problem in some cases where educational or skill levels are low. The delay in the granting of work papers may be another way to discourage deserters from remaining in Canada. ADC spokesmen feel that these problems should be countered by legal measures and by mobilization of popular support. They argue that deserter-immigrants have the right to work as any other qualified immigrant.

Alarmist reaction to this situation is as yet uncalled for. Deserters are safe within Canada. They will not be extradited, deported or denied immigration at internal application centers provided they qualify.

#### THE NEW REFUGEE CAMP

by John McLoughlin

The Swedish government has set up a refugee camp for American deserters. Mr. Poole, a social worker from Arbets Försädlngen, will run the camp which is a one-hour drive from Uppsala. We will be given a room in a barrack-type building, fed three times a day, be given 3 kr./day for spending money (no more cigarettes, we guess) and will study Swedish for 6 hours a day. Once we learn Swedish we will be placed in jobs. Thus, the authorities claim that this camp will help us to adjust to life here in Sweden.

The real purpose of the refugee camp is to break the morale of the deserters. We met a Swedish man who came from the area of the camp and he described that region of Sweden for a camp as being like Siberia. Because this camp is so isolated, new deserters will want to go back to the Army. This is exactly what the Swedish authorities have been hoping for ever since we got here. They've systematically tried to keep us without jobs, job-training, housing and security so that we would get depressed and either turn ourselves in or be forced into crime (so that they could ship us Stateside). But now the authorities are scared because we've built up massive support for us deserters from the Swedish people, so this camp is just their new tactic to make the Swedish people think that the government is helping us at the same time that they're actually breaking morale.

When a deserter arrives he wants to meet other deserters who have been here for awhile so that he can find out what to expect. He doesn't want to be shuttled off to a camp away from his brothers. He wants to talk to other deserters so that he can understand more clearly the meaning of desertion.

The real danger of the camp is that after guys desert together, they will sprinkle us all over Sweden. Say three guys desert together. One wants to be a printer, one wants to be a carpenter and the third wants to go to the university. After the camp, they'll send the printer to Umeå, the carpenter to Göteborg, and the university student to Lund. The camp is aimed at destroying our community and isolating us from each other.

If the Swedish government is really interested in helping us out, why don't they give us job training in the center of our community? Why don't they help to support the ADC farm. If they're really interested in giving us security in Sweden, helping our future and recognizing our support among the Swedish people, why don't they give us an asylum?

# THE PAPER GRENADE

NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN DESERTERS COMMITTEE, UPPLANDSGATAN 16, STOCKHOLM

ISSUE NO 4



this is not the presidio

this is the ams camp near uppsala

**Stockade Prisoners Organize**

100-454113-7

## THE NEW STOCKADE

Mr. Holmquist in his communique in February stated, "The deserters and draft resisters will get security to remain in Sweden by assimilation projects which will create the possibilities for them to settle down here" and he promised us lectures in Swedish. Well, he has begun his assimilation project and Swedish lectures.

The project is the camp outside of Uppsala -- far enough away so we can only assimilate small amounts of Sweden at one time.

The camp, as you know, was supposed to be a voluntary basis, what kind of choice do we have?

On Tuesday five deserters experienced the voluntary choice of going to the camp. They went to the social bureau to get money for food, but when they showed the bureaucrats their work permits, they told them to go to Arbetsförordningen. When they spoke to Fru Thurberg she said that they couldn't get money for going to Swedish school in Stockholm, that the only place where they could learn Swedish was at the camp. Some choice -- starve, take to crime or prison. Of course, they told her to shove the camp.

The camp is failing; no one wants to go there--to be removed from society--so the Swedish authorities are trying to force us into going. How does Mr. Holmquist expect us to be assimilated into society while we are isolated?

It's great to have a place to live when we first arrive and find to learn Swedish but the class lasts 6 hours a day, what the fuck are we supposed to do the rest of the day in Siberia? Build snowmen? Jerk off? They have even stated that all political activity is forbidden. In Stockholm we are able to meet other deserters which eases the tensions we feel upon arriving and meet many Swedish people -- especially chicks.

The bureaucrats argue that Uppsala is only an hour's car ride away and a bus passes the camp frequently. THREE CROONS A DAY DOESN'T GO THAT FAR! This camp is a prison--the Swedish stockade. No barbwire, no gun towers, no restrictions -- just isolation and plain fucking boredom.

The camp can only depress the hell out of anyone there and break them down and cause them to return to the States -- to the real prisons.

We have to get the camp shut down. We didn't come here to be isolated and broken down, and the men that come every week aren't coming to be confined and removed from society. We came here to live and voice our protests against the Vietnam war, against America and against things like this camp. We came here to be free from being ordered and coerced into obeying the authorities orders. We have to join together and struggle against the camp and anything else like it that may arise. We have to put our demands before the Swedish people.

If the Swedish government really wants to help us they should give us a job training program where we can learn Swedish at the same time that we learn a skill. And this should be in the center of our community. The authorities should help us find some sort of community housing here in Stockholm. Most important of all, they should grant us political asylum, because only when we have real security can we keep our identity as American exiles at the same time that we can establish a stable base here in Sweden.



## DESERTERS GETTING BLACKMAILED

by  
John Woods

Last Friday I finally got my passport and working permit and so I went to my social bureau and they told me there was nothing more they could do for me. So the lady at the social bureau called another lady at Arbetsförmedlingen. I told her that I wanted to start Swedish school at TVB or some other school in Stockholm. She told me that TVB and the other schools were no longer paying deserters to go there and that I had to go for this new crap the government started north of Uppsala.

She said that if I didn't go all social aid would be cut off and I would get no money. But she also kept saying over and over "the camp is voluntary". So I ask you is this blackmail or not? They are trying to wreck our whole deserter community and brothers are we going to let them do this after all the work and struggle we have went through to build it. And about this concentration camp all I can say is, "HELL NO I WON'T GO."

### CALL FOR ACTION

As stated in the Dagens Nyheter last week the camp for deserters is now fully functioning with complete attendance of 25 deserters. At least this is what the Swedish public has been lead to believe. In speaking with Fry Anderson in Uppsala Yesterday (4.10.69), he related the true facts about the attendance and the conditions of the camp which he was at. They are as follows:

1. There are only three deserters at the camp, and they are himself and two others.
2. The camp's only interest is in teaching the Swedish language and nothing more. (What desolation!)

I think we need to take a little action fellows!

Chuck Gunn

### WHAT'S THE ACTION?

We in the ADC have decided to start another massive campaign to the Swedish people. Back in January when six of our community were being threatened with deportation, we were able to create a large support among the Swedish people, not only for cancelling the deportations but also to inform them about our need for political asylum. So, now we are going to launch a second campaign based upon our need to be considered political refugees (so that we will be secure here in Sweden) and our opposition to the ADS camp near Uppsala. There's going to be a hell of a lot of work to do, so keep in touch.

## OSLO REPORT

by John McLaughlin and Don McDermough

The first steps in opening up Norway to deserters were taken last week on Friday April 18, when we spoke on behalf of the deserter movement at a well-publicized and well-attended Deserters Meeting in Oslo. The meeting was part of Norway's Vietnam Week, sponsored by SolCom (Solidarity Committee for Vietnam), a front organization very similar to Sweden's DFPG (FML groups).

SolCom functions under these four slogans:

- Full Support to FML
- USA out of Vietnam
- Fight U.S. Imperialism
- NATO out of Norway

and this last slogan tells the difference between Sweden and Norway. NATO means NP's to most of us, and since our visit was sort of a trial balloon sent up by the ADC, perhaps it is best to discuss first the security measures taken by SolCom, the results, and what they indicate.

According to SolCom, the danger of us being picked up by NP's was very slight, since NP's are present in Oslo only when a U.S. fleet lands. SolCom had two worries: the Norwegian police and reactionaries. Our visit was purposely well publicized to test how both groups would act, and SolCom was ready to fight both. If the police picked us up, they would probably do no more than to return us to Sweden, but this would indicate the determination of the Norwegian government to keep deserters out. If the reactionaries attacked us, it would indicate a rather strong public opinion against us which might influence the government, since reactionism tends to be widespread in Norway. For instance, the possibility of physical attack by reactionaries was very real in our case because they have made a practice of trying to break up SolCom's Vietnam Weeks by means of force.

SolCom, a highly militant and effective organization, took no chances. Every precaution was taken in crossing the border. From the moment we hit Oslo we were surrounded at all times by an armed bodyguard of 15 specially trained cadre. Every move was planned in detail: we travelled around the city in a convoy of four cars, and patrols with walkie-talkies were stationed outside every place where we were taken. We were hustled into the Deserters Meeting location through a guarded back entrance, were removed immediately after our part of the program, and were on our way to the border before the meeting was over. SolCom really has it's shit together.

Fortunately, this well-oiled defense machine never had to function in its primary role. Judging from this lack of harassment, and from the enthusiastic response of the people (every seat of the 500 seat hall we spoke in was filled, with people lining the back wall and entrances), the government's attitude and public opinion is far more favorable than imagined. However, we are waiting for SolCom's evaluation and recommendations before we begin planning for future actions in cooperation with them.

SolCon provided excellent contact with the media. We were interviewed by two newspapers and by Norwegian TV for a ten minute segment in a program May 2. One of the interviews and our speeches at the meeting were filmed by a local film group. Reporters from both radio and TV plan to contact us in Sweden for further coverage.

In general, we tried to build solid support for the desertion movement on political rather than humanitarian grounds, both among the activists and the general public. We stressed desertion as an important anti-imperialist tactic, and urged support for the movement (especially by getting it into Norway) as a way of fighting US imperialism. We identified with the growing sentiment against NATO by emphasizing that the presence of deserters in Norway would be a victory in the fight against NATO. As far as we could tell, these lines were understood and well received.

At this time, it is still too difficult to say how far or near in the future is the time when we can send deserters to live in Norway. Even when that time comes, NATO and reactionism will certainly continue to cause some problems for deserters. But those deserters will find that this rather negative political climate has given rise to a fantastically strong and significant movement on the left, as exemplified by SolCon. The desertion movement belongs in Norway.

#### SOUTH OF SWEDEN by John McLoughlin

During Vietnam Week here in Sweden (April 7-13), I went to three towns in the south: Angelholm, Svelov and Kalsingberg.

I spoke about repression in the Army and the work of the ADC. I also showed the film TIME OF THE LOCUST which is about Vietnam. After the speech and movie a discussion was held. Some of the things discussed were the U.S. military, the government in the States, imperialism, the Vietnam war, our need for political asylum, the situation of the deserters in Sweden, France and Canada.

In Kalsingberg a man stood up in the audience and spoke about how other exiles are granted political asylum and that we should also be granted it.

In short, the tour was a valuable exchange of ideas and information as well as a means of gaining the support and understanding of more people.

#### DESKRIBER BOK by Dick Bucklin

The ADC is preparing a book. The idea for a book with the life stories of deserters has been in the wind for about a year. Finally, last December the book was launched. Its purpose is to show what a deserter is by tracing his class background, his growing-up years, his military life, his desertion and his life in Sweden. We hope the resulting book will throw some life on the mystery -- what is a deserter?

To many people back in the states both inside and outside the Movement, deserters are indeed a mystery. For our friends still in the military this book will be the first opportunity to read the truth about us because the book will be written by us. This knowledge (detailed descriptions of how we deserted) widely distributed among the troops will be very damaging to the U.S. Army. And for the general public, our stories in our own words will show what a deserter really is and not what the press calls us — social misfits and drug addicts. Also, the book is intended to give insight to the American left about us. There is an aspect about our community which is unique. Many of us are from the most exploited segments of American society. What is unique? We are radicals. It is this deserter the book is mostly about. Why? The American people want to know how we become radical.

Also there will be a special edition printed in Swedish which will be very instrumental in our campaign to gain support for political asylum. We understand that only when the Swedish people are behind us will the government be forced to grant us the political asylum we deserve. The book will show that desertion is first and foremost a political act and that we are political refugees. And also, it will show that deserting was not our last influential act. The book, tracing the development of our political conscience, will illustrate our profound determination to continue fighting the monster which is America.

As of this date the manuscript is about half finished. But because of the experience thus far gained, the second half is expected to come out faster. Hopefully, the English edition will be ready for publication around the middle of summer. All deserters who are interested in being interviewed for the book can contact the ADC. Make arrangements with either Dick Bucklin or Don McDonough for an interview. Also, there is a pound of typing needing to be done during the course of each draft so if you have a typewriter and want to help out, come down to the ADC office.

#### WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU EXPECT ?

The Pentagon is up against the wall with 53,000 deserters last year and is unleashing its arsenal of intimidations and slander to forestall the escalation of the desertion movement. What the brass has to say about us could have been predicted but as Jan Myrdal points out, the Alien's Commission may be implicated in this gross distortion of our movement. If what the brass says is true then there is sufficient evidence to show the direct complicity of a Swedish governmental agency in US imperialism's attempts to hold the army together. The brass refers below to interviews that embassy officials supposedly had with deserters. As far as we have been able to discover this is a blatant lie.

EXPRESSEN; Tuesday, April 15, 1969

Pentagon to Expressen: We should like to tell the truth about the deserters in Sweden. (New York-Expressen)

The American deserters in Sweden are a sad collection—says Pentagon. The Ministry of Defence has spent some thousand dollars to investigate the backgrounds of the deserters, the reasons why they ran away, etc. Of course the Pentagon was not exactly dissatisfied when it found thieves, embezzlers, etc. among the 116 army soldiers who are now in Sweden. One spokesman for the Pentagon said to Expressen: "We made the research to pulverize the untruthful picture of the deserter as a young man of high ideals, who fled because he detested the war in Vietnam. The majority choose

Sweden of quite other reasons. Most of them have difficulties to accept in general.

The spokesman, Colonel Stevens, said that the material had been gathered by the American Embassy in Stockholm, mainly through interviews with deserters. They have also gone through the records of the units and:

"That authority in Stockholm -- I think it is called the Aliens Commission -- has been very helpful.

The typical Army deserter (there are also pilots, marines, and seamen in Stockholm) is 22.7 years old, Pentagon says.

His education was interrupted after he had gone through high school. He comes from a highly populated state and has never had any job when he enlisted, neither has he had any job training in any civilian profession. Of the 116, 59 have had no experiences of a civilian job. Only 39 of them (th. 116) stated that the Vietnam war was the reason for their desertion. The rest of them did not have any political interests at all. 56 of them have had trouble with their command during their time in the army. In most of the cases (38) the question was AWOL. Nine of them were convicted for abuse of drugs, mainly marijuana. Six of them ran away because they had big debts, in one case over 25,000 Swedish crowns. Eight more have been convicted for stealing up to 3,000 crowns.

In several cases the deserters said that they had been persuaded to go to Sweden by their non-American wives.

Most of them have never even been to Vietnam and in many cases there was no risk that they should get any front service at all.

Instead of a young idealist the deserter is a young man with difficulties to adapt in general, a thief, a drug addict, or a cop-out. According to the Pentagon.

AFTONBLADET, Thursday, April 17, 1969, Impresset, Jan Myrdal.  
 HAS THE ALIENS COMMISSION  
 COMMITTED A CRIME?

Pentagon has published a "research" about the Vietnam war resisters from the U.S. in Sweden. According to the press, Pentagon has done this in order to "pulverize" the picture of the deserter.

According to Colonel Stevens from the Pentagon, the material has been gathered with the help from the U.S. Embassy in Stockholm.

According to the same sources the Aliens Commission has been very helpful. This means that Colonel Stevens in the Pentagon is accusing Swedish officials of crime against Swedish law 19:9. For this crime they can be punished with prison up to two years. Colonel Stevens also accuses them of crime against 20:3. For this they can be punished with removal from office and prison up to one year.

It must be cleared up whether the colonel is lying or if the officials have committed a crime. It must not be like the last time when the investigations took place when the big power nation that incites the criminal act loses a world war.

## BRASS KIDNAP BLACK GI TO VIETNAM

The U.S. military, in an escalation of its repression of anti-war resistance in the armed forces, had a black soldier who planned to refuse duty in Vietnam kidnapped to the war zone last month.

"Pvt. Isaac Barr, a 26-year-old black GI and member of the American Servicemen's Union," reported Andy Stapp, chairman of the ASU, "was shanghaied to Vietnam Monday, March 17, from Fort Lewis, Washington." According to the ASU spokesman, the union brother had been forced onto a plane by six armed sergeants. His exact whereabouts are still unknown, but the ASU believes that he is now with the 90th Replacement Co. at Dien Hoa in Vietnam.

Pvt Barr, who lives in Brooklyn now, was called for induction by his South Carolina draft board just 2 days before his 26th birthday, when he would have been ineligible for the draft. He applied for conscientious objector status after receiving orders for Vietnam. His CO request was supposed to freeze his orders to Vietnam until a decision had come down on the petition. Nevertheless, the army, apprized of his intention to refuse Vietnam duty, forcefully had him shipped off. The ASU only got word of the kidnapping through a message Pvt Barr was able to telephone to his sister from Hawaii, en route to Vietnam.

Andy Stapp of the ASU commented on the new tactic, "This is one more racist crime of the brass against those GIs who are resisting the imperialist war and the military."

Stapp said too that the army had tried to do the same thing to another black GI who wanted to refuse Vietnam duty. Jim Ghent was being forcibly taken to a plane at Fort Dix on October 11 for shipment to Vietnam. He broke away from his guards and in his attempt to escape, dove through a glass window, badly cutting his face and arm. No medical attention was given Ghent for several hours despite the fact that he was bleeding seriously from the head. This time, however, the army's attempt to crush opposition to the war among black GIs by forcing them to go to Vietnam, failed. Ghent escaped from the army hospital at Fort Dix and the army has not heard from him since.

When speaking of the repression within the army against attempted resistance, Stapp said that he viewed us deserters in Sweden as the logical end result of his work with the ASU. Now more than ever, resistance within the military is impossible, and desertion is the only real alternative for the soldier who refuses to go to the Nam or to the stockade.

## VIETNAM NEWS

The National Liberation Front's spring offensive went into its fifth week (March 29) with battles raging all over South Vietnam and U.S. casualties mounting steadily. Latest Pentagon figures bring to 1140 the number of U.S. soldiers killed in combat since the offensive began.

President Nixon ordered Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker to come home from South Vietnam and speculation in Washington grew that the administration was on the verge of a major decision either in response to the enemy offensive or on its negotiating tactics.

The U.S. Commander in South Vietnam, Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, announced March 18 that the NLF offensive had been successfully contained. In the same week as his announcement, according to the New York Times, a column of U.S. armored vehicles was ambushed 16 miles south-west of Kontum; heavy fighting continued between U.S. and NLF units 43 miles South of Danang; and a battle raged in Dienban, 10 miles south Danang on Route 1, Danang's only link with the south. The attack on Dienban occurred at the same time a U.S. infantry unit's overnight camp was attacked by the NLF 13 miles to the west.

U.S. troops clashed with Vietnamese forces 50 miles northwest of Saigon, where the NLF attacked the landing zones of the U.S. soldiers. The site is one of a string of patrol lines blocking infiltration routes to Saigon.

In Quinhon, NLF forces set fire to a U.S. fuel storage area. The American command reported March 23 that the 1020th U.S. helicopter had been shot down, 11 miles north of Tay Ninh.

Three NLF divisions steadily advanced from the Cambodian border to positions closer to Saigon. The New York Times said allied intelligence was unsure whether these troops are headed to Saigon, or may turn and attack some of the provincial capitals such as Tay Ninh, or even the U.S. Army headquarters at Long Binh.

The following U.S. casualty figures are based on government statistics. They are lower than those claimed by the NLF. The first figures cover the war from Jan. 1, 1961 to March 15, 1969. The figures in parentheses show increases from March 8 to March 15, 1969. No figures were available last week for "noncombat" deaths and missing and captured.

Killed: 48,063 (351) "Noncombat" deaths: 5375 Wounded: 207,583 (1401)  
Missing, captured: 1274.

#### J.D.C. OFFICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Every Weds. eve night at 7:30 there is an open meeting in the J.D.C. office we encourage you all to attend.

The J.D.C. has started a scripbook of newspaper articles which pertain to the desertion movement and resistance in the Army. You are welcome to use it whenever you're in the office. If you come across any articles you'd like to please forward it to us or if you are keeping your own scripbook please send us a photostatic copy.

If you need help in findin' housing, or in gettin' a job or if you need medical or legal assistance or if you have to go to the authorities contact The J.D.C. office.  
Tel. -34 45 63

## DESERTER USA

The results of the deserter film, "Deserter USA", have been very encouraging. It was released on April 16th at the Cinema Theater (Birger Jarlegatan 41) and it will continue to play there until April 30th. At that time it will be released to other theaters in Stockholm. The purpose of the film is to reach a larger segment of the Swedish population with information on the work we in the ADC are doing, our goals and needs (mainly POLITICAL ASYLUM!) for the deserter community.

After each film showing, Second Front Reviews were sold which further explained our need for political asylum. Because of the reaction by the audience to the film, sales were fantastic. Over 1500 copies were sold during the first week!

Reviews made by film critics of the major Stockholm newspapers (Dagens Nyheter, Expressen, and even Svenska Dagbladet) were extremely favorable. For example the film critic who wrote in Dagens Nyheter acclaimed the film as the most important film made in the last six months. In addition there have been programs on Swedish radio and television commending the film.

Because of the good publicity more and more people want to see the film and more theaters want to show the film. For example, this week the film premiered in Uppsala and Eskilstuna, and will soon be released all over Sweden. On a more international perspective, distribution of the film is planned for other countries in Europe. In addition, a special version of the film will be seen in the US!!

"Deserter USA" will be extremely effective in combating the establishment media's propaganda against the deserters. The truth needs to be told! The real stories of deserters, their situations, political aims and positions must be presented to people of Europe and America. Though this film deals mainly with the problems the deserters faced in the first months of organization, it is the first step, (perhaps a forerunner of many more films in the future which will be produced by the deserters themselves through D.A.M.I., our own radical film project), in bettering the image of deserters so that we may continue our work against US imperialism.

- Rod Ruth

DESERTION  
from the Guardian

The Washington Post reported March 7 that a subcommittee of the Senate Armed Services Committee has criticized the military for "showing too little concern about desertions, which increased last year to 53,357 cases, the equivalent of three and one half combat divisions" (or one tenth of our Vietnam force). "Last year's rate of desertions in the Army, where most occur, was 29.1 per 1000 men, compared with 21.4 in 1967" a 36% increase.



FT. JACKSON GIs ORGANIZE AGAINST VIETNAM WAR

by Randy Foret from the GUARDIAN

Trouble is slowly becoming the rule rather than the exception here at Ft. Jackson. This sprawling military base on the outskirts of Columbia has been the scene, in recent months, of what by Army standards might be considered a wholesale revolt in the ranks. A group of GIs hold weekly antiwar gatherings in the Army barracks. They claim nearly 150 followers. Last month some 60 soldiers staged a company formation against the war, complete with drum-roll outside the barracks. On a late winter night in Jan. an entire battalion of infantrymen had to be shipped out to Vietnam under armed guard after 60 infantrymen went AWOL the evening before.

STIFF PENALTIES

Regulations are stiff at Ft. Jackson. So, usually, are the penalties. In Feb., Pvt. Tommy Woodfin was arrested for circulating a petition from GIs United, the antiwar group on the base. The petition requests permission to hold a meeting of antiwar GIs to discuss the moral and legal implications of the Vietnam war as well as recent harassment. Several soldiers have been thrown in the stockade for political activity.

Base commanders refused the petition, and Woodfin was given a summary court martial.

How far the movement can go here is an open question. Pvt. Joe Miles, one of the initial leaders has been transferred to Ft. Bragg, North Car. Another will soon get a discharge. Several organizers are in the stockade. One activist, Pfc. Paul Gordon, is being shipped to Vietnam. Four Ft. Jackson soldiers, including three members of the movement's leadership, have been arrested.

A TEST

WHO SAID:

The streets of our country are in turmoil. The universities are full of students rebelling and rioting. Communists are seeking to destroy our country. Russia is threatening us with her might and the republic is in danger.

Yes, danger from within and danger from without. We need law and order. Without law and order our nation cannot survive.

Elect us and we shall restore law and order. We will be respected by the nations of the world for law and order. Without law and order, our republic will fall.

- a. Nixon 1960
- b. Humphrey 1968
- c. Wallace 1968
- d. Hitler 1932

IT ISN'T A, B, or C.....