

# GI's FIGHT BACK

About a month ago, we wrote up a leaflet, printed on yellow paper, which many guys saw. It discussed a spontaneous rebellion by a large group of GI's at Ft. Riley on April 20. The brass had been holding the 4th Army Rifle and Pistol Matches, and, of course, EM's were doing all of the shitwork. Attending the match were lifers, many members of the brass, cops, and other assorted pigs. Many GI's were already pissed about the even worse-than-usual conditions - lousy chow, 12 hours a day and 7 days a week hours, and general harassment - but when the rain started and the farce was continued, that was the last straw. Hundreds of guys pulled down their targets and many began to leave. A fast-talking lifer eventually got most to return to work, but the rifle match had been delayed for over an hour.

The leaflet supported this rebellion and also pointed out how GI's can effectively fight back against the Army if we get together. We gave a couple examples of struggles of enlisted men against the brass in a unit at Camp Forsyth where the men were successful in forcing the Army to back down. We also pointed out how the Army uses racism to split black and white GI's so we won't unite and fight the army. We said that Army racism is more than prejudice, but also means that black GI's generally get the worst job (like infantry and cook) and face a greater likelihood of stockade time, bad discharges, and unemployment after getting out of the Army. Also that Black and Latil GI's are giving the most militant leadership to fights against the Army, and white GI's must unite with them.

## THE BRASS ATTACKS

Needless to say, the Brass weren't too happy about the leaflet. In fact they panicked when they saw it. In trying to find out where it came from, here are some of the lengths they went to - A guy was facing a court-martial for refusing to fire his weapon. His battalion commander offered to drop his charges if he would drop a dime as to who put out the leaflet. When he refused to fink, he faced a general court-martial! (later dropped to a special court-martial). Another guy was told by the same colonel that his Article 15 would be dropped if he said where the leaflet came from. He also refused to cooperate with the pigs.

Now the brass have charged Pvt. Steve Morse, a member of Progressive Labor Party (PLP), a revolutionary communist party, with "soliciting" another guy to distribute "unauthorized literature." The literature in question was the leaflet and the newspaper Challenge, published by PLP.

The army is scared of the communist ideas contained in this literature, especially Challenge, and they don't want these ideas spread around. That's why this court-martial is happening at all. "Distribution of literature on post" is a ridiculous enough charge; "Soliciting" somebody else to distribute literature is even more ridiculous. One of the two incidents mentioned in the court-martial charges didn't even occur on post. The obvious weakness of the brass's case shows their desperation in trying to stop communist ideas.

## CHALLENGE VS BOSSES PRESS

What is Challenge and how does it differ from other papers? Papers like the Kansas City Star, the Wichita Eagle, and the Ft. Riley Post are sold and distributed freely on post because they have ideas which serve the brass and the bosses - the ruling class that runs the country. This class controls the banks, factories, the newspapers and TV, and uses the cops, laws, courts, and the Army to protect their property and profits. These people sit back and get rich while we fight and die in THEIR wars for THEIR profits.

Challenge is a lot different because its purpose is to serve the working class - us. Challenge is the only national

newspaper that consistently reports the struggles, large and small, in factories, the Army, schools, and communities. It points out the weakness and strengths of these struggles so that we can learn how to fight better, and shows that eventually we must overthrow the bosses who run this country now, and that working people and their allies (GI's, students, etc.) must then run the society - in other words revolutionary socialism.

#### LET'S FIGHT BACK

How can we fight back and win against the Army? Here are a few examples of struggles that PLP members have helped organize around the country. At Ft Knox, Ky., black and white GI's and their wives put out a newspaper EM-16 exposing racist harassment. They brought 25 GI's and wives to the general court-martial of a black GI framed on a racist charge, and scared the brass into dropping the charges. At Ft. Dix, N.J., a PLP member was busted for selling Challenge. The brass refused to let his supporters into his court-martial, so a fight broke out against the MP's. 3 GI's were charged with assaulting an MP, and they brought 35-40 people to their court-martial, and for the 7 days that the trial lasted, they turned the whole thing around into an attack on the Army. The Brass were scared enough that they cut one guy loose.

We're trying to do the same thing at the upcoming court-martial - turn it around and put the brass on trial. The brass would like to use this court-martial to intimidate anyone who would put out a leaflet or fight back in any way. They want to tell us, "You step out of line and we'll burn you." They also would like to build anti-communism by trying to isolate communists from other GI's. We can fight this by organizing around this court-martial telling them that we'll use these attacks to organize against them. If they put us in the stockade, we'll organize there, and if they kick us out of the Army, we'll organize in factories and in communities. There are more and more people all the time that hate the Army and the system and are understanding the need to smash them. There's nothing the ruling class can do to stop us!

#### WHAT WE CAN DO

We want to fight not only around this court-martial but around other things as well. We should talk about other ways we can stand up against the brass.

We don't want to fight this stinking war!

We're tired of the Army's racism!

We haven't any use for the lifers' harassment!

We don't want to be used in any more "riot control" against our own people!

Discuss this leaflet with your friends, and discuss how we can get organized better. Write a letter to the address below if you're interested in getting together, or discussing the ideas, or if you have any criticism or comments.

Subscribed to Challenge-Desafio (in English & Spanish).  
Send subscriptions to the address below.

Support Pvt. Morse - Come to his trial!

Put the Army and the Brass on trial! Though not date or location has been announced for the court-martial, we expect the brass to change the date several times to discourage people from attending. For up to date information, call the JAG office. The brass will be happy to know you're interested.

Pass this leaflet around to your friends.

We will fight and win!

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