

ASIAN STUDENT VOICE

Volume II, No. 2

S.F. STATE, ASIAN STUDENT UNION

May, 1975



PILGRIMAGE TO TULE LAKE

AMERICA'S CONCENTRATION CAMPS
"Learn from past struggles,
Unite for future victories!"

During W.W.II, over 110,000 persons of Japanese ancestry were forcibly evacuated from their homes and communities in the western states. They were unjustly incarcerated into 10 concentration camps scattered throughout the United States; their constitutional rights denied as they spent nearly 4 years imprisoned behind barbed wire in the most barren, desolate areas of the country. None of these people were or have since been charged with any crimes punishable by the sentences imposed upon them.

Although carefully and intentionally omitted from history textbooks, the concentration camps are not forgotten. A product of racism and economic greed, the entire camp issue was passed off as a measure of 'national security'. The camp experience is an important chapter in Asian-American history and must be told.

Months of careful planning by the Pilgrimage Committee resulted in the first pilgrimage to Tule Lake planned by Asian students on April 18-20. Over 250 people, mostly Asian students participated under the theme, 'Learn from past struggles, Unite for future victories!'



Guard Towers.



Barracks.

During the Pilgrimage, people
toured the remains of the camp.

Four principles of unity were established for the Pilgrimage.

1) To expose the facts about the racist incarceration of 11,000 persons of Japanese ancestry during W.W. II.

2) To show that racism and national oppression is inherent in the present American political and economic system which led to the camps.

3) To examine the struggles of Asian-Americans today in relation to the history of Japanese and other Third World people in America.

4) To build the Asian Student Movement as an integral part of the overall Asian Movement.

Five buses and several cars journeyed the all night trip to Tule Lake. Our long trek ended in the early dawn-like hours. As we filed off the bus, the cold chill of the early morning made its presence known. The same chilly weather that made life miserable 32 years ago flaunted us. The frost and cold were quickly forgotten as we made our way inside the warm Home Economics building on the Tule Lake fairgrounds. We saw old friends and met new faces. While some people crashed, others started preparing breakfast.

After a hot breakfast, the first of two programs were presented. This program focused on the Camp experience and featured guest speakers who talked about their experiences in the camps. The struggle to survive the 3½ years in concentration camps showed the incredible strength and courage of our people. This determination was used as inspiration to struggles being waged today.

After the program, lunch was served as people talked about walking the almost ten miles from the fairgrounds to the camp site. An hour later, over 175 people started the hike. The walk took longer than expected with the busses catching up the last quarter mile with the less turdy people.

The camp site contained few relics of the past. The ruined remains of guardtowers, foundations of long gone structures, and a few fundown barracks was all that were left. To those of us too young to have gone through the camp experience, the deteriorating remains of the camp bombarded our imagination with pictures of how the camp must have looked like. To those who were actually in the camps, these sites unlocked grim memories of the past. To them, this was a very emotional experience. This emotion was shared by all of us through the starnp memories of the Nisei present. It was hard to completely understand the hardships that they went th through. We began to understand more the impact that camp life had on people.

As we rode the bus back to the fairgrounds, people talked about the camps, what they had seen and what they felt. Heavy conversations about the camps continued right on through dinner.

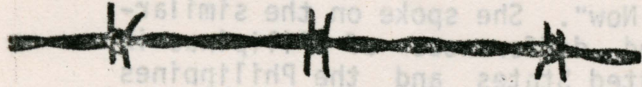
After dinner the second program was presented. Unlike the first program, the program shifted its focus

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away from the camps and dealt with the Asian Student Movement and the role of Asian students. A speech on the history of the Asian Student movement provided background information on the Movement and its goals. Unfortunately, many students unfamiliar with the movement could not fully understand these ideas. The reaction in general was of a positive nature.

The theme "Learn from past struggles- Unite for future victories" and the principles of unity were upheld throughout the program. Besides being a personal experience the pilgrimage served as an educational program. We learned about the camp issue. We learned what no U.S. history book could teach us--We learned the Truth.

The reactions that we received after the forum were generally favorable, with many people expressing surprise at finding out what the camps were all about. There were some criticisms though and they dealt with the length of the speeches and what actually was covered in them. We also weren't completely organized, which lead to some confusion and delays in starting time. The forum lasted a bit longer then expected and became drawn out towards the end. Next time, we hope to have the topics for the speeches more clearly specified and be more organized ourselves. One idea that we will follow up on is trying to get all the speakers together before the forum for a potluck dinner, so there can be exchange of ideas among all of us. We generally felt that we learned alot by putting on the forum.



AMERICA'S CONCENTRATION CAMPS

On Wednesday, March 19, the ASU sponsored a forum on America's Concentration Camps. The forum was planned with the purpose of exposing the facts about the real reasons behind them and who stood to gain from the incarceration. The program consisted of speakers, a skit, and a movie, and a short panel discussion.

Isami Waegh, an instructor at San Jose State University opened the program by sharing her approach to teaching her class and what she sees as the purpose behind teaching such a course. She was followed by a skit put on by members of the ASU. The skit took place in a classroom portraying the racist insensitivities of many teachers and the need for both students and teachers to explore outside of the classrooms to understand true realities that exist in our society. Mr. James Yano, an issei man from Berkeley, spoke about his personal experiences in Topaz, a camp in Arizona. The broader ramifications of the incarceration were covered by Edison Uno, who teaches "Evacuation and Relocation" here. The movie "Subversion" was next and it was followed by Joyce Nakamura from CANE. Our final speaker was Warren Furutani, a longtime activist from the Asian movement in LA.

The turnout for the program was really good, especially considering the time slot in which we had to give it. The room was filled and the audience seemed very receptive to the information and ideas that were being presented.

Int'l Women's Day



CPA Women's Group singing at the Chinatown celebration.

For over 50 years people all over the world have celebrated International Women's Day to recognize women in their struggle against oppression in the home and on the job, and in particular the struggle of Third world women against national oppression. This year the Chinese Progressive Association's Women's section held their second annual Women's Day celebration, drawing over 200 people to a dinner and program describing women's struggle for equality.

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The ASU at SFSU, with other groups including the Bay Area Progressive Musicians Assoc., NE, and Berkeley and Laney ASU's participated in the program of music, speeches, skits, tai-chi, and slideshows. The celebration was united around four themes: 1. Progressive Asian women unite. 2. Tribute to Asian working men. 3. Learn from women in socialist China 4. Express support for other minority women and all other oppressed women.



us, the program traced the story of women's oppression in China under feudalism, the liberation of women with the socialist revolution, the oppression of women here today, and the struggles which women have been raising such as that of the Jung Sai strike. The program ended with all participants joining in an enthusiastic singing of two songs, "Asian Sisters" (about Asian men standing up for their rights as Asians and as women) and "The Masses". In summing up our participation, the ASU feels that it was important to participate in this event for two reasons, 1st. to celebrate Women's Day shows that we recognize and support the struggles of Asian, Third World and other oppressed women; 2nd. that it is important that the ASU link up with different

groups in the progressive movement, such as Cane and CPA. ASU will continue to participate in these events.

FORUM ON PILIPINO WOMEN!

On March 21, PACE (Pilipino-American Collegiate Endeavor) presented a forum on the Pilipino Woman on campus. Through speakers, skits, slides, poetry, and songs we hoped to educate ourselves on the overall conditions of the Pilipina's roles and struggles society.

Among those speaking at the forum were Lilia Villanueva, a host on KTVU's "Asians Now". She spoke on the similarities and differences of Pilipinas in the United States and the Philippines and about the transition period the Pilipina immigrant must go through. Emma Salazar spoke about her former job with Blue Shield where she won a suit recently against them for discriminatory practices. Estelle Habal, a member of the Union of Democratic Pilipinos, spoke about the Pilipina's role at home and how feudal beliefs of women must still be broken.

Although the main focus was on the Pilipina, our struggles are the same as all Third World sisters. We see that the Third World women's movement is neither separate from the total Third World Movement nor is it similar to the bourgeoisie's feminist movement. In each part of the program, we wanted to convey that the enemy is not our brothers but the capitalist system which we live in. We sisters and brothers, suffer the same oppression of race and economic exploitation. At the same time, sisters must struggle against sex roles as the "helpless chick" which we, as well as our brothers, place on ourselves.

Working on the forum, we gained a better understanding of ourselves as Pilipinos and as women. We hoped that those who attended the forum gained some insight as to who we are and where we see ourselves going. Everyday, we all must struggle towards the liberation of Third World and all oppressed peoples under this racist, capitalist system.

THE I-HOTEL HOTEL TENANTS STRUGGLES ON!

With determination and spirit, the tenants of the International Hotel at 848 Kearny Street are continuing their struggle to save the hotel and to maintain their right to remain the only low-cost housing in the Chinatown/Manilatown area. Calling for mass support the IHTA which is the International Hotel Tenants Association has relied on the people's spirit and support to continue their battle.

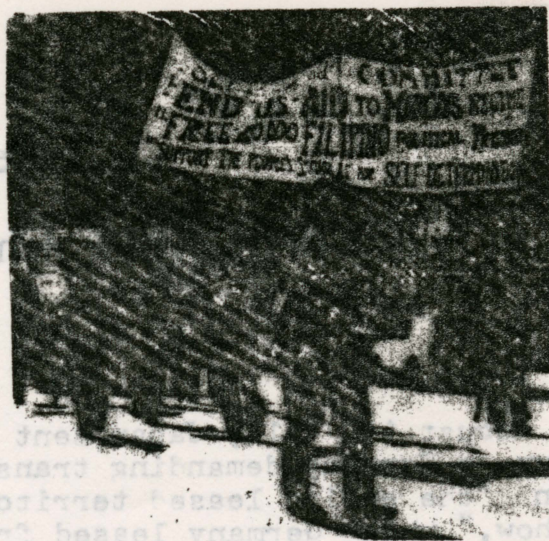
Due to the overall lack of low-cost housing in this area and the rapidly increasing cost of rent, the International Hotel is virtually the only housing site available to some 100 elderly Asians who live on low fixed incomes. Having the democratic right to decent, low-cost housing, the tenants have waged a long 5-year battle against eviction and the destruction of the Hotel. The determination of the tenants themselves, along with the support of the community and students, has defeated two eviction notices since 1969.

Currently, the tenants are organizing and struggling to repeal the demolition permit obtain by the new owners, Four Seas Investment Corporation. The tenants have mobilized a strong fight against Four Seas' intention of demolishing the Hotel, standing on firmly. "We Won't Move!" At a recent hearing at the Board of Permit Appeals, the tenants were unable to repeal the demolition permit, however their determination to stop Four Seas has not wavered. Further action is being planned by the IHTA to halt any evictions.

The following are the demands of the International Hotel Tenants Association, the leadership of the I-Hotel struggle.

1. A fair and long-term lease.
2. Option to buy the Hotel.
3. Lift the eviction.
4. Remedy all the building code violations.

The ASU at SFSU have consistently demonstrated their support for the just struggle of the I-Hotel. We encourage all progressive people to respect the leadership of the Tenants Association.



PILIPINO POLITICAL PRISONERS

The Union of Democratic Pilipinos (KDP) along with PACE and ASU will present a forum on political prisoners in the Philippines on campus in May.

On September 22, 1972, Ferdinand Marcos declared martial law in the Philippines and established a military dictatorship. Marcos disbanded the legislature, ended elections and deprived the people of their basic democratic rights. Since 1972, Marcos has imprisoned 20,000 political prisoners. Concentration camps throughout the country are filled with workers, peasants, students, journalists, businessmen, all people who dare to have spoken out against Marcos.

The political prisoners forum is one of three resolutions that came out of the first National Conference for the Anti-Martial Law Movement held last December in Chicago, to combat the Marcos regime on the U.S. front. Similar forums are being presented on campuses, in communities across the country to educate and organize support for the struggle of the political prisoners.

Also being coordinated is a national petition campaign to stop U.S. military aid to the Philippines and a counter-offensive on fallacious statements made by Marcos such as living conditions have risen for the people under martial law. For more information people can contact Bill Tamayo at 687-8708.

and their demands. For further information, contact the IHTA at 386-1782.

celebrate:

THE MAY 4th MOVEMENT



On August 15, 1914, Japan sent an ultimatum to Germany demanding transfer of Japan "the entire leased territory of Kiaochow," which Germany leased from China for ninety-nine years after she seized the area by force because two German Jesuits were killed by disbanding Chinese soldiers in Shangtung, but at the same time promising "the eventual restoration of the same to China".

On January 27, 1917, Great Britain, France, Italy, and the United States signed secret treaties with Japan, giving assurances that after WWI they would "support Japan's claims in regard to the disposal of Germany's rights in Shangtung", without eventual restoration of the province.

On May 4, 1919 Chinese students, intellectuals, youths, workers, peasants and other patriots rose in protest against the humiliating Shangtung Resolution of Versailles Peace Conference, which made the secret treaties publicly known. This foreign policy so grossly violated China's sovereignty and was imperialist in nature that many new revolutionary changes were born.

In this period of history death came to Confucianism, feudalistic ideas, customs of the old family system, and additional ethnics. The chains of landlordism, feudalism, and imperialism could no longer be tolerated or indignity by the Chinese people.

A new cultural movement was about to begin in China. Feminism was on the rise. Students and labor movements became politically aware of their united strength. Social reforms, and western ideas of science and democracy were no longer monopolized by foreigners. A literary revolution with the birth of the Chinese Communist Party will rewrite the future history of China throughout the World.

On Sunday, May 4, 1975, the Chinese Youth Group from the Chinese Progressive Association; along with many students throughout the Bay Area, will celebrate the 56th anniversary of the May Fourth Movement of China in 1919. These students will be united under the following principles:

1. To advance the spirit of the May Fourth Movement and promote the commitment of youths to transform society by:
 - a. Opposing racism and national oppression.
 - b. Combating feudalistic ideas
2. To unite the Asian youths on campuses and communities.
3. To unite with the struggles of Third World and working class people.

In the spirit of unity, understanding, and friendship we welcome and extend invitations to all who are interested on Sunday May 4th 1975 at the Chinese Cultural Center, 750 Kearney St. San Francisco, Calif. The display booth will be open from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm, but a program will be presented from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Hope to see you there.

only against redevelopment, but other forms of exploitation faced by Japanese-Americans on the job, in our communities, and all over the country.

Other speakers on the program were several small business people and residents. Roy Abbey, a barber in the community, called upon Issei (1st. generation or immigrant Japanese) to join and support Cane. In Japanese, he voiced that only in community unity is there strength.

Clarence Spear, proprietor of Weldon's grocery told the audience that he and other tenants on Laguna street are facing future eviction by RDA. "But I'm not going to move," he declared. "And Cane and I need your support to save Nihomachi."

Helen Jones, a Black mother of three children and also a resident, linked the resistance against redevelopment to the liberation struggles in Southeast Asia against U.S. aggression and the fight for freedom by her own ancestors from slavery more than a century ago. All three movements were directed against the same enemy, she said.

The program ended with the audience standing to sing the Philippine workers song, "The Masses". The dinner as a whole reflects the growing resistance against the destruction of Nihomachi (Japantown) and the elements (RDA and Kintetsu) causing this destruction and degradation of Japantown community. But with the power of a united people to fight for justice and dignity CANE stands ready to meet the challenges that lie ahead.

urban renewal and you

A forum examining the effects of urban renewal on San Francisco's Nihomachi (Japantown) and the Bay Area overall will be held Saturday, June 24, at 7:30 at Morning Star School auditorium (corner of Pine and Octavia) San Francisco. There will be no admission charge.

Under the theme of "Urban Renewal and You" the evening's program will feature a panel discussion by Nihomachi residents relating their personal experiences with redevelopment; a slide show on the effects of the Bay Area redevelopment masterplan on the lives of all Bay Area citizens; and a speaker from CANE (Committee Against Nihomachi Eviction), a citizens' group opposing the destruction and dispersal of their community; plus a photo exhibit and videotapes.

The forum is being sponsored by a special Asian-American Studies class held this semester at San Francisco State Univ. which has been examining the history of urban renewal in Nihomachi. An important aim of the course is to bring issues studied in the classroom back to the community - to share the knowledge that has been accumulated with others.

In organizing the June 14th forum, the class is working from the following perspectives gained from study of urban renewal;

- 1) That the redevelopment of Nihomachi, guided by the city's Redevelopment Agency and large corporations, has been transforming a historic residential and small business community into a tourist showcase.

cane

THIRD YEAR OF STRUGGLE

CANE enters Third Year of Struggle

Under the theme, "We Shall Not be Moved", some 350-400 people, members and supporters of the Committee Against Nihonmachi Eviction (CANE) joined together on April 12 in the San Francisco Buddhist Church gym to celebrate CANE's second anniversary.

The program consisted of speeches, songs, a skit, and educational displays. During the course of the evening, CANE representatives brought forth the major slogans for the evening which were "No more destruction, nor more dispersal", "Save the people, not only the housing", "United together, we'll never be defeated!"

Saichi Kawahara, CANE president, summarized the lessons learned during the past year by means of a slide show. He listed the first lesson as the need to take a firm stand against the destruction of Nihonmachi. This lesson was learned through setbacks as well as victories.

During early 1974, the stand of CANE wavered with demands put forth to the Redevelopment Agency (RDA) that spoke only to gaining benefits for residents who had been kicked out or demanding that residents not be moved "until developers were ready to build."

With this wavering stand of CANE, RDA and Kintetsu Enterprises, a large tourist oriented corporation from Japan which owns 25% of the land in Nihonmachi, jumped on the opportunity to continue to drive out residents and further turning the community into a disgusting tourist trap and plastic showplace.

With summarizing these

errors, CANE saw the necessity to take a firm stand to stop the destructive elements of Nihonmachi. This stand culminated in CANE's take-over of RDA offices in February to protest the eviction of a family from 1772 Sutter.

The second major lesson Kawahara pointed out was the need to rely on the people of the community to insure victory; the need to mobilize mass support to fight for what is right and to oppose what is wrong.

The third lesson was the need for CANE to broaden its perspective. "As the economic crisis heightens, the problems of our community will get worse," stated Kawahara. "Not only will we face lack of adequate housing, but unemployment, spiraling costs of food, fuel shortages. Therefore, the enemies of our community will be more than just RDA and Kintetsu. If we are to actively carry out our principles, we must save the people, not just the housing."

Following Kawahara's speech was Corresponding Secretary of CANE, Helen Ayame Liveritte who announced that CANE was launching a boycott of Kintetsu-owned businesses in Nihonmachi which include the Miyako Hotel, Suehiro Restaurant, Kintetsu Travel Agency, and the soon to be completed Kyoto Inn.

Cane will boycott these businesses until the following demand is met: Kintetsu and RDA, instead of building bowling alleys and hotels, provide funds to repair existing low-rent housing and small business space in Nihonmachi and build new units to replace on a one-to-one basis those it has historically destroyed through the redevelopment process.

Mrs. Liveritte again stressed what Kawahara had said to broaden the scope of Cane's work by fighting not

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2) That the destructive re-development of Nihonmachi is but a part of an overall Bay Area masterplan which is systematically destroying neighborhoods to build San Francisco into a "Wall Street of the West."

3) That the injustices in Nihonmachi in the name of re-development are parts of the history of exploitation of Japanese-Americans. And that the growing resistance movement against redevelopment is part of the ongoing struggle of Japanese-Americans for justice and dignity.

We hope that you will reserve June 14th and join us for what should be a very educational and enjoyable evening. Whether you live in the Richmond district, the Sunset district in San Francisco, Sacramento, San Mateo, or Berkeley, urban renewal affects you. Come to our forum to find out what is behind destructive redevelopment and what people can do to stop it.

5th PILIPINO PEOPLE'S

FAR WEST CONVENTION

On August 29, 30 and 31 1975, the 5th Annual Filipino Peoples Far West Convention will be held at U.C. Berkeley. In the past years, conventions have been held in places from San Diego to Seattle, Wash.

The FWC plays a key role in bringing further unity to the Filipinos in the U.S. It is a meeting place for many Filipinos to discuss and share common experiences and to

determine what responsibilities the Filipino Community had in alleviating some of the problems faced. Also, to take assertive action and work together on joint projects/activities which calls for a stronger working relationship of people.

One particular shortcoming of past conventions was that although it brought many Filipinos together for 3 days, the working relationship to initiate such joint projects never fully materialized each year was left waiting for the next set of resolutions to be drafted. To overcome this, the FWC is initiating Regional Conventions which will work on the preparational aspects of the convention and mobilization of the people.

These Conferences will be divided into fields of education, youth, senior citizens, housing, health, and labor/employment. In each conference we hope to come together and develop a working relationship that would set the basis for determining the main points that should be discussed at the FWC and to formulate possible proposals that could be refined.

The Far West Convention is viewed as a vehicle to develop and further strengthen the unity that exists within the Filipino Communities. For further information, people can contact: Jeanette Lazam 824-3964.



VIETNAM MARCH

AND RALLY

"International Day of
Solidarity with the
Vietnamese People"

On March 22, over 1000 people spiritly marched through San Francisco's Mission district for a rally at Union Square in solidarity with the Vietnamese people.

Following the lead banner which demanded that "Thieu must go" and "No more aid to Saigon", the demonstrators chanted slogans "Cut all aid to Thieu and Lon Nol!" and "Implement the Peace Agreement!". Under the theme of International Day of Solidarity with the Vietnamese People", the march and rally was sponsored by a Bay Area Coalition, which was initiated by the Berkeley chapter of the Union of Vietnamese in the U.S.

At the Union Square rally, Bui Van Dao of the Union of Vietnamese spoke on the current situation in South Viet Nam. He described how provinces were being abandoned without putting up a fight because of the morale problem of the Saigon troops where the rate of desertion is up to 2 divisions or 24,000 men a month. Dao stated, "These men refuse to fight because they don't want to die for a corrupt government whose business is only to get profit on the blood and lives of the South Vietnamese people."

Dao added that there were violations of the Peace Accord by the Saigon regime where people were being shot on sight if they attempted to return to their villages under

the control of the FRG. This is in contradiction to Article 11 of the agreement which guarantees freedom of movement to all people said Dao. "People are put in jails even for selling newspapers criticising the Saigon government. There are still 20,000 political prisoners who are facing torture, maiming, and death every minute, every second." Dao emphasized "No one can put up with this situation any longer. A people's storm is gathering. . . to demand peace, better living conditions, freedom, and democracy. It rises from a father's wrath upon seeing his children starving to death. It rises from a mother longing for her son to come home from the war. It rises from the deepest aspirations of the whole population. They demand to live in dignity, as human beings. They come to realize that as long as Thieu remains in power, the war continues. Therefore, Thieu must go and the Paris Agreement must be implemented. These are the most urgent demands."

Dao concluded by saying "We call on all Americans to intensify their work, to make their voices heard to end all U.S. involvement in especially the defeat of the military supplementary bill."

Other speakers on the program included a representative from CASA, the United Farmworkers, and the VVAW who spoke on unconditional and universal amnesty for all war resisters. The final speaker, Jane Fonda, revealed her overestimation of U.S. imperialism power and her underestimation of the growing strength of the masses. When she stated that the American people should rely solely on the U.S. Congress to end the war, sections of the crowd jeered, shouting "It's the Masses!". For it is the masses who will determine the outcome of the war, not reliance on legislative means.

Vietnam has Won!!

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam (PRG), the Peoples Liberation Armed Forces, and the Vietnamese people in their final victory over U.S. imperialism.

For over three decades, the courageous Vietnamese people have been valiant and sturdy in their protracted struggle against the colonialist and neo-colonialist policies of Japan, France, and the United States.

The just struggle of the Vietnamese people has served as an important lesson in the overall struggle of all Third World countries against imperialism. It is a great encouragement to the revolutionary struggles of the oppressed nations and oppressed peoples all over the world. The Vietnamese victory shows us that small countries can defeat big countries and that oppressed peoples can rise up victoriously against their oppressors.

The contributions of the American anti-war movement, in general, and the student and Asian anti-war movements in particular, has played an influential role in advancing the struggle and victory of the Vietnamese people against the imperialist war. In expressing our wholehearted support for the victories of the Indochinese people, we must also congratulate ourselves- the peoples in America, that have given ourselves to the common cause of struggling against the imperialist wars in Indochina and to the united struggle the world over against all oppressor and exploiter countries.

In being liberated, the renaming of "Saigon" to Ho Chi Minh City signifies that it is only the beginning of the struggle to reunify Vietnam and to create a prosperous, democratic, and independent nation. Likewise, in America, our struggle also continues- to build the Asian student movement, as a part of the whole Asian movement, and in general, to build the overall revolutionary movement.


ASU study group



As part of the on-going activities of the ASU, an informal study and discussion group has been initiated every Sunday. The purpose of these meetings is to promote discussion and ideas about our goals and practice in organizing Asian students and building the Asian student movement. It had been felt that we were becoming too task oriented and do not know enough theory and understanding behind what we were doing. Open to all interested members and friends of ASU, this will provide a consistent opportunity for us to discuss our various projects and work as a collective organization.

We are now discussing and studying a topic which the ASU is also planning an event around. This is the May 4th Movement, which was a revolutionary movement in China in 1919, involving thousands of students who stood up against feudalism and foreign domination. As part of a coalition, the ASU will be commemorating this event as well as relating it to today's students. In our Sunday meetings we are researching this topic and exchanging ideas on the role of students in revolutionary struggle.

This group has been organized with the intent of building greater clarity and unity within ASU and to strengthen our day-to-day work. The meetings have just started, we encourage interested persons to participate in this activity or to learn about the other things that the ASU is involved in. Come by Mod 23 or contact Warren at 771-5130 for more information about the study meetings.

ASU Semester Sum up

Well! the semester is coming to an end. By the time this issue of Asian Student Voice comes out, all of us will be preparing for finals. This is also true for the ASU. We will be summing up the work that the ASU has done this semester, the accomplishments, the shortcomings, and the lessons we have learned through our struggles.

For the ASU, it's been a busy semester. Let's examine some of the things we've done:

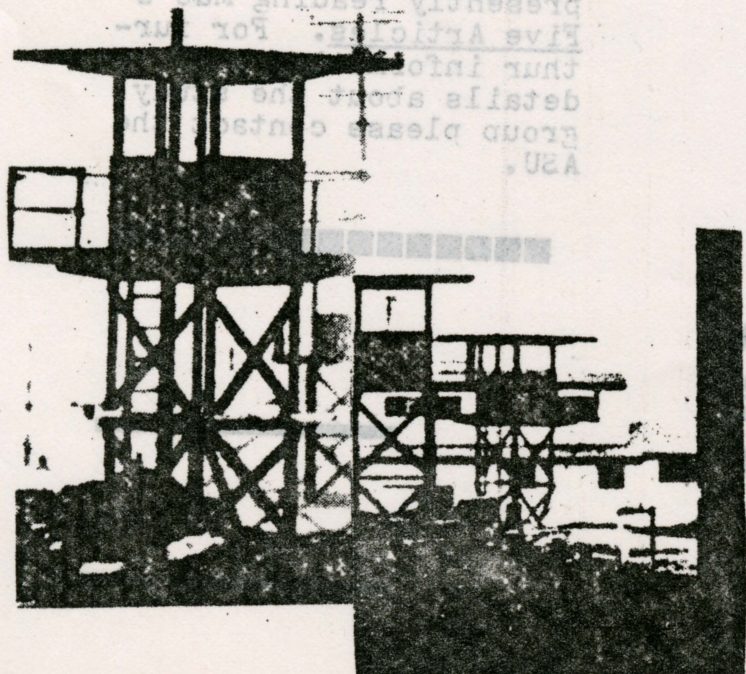
New Years Celebration- On Feb. 15, we welcomed the Lunar New Year with a celebration of Asian peoples' struggles in Asia and in America. We attempted to integrate culture with issues and struggles that Asian people are waging today. The program included speakers from the Union of Vietnamese, CANE, Int'l hotel, Mandarin restaurant, and cultural presentations like the Taiko Drums, a Lion Dance, poetry, and Japanese folk dancing. About 200 hundred people attended this program.

Snow Trip- Right after the celebration, ASU members took off for Lake Tahoe on a joint weekend snow trip with a number of Asian student organizations and the Chinese Progressive Association Youth Group from SF Chinatown. At Lake Tahoe, the various organizations exchanged newsletters and experiences during the evenings. It was a weekend filled with friendship and unity. And, also, we didn't go gambling!

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International Women's Day-
 March 8th is Int'l Women's Day. It is a day in which the heroic struggles of women, the world over, have against oppression and exploitation is celebrated. The ASU at SFSU joined with the Women's Section of the Chinese Progressive Association, the ASU's at Laney and Berkeley, Liberation School, and the Bay Area Progressive Musicians Union (BAPMA) in a festive evening program united around the principles of: 1. Progressive Asian women unite. 2. Tribute to working women. 3. Learn from women in China. 4. Express support for other minority and all oppressed women.

Forum on Concentration Camps-
 "America's Concentration Camps. Learn from past struggles to unite for future victories!" and "Build the Asian Student Movement" were themes of the various educational forums by Asian student organizations all over the Bay Area concerning the camps. A forum was also organized at SFSU on March 19 that included a number of speakers, a skit, and a panel discussion. About 150 attended this forum.



Pilgrimage to Tule Lake-250
 people, mostly Asian students, took a 400 mile trip to Tule Lake concentration camp near the Oregon border on the weekend of April 19th. What remains of the camp that once imprisoned 18,000 people of Japanese ancestry are but crumbling remnants of the guard towers, a decaying barrack, and a cross that the victims erected on a distant hill called Castle Rock.

It was a very important occasion in which we reminisced about the heroic struggles of Asian peoples in the past to better understand the tasks facing us today in the Asian student movement.

Fight for an office-The right of Asian students to organize at SFSU is not compromisable. The same applies to the right to office space on campus.

For the past two months, the ASU have been fighting for a small office in the Moduluxes. Finally we were allowed to set up temporary office hours in one of them. We were told however that "all available space for student organizations in the Mods. will be allocated for academic functions in June".

The issue of office space is an important one. In the past, we've been given a room to meet for two hours a week. Many Asian students expressed interest and need for the ASU and have come to meetings but couldn't stay for the whole meeting due to conflict with classes, work, etc.

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This deliberate policy of the JFSU administration of not giving space on campus has stifled the development of the ASU and many other organizations on campus. This serious problem must be eliminated.

Cane/I-Hotel-Throughout the semester, the ASU, along with hundreds of other people have demonstrated consistent support for Cane and the I-Hotel.

These are two continuing fights which Asian and all Progressive peoples must support. The I-hotel issue reflects the history of denial that Filipino people in America have been facing for the last hundred years. The formation of Cane and the I-Hotel Tenants Assoc. signifies the growing and determined resistance people in the Japanese, Filipino, and Chinese communities against the attempts of business monopolies like Kintetsu Enterprises and Four Seas Corp. They are attempting to uproot our communities. We will continue to give our support to Cane, and the I-hotel tenants Assoc. in their heroic struggles.



Study Group-Throughout the course of the semester, many urgent questions have risen in our work in the ASU. We came into contact with many political forces, ideas, and lines on and off campus. In the course of the semester, each one of us

has gotten to know ourselves and each other a little better concerning our attitudes, methods of work, and our commitment to changing society. At the end of Feb. some of us wanted to do some political study in the ASU. A few people took up the tasks of organizing study sessions.

So far, we've read On Commitment by Nilo Tayag, The May 4th. Movement, and The Orientation of the Youth Movement by Mao Tse Tung. We are presently reading Mao's Five Articles. For further information and details about the study group please contact the ASU.



tasks of the asian student movement



It would be impossible to analyze the direction of the Asian student movement, without first analyzing its history and the role it has played in changing society. The growth of the American Student Movement can be attributed to three great movements that had immense impact on our society. First there was the civil rights movement, which sparked a growing militancy among Black and other TW people in the U.S. Asian students, especially those near big cities with large asian ghettos began to flock to their communities in support of the many struggles for democratic rights that grew out of the civil rights movement.

Secondly the anti-war movement brought the struggles of the American people to a new level. Students played a leading role in exposing U.S. imperialism in Indochina, and building massive and widespread opposition to the war. Asian students in particular advanced the movement by supporting the FRG and the seven point program. Thus we brought out the racist and genocidal character of the war and drew parallel examples between the Vietnamese fight for liber-

ation abroad and our fight for liberation at home.

Thirdly student unrest hit the campuses across the nation, calling attention to institutionalized racism and the irrelevancy of the educational system. Asian and other TW people recognized that we had been robbed of our language, culture, and history by the educational system. This brought forth the TW strikes at Berkeley and S.F. State for ethnic studies. To lead this movement many student organizations formed, including many Asian student organizations.

From our history we must recognize that it has never been easy for TW student organizations to form. Many times Asian student organizations grew out of spontaneous issues that were facing society. Within the past two year Asian students have realized the need for more consistent organizations to meet the needs of students on campus, and to lead the fight against national oppression.

The Asian Student Union (ASU) at S.F. State is one such organization. We have had a year of concrete practice working with Asian students. In learning from the past mistakes of the Asian student movement we are united in trying to build an Asian student movement that will add to the growing movement of Asian peoples to change society. In fighting for the democratic rights of



cont.

students and participating in mass community' issues we see that U.S. imperialism is the root cause of the oppression against our people. It is clear that the Asian Student Movement cannot isolate itself on the campuses.



The ASU has consistently supported the rights of our communities on issues such as the I-hotel and Cane. It is also important to take part in the celebrations of progressive movements such as May 1st., May 4th, Oct. 1st., and the celebration of International Womens Day. (see attached articles) As students participating in community events and supporting community issues we have learned that we must always respect and learn from the masses of working people in our communities. In the past, many students have gone down to our communities with a missionary attitude of serving and leading the people without taking into account the experience community people have gained from a long history of resistance against national oppression. Our role in the communities then is one of learning from the people before we can concretely serve our communities and lead the movement forward.

One area that the ASU has lacked in is the support of workers struggles. Many students don't see the crucial importance of uniting with workers. Objectively students will not remain students forever, most will join the ranks of wage laborers. The struggle of Asian workers is also a struggle against national oppression, and super exploitation. Super profits are made off Asian workers who are kept in the lowest paying positions in certain industries such as garment shops, hotel restaurant, and other non-unionized positions. We must consistently support



Asian workers and recognize their struggle as one of an oppressed nationality against super exploitation.

We see Asian Student Organizations themselves as a necessary form for fighting national oppression. The right of Asian students to organize is a democratic right. Views which deny the right of Asians to organize are racist and deny the particularities of the oppression we face as a national minority.

Asian student organizations on other campuses have been forming as a result of this need for consistent leadership among Asian students. We must make a conscious effort in working together



with all such organizations to broaden and strengthen the existing student movement.

Besides building a multi-campus relationship with other Asian student organizations we must build and strengthen the ASU at State. The ASU has recognized that for any movement we participate in to be successful, the ideas, creativity, and the strength of our sisters must be present. Our sisters have played a leading role in the development of the ASU. Women should be in positions of decision making, to take responsibilities so as to develop fully. There must be a constant struggle with sisters to take initiative, and a constant struggle with the incorrect ideas of brothers who would hold them back.

Our organization is a young one. We have made mistakes in the past, learned from them and managed to move forward. These ideas were written in hopes of clarifying the purpose of Asian Student Organizations and the tasks that lay before us. In summary then we would like to point out the main points we feel are crucial for the Asian Student Movement at this time.

1.) We must consolidate and strengthen our organization on campus, to better meet the needs and defend the rights of Asian students.

2.) We must work together with other campuses to build an Asian Student Movement, add to our peoples fight against national oppression, and strengthen the overall student movement.

3.) We must consistently support our working people and recognize them as the main force in changing society.

4.) Bring the celebrations of progressive events such as Workers Day, International Womens Day, Oct. 1st, etc. to students on campus.

5.) Carry on the support work for National Liberation wars abroad such as those in S.E. Asia.

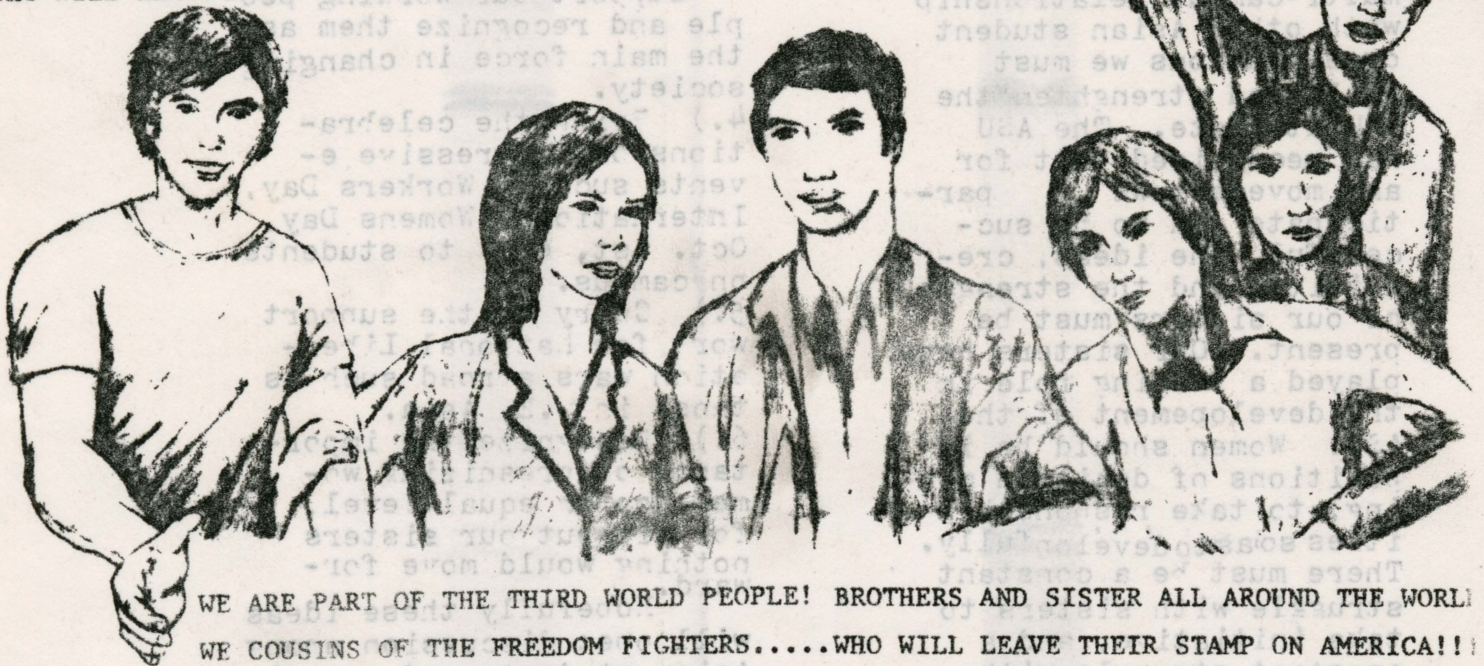
6.) Recognize the importance of organizing women, on an equal level, for without our sisters nothing would move forward.

Hopefully these ideas will open discussion among Asian students and organizations. The ASU welcomes comments and criticisms from all honest people who wish to carry the Asian Student Movement forward.





WE ARE THE CHILDREN OF THE MIGRANT WORKERS!
WE ARE THE OFFSPRINGS OF THE CONCENTRATION CAMPS!
SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE RAILROAD BUILDERS!
WHO WILL LEAVE THEIR STAMP ON AMERICA!



WE ARE PART OF THE THIRD WORLD PEOPLE! BROTHERS AND SISTER ALL AROUND THE WORLD!
WE COUSINS OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS.....WHO WILL LEAVE THEIR STAMP ON AMERICA!!!

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We would like to give special thanks
to

GETTING TOGETHER NEWSPAPER,
BERKELEY ASIAN STUDENT UNION,
CHINESE FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION
for the use of thier facilities.