

Vol 2, no 3

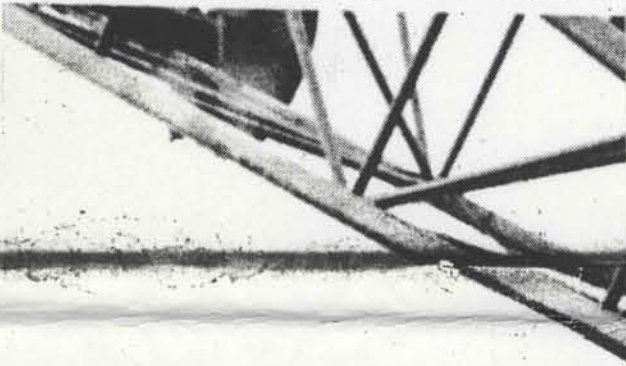
# PCDC: OR How to Fit a Round World into a Square Hole

It has happened once again. Once again PCDC is in another one of its periodic crises. Once again people in Chinatown are being forced out of their homes. Once again Chinatown is perched on the edge of an abyss named urban renewal. Once again we are calling for PCDC to finally recognize who its real friends and real enemies are. And once again the People of Chinatown are asking why. Why has the Penn. Dept. of Transportation signed a consent to build the Ninth Street ramp with the city, then making it almost definite after we were promised that the ramp would not be built and City council voted not to give it money? Why has the Gimbel garage been officially left out of the Environmental Impact Statement by the Redevelopment Authority and H.U.D. making it probable that it will be built and a ramp on Ninth Street needed to reach it? Why has the Archdiocese still remained "no decision, No Comment" on Holy Redeemer, making it probable that the future of HR is doomed?

What has happened? The same thing that has happened in the eight year struggle for Chinatown between big business and the People of Chinatown and the Philadelphia Asian community. PCDC as the leader of the community has mistaken its enemies for its friends.

First off let us make one point clear. We are at war. Any time half of a community is leveled and left as big mud holes, it is time to realize that we are at war. The bombs may come out of cranes instead of planes and make neater piles of rubble than ordinary bombs, but they are still rubble and not homes and they are still mud fields instead of our community. The only real difference is that we shake hands with the smiling enemy who keeps telling us that He's on our side, for the "little man" while he steps on the "little Chinaman's" neck, face smiling. Given that we are at war, then the first thing that must be done by the General Staff is as the ancient warrior Sun Tse said, "Know your friends and know your enemies and win one hundred battles". PCDC, who should be our General Staff, neither knows its friends nor its enemies. It has taken its only true real ally as being only an uninterested bystander. The people of Chinatown are never really tried to be reached by PCDC. Without this ally PCDC will always have that supplicating smile on its lips and that foot on its neck. Whose foot is it? PCDC must soon realize that this foot is the city, state and federal government's. It is about time after so many repeated double crosses that all of us realize like three quarters of this country does that this is not a government of, by or for any thing except big business in the form of giant corporations. Where do we get these ideas? We didn't read them anywhere and we didn't make them up. We at Yellow Seeds got caught up in the trap laid by the agencies of the dangling carrot of possible housing to lead us away from our real allies, because we were spending so much time with PCDC on seeing famous politicians and other crooks. But because we saw them, we were given every promise,

everytime we had them scared; somehow they always convinced us that we'd won and they would do something. Then the big stall would come. Let's look at a few examples. Last summer, August of '73, we stopped the cranes. We had a movie going that did a lot of publicity among Chinatown and the people of Philadelphia. The spirits were high because Chinatown had done what PCDC could not for seven years. Because we had the support of the people and let the enemy know we saw them as our enemy they were forced to listen to us. Then when Rizzo said along with many other little politicians that they were really on our side and that Chinatown was one of the three top priorities for the year PCDC said, see, we told you that they were really on our side all along. Tricked again by the same promise of some day helping us. What happened? Where is all this great help that the city promised us? Some top priority! But the worst thing is what they did while we were being told that help was coming. The Redevelopment Authority was dealing a gigantic double cross in the form of Steven Pang. (see editorial on Pang in last issue) All this while they were telling us



Homes Not Highways! Aug. '73  
Chinatown Stops the Bulldozers

PCDC was the only representative of Chinatown. We found out about Steven Pang purely by accident and both the Redevelopment Authority and the City Council knew about this big trick.

There have been other instances where this has happened. At last year's May 3rd town meeting we were told to be polite to the head of the Redevelopment Authority. The CBA (who else?) vice chairman told our only true ally to not expose the real enemy (who later turned out to be one with Steven Pang) to our only real friends. The people still gave her a hard time because they could see more clearly than PCDC.

When the youth of Chinatown wanted to picket Cardinal Krol all we heard was "No, don't antagonize him, he's on our side. We will lose our audience with him." We were almost convinced, but luckily we went on with

the demonstration. We had our audience and a lot of promises just because we put pressure on him. But because PCDC couldn't see him as a real enemy and not a friend we now still don't have any word on HR which could very well cause its destruction.

The list goes on and on. One promise and all the pressure is taken off. But the most important thing for us to realize is that our only real support comes from the people of Chinatown, the Asian community overall and the people of Philadelphia especially those in our situations; the Black and Puerto Rican Peoples and the people of South Philadelphia.

We must depend on them and not the Government which is a proven enemy. We must realize that big business wants our land. Chinatown was once on the edge of the city. But because of Racism we were kept in one place. Thus as the city expanded, Chinatown land became part of the center office city and too valuable for ordinary people. This is true in every Chinatown in America. Boston lost half its Chinatown to a highway, Washington, San Francisco and Chicago lost or are losing Chinatown due to hotels, highways and convention centers. New York lost land to a police station and all of Detroit Chinatown after ten years was lost to a highway.

Last year Yellow Seeds lead the there has'to admit this. Why could we do this correct action? Only because we recognized our friends as the people as opposed to the enemy, the government. If PCDC could only see this even at this late date they could do so much more than what Yellow Seeds or anyone else around Chinatown could do.

Ultimately the aims of PCDC are correct. Decent housing is a right of everyone not just the rich. We paid millions of taxes for this. But the outlook of PCDC of seeing the government as basically on our side is an upside down view of the world. Real friends are ignored and real, very real enemies are seen as friends. It is no wonder we are stabbed in the back so many times.

What should PCDC do? First get rid of opportunist by publicity campaigns and getting peoples support; opportunist like Steven Pang and TT Chang, who always try to take for themselves what Chinatown fights for and have almost succeeded in doing so in the past. PCDC should stop depending on anyone else besides themselves and the people. Also, PCDC should recognize politicians as being the same -- controlled by one or another business and are out only for themselves. PCDC should stop vacillating when an issue comes up and finally see that the people of Chinatown, the Asian community and the people of Philadelphia are our only ally and powerful enough to stop any business or politician. PCDC must improve its contacts with the people by more leaflets, visiting people and having another town meeting as soon as possible.



# Where is Steven Pang?

SEPT 17

For the past several months we have not heard much talk about the "Chinatown Plaza" or the "Chinatown Cinema" or about any other plans for Chinatown by Steven Pang & Company. What has happened to the Pang plan to provide more parking in Chinatown or the plan that would have brought the highway ramp on Chinatown.

Last Fall Steven Pang was exposed for trying to get the businessmen of Chinatown to endorse his own development plans under the guise of getting more parking. Although many people knew about his tricks and many people signed the counter petition against his plans, Pang & Company persisted in trying to sell-out Chinatown for their own interest. When the Chinese Benevolent Association (CBA) was asked to confront Steven Pang they hedged and delayed because they had been the first ones to be tricked into supporting Pang. When this issue was discussed in PCDC no one was willing to take strong action. Finally Yellow Seeds wrote an article in this paper exposing Steven Pang and his intentions to use Chinatown for his own profit. The facts were laid open to everyone, not rumors or accusations but the facts of what actually happened. Steven Pang's plans have been abandoned, his partners have no longer come out to speak for him, and only two stores for rent stand in the place of where the "Chinatown Cinema" was to have been.

Some people say that man has the right to run his own business the way he wants. If Pang had gotten his way and built his project he would have made quite a bit of money and profited greatly. The fact is that the land for Pang's project is owned by the City and was bought with public (the people's) money. Land and money that is supposed to be used to better the community would have been sold for one man's profit. The fact is that when one person profits others must lose. In this case Pang would have made a lot of money, while Chinatown would have lost the fight against the Market Street East highway ramps and land to build housing for the people.

He's Not Smiling Any More!



The petition signed by businesses to expose Pang did not stop his plans. The Yellow Seeds newspaper article exposing the facts about Pang was not enough alone to stop him. What kept Pang & Company from going on further was not the law of the government nor the decision of the CBA. The reason why Pang could not succeed was because the people of Chinatown stopped his plans to deceive and exploit this community. Opportunists, like Steven Pang and anyone else who plans to use this community to get personal fame and fortune can still succeed! They can only be stopped by the people.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

PCDC general meeting, Chinese Benevolent Association Building, 930 Race Street, 7:30 pm

- 19 Asian Women Slide Show, followed by discussion, 8:00 pm, Houston Hall, 2nd floor, Harrison Room, call SA9-5273 for more information
- 21 Freshmen Orientation for Asians at the University of Pennsylvania, slide show, music, dancing, snacks, call WA5-3723 for more info
- 30 Celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the People's Republic of China, call WA5-3723 for more information
- OCT 6 October 1 celebration, call U.S.-China Friendship Association, SH8-1077 for more information

Guitar lesson at Yellow Seeds, every Friday for 7 pm to 11 pm

Meeting of the Philadelphia Overseas Chinese Serve the People Organization, call SA7-6618 or WA5-7775 for time and place

## UNIONS ARE A WORKER'S RIGHTS

Continued from Page 1 The work schedule is usually seven hours a day and five days a week. For overtime, the workers are paid time and a half. At Pang's factory, the full time workers usually work more than eight hours a day and six days a week. There is no extra compensation for overtime.

The workers confronted Pang and demanded to know why the factory was not unionized. Pang made all kinds of excuses. He fired one of the workers who spoke up. But due to the pressure of the workers, Pang rehired the worker and was forced to give in a little. But Pang did this in a way that benefitted himself and not the workers. Pang hired a few Black garment workers who were already in unions and declared the Lucky Folks Garment Factory to be unionized. Let us analyse this tactic and see why it is harmful to the workers:

1. By bringing workers who are already unionized into the factory, the workers in the factory are not allowed to choose which union would and could best represent them. The workers cannot bargain collectively with Pang on what conditions the union would represent them. The non-union workers who are already working in the factory are not automatically in the union which could be the case if the workers were allowed to bring in the union themselves.

2. Pang would not give the Chinese workers any information concerning union benefits and procedures to join the union. Pang, himself a Chinese, knows full well that the Chinese workers, because of the language problem, would have a difficult time getting this information for themselves. This is an example of the exploitation of Chinese by Chinese capitalists.

3. Pang is using this tactic to divide the Black and Chinese workers. Pang had apparently warned the Black workers he hired not to talk about or give out any information to the Chinese workers concerning the union. This is a blatant example of a capitalist using racism to benefit himself.

4. Pang advertised in the newspaper that his shop is unionized with all the benefits. In fact, this is deceiving and cheating any worker who applies for a job there.



Over 100 militant Chinese garment workers in San Francisco have been striking to protest unfair labor practices and for the right to unionize since July 15.

Stephen Pang, the opportunist who tried to undermine the Chinese Community's militant struggle to save our community with his infamous China Plaza Corporation, (see Yellow Seeds Newspaper, Vol. II, no. 1) must be fought against. Pang's garment factory, like many other small factories, along with the large garment manufacturing plants such as the Farah Pants Company, large department stores such as Gimbel's, and corrupt union officials, are making profit out of the hard work of garment workers. They all must be fought against. (see Yellow Seeds Newspaper, Vol. I, no. 4 article "Chinese Garment Workers")

One way to insure that workers will get some of the benefits of their labor is to have unions that truly represent the interests of the workers in the factories. But factory owners will not sit idly when the workers are getting organized. The capitalists will use every means to squash the workers' organizing attempts. But workers are gaining more victories such as the successful struggle of garments workers against the Farah Pants Company. The experiences of Third World and progressive white workers have shown that militant struggle is the only real weapon to fight with for workers' rights.



# Militant Fight for Jobs, a Democratic RIGHT

The demonstrations continued strong, however, and the number of protestors reached 500 at the height of the demonstrations. Old and young community members alike -- grandmothers, workers, young people -- carried bi-lingual signs and shouted chants in Chinese and English. Garment workers joined the lines during their lunch break. Businesses contributed food and drinks for the demonstrators. Black and Latin workers showed their support.

The struggle at Confucious Plaza is continuing. We can learn from the spirit of this community. The N.Y. Chinese community is showing its strength through unified action and militant struggle in their fight for equal rights. The government and big business have shown that they will not yield readily to meet the needs of the community when their own interests are at stake.



"Dematis You Liar, Why Won't You Hire!"

Asians, Blacks and Puerto Ricans Demonstrated for Equal Employment in the Construction Industry at a Building Site in New York Chinatown.

Last month DeMatteis Corp. finally offered to provide 28 jobs for Asian workers. These jobs had to be forced from the construction company. It was only through militant demonstrations and the arrest of 55 persons that these jobs were won.

In Philadelphia only by rallying the support of the entire community openly protesting the destruction of Philadelphia Chinatown by government highways and by big business's Market Street East do we have any chance of preserving our community.

## MORE LAWS OR REAL CHANGE? ASIAN-PACIFIC COALITION

For the past 10 months the Asian American Mental Health Federation, now known as the Asian/Pacific Coalition\* has tried to create a national Asian-American organization. With the assistance of federal funds several conferences have been held throughout the country to bring people together.

we see the politicians lying to us everyday? How can we expect more laws to help us when Asian people haven't even been given the rights of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution? Can we beg for more government programs and handouts only to see our tax money go to the salaries of career seeking social workers and into programs that help no one? There are laws to provide for decent housing in this country. Instead we get more public housing project "slums". The real communities that we now have are being destroyed everyday.

conferences and read all the newsletters, that person could easily think that most Asian-Americans in this country were professionals and social workers and that the most important issue was how to get more funding. There seems to be more work done to unite with the government than with the people themselves. Since only 20% of all Asian-Americans in this country are professionals why isn't the Asian/Pacific Coalition uniting with the vast majority of the people? The success of the coalition voted to uniting people depend upon Washington D.C. for more help than the people themselves?

The Mid-Atlantic Conference held in March in New York City attracted more than 300 people from New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Washington D.C. The direction of the conference was set off by the keynote address of Rep. Patsy Mink from Hawaii. Basically, both Rep. Mink and the participants throughout the conference could easily name off the problems that faced Asian-Americans today. Problems such as job discrimination, poor housing and inadequate health care. In addition, most everyone agreed with Rep. Mink that the central issue at this time was the fight for democratic rights. Rights that have been denied Asian people as equal citizens of this country. Rep. Mink even went as far as saying that this fight must be a collective fight and that it would be a fight that faced strong opposition; that this fight was in a country that is facing a rising tide of Fascism. As we have seen through history, those in power are not going to give us our rights without a fight. What then did Rep. Mink see as the answer to our oppression? She called for more legislation, more laws that will grant us our rights and more government programs.

Laws will never give us our rights! We must support the People.



We have learned from experience that the government is more interested in dividing us than bringing us together. We have been given just enough money to fight over with each other. How many people who honestly wanted to help the people have been bought off and co-opted by jobs in government agencies?

Should we then refuse any government money? No, we should use the money for a national Asian-American newspaper that can unite people over common issues and concerns. We should hold meaningful conferences bi-annually where community groups can present their ideas. (a suggestion that was approved at a conference workshop in New York but was later suppressed)

The only real way that Asian-Americans will get the democratic rights that they have been denied will be through uniting with each other and demanding these rights. In Philadelphia, only when there were public demonstrations would the government consider the urban renewal problem seriously. In New York City, only after many demonstrations and arrest were there any construction jobs offered. In both cases, working with the government, following existing channels and bowing to the system got us nothing! We cannot possibly expect the same system that has been used to oppress us, that has created law after law to exclude us from our rights as people, to solve our problems now.

Our problems will not be solved by new programs or reforms in the government. A law to provide more services to new immigrants (as suggested by Rep. Mink) will not change the fact that Asian workers are needed for cheap labor. Black people are not new immigrants. They speak English and have lived here for centuries, yet both Black and Asian workers get the worst jobs and lowest pay. The problem is not only that new immigrants have language problems and face a new culture. The real problem is that Asian workers like Blacks, Puerto Rican and Chicano workers can be exploited as less than equal people.

### Who Do We Unite With?

The basic principles of the Asian Pacific Coalition calls for the uniting of all Asian-American people. After a person was to attend all the

### More Laws or Real Change?

Rep. Mink and the vast majority of the people at the conference including most of the people who are now working with the Asian/Pacific Coalition have failed to see the true nature of the laws, the government and the powers that control this government. Shall we unite together and demand more laws to protect us, when

(\* National Coalition of Asian-Americans and Pacific Islands Peoples for Human Services and Action)



# TO SERVE THE PEOPLE

A few weeks ago some Yellow Seeds members went to a restaurant to eat. The waitress, Mrs. Wong, (name has been changed) came up and asked whether we were from the organization. We said that we were. She then told us about her husband, who was in the hospital and needed an operation right away. Because his last operation had used a lot of blood (16 pints), the hospital now said it couldn't spare any more. One of the hospital technicians advised Mrs. Wong to find people to donate blood to the hospital for her husband. Mrs. Wong went to some of the Chinese Associations for help. Most of them didn't exactly refuse, but they didn't know when they could help. T. T. Chang of the Chinatown "Y" said he'd put out a leaflet. That was all he could do! Then a friend told Mrs. Wong that Yellow Seeds might help. Mrs. Wong talked to us while we ate dinner. Most of us didn't know Mr. or Mrs. Wong, but late that night we called up our friends and told them to meet us in the morning to go to the hospital to give blood. Eight people went the next day. We heard that after his operation Mr. Wong was out of danger. He is only about 45 years old and had never been seriously sick before in his life. He used to work as a cashier on the West Coast, but he came here and started working in the restaurant kitchen. Because he had to work too hard, Mr. Wong began getting bad headaches, which got worse and led to a stroke. He went to the hospital and they had to operate to save his life.

Yellow Seeds knows that when ordinary working people get sick, it's a great personal hardship. Yet working people are the most important people in our society. We make the cars, build the houses, grow the food and produce clothing and the things that we all need. That is why if someone in the Asian community asks Yellow Seeds for help, we will do everything in our power--and call on our friends in the community--to try to solve the problem.



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# THE OLD DIE ALONE

The life of the elderly Chinese men is not always happy. Let me tell you a story: Old Man Chun (name is changed) died last week at age 89. In February he had closed his laundry in the Black Ghetto of North Philadelphia. A social worker had called us two weeks before he died, asking us to convince him to go to the hospital. We found him lying alone, soiled with his own wastes, weak and sick, coughing up foul sputum. He was five feet, four inches tall and weighed eighty pounds. He had refused earlier to be admitted: One goes to a hospital only to die, he said.

Chun had worked there for thirty years, running the laundry by himself, sleeping in the back room. He had been beaten and robbed a number of times in the past few years.

When we found him, he had only been bedridden for three days. A neighbor had stopped in once a day to check up on him. Cockroaches feasted on stale crackers, rice, and cookies. Dust and grime covered the desk, littered with old letters, receipts, uncashed checks. An open gas flame heater burned brightly three feet away from his bed. Unclaimed packages, heavy with gray dust, stood a silent vigil overhead.

The three rooms where he lived and worked had no toilet. He had used a bucket to collect his body's wastes. In the past few months when he couldn't move well, he had resorted to emptying that bucket behind his laundry tub in the back room. In the same room he cooked his meals on a gas stove that sat dangerously against a grease-splattered, rotting wood wall. Only the cold saved us from the stench of his back room sewer. Still the air smelled foul.

I sat for a long while with the others, waiting for the ambulance to arrive. Most of the time we sat in silence. Anger and sadness, helplessness, gripped us all. Something is wrong with a society that can let this happen. Why hadn't we done something earlier -- yet what could we have done? There are many more like Chun. We cannot nurse them all. Don't we have our own lives to lead?

What could we even do for him now, a dying man, long separated from his home village near Canton, who's lived alone nearly all his life. I wondered: What kind of happiness or joy had he stored in his heart to sustain him for this long? And how could we, strangers bring him happiness now? Let me die, he said later: how could we force him to live and return to his cell?

Chun died alone, in clean white hospital sheets. Who knows when exactly? He was found by the nurse who came expecting to take another temperature from "just another old man," who knew little English. What must have he been thinking or dreaming when he died?

Of course, we must all face death someday, but we all hope we will have friends around us. We all hope to have dignity -- not to leave anonymously, without a name, not in a strange, uncomfortable room filled with strange noises and strange people.

Yet this is how the old must die, without families to guide them. Think of how they came years ago as strong, adventurous young men, most without wives or family. They left a China weakened by plague, famine, and poverty, crippled by western colonization. They came to America seeking rumors of wealth and happiness. They stayed to build this country with their sweat. Now, suddenly, they are frail, burdened with failing hearts and lungs, weakened by years of struggle in their foreign home. Where are the fruits of their labor and sacrifice. This is truly a golden mountain they helped to build, but they, like the vast majority of the American people, have been robbed of their share. We who are young and have never known such hardship can only sympathize, but never fully understand the old men's sadness.

In the past few months, social workers at Jefferson and Hahneman have been calling the Health Survey Committee (now called the Chinatown Health Service Committee) through the people in Yellow Seeds. They asked us to find nursing homes for three Chinese men, all without family. But the homes are full, and the old men fear going to places away from Chinatown -- and Chinese.

Must the elderly go to hospitals, as Chun said, only to die? We who are young and strong must help. Though we are strangers, we are still kin by our race. We are all brothers and sisters, no matter our age. Old Man Chun's plight is shared by many: He is not the only poor old man or woman in the city -- there are thousands like him. The bureaucracy of this society cannot take care of them all. We, the people, must do it ourselves.

We have many alternatives open to us. But each of us must choose at which level he will work, whether it be a city councilman or a private nurse. And we must decide at which level will be of the greatest use. We are Asian and must take care of our own kind -- no one else will!

We should not remain still while our fathers suffer!

Come join us. We are seeking answers. We struggle against our own complacency and laziness. There are many men like Chun. What can we as Asians do to aid them? If you are interested in helping, please give a call to one of these people: Miki Rotman (MA7-4539) or Brad Wong (MA7-6796 or 497-1726). We want to join with anyone wanting to help -- whether you are young or old, whether you speak Chinese or not. We all have a common purpose.



# Good Health Care is Everyone's Right

The article above gives our readers a concrete example of one aspect of a great problem. The article expresses concern for the health of elderly Chinese. (Readers may look back to Yellow Seeds Newspaper Vol. 1, pages 4 & 5 for Yellow Seeds' analysis and program for the Chinatown Elderly.)

Why does it happen that elderly people sicken and die all alone, in conditions that are not supposed to exist in rich, civilized America? Why must Chinatown elderly go to nursing homes to recover from illness, after the hospital? Because their houses are unsafe for a sick person. Why don't they live in better places? Because, like most elderly, they don't have a lot of money. Why isn't there decent low cost housing in Chinatown -- or elsewhere in Philadelphia? Why are decent nursing homes filled up -- with waiting lists of months or years? Why does a "Boarding Home" feed a sick man beans and bread and macaroni, then take all his Social Security Check? Why does a sick man, frightened because he doesn't understand English, doesn't understand what's happening to him -- get tied hand and foot to his hospital bed?

As far as hospital and nursing homes are concerned, there is a big difference between sick people who can pay alot, who can pay the going rate, and who cannot pay at all. Ability to pay determines, how long you wait, how skilled your doctors are, how much time they spend on your problem. In health care as in other areas of our society, profit for the few is primary over service to the people. The money comes from the people -- in fees, insurance payments, Social Security, taxes. The profits go to hospital corporations, Insurance Companies, Banks, private investors in Hospital Bonds and are much more important than healing sickness. To insure profits, service will be cut as much as possible. Why does the ordinary sick person wait so long in the hospital? Why are

nurses and aides often harrassed and mean? Because there are too many patients, not enough staff. Because to hire more staff, to pay better wages, to provide good working conditions and training programs would cut into profits.

In American society, the number one priority is that profits flow into the hands of 5,000 persons. The rest of us work and make a living only in order to create profits for this small group of people. When we become old, we can no longer create profits and we are thrown on the trash heap. We must rely on our children, on Social Security, on Charity. Even if we have all three we must live more poorly than when we could work. This is not a tragedy, but a crime -- a robbery against millions by 5,000 persons who never dirty their hands in productive work.

The question is broader than 140 elderly men in Philadelphia Chinatown. Yellow Seeds realizes that it is impossible to help elderly Chinese without solving the problem for all the elderly. Where to begin? Generally, there are two ways to do any job. -- a right way and a wrong way. The wrong approach to serve the needs of the elderly is to deny that anything is out of order: to say, "There will always be unfortunates, -- they deserve our pity, but there is little we can do.": to say "It's a matter of luck -- if you are lucky enough to have a nest egg put by, or your children are successful in life, you will have an easy old age.": to say, "Leave the problem to the officials and experts -- if they can't solve it, no one can." These statements do not fit the real fact of life. The right approach is to take to heart the general rule that to solve any social problem we must understand the economic and social roots, have confidence in the abilities of the people to bring about the solution, and wholeheartedly serve the people.

# MAY DAY CELEBRATION

On Monday night April 29th, Yellow Seeds and Overseas Chinese Service to the People Organization held a celebration of International Labor Day, otherwise known as May Day. First item on the program: representatives of the two organizations spoke. In 1886 when American capitalism was on the rise and the workers had to work incredibly hard, labor unions initiated demonstrations for the eight hour day. But these were met with repression. However, with continuous struggle, May 1st was finally recognized internationally as International Labor Day and the eight hour day was gradually accepted as a reasonable demand of the workers. After the brief introduction to the history of May Day, a run down on contemporary struggles of minority workers in the present decline of American imperialism was presented. Various strikes to attain reasonable wages and equal employment were mentioned. Finally the representatives pointed out that at this time when workers and peasants have become masters of the motherland of overseas Chinese, celebrating International Labor Day is especially meaningful.



This was followed by instrumental music and singing. After tea, a film was shown which was taken by overseas Chinese from New York during their visit to China in 1972. A large crowd of over a hundred people turned up for this first celebration of the May Day in the Philadelphia Chinese community.

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# CONCENTRATION CAMPS

# IT COULD HAPPEN AGAIN

Part I discussed the experiences of the Japanese-Americans in the United States up to and including the internment in concentration camps. This concluding part analyzes whether the evacuation was necessary and who was responsible.

Was the evacuation necessary? There was no proof that there had been any sabotage or other fifth column activity at Pearl Harbor or on the mainland of the United States. United States Attorney General Biddle in a letter to President Roosevelt in May, 1942, stated the total inability of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to find saboteurs among the Japanese population. In a desperate and twisted attempt to justify the evacuation, General deWitt said, "... the absence of sabotage was a disturbing and confirming indication that such actions would be taken."

The military necessity for the need of evacuation did not exist. There was no invasion of the mainland. The Japanese-Americans in Hawaii were not evacuated because they were needed to keep up the economy of Hawaii. Military leaders knew in 1942 that Japanese military strength was fully committed in the far Pacific and presented no threat to the Pacific coast of the United States. The Navy believed that invasion of the United States was virtually out of the question by the spring of 1942. Military leaders knew that the Battle of Midway on June 6, 1942, brought Japanese naval expansion in the Pacific to an end. But it was after the Battle of Midway that the inland Japanese-Americans were evacuated and removed from assembly centers to relocation camps.

In 1942, the military knew all of the above facts. But these facts were not told to the American people and not fully told to their representatives in government. We learn of them years later. We learn years later that there was no justification at any time for treating Japanese aliens and Japanese-Americans differently from aliens of other countries at war with the United States.

Who was responsible for the vast and discriminatory program of removing and imprisoning the Japanese-Americans? A program that robbed the Japanese-Americans of their basic human rights: the right to move about freely, to live and work where one chooses; the right to establish and maintain a home; the right to a fair trial. The evacuation denied the Japanese-Americans of their basic democratic rights: the right of peaceful assembly to discuss the general welfare of the people and the problems of government; the right of free speech and a free press; the right to freely hear, read, and learn; the right of petition; and the right to participate in government.

Responsibility rested with the military, particularly with General deWitt and the Western Defense Command. Even when the military knew that the United States were under no military threat from Japan, General

deWitt and the military made the proposal for exclusion of Japanese-Americans and requested authority to execute it.

Even greater responsibility rested on President Franklin D. Roosevelt, his civilian aides in the

influenced the thinking of the people so much. Responsibility rested with big militarism as a threat to their business interests.

In 1974, Concentration Camp USA is still possible. The United States military and the President waged war



In recent Concentration Camp Forums in Sacramento, San Francisco, and other Asian Communities, the people are saying "NEVER AGAIN!"

War Department, and the Congress of the United States. General deWitt did not order evacuation and imprisonment by himself and without authorization from his superiors. He presented his plan and got the approval of the War Department, the President, and then the Congress. President Roosevelt bore a large share of the responsibility because he was Chief Executive of the United States and hence accountable for the actions of his subordinates--whether he knew of them or not. Also, it was Roosevelt who deliberately and knowingly authorized Executive Order 9066.

Responsibility rested with the courts, and especially with the Supreme Court of the United States. The courts did not require the United States military to supply evidence for the exclusion. The courts denied equal protection of the law to the Japanese-Americans and contributed to the harsh discrimination based on race and ancestry, and thereby upraising racism.

Responsibility also rested with the newspaper editors, the labor leaders, and political leaders who



With projects such as the Manzanar Pilgrimage, the people are working to make sure the Concentration Camps will never open again.

in Vietnam and bombed Cambodia without the consent of the American people. Military actions are covered and military information is kept from the people. As is evident in the Watergate and Agnew cases, there is one set of law for the White House and another set of law for working people. In courts, light sentences are given to those people with power and money.

Last year, in San Francisco, a statement by J. Edgar Hoover was posted all over Chinatown urging the residents to keep their eyes open for people and friends who might be engaged in "subversive" acts against the United States. A telephone number was listed to inform the FBI.

With the United States economic crisis of the past few years, Japan has suddenly been regarded by American capitalists and politicians as the rival who is draining the U.S. economy. Because of the fight for market between American and Japanese imperialists, different tactics are used to divide the American and Japanese working people. In a leading San Francisco newspaper advertisement, a picture of a shipping lot of Toyotas is entitled, "A Japanese Invasion." In the October 12, 1973 issue of the Philadelphia Inquirer, an article describing Japanese capitalism in the editorial page read: America is on the threshold of another Pearl Harbor... Instead of trying to bury us, the Japanese are out to buy us.

There are danger signs of a police state in the United States. Brutal repression has become reactions reply to the powerful broadening mass movement for human dignity and democratic rights. To Black people, to Native-Americans, to Chicanos, to Puerto Ricans, to Asian-Americans, to activist young people, and to militant working people--to all who want and struggle for freedom--the answer is being given in the form of repression and more harassment. The same answer was given to the Japanese-Americans in 1942. What happened to the Japanese-Americans is a blow at the liberties of all people. The people must and will work together to make sure that Concentration Camps must never open again.

# IT MUST NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN



# FASCISM in S. KOREA

There were 41 more people put on the trial at the same time with the same charges with sentences from 15 years to life imprisonment.

Park Chung Hee, who took the presidency in 1961 by a military coup has gradually developed his power with fascist dictatorship. After the 3rd election, at which he narrowly defeated Kim Dae Jung, a strong opposition leader, Park declared martial law in October, 1972, through a series of "emergency measures," and instituted a new constitution which gave him an unlimited power and an unlimited tenure in office.

Strong resistance and protest against such a dictatorship rose last fall among students, citizens, including prominent political leaders, intellectuals and clergymen under a strong repression by Korean CIA to restore democracy in the country. Park responded to the movement by declaring a new state of emergency in 4 decrees. These decrees prohibit any direct or indirect activities against him. If anyone opposes him, the person is tried in special national military courts that sentence up to death. So far it is reported that 1024 people were investigated and 253 were referred to the military court prosecutors. Various kinds of tortures have been used during investigation.

Korean people severely suffered for a long time from colonial exploitation and suppression by Japanese Imperialism until the close of WWII in 1945, when this was supposed to be the end of Japanese Imperialism for 37 years. The time came finally, for the self-realization and national fulfillment of the Korean people. However, as soon as the Japanese occupation ended, Korea was divided by the competing superpowers, in two: one was North, under the hand of the USSR, and another was South with the U.S.



"to protect the freedom of the West." Social reform was taken place in the North in 1948 and The Democratic People's Republic of Korea was established.

Since then, the U.S. Government has been spending 37 billion dollars from 1946 to 1973 as assistance to South Korea and a fiscal year 1975 program of Korean assistance is proposed before Congress in the total of nearly one-half billion dollars. There are still 38,000 U.S. troops stationed in South Korea to guard against "invasion by the North."

It is obvious that the U.S. Government and U.S. Military support the fascism of South Korea. What is the justification for this? The Secretary of State, Henry Kissinger, justified it as he suggested in recent congressional testimony that the stability of South Korea is crucial to the independence and stability of Japan and East Asia. It is the same argument used for justification for the Vietnam War. It is clear that what the U.S. Government is aiming for is not the real independence and freedom for the people in those countries but for U.S. imperialistic interest. It is nothing but U.S.

Imperialism that intervenes in the colonial countries with the sweet name of foreign aid. The rise of fascism is inevitable in developing countries economically controlled by Imperialism. In order to keep holding the country under the U.S. control, the U.S. Government and U.S. military needed to create a puppet. The stronger the power of a puppet, the more convenient it is for the U.S. to control the country. Otherwise, why would the U.S. Government continue to support such a repressive government like the Park Regime, who totally and brutally suppresses opposition through the use of the Korean CIA and military police, trained by U.S. 'Advisors'?

The unification of the North and South has naturally been an earnest wish of the Korean people. The division by foreign powers separated the nation and the people. The Park Government, due to the pressure from people, had to pretend that Park was an advocate of the unification but actually he has been deceiving people by controlling the news from the North and by manipulating the information to create fear in the minds of the people. The U.S. Government also manipulates the Park Government, because the U.S. is afraid to lose the free market. Proof of this is the 38,000 U.S. troops and military aid. Imperialism does not care for people who are suffering but cares only for profits.

People are strong and the fascist power cannot stay for ever. We hear the voice of the people in a poem by Kim Chi Ha (a poet of the struggle, who was sentenced to life imprisonment): .....

Absolute power corrupts absolutely;  
It will be destroyed absolutely!

We shall rise up  
To overthrow the Yushin dictatorship;

In the spirit of April Revolution,  
Let us struggle for democratic rights!

## UNITE to demand Democratic Rights!

We demand that the Park government abolish the Emergency Decrees of January and April, 1974; release all political prisoners, drop all charges against them, and restore their full rights of citizenship; prohibit the repressive actions of the Korean CIA; and stop arrests of honest citizens who sincerely want to restore democratic government in the Republic of Korea.

These demands are just demands and will gain the support of many people with whom we must unite. Yellow Seeds advocates the formation of a broad coalition of Overseas Koreans as well as Asian Americans, American friends, student, religious, or peace organizations and any other groups or individuals who are willing to openly protest the oppression of the South Korean people. We support the demands mentioned above as a basis of unity for this coalition. We must unite to support the movement to restore democratic rights and defeat the fascist Park regime.

Yellow Seeds supports all open expressions of protest against the oppression of the Korean people and against the Park Chung Hee Regime,


which has violated all fundamental human rights by exercising martial law and fascist practices.

Yellow Seeds sees the struggle for democratic rights in South Korea as part of a struggle against aggressive U.S. military and economic interest, and for the sovereignty of Korea, as in other underdeveloped Third World countries from U.S. domination.

The struggle of the Korean People against the Park regime and against U.S. military and economic domination is hand in hand with the struggle of the American people for their democratic rights here in the United

States. It is the same U.S. government that does not provide decent health care, good education, adequate housing and employment for all, and that continues to discriminate against the minority and working people in this country of so-called wealth and freedom. Both here and in South Korea profits are placed above the welfare of the people.

These rights are ones which a true government is obligated to provide for its citizens. A government for the people. The struggle here cannot be won until South Korea is free of U.S. domination.



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# Portuguese Colonies



# SEEDS OF REVOLUTION

On September 24, 1973, the territory of Guinea-Bissau proclaimed itself a republic and declared Portuguese colonial rule null and void. By mid-October 69 nations had recognized the new African nation. (Portugal and the U.S. were 2 of the 7 countries that refused). This was a major event in struggles of the African colonies of Angola, Mozambique, and Guina-Bissau which have been raging for more than 10 years against oppressive Portuguese control. To understand the need for armed struggle, one must know the nature of Portuguese colonial policy and the role of U.S. imperialism in reinforcing it.

## Portuguese Colonial Policy

Africans in the Portuguese colonies hold differentiated citizenship status from white Portuguese citizens and are subject to rigid regulations including labor obligations, exploitive taxes, restrictions on travel and from white facilities, and curfews. As in South Africa, they must carry with them at all times identification papers which must be in strict order under penalty of correctional labor or corporal punishment. Assimilated Africans, legally entitled to the same rights as white Portuguese citizens, in actuality, experience the same discrimination and restrictions as do unassimilated Africans—proof of the falseness of Portuguese claims to non-racialism.

The quality and accessibility of the education system is such that it is almost impossible for an African to get an education which qualifies him for anything but manual labor. Moreover, labor obligations established by Portuguese law and economic necessity created by high taxes contribute to the establishment of a huge African labor force. Wage differentials as high as 1,000% exist between white and equally qualified Black workers doing the same work. (White wages = 10 x Black wages). Strikes are illegal. 90% of the African labor force work as agricultural laborers on Portuguese-owned plantations and are grossly underpaid. In Angola and Mozambique many people have been forced to cultivate cash crops for export, such as coffee and cotton, while the population starves. These are sold to Portugal at fixed prices set by the Portuguese government for below international levels.

# portugal in revolt

On April 25, a military coup ended 48 years of fascist dictatorship in Portugal. General Antonio de Spínola was named leader of the new administration.

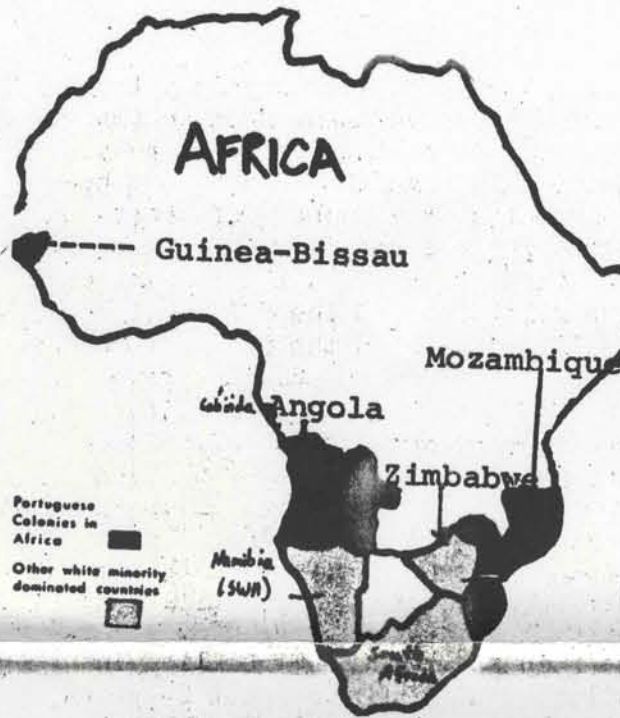
The coup was executed by rank and file soldiers up to the rank of captain backed by the support of the Portuguese people. In the old days, captains came by promotion of those distinguished in the ranks. The rank and file and lower officers are all peasants and workers.

The Armed Forces Movement began a few months prior to the coup. It

Economic exploitation of the colonies through controlled economics and low cost production is vital to the economy of Portugal, having the highest illiteracy rate and lowest standard of living in Europe. By 1970, Portugal's military expenditure amounted to approximately 50% of her annual government revenue. Portugal could not sustain herself and her colonial wars if not for foreign military aid, investments, and loans particularly from the U.S.

## U.S. Imperialism

U.S. corporations in Angola and Mozambique reinforced Portuguese domination in the colonies. Provisions in contracts provide revenue for



Portuguese government and private investors in the form of rents, taxes, shared profits, and royalties. Rather than benefiting the colonies with medical and educational facilities, this revenue is spent defending corporate interests in the colonies. More than 25 U.S. corporations are active in Angola, including 3 American diamond concessions, prospecting and mining concessions for sulfur, gypsum, and andydrate, and several major oil companies or subsidiaries thereof, including Gulf, the largest single U.S. investor. Similarly, U.S. investments for resource and exploration and plant construction have been increasing in Mozambique. Little of this wealth filters down to the African population.

Most oil concessions in the colonies are very recent, post-dating the inception of liberation movements. Standard clauses in contracts between Portuguese and U.S. investors insure the security of the company and operations against "third parties".

Furthermore, U.S. investors also have stakes in the nearby white-minority ruled countries of South Africa and Zimbabwe. Several U.S. corporations operate in Angola and Mozambique through subsidiaries in South Africa. U.S. and South African investors are involved in the construction of the Cobbara Bassa Dam, a huge South African investment in Mozambique.

NATO powers, mainly Great Britain, West Germany, France, and the U.S. have unofficially allied themselves with Portugal to maintain her colonial rule providing extensive military aid, mainly in the form of aircraft, such as bombers, transports, and jet fighters. NATO military aid is provided with the stipulation that it is to be used only in Portuguese territory which Portugal declares extends to her African colonies. A testimony given before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs in 1968 revealed that U.S. aid to Portugal "is designed to train key Portugal military personnel and provide maintenance support material". It has been reported that Portuguese tactics in the colonial wars closely resemble U.S. tactics in Vietnam: "strategic hamlets", defoliation, "search and destroy" missions using napalm and phosphorus bombs from helicopters.

In Angola and Mozambique, where respectively 93% and 98% of the population is Black the African people have no control over the wealth obtained from the rich mineral resources and agricultural lands of their countries. Only racist repression by the Portuguese colonialists with foreign military and financial assistance, enabled them to establish the colonial system of economic exploitation of land and labor. The African people of Angola and Mozambique have been waging a determined struggle against Portuguese colonialism and U.S. imperialism for over 10 years. Despite superior military and financial resources the liberation movements in the colonies continue to grow in strength.

Next issue: National Liberation Movements in the Portuguese Colonies



The democratization process in Portugal took place rapidly. Soon after the coup, the fascist secret police were abolished, full civil liberties were granted, censorship was lifted, political prisoners freed and free elections within a year were promised.

Even with the fascist right regime ousted new class contradictions seem to be developing. Only pressure from the lower ranks of the military forced the junta to release all political prisoners imprisoned by the old

Continued on Page 8



## PORTUGAL

regime. The junta had planned to hold them as common criminals.

Following the purge of the secret police, defascization activities spread to many other civilian institutions where committees of employees, students, or workers demanded the resignation of leading administration officials, particularly those that collaborated with the fascist regime. On May 2, the junta warned the people against such activities and told them to be patient and wait for "orderly transitions".

After the coup there was no slackening of the colonial wars-raids, military operations, and troop rotations continued as usual. The junta's cease fire offer was only on the condition that the liberation movements lay down their arms and become integrated into normal political life as a non-violent political party. The junta threatened to intensify the wars if the guerillas did not lay down their arms. It seems the junta's offers were designed to convince the general population that serious efforts were being made to end the colonial wars at the same time appeasing those that profit from African labor and resource exploitation that the war effort was not being slackened.

Negotiations between the Republic of Guinea-Bissau and Portugal began on May 25. Portugal is pushing Spinola's plan for limited self-determination within a commonwealth-type federation where Portugal retains control of finance, army and foreign affairs. Among the demands of the PAIGC (The African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and the Cape Verde Islands) is that Portugal recognize the Republic of Guinea-Bissau and the rights of the people of all the Portugese colonies to self-determination and independence. They are also demanding the immediate start of negotiations with Mozambique and Angola; the regrouping of Portugese troops in Guinea-Bissau preliminary to withdrawal; and the ending of all Portugese military activities in the colony. The African colonies are rejecting Spinola's concept of Portugese federation. It is evident that they will not except anything short of independence.

# THAILAND:



## United Opposition to U.S. Presence

In the past year, Thailand, a country of 38 million has been undergoing social and political upheaval. Corrupt military regimes, inflation and increasing unemployment have become signs of economic and political instability. In the past few months, demonstrations, rioting, and street battles have occurred frequently in growing opposition to U.S. presence.

Historically Thailand had been ruled by a number of monarchs up until 1932 when a military coup transformed the government from an absolute to a constitutional monarchy. Since that time the country has been controlled by a number of short-lived regimes each trying to keep its political power with the backing of the military, and the CIA, sent to Thailand to train the national police force. Opposition parties proved to be ineffective since they neither represented nor had the support of any one segment of the population. The Thai King while revered as a religious symbol of national identity especially among the peasants remains stripped of any real political power. With the backing of the U.S. government in the form of \$1 billion in military aid over the past 20 years, the military regimes were able to exercise their corrupt rule over the Thai people. It was not until the late 60's and early 70's that organized opposition to the Thanom-Prapas regime began to surface.

At first, signs of discontent came from mostly university students who began staging demonstrations against the corruption in university administrations and the growing Japanese economic influence in Thailand. The issues became broader as the protests increasingly involved the general public, especially in Bangkok. Bangkok's population doubled in the past 10 years with thousands of unskilled workers from the countryside flooding into the city in search of jobs. As a result, the city became plagued with a lack of housing and rising crime rates. Also, during height of the air war in Cambodia, Laos, and North Vietnam, Thailand received over \$250 million a year from the U.S. for military base construction and the employment of 20,000 Thai personnel. As the war wound down, the U.S. cut its military spending casting more Thai's into the ranks of the unemployed. In 1972 the Thanom-Prapas regime set the first minimum wage in Thai history for unskilled labor at \$.60 a day or barely half what some experts considered minimal to meet the rising cost of food and other basic necessities. In addition to the issues of inflation and unemployment the demonstrators focused on the corruption in the Thanom-Prapas government, which exposed the involvement of top leaders and their families in various profitable enterprises ranging from forest and mining concessions to banking and massage parlors.

In October 1973, demonstrators representing a united front coalition under student leadership ousted the Thanom-Prapas government after 2 days of street battles with the army and police. The government tried to suppress the demonstrators with the use of U.S. supplied tanks, tear gas, helicopters and machine guns, leaving in the aftermath over 200 students killed and thousands wounded. Even under the new Premier Sayna Dharmasakti, Thailand has changed little. The student support which put Sayna in office has been declining. His failure to deal with the student's concern over U.S. military and economic interests in Thailand and the country's worsening economic problems of inflation and unemployment has resulted in the latest violent anti-American demonstrations and rallies in Bangkok and growth-insurgency throughout the countryside.

The downfall of the military government did not threaten the U.S. role in Thailand. Thailand, located in the heart of S.E. Asia, is strategically valued by American military and corporate interests. During the Vietnam War the U.S. had 45,000 troops stationed there. Presently there are still 35,000 troops remaining. Military operations conducted on the seven air bases in Thailand are vital to the U.S. for the conquest of S.E. Asia. While the domestic needs of the people have persistently been ignored, the new government has passed laws designed to encourage and profit foreign investors such as special duty rates and tax exemptions on major import items, the bulk of which comes from the U.S. and Japan. Threatening the U.S. military and corporate interests is the growing tide of revolutionary movements; the Thailand Patriotic Front in the North and the Thailand Independence Movement in the South. The Thailand Patriotic Front is successfully engaged in the political education and training of the peasant population in the Northeast. Peasants throughout Thailand have long been ignored by the Thai governments and only recently have they been considered as a potential political force. The organized resistance spreading throughout the country is marking the declining power of U.S. influence. Realizing this threat, U.S. is maintaining its financial commitment to the tune of \$120 million to equip the Royal Thai Forces and train them in counter-insurgency techniques; population dispersal, assassination, napalm, and anti-personnel weapons-the same techniques used in Vietnam.

While violent demonstrations continue in the cities, particularly in Bangkok, and the guerrilla movement intensifies in the countryside, the people are rapidly realizing their potential as a united force capable of bringing about fundamental change in Thailand.

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