

THE CALLEY TRIAL

DON'T BE FOOLED!

After months of dry legal procedures, some people who have watched the Calley case seem to have forgotten what started it all--102 torn human bodies scattered along a ditch. Calley is a murderer.

Everyone knows this. Why, then, do some call for his release? Yes, Calley is a scapegoat; many as guilty as he will go free. This doesn't lessen Calley's crimes, but only raises the question of why the others won't be charged.

Calley is a racist murderer. The massacre of Vietnamese civilians-- even to babes in arms-- would never have been possible if the soldiers involved hadn't been so drilled in racism that they were incapable of seeing Vietnamese as fellow human beings. People who would let Calley off are falling into the same racist trap. Remember, some of Calley's biggest backers include Wallace, Maddox, and draft boards throughout the country! The organized right, including the American Legion and the VFW are building him as an actual hero.

Calley is a lifer. He is a ROTC-trained career officer, not a private. He's been trained to give orders and know what they mean. He knew what he was doing when he ordered the killings, just as he knew what he was doing when he worked as a strikebreaker before going into the army.

The My Lai massacre was covered up at every level of command. The army didn't want to try Calley, but they were forced to by the indignation of workers and students across the country. When Mr. Needle, the father of one of the privates in Calley's company, heard of My Lai, he said, "If that had been me there I would have turned around and shot that officer..."

The big businessmen who run this country, who own the media and control the government at every level through patronage, are responsible for the war. The Johnson's and the Nixon's are only their front men. The US army fights to protect their investments around the world. Their tremendous profits come from the labor of Americans and Asians alike. They are our enemy, as well as the enemy of the Vietnamese. The most important question about the Calley case is: What do these crooks want to get out of it?

Their first big gain comes from confusion. Like the Manson trial, the Calley case is an opportunity to fill up reams of paper without having to print any real news. Manson and Calley are killers, but the real killers are the ruling class, the authors of the war on the Vietnamese. Bosses are like squids--if they can cloud the water, they've got a chance to escape.

Their second big gain is the opportunity to bill Calley as a "hero"-- a fascist hero. They hope a fascist movement can be built around him. People who realize that Calley is a scapegoat have two choices open to them. One is to call for Calley's freedom. But freedom for Calley means freedom to commit racist murders. This is what Nixon wants you to do, and this is what Nixon's silk-suit backers want.

The other choice is to fight US imperialism right down the line. GIs have been showing how to do this. The number of AIOs is in the thousands. In Vietnam, hundreds have refused to march into combat, and dozens of gung-ho officers have been killed by their own troops in the last few months.

There's work for students to do, too. ROTC still exists on this campus, training the junior officers the army must have to fight the war. The Criminal Justice Studies departments still exists, to adapt the theories of counter-insurgency to American factories, schools and ghettos. SDS wants to build a movement to smash these institutes, and the robber barons who set them up as well. We say, JOIN US!

What do you think of Calley?

FORUM, THURSDAY, APRIL 8th
West side of the ARMORY
12 noon

US IMPERIALISM OUT OF S.E. ASIA!

FIGHT ROTC!

FIGHT CJS!

FIGHT RACIST CALLEY!

(April 7, 1971)