

# CHALLENGE

BULLETIN  
TO GI'S **6**

## GETTING AHEAD ARMY STYLE

Currently operating at Fort Ord among many Basic and Infantry AIT companies is a sophisticated point system whereby the Army hopes to divide trainees. Points are awarded for being gung-ho, volunteering for details, getting high G-3 scores, being in the "best" platoon, etc. The "reward" is a weekend pass! The effect of this program is to get us to work like hell for a 28 hour pass or post privileges. We compete against each other and put up with the Army's oppression in hopes of an opportunity to forget about the training and Vietnam for a few hours. But we can't get away from Vietnam or the Army, because as the class struggle sharpens in Asia and in the US, the Army will be used more and more to suppress working class rebellions. Our only hope is to unite with workers and peasants around the world to fight the capitalist system.

When the Army uses plans like the above to divide us, we must organize collectively to demand more free time for all trainees and to begin to fight against the Vietnam war and the use of the Army as scabs (as in the recent postal workers strike).

- A Ft. Ord GI.-

## DRUGS AND THE ARMY

Do you ever wonder why, in the last few years, thousands of tons of heroin, cocaine, LSD, hash, and other drugs have been made available in our schools, communities and in the Army? Do you know that the sale of these drugs is controlled by the bosses and politicians of this country?

The more GI's speak up against the Vietnam war and fight against racism and other injustices, the more the rulers try to blow their minds with drugs. But we need clear heads to end this system! Drugs have always been used to maintain colonial domination in places like Vietnam, China, and the Middle East. In China it was the British who brought in opium and later the revolutionaries who destroyed it.

Early in US history, opium and hemp were used on southern plantations and turpentine farms to keep workers' minds off their miserable conditions. In the north, ten-year-old textile workers were paid in notes which they could exchange for morphine. Once addicted they were completely dependent on the company to keep them supplied.

In Arab countries "hash" is completely legal and easy to get. Upper-class people openly tell you that they wouldn't think of using drugs; their purpose is to keep workers from rebelling against their wretched conditions. The upper class has long experience as to how "mind-liberating" these drugs are!

The important question is not whether "pot", or any other drug, is "less harmful" than alcohol, or that it is less addictive. The point is that drugs are being pushed as an escape into the unreal world of fantasy and bullshit. The lesson is clear: "turning on" means tuning out on your own best interests. While the brass frowns on drug use during duty hours, they are quite tolerant about off-duty use, figuring that it's better to have GI's "high" and "happy" than actively fighting against them.

## CHALLENGE DISTRIBUTION

Last Saturday we were harrassed by the police at both the Monterey and Salinas bus stations. Our names were taken and we were "warned" that selling was illegal without a permit. We now "distribute" Challenge. We do not solicit contributions but neither do we refuse them.

Send articles & criticisms to:

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