

[July 1968]

THE NINE FOR PEACE

support letters to our nine brothers and to their parents would be much appreciated... also...in order to have the armed forces people understand that there is a support community for these men letters to the commanding officers at the bases would probably be good...

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***As the only ex-Marine among the nine, Jack Robinson may be in the deepest trouble. He was moved on July 19th to Camp Pendleton, and because of his isolation and former status in the Armed Forces he is in special need of support letters and letters to his (former) Commanding Officer...

[July 1968]

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THE RESISTANCE
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GREETINGS TO YOU O READERS OF NEWSLETTERS and also you who merely receive them, Attention (pardon the regimentation):

Among the hundreds of young men now being incarcerated at the Presidio and elsewhere for not following the procedures of our military brothers are nine who have recently gained wide attention. Community support is being gathered to send letters to the men, their parents, etc., in order to help them through this ordeal. Enclosed in this newsletter is complete information about the proceedings of the past week and the aids which will help YOU to become involved. Steps are being taken to assist the men through their legal problems but only you (all of you) can make the support felt.

In addition to the story of "the nine" are several announcements which should receive your attention and action. Grasp this slender thread of information and clutch it to your bosom, in peace.

RESUME OF PAST WEEK

WITNESS OF NINE FOR PEACE

On Monday July 15 at 1:00 P.M. eight young men who were AWOL for varying lengths of time (up to 7 months) arrived at the Hearth here in S.F. and publicly announced their resignations from the military. Each of the eight men was chained to a clergyman; chains "symbolizing the bond of unity between the clergymen and ex-military men, the bond of brotherhood shared by all men, and the bond of guilt shared by all Americans for their country's military involvement around the world." During Monday's press conference, the men stated their reasons for their actions; summed as 1) they could not be a part of or support the oppressive and dehumanizing activities of the American military machine, 2) they hoped their public confrontation with the military would serve as a loud protest to the American government's involvement in Vietnam, Guatemala and acores of countries throughout the world. They hoped that protesting with their lives they might touch and awaken the minds and consciences of the American people.

Monday evening the men were joined by a ninth Oliver Hirsch, formerly a Sarge in the Air Force, who chained himself to adult supporter Sandy Sanderson of S.F.

Joan Baez came Monday evening and sang to the nine. More songs were sung and before final preparations were made for sleeping in David Harris gave the latest on his appeal case and more on the Nine for Peace.

The scene moved Tuesday evening to Marin City at St. Andrews Church after a bomb threat.

On Wednesday morning at approximately 9:15 A.M. the military police arrived near St. Andrew's. The co-minister of St. Andrew's went out and talked with the military. They said they were there to arrest the nine men but had no charges against the clergy. The military was informed that if they attempted to arrest the nine men they would have to interrupt a communion service in the church to do so. They were also informed that the clergy wanted to remain chained to the men and wished to be taken to prison if the men were.

At approximately 10 a.m. the military police entered the church. There were about 12 mp's representing the four branches of the military the nine men were formerly associated with. The mp's broke through the circle of the support community which was in the process of receiving communion and arrested the nine men who were kneeling around the communion table. Each man was approached separately asked his name, arrested and led out of the

church chained to the clergy...

The chains were cut outside the church and the men were put in military vans and taken to the Presidio stockade.

Right now, a supporting "Vigil for the None for Peace" has been continuing since the arrest Wednesday. Visitors who have met with some of them say that "morale is very high knowing that people outside the stockade are concerned about them." For those who can attend for some time the vigil lasts 24 hours each day and rides can be arranged at our office or at W.R.L. 626-6976. Hope you can join them!!

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NOTES

ROCK BANDS. "Although some persons regard the Resistance as part of the cultural revolution we unfortunately seem to be lacking organized musicians. The S.F. Resistance is searching for rock bands to play at the birthday party next month for 2 non-registrants, Richard Johnston of Los Altos and Stanford Smith of Berkeley. If you're in a band or have a contact with one which would like to help the revolution please get in touch with Chris Jones, at 397-7463 or leave a message at the Resistance Office 626-1910.

INDUCTION REFUSALS. On July 22rd Steve Durst of San Francisco refused induction. On July 24, 1968 at 6:30 a.m. Dale Van Pelt from the Migrant Ministry in Delano will refuse induction. Steve Lerner, Lew Richmond, and Gilbert Smith of San Francisco will also refuse induction.

On Friday July 26, 1968 at 8:00 p.m. the Free Church in Berkeley is going to have "A HAPPENING" at the vigil site on Lyon and Lombard Streets. We hope to see all of you out there!!