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## Teaching People's Health Fighting in East Timor

#755 DECEMBER 24, 1975

# LNS

#### NOTES FROM THE STAFF

LIBERATION News Service      Packet #755  
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Telephone: (212) 749-2200

Hours: 9AM to 9PM weekdays except Wednesdays

STAFF COLLECTIVE: Ellen Garvey, Cidne Hart,  
Sarah Plant, Barbara Plog, Sandy Shea, Mike  
Shuster, Ron Sirak, Nancy Stiefel.

COMRADES: Ron Alden, Minton Brooks, John Garvey,  
Bill Peters, Judy Rabinovitz, Jessica Siegel,  
Milt Taam.

CORRESPONDENTS: Schofield Coryell--Paris

CARTOONIST: Dave Hereth

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Well, this is the last LNS newspacket for  
1975--we'll be signing off for ten days or  
so for a much needed rest. We'll be back  
again January 5, when we're planning to put  
into effect some changes in our editorial  
procedures. So the next packet on January  
8 will be all graphics, to give us a chance to  
get organized.

On page eight you'll see an article listing  
some interesting '76 calenders that groups have  
sent us, along with a page of graphics taken  
from them. If any of you have put out a  
calender we haven't listed--send us one.

For the first regular packet of '76 we're  
planning an article summing up the many Victories  
of Third World countries in 1975.

And for those of you who may be in New  
York the end of January, don't forget about  
our January 24 benefit concert with Pete  
Seeger, Happy Traum, Bev Grant & the Human  
Condition, David Amram and Bill Horwitz.

Have a good time--  
LNS

[See feature page of graphics in this packet]

SOUTH BRONX CLINIC OFFERS  
"A COURSE IN PEOPLE'S MEDICINE"

NEW YORK (LNS)--"There's no formal name for the course--sometimes we call it a course in people's medicine," explains Joan Waitkevicz, a doctor at the People's Health Center in New York City, where free health courses are offered to the community.

"The original purpose was to enable people to know more about their own health and the health of their neighbors, and to become resources of information in their community--something like the barefoot doctors in China."

Located in the South Bronx, a poor, predominantly black and Latin neighborhood, the People's Health Center is an independent clinic with a collective staff that serves the surrounding community and anyone else who wants to go there. Although generally in poor financial shape, the clinic has continued uninterrupted since 1969 and survives on low to average medical fees, and medicare and medicaid payments.

The collective staff includes one nurse, three doctors, three dentists, an administrator and four medical workers. All four medical workers were trained in the health course offered at the center.

The precursor of the "people's medicine" course dates back to 1970, says Waitkevicz, with the Community Medical Corps, a group of people in the South Bronx who learned medical skills and then "went out and did door to door screening in their buildings for lead poisoning, tuberculosis, anemia and other common diseases." Doctors at nearby Lincoln Hospital taught the first class and then it continued with those who had learned first, and then went on to teach others.

But the Community Medical Corps had trouble finding funding and in 1973 people in the group came to the People's Health Center to start giving the course there. Since then there have been at least eight "graduating classes."

"In the Community Medical Corps," Waitkevicz says, "the emphasis was on screening for a certain number of diseases. The screening didn't have to be done by a professional; anyone can do these tests and there's no legal restriction. However, in the process of learning, these people also learned a lot about common diseases and they were then able to give advice to other people."

"That was the original intent of the course when it was given at the Center for the first time as well. Only later it became clear that people who took the course also found it easier to get jobs in the health field."

She estimates that about two thirds of the people who have taken the course have either gone on to a health science school or have gotten some job in the health field. "Often people that take the course have come from racial or class backgrounds where they might not otherwise have had the opportunity," adds Waitkevicz.

Although open-ended, the course usually lasts from four to six months. The class is free, but the clinic asks people who are able to contribute

toward the cost of the materials.

The current class, which began in September, is divided into two groups of 20 people each, including the teachers, that meet every Saturday for about four hours. More white women than ever before are in this class, which is roughly one third men and one third Third World people.

In addition, says Waitkevicz, the current class has people that are in alternative health care fields, like chiropractic and nutritional health. Two medical students are in the class, both women, who've come because they feel that the formal training they're getting is isolated from a social context.

Several older women have come because of their interest in health in their own family and community, and a number of volunteer health workers from the St. Marks Clinic, a free clinic on Manhattan's Lower East Side, have joined the course to add to their skills. Another student is a taxi driver who works with the Taxi Rank & File Coalition, a group within the union which is organizing, among other things, for occupational health and safety for cab drivers.

"I had heard about the class through the NYC Community College newspaper," said Barbara Payne, who took the last people's medicine course. "I'm studying medical lab technology and thought that this would be a good opportunity to add to what knowledge I had gained, and it did -- tremendously."

"There were a lot of students and a lot of working people in my class," she continued. But she added that Saturday classes made it difficult for some people to attend the class -- especially working women -- some of whom eventually had to drop out.

A big difference between the people's medicine course and traditional professional teaching revolves around who is teaching and how.

"I learned skills that I never thought I would be able to do because it was a very non-threatening environment for learning," another people's health course graduate, Joan Zimmerman, said. "You got more support there, and were never made to feel that you couldn't do something. The whole mystification of medicine, the whole medical profession was just completely broken down, and put in its proper perspective."

"The approach of the class is to see what's needed in terms of health care, and then to work back from that to teach the scientific theory," Waitkevicz explains. "An example would be how we teach blood pressure."

"The reason that we teach blood pressure-taking at all is that it's a helpful skill in terms of finding jobs, and because there's a large number of untreated people with high blood pressure, especially in cities and among poor people."

"High blood pressure isn't strictly a disease that poor people have, but poor people are less likely to be screened for it, than other people," Waitkevicz continues. "For example, in New York there's now a hypertension screening program which

works through the union at Gimbel's department store, and other large businesses. In other cities there's screening for hypertension in suburban shopping centers -- they park a mobile unit where people will be shopping.

"But there's nothing comparable in the unemployment office or in the welfare office, so we think it's important that people know how to take blood pressure, how to explain to a person what they've got and what they can do to help themselves avoid serious consequences."

The course teaches how the heart and blood vessels work, what causes high blood pressure, and many other aspects of the problem.

"People who are interested can go into the hormonal and molecular changes," said Waitkevicz, "but we don't start with the hormones and the molecules, we start with the patient, with the person in the street who doesn't know they're sick."

People with formal medical training usually start out teaching the course, but people who have completed the course also participate in this first stage of teaching. Subjects include blood pressure and drawing, how the heart and circulation works, and how to deal with serious emergencies.

In the second section of the course, people in the class are expected to participate more equally in the teaching, especially if they bring a particular skill with them.

"There are things that medical professionals are not taught and that we don't by virtue of our degrees, have a good knowledge of," said Waitkevicz, "such as nutrition, acupuncture, acupressure, how to do filing and paper work in the administration of the clinic, and how to relate to patients."

There are other topics, such as first aid, drugs and overdoses, which are taught more to emergency medical technicians than to doctors. "We try to get the most expert person to teach and in this class emergency medical technicians are volunteering to teach that part of the course," Waitkevicz added.

Students also determine what they want to learn and the course outline is almost entirely suggested by class members. The only drawback with this, said Zimmerman, was her class's initial decision that there be no structure in the course.

"Everyone was tired of structure and classroom situations. But our decision was bad at the beginning and we were later forced to become more structured," she said.

Students are urged to work at the center as volunteers in as much as their life allows them to, and the first thing they do is work with the physicians' assistant at the Center. There they learn the necessary paper work for each patient.

In addition, the assistant "teaches the students the things that she knows better than the professionals, which is how to put someone at their ease and find out what they've really come for even if they're too shy to tell, which is often the case," explains Waitkevicz.

"I know that's not taught in medical school

because it's something I had great difficulty with. Somewhere between the second and third year of medical school we were told to go into the hospital, tell a patient you're a doctor and do a complete physical on them -- even though they'd just gone through one. We were put in a situation where we were very apprehensive about messing with those people's bodies -- which was correct, but we were told it was incorrect."

Before a student works with patients, they're supposed to be fully confident and to have practiced on classmates many times before. Much emphasis is put on good technique -- how to do uncomfortable or painful things quickly and also how to do them with a full explanation of what's being done.

One black woman in the class was particularly concerned with this last point, since she had worked as a paramedic in Haiti and was seriously injured in an auto accident there. While she was in a Haitian hospital, people gave her full information about what was being done to her because they knew that she was a paramedic.

But when she was brought to New York for more treatment, she was given no information because they assumed she didn't know anything. The point to her -- which she relayed to the whole class -- was that everyone should get that information.

"I guess we're trying to put health care back into the hands of people," summed up Joan Waitkevicz, "and especially racial minorities, women, gay people and poor people."

Teaching people to take care of themselves and their neighbors, to give advice, and helping people from these groups to go to school are just a few ways of doing that. We didn't plan it that way, but the course is helping people to do both these things."

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The People's Health Center has copies of its people's medicine course guide and would like to make contact with other health groups doing similar or related work. Their address is: 438 Claremont Parkway, Bronx, New York, 10457.

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#### BICENTENNIAL TEAR GAS

NEW YORK (LNS)--The role of tear gas in American history hasn't been neglected by Bicentennial officials. A "History of Tear Gas Used for Riot Control Study" is one of the activities listed in the "Official Master Register of Bicentennial Activities."

The project is described as a "history of the introduction of tear gas developed by scientists of the chemical warfare service during World War I, and its impact on American riots, labor disputes, and civil disorders in the 1920's."

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[Thanks to Primo Times for this short.]

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CARTER-ARTIS SUPPORTERS MARCH ON GOVERNOR'S  
HOUSE DEMANDING CLEMENCY

NEW YORK (LNS)--Several dozen supporters of Rubin "Hurricane" Carter and John Artis stood in sub-freezing weather for nearly four hours on December 22 at the New Jersey governor's mansion demanding executive clemency for the two black prisoners.

"The Governor didn't meet with us," defense committee member Ken Kristal said of the march on Brendan Byrne's house, "but we felt it important to take the bid for clemency right up to his front door."

In a related development, the New York Times reported December 19 that a still confidential report on the Artis-Carter case states that the two defendants passed a lie detector test at the time of their arrest and that another suspect failed the test and had no alibi. The Times, which says it has obtained a copy of the controversial study of the case prepared by State Assembly member Eldridge Hawkins, says the lie detector results show the two men "had no knowledge" of the crime.

Carter and Artis are serving life sentences for a triple murder conviction in 1967. In September, 1974, the only two witnesses who testified against them admitted they had lied in exchange for police favors. But a new trial has yet to be granted. The State Supreme Court will hear the motion for a new trial on January 12. In the meantime, Artis and Carter are asking that they be freed from jail pending the outcome of the court proceedings.

In early December, Carter and Artis withdrew their petition for a pardon stating that they wanted their names cleared in a new trial.

"Asking for a pardon amounts to an admission of guilt," explained Kristal. "You lose all your rights to bring suit against the state for false imprisonment. Clemency, however, would free Artis and Carter while the legal battle goes on and give them more options to expose the state frame-up."

Governor Byrne has had Hawkin's report since early December but has yet to comment on it. But Hawkin's actions in recent weeks as well as leaked portions of the report have prompted Artis and Carter to charge that the report is a state attempt to frame them on new charges.

According to the new theory of the 1966 shoot-out in the Hawkins report, Carter and Artis were not the actual gunmen but served as lookouts during the killings.

This new theory was first revealed on December 2 when John Artis told reporters that Hawkins had offered to have him freed from jail if he would testify that he was an accomplice in the shootings. Jeffery Fogel, a lawyer for Artis, was present when Hawkins made the offer and supports Artis's account.

"I told him I was innocent, that Rubin was innocent, and that I knew nothing about the killings," Artis said of the encounter with Hawkins.

"What they're trying to do," said Carter, "is find us guilty of something. I don't expect any of these people who had anything to do with this to have a sense of rightness after nine years. But I'm not going to be defeated now. You better believe it." --30--

TWO BLACK LIBERATION ARMY MEMBERS  
ACQUITTED OF KIDNAPPING

NEW YORK (LNS)--Two black militants described by police as members of the Black Liberation Army (BLA) were acquitted December 20 on kidnapping charges stemming from a December, 1972 Brooklyn barroom robbery. For Joanne Chesimard (Assata Shakur) it was her third acquittal in two years. Cleared along with her was Ronald Meyers. Assata still has two other charges pending against her.

The seven-man, five-woman State Supreme Court jury deliberated seven hours before reaching their verdict. The prosecution had charged that Assata, Meyers, and three other alleged BLA members took James Freeman, a bar owner, captive and demanded \$20,000 for his release. Two of the other suspects in the case were killed by police in a shoot out less than a month later.

Between 1972 and 1974 almost every unsolved bank robbery and attack of police officers in New York City were laid to the BLA by police officials and the New York press. The six people named by then police commissioner Patrick Murphy at a January, 1973, press conference as "leaders" of the BLA were all ex-members of the New York Black Panther Party, including Assata Shakur.

"These people were politically significant people," said a spokesperson for the New York Panthers after the 1973 press conference. "They worked in drug programs, breakfast programs, and housing and welfare programs."

At the time of her arrest, Assata Shakur explained, "I am a black revolutionary woman and because of this I have been charged with and accused of every alleged crime in which a woman was believed to have participated."

Assata and Fred (Jamal) Hilton were acquitted of bank robbery charges in December, 1973, and in October, 1974, an indictment against Assata for ambushing two police officers was dismissed for lack of evidence. Still pending against her are another bank robbery charge and a murder charge stemming from a 1973 shoot out with police on the New Jersey turnpike.

In that shoot out, former deputy minister of the New York Panthers, Zayd Malik Shakur, and a police officer were killed and Assata was wounded. Clark Squire, who was in the car with Assata and Zayd, has already been convicted of first degree murder in the case.

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POLLUTION A DIRTY WORD

NEW YORK (LNS)--The rising frequency of air pollution alerts in Washington, D.C. has alarmed members of the nearby Virginia air pollution control board. Board members are worried that people will get the impression that air pollution is a serious threat if the alerts continue, so they have proposed abolishing the term "alert."

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(Thanks to the Weekly People for this short.)

from: Intelligence Documentation Center, 2000 P St., Suite 403, Washington DC 20036 (202) 785-8384.

The Intelligence Documentation Center, a non-profit public interest research library, is looking for interns for this Spring. If you would like to apply write for the intern brochure at the above address. The interns do research on the intelligence community. Scholarships available. January 1, 1976 is the deadline for all applications.

\* \* \* \*

from: Women's History Research Center, Inc., 2325 Oak St., Berkeley, CA 94708. (415) 548-1770.

The Women's History Library of Berkeley, though defunct at its original home in Berkeley, is now available on microfilm. The Library received special grants to publish three collections on microfilm: Women's Health/Mental Health, Women & Law, and HERSTORY (women's serials 1956-June 1974). Already over 160 libraries in the U.S., Canada, and abroad have bought the microfilms, and the WHRC staff is asking people everywhere to recommend the microfilms to their local libraries so that these collections can be available to anyone anywhere.

WHRC has also just published a 1975 Supplement to their 1974 edition of the Female Artists Directory. For more info, send a self-addressed envelope and \$1 to Women's History Research Center at the above address.

\* \* \* \*

from: Madness Network News, 2150 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94114 (415) 863-4488.

Madness Network News -- an anti-psychiatry journal closely associated with the Network Against Psychiatric Assault (NAPA) -- is dedicated to the belief that no one should have the power to control or forcibly alter the mind of another person. Therefore Madness deals with the tasks of relating personal experiences of former psychiatric inmates; exposing the horrors of forced drug and shock "treatments," and the exploitation of prisoners, children, women and minority group members by "mental health" experts; and in every way possible fighting against the cruelty and injustice of the psychiatric system.

The February issue, to be edited by the Third World staff, will explore the experiences of Black, Asian, Native American and Latino people who have been psychiatrically oppressed and abused. We are interested in receiving personal stories and analyses, news items, poems, graphics, songs etc. Material should be marked "Third World Issue" and submitted by January 10. Yearly subscriptions (6 issues) is \$4 and the paper is distributed free to prisoners and psychiatric inmates.

\* \* \* \*

from: The Workbook, Southwest Research and Information Center, PO Box 4524, Albuquerque, N.M. 87106.

The Workbook is a fully indexed catalog of sources of information about environmental, social and consumer problems. It is aimed at helping people in small towns and cities across America gain access to vital information that can help them assert control over their own lives. For a sample, write.

from: National Hard Times Conference, 156 5th Ave., Room 411, New York, N.Y. 10010 (212) 691 9281.

A National Hard Times Conference is now being organized for January 30-February 1 in Chicago, Ill. Conference planners expect people from all over the country to attend and sponsors and conference board members include the American Indian Movement, United Black Workers, New American Movement (Nat'l), Prairie Fire Organizing Committee, and many more.

To find out more about the conference and how to get there, contact the regional Hard Times office near you.

CHICAGO: 53 W. Jackson, Rm 1601, (312) ST2-1100

NEW YORK: 156 5th Ave., NYC 10010, (212) 691-9231

BOSTON: 32 Rutland Ave, (617) 267-6557

SEATTLE: c/o Women Out Now, PO Box 22199

MINNEAPOLIS: c/o Twin Cities Women's Union, 2953 Bloomington Ave. 55407

SAN DIEGO: c/o Dickie Magadoff, 4926 Saratoga 92107

SAN FRANCISCO: Yvonne Golden, Opportunity Sr. High, 1601 Van Ness 94103

COLUMBUS, O: Box 8324 43201

NEW ORLEANS: c/o Virginia Collins, 2130 Fig St.

70118

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from: Canadian Women's Educational Press, 305-280 Bloor St. W., Toronto, Ontario.

The Women's Press, founded in 1972 by members of Toronto Women's Liberation, is a publishing collective of fifteen women--students, waitresses, artists, teachers, secretaries, editors and office workers. All are united in their commitment to the women's movement, and to publishing books which respond to the needs of Canadian women. Their broad range of books include "Women at Work: 1850-1930;" "Women Unite!"--an anthology collecting the experiences and thoughts of the women's movement in English-speaking Canada; and many other subjects including childrens' books.

For a list and description of books they have published, write to the above address.

\* \* \*

from: Resistance Publications, P.O. Box 116, Oakland, California 94604.

The Resistance Courier is the official English edition of Correo de la Resistencia, the monthly magazine of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) of Chile. The Courier, published outside Chile, offers interviews, theoretical documents, editorials written by MIR members, as well as more general information and news about the state of the resistance movement in Chile, Junta policies, etc.

Resistance Couriers # 1 and 2 are already on sale. Number 3 is at the printer, where it will stay until money is raised to pay for printing expenses. We feel the best way to confront this problem is to create a solid base of subscribers. The Subscription rates for one year are \$10.00. Single copies cost \$1.50, and bulk orders of 10 or more are \$1.00 each. Donations would also be greatly appreciated. \* \* \*

END OF RMBB--END OF RMBB--END OF RMBB

[See packet #751 for background on Indonesia's invasion of East Timor.]

#### WOMEN ACTIVE IN EAST TIMOR ARMY; NEW GOVT. HOLDING GROUND AGAINST INDONESIAN INVASION

NEW YORK (LNS)--Women are playing a central role in the current fighting against the Indonesian invasion of East Timor, according to Jose Ramos Horta, the foreign minister of the new Democratic Republic of East Timor. Horta also said that, contrary to many press reports, his government controls 95% of East Timor, including most of Dili, the capital.

Speaking at a December 22 press conference at the United Nations, Horta also demanded Security Council action against the recent Indonesian invasion of East Timor.

East Timor declared independence from Portugal on November 28 and was invaded by neighboring Indonesia on December 7. Indonesia claims to represent groups in East Timor favoring union with Indonesia. Horta is one of the early organizers of FRETILIN (Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor), the predecessor to the newly formed Democratic Republic of East Timor.

"Ninety per cent of the forces along the Indonesian border are women," according to Horta. "Particularly the south coast--where Indonesian never got one inch of our land--has been defended by an army of 1,000 women."

"We believe for a national movement to succeed and not betray the movement itself, women must play an active role in the liberation of themselves and their country."

Although some women are in leadership positions on lower levels, Horta said no women are on the decision making level of the new cabinet or ministry. This, he said, was the fault of the colonial past, and would be changed in the future.

#### Fighting Intense In Cities

As of December 22 the heaviest fighting with Indonesia, according to Horta, is going on in Dili and Bacau--East Timor's two largest cities. No Indonesian incursions have occurred elsewhere in the country except for the loss of four small villages along the border with Indonesia.

Horta said that he was in daily contact with an office of his government in Darwin, Australia, where constant radio contact with Dili is maintained. He also said his information comes from a reporter for the Australian Northern Territory News which has its own sources inside East Timor.

Two thirds of Dili is still controlled by the Democratic Republic of East Timor forces, according to Horta, and his government still maintains its headquarters there.

But "Indonesian air and navy forces have kept Dili under constant bombardment and the city has been partially destroyed. The hospital has been hit twice and approximately 100 sick and wounded patients have been killed. More than 2,000 women and children have been killed indiscriminately in Dili by the invading forces. Fifty per cent of the Chinese population of 6,000 have also been killed.

"Two Indonesian Mitchell bombers were shot down

in Bacau and large quantities of arms have been captured from Indonesian forces," continued Horta. "The list of captured arms included 300 U.S.-made sub-machine guns, 18 U.S.-made machine guns, 11 81 mm Mortars, 7 bazookas and large quantities of grenades and ammunition."

According to Horta, the airports in both Dili and Bacau are under his government's control. Nine Indonesian warships have participated in bombarding Dili; four of the ships are identified as American supplied. Horta said that 5,000 of the Indonesian troops have been killed or wounded and that parachute drops of Indonesian troops are now impossible. The only new troops that Indonesia has sent have been 2,000 marines who landed by boat.

As for the new government, Horta said that it was prepared to wage a guerilla struggle against Indonesia's invasion if necessary.

"Ninety-five per cent of our people are subsistence farmers and the country is very mountainous. There are no roads thanks to the Portuguese and all bridges have been blown up. So with these conditions combined, Indonesia, with its own internal problems, should be aware that long guerilla warfare could bring a disastrous effect to Indonesia itself."

The Democratic Republic of East Timor has 30,000 people trained and armed, according to Horta. "We have to thank the Portuguese for having in East Timor a very good stock of weapons and ammunition. We haven't got a single bullet from outside the country, just because it's impossible. How can we receive military aid with Indonesia closing the sea?"

#### Rich In Natural Resources

East Timor has a population of 650,000 and according to Horta has over 600,000 acres of possible farmland, enough to easily feed its people. "In three years time," Horta asserted, "there would be no need to import any grain or corn."

"Most of the coffee plantations and big cattle ranches were owned by UDT leaders," Horta said, and since "they fled the country we have automatically expropriated their land."

UDT--the Timor Democratic Union--had attempted a right-wing coup in August in favor of annexation into Indonesia. The UDT is composed of Timorese who had worked closely with Portugal as soldiers, administrators and landowners.

"The main production in East Timor has been coffee and we have organized people in self-management, in which they own the plantations and have their own administration."

Horta said that the new government would concentrate its efforts in developing agriculture, cattle and fishing. Natural gas and oil production is also possible, according to Horta, who said that before the Indonesian invasion, production of both these resources was scheduled to start in 1976.

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#### Security Council Upholds Self-Determination

The United Nations Security Council unanimously approved on

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN PARIS PLANS VIETNAM RECONSTRUCTION AID

by Schofield Coryell

PARIS (LNS)--On December 16 and 17 delegates from 90 organizations in 15 countries came together in Paris for an International Assembly for Healing the Wounds of War and for the Reconstruction of Vietnam.

The world meeting was sponsored by Fraternity Vietnam, a Paris-based organization of Vietnamese and their French friends. Among the participating organizations were several UN agencies, such as UNICEF, and the UN Commission on Refugees, the American Friends Service Committee, the Vietnam Solidarity Committees of Rome and Bologna, French groups like C.I.M.A.D.E. (a Catholic organization for help to refugees and exiles), feminist groups, Third World groups, anti-war groups and Protestant and Catholic peace groups. The Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) Ambassador, Van Sung, was present.

The two-day conference reviewed the extent of damage done to Vietnam by the U.S., studied the various ways people all over the world could contribute to "healing the wounds of war," and detailed the aid projects already under way and those under preparation.

Father Thi, the Vietnamese Catholic priest who is the founder of Fraternity Vietnam, summed up the aims of the Conference as "demonstrating solidarity with the people of Vietnam in their task of reconstruction," spreading information on the problems facing Vietnam in the aftermath of the war, and organizing concrete contributions to the reconstruction of Vietnam."

A number of aid projects are already being carried out by organizations around the world. These include a program for helping displaced persons, organized by the UN Commission on Refugees; the construction of a research center for the preparation of vaccines, by the French Catholic Committee Against Hunger and For Development; the construction of nurseries, day-care centers and schools, by UNICEF; and an Italian committee's building of a factory for Vietnam's wood industry.

Other projects in the preparation stages include the purchase of books to equip the scientific and technical library of Saigon, the construction of silos for the storage of rice, and the purchase of fertilizer.

### Massive Reconstruction Tasks

The Conference heard reports of the current problems Vietnam faces, such as the effects of biological warfare and ecological disruption, the problems of displaced persons, orphans and food production.

A professor at the University of Paris, Ernest Boudarel, pointed out that "the Vietnamese soil is still in a state of war: between 150,000 and 300,000 tons of unexploded bombs are still imbedded in it -- in other words, half the total tonnage of bombs dropped during the Korean war."

During the last decade the U.S. government spent, as a conservative estimate, \$150 billion on the Indochina war. These funds financed more than four million tons of bombs, 18 million gallons of

chemical defoliants, and nearly 400,000 tons of napalm used against the Vietnamese and their land.

The effect on the country's productive base has been harsh. The bombing of the coastal dikes in central Vietnam flooded the rice fields with salt water. Restoring these areas to cultivation will require flushing with fresh water for several years. Agricultural land has been broken up by 21 million bomb craters. Half of the water buffalo -- the main energy source -- were killed between 1963 and 1973.

To solve the problems of food production and unemployment (three million people, including refugees, former soldiers, and prostitutes) were unemployed following the April 30 liberation of the South), many people are returning to their original homes in the countryside.

By the end of 1975, 800,000 will have left Saigon alone to resume rice farming, and another one million from the city are expected to resettle by the end of the next year. The government is helping these people and those from other cities by providing transportation, rice and farm equipment.

Overall economic and social reconstruction is progressing rapidly with the recent decision to reunify the north and south in the first half of 1976.

At the Paris conference, the archbishop of Saigon, Monseigneur Nguyen Van Binh, explained that "the south, with its fertile lands and light industry will furnish foods and consumer goods for the whole country, while the north, with its heavy industry and abundant mineral wealth, will provide the means of production necessary for the mechanization of agriculture and the modernization of industry throughout the entire society."

"Reunification will be a great joy," Binh said, "for it will make the north and south a single, prosperous family."

### Reparations for Indochina -- A Legal Obligation

While reconstruction efforts are moving ahead in Vietnam and supporters throughout the world are organizing to send aid, speakers at the conference stressed the U.S. government's obligation to contribute to the massive work of healing the wounds of war.

Tran Van Minh, a professor who has been teaching for many years at the Paris University Law School (he was also a minister in one of Diem's cabinets), presented an extremely well-documented report on the legal aspects of the reparations question. The report showed that the United States, as the aggressor in the Vietnam conflict, has not only a moral but also a strict legal obligation to contribute to repairing the war damage inflicted on the country.

In support of this, Minh cited not only the Nuremberg judgement on the responsibility of the aggressor in the eyes of international law, but also the Versailles Treaty following the First World War and the Geneva Conventions of 1949.

Tran Van Minh referred to article 21 of the 1973 Paris Agreement on Vietnam, which states: "The United States anticipates that this agreement will

(Continued on Page 8)

(See packet #713 for background on this case.)

NEW YORK CITY GRAND JURY SUBPOENEEES  
REFUSE TO TESTIFY; CHARGES STILL PENDING

NEW YORK (LNS) -- Eight New York City activists, including two lawyers, await action by the District Attorney on their refusal to testify before a New York grand jury.

The grand jury subpoenas stem from their alleged presence in a Manhattan courtroom where three members of the Black Liberation Army were being sentenced on May 12. After the sentencing, knives, explosives and other contraband were reportedly found on the BLA members.

The subpoenaees point out that although the courtroom was filled with spectators on May 12, subpoenas were only issued to a specific number, and that not everyone who recieved the subpoenas was even present in court that day. District Attorney Robert Morgenthau has not responded to questions about how his office made its selection of subpoenaees.

"The eight are being harassed as political activists. They are refusing to go before the grand jury on principle, not because they know anything," said Bill Schapp, one of the attorneys for the eight.

The subpoenaees said, "We consider this grand jury to be an attack on the public's right to attend trials and the rights of defendants to have open trials with a vigorous defense. The District Attorney's office, through this grand jury, is attempting to intimidate lawyers, attack supporters and frighten people away from the courtrooms ..."

Although District Attorney Robert Morgenthau admitted to a delegation of legal and church representatives that he doesn't believe the subpoenaees know anything about the alleged incident, and that nothing would be gained by their testimony, he refuses to drop the case. One hundred and twenty people have already testified that they saw no weapons passed among anyone in the courtroom.

"The issue is no longer the subpoenas themselves, but rather disobedience to the judge's order," said attorney Schapp.

Penalties for refusing to cooperate with a New York State grand jury range from thirty days imprisonment without a trial on a contempt charge, to indictment on a Class E felony charge. A conviction on the felony charge could mean four years in a state penitentiary as well as the loss of professional licenses.

In their most recent court appearance in November, after motions to quash the subpoenas had been denied, the eight formally refused to go before the grand jury when Criminal Court Judge Culkin ordered them to. Culkin refused to issue contempt citations however, leaving the District Attorney to make the next move.

On December 4, a rally was held outside Morgenthau's office and a delegation tried to speak with him and present a statement signed by a number of New York groups asking that the subpoenas be

dropped. But so far the charges are still pending.

\* \* \*

A related incident points to the bad faith in which the D.A.'s office is acting, according to Schapp.

Under the New York State law, targets of a grand jury investigation have the right to appear before the grand jury to give their own account of the activities under investigation. Although the three imprisoned BLA members believed to be the investigation's targets requested this right, the D.A.'s office never responded to their request.

Instead an assistant District Attorney visited two and possibly three of them, and, in violation of the law, their lawyers were not notified and were not present.

"This points out again that this isn't an investigation to find out what happened, but instead to harass -- they won't even let the targets testify, though they have asked to," Schapp asserted.

Supporters urge that people write to the D.A. asking that the subpoenas be dropped. Address them to: Robert Morgenthau, D.A. New York County, 155 Leonard Street, N.Y., N.Y. 10007.

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(Thanks to the grand jury project for some of this information.)

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STUDY FINDS MORE HEALTH HAZARDS FOR MINERS

NEW YORK (UMW Journal/LNS) -- A recent federal Bureau of Mines study of toxic substances in the air at surface mines and surface work areas of underground mines has revealed health hazards at nearly one-third of the mines surveyed.

The study, conducted for the Bureau by the LFE Corporation of Richmond, California, involved tests at 59 underground and surface mines. At 19 of these, miners were exposed to unsafe concentrations of air pollutants.

Among the substances cited were welding fumes, solvent vapors, cutting fumes, nitroglycerine, and ethylene vapor. Nitroglycerin and ethylene vapor are both found around explosives storage areas.

While concentrations of paint fumes and asbestos dust were not found to exceed levels considered safe by government standards, the study recommended that miners wear face masks when exposed to these potential hazards. Asbestos dust has been found to be carcinogenic and the government regulations on asbestos are considered to be inadequate.

The most serious air pollutant, according to the study, is welding fumes -- especially when the welding is being done in areas with poor ventilation.

Pollution is only one of the health and safety hazards faced by miners who have the highest death rate of any industrial workers in the United States.

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PARIS CONFERENCE ON VIETNAM continued from page 6.

usher in an era of reconciliation with the Democratic Republic of Vietnam as with all the peoples of Indochina. In pursuance of its traditional policy, the United States will contribute to the healing of the wounds of war and to the post-war reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and throughout Indochina."

He argued that -- despite the end of the conflict brought about by the complete liberation of Saigon -- the agreement is still partially valid, at least in so far as it touches on the responsibility of the United States to repair the destruction its army brought upon Vietnam.

He reminded the conference that in May, 1975, the Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, Pham Van Dong, had offered to establish normal relations with the United States on the condition that the U.S. government "scrupulously apply the spirit of article 21 concerning the American obligation to heal the wounds of war inflicted in both zones of Vietnam."

The U.S. government still refuses to honor this obligation, and maintains a trade embargo against Vietnam as well as Cambodia.

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A nationwide American organization that is demanding the government to fulfill its obligations as well as organizing "people-to-people" aid here is Friendship, 235 E. 49 St, NY, NY 10017. They have already collected three and a half million tons of medical equipment and clothes and welcomes contributions.

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EAST TIMOR--Continued from page 5

ly approved a resolution on December 22 calling on Indonesia to remove its military forces from East Timor without delay.

The resolution also called for measures to enable the people of East Timor to exercise freely their right to self-determination and asked Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to arrange for an on-the-spot assessment and report.

The Democratic Republic of East Timor's foreign minister, Jose Ramos Horta, voiced his approval of the United Nations action and asked the Security Council to enforce the resolution, particularly regarding the withdrawal of Indonesian troops from East Timor.

So far seven countries have recognized the new government--Mozambique, Peoples Republic of China, Democratic Republic of Vietnam, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde, Guinea Conakry, and Sao Tome Principe.

\* \* \*

The Timor Defense Committee has been formed in the United States to support the right of the East Timor people to self-determination. For more information contact: Timor Defense Committee, c/o Tapol--USA, P.O. Box 609, Montclair, New Jersey 07042, or phone 201 783- 5083.

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## 1976 PEOPLES' CALENDARS ARE OUT!

NEW YORK (LNS)--A variety of new calendars are ready for 1976.

The fourth edition of El Calendario Chicano is now available from the Southwest Network. Begun as a way to make knowledge of Chicano history as accessible as possible, the calendar is packed with historical information that is rarely publicized. An index makes the information even easier to get to, and each month's artwork is by a different Chicano artist, reflecting different aspects and viewpoints of Chicano culture.

Write to the Southwest Network at 1020 B St., Suite 8, Hayward, CA 94541. The calendar is \$3.

The Women's Press in Toronto has produced the pocket-sized "Everywoman's Almanac," an appointment calendar and handbook. The material in the 50-page almanac section centers on Canadian women but is of interest to any women, with short pieces on Native, Quebec and immigrant women, sexism in schools and rape and self defense. There are cartoons and quotes, an address book and even a metric conversion chart.

The colorful and graphic-filled Wisconsin People's History Calendar is packed with recent and historical events about working people and others organizing for change. On the reverse side of calendar pages jam-packed with events are detailed accounts of the Milwaukee meatcutters' strike of 1975, 19th century Finnish and socialist co-ops and various organizing struggles of farmers, women, the Menominee Warrior Society and others. For a copy send \$2.50 to Wisconsin People's History Calendar, 204 N. Few, Madison, WI 53703.

The Cyclar, a women's community calendar from Austin, Texas is filled with photos of women playing music and sports, working and being together with other women and children. Day-by-day historical information ranges from July 31, 1868 "Picketing striking women chop down mill gates to flush out scabs working inside in Pittsburg, PA" to reminders of recent events like the 1975 trial of Joann Little. It's available from Traveling Light, PO Box 6063, Austin, TX 78762 for \$4 plus 50¢ for mailing.

The Liberation Support Movement Information Center has published a 1976 Africa Liberation Calendar, containing photos of Africans working for liberation, and calendar dates relating to their struggles. Sprinkled throughout are quotes from Amilcar Cabral, Samora Machel and others who have been active in African liberation movements.

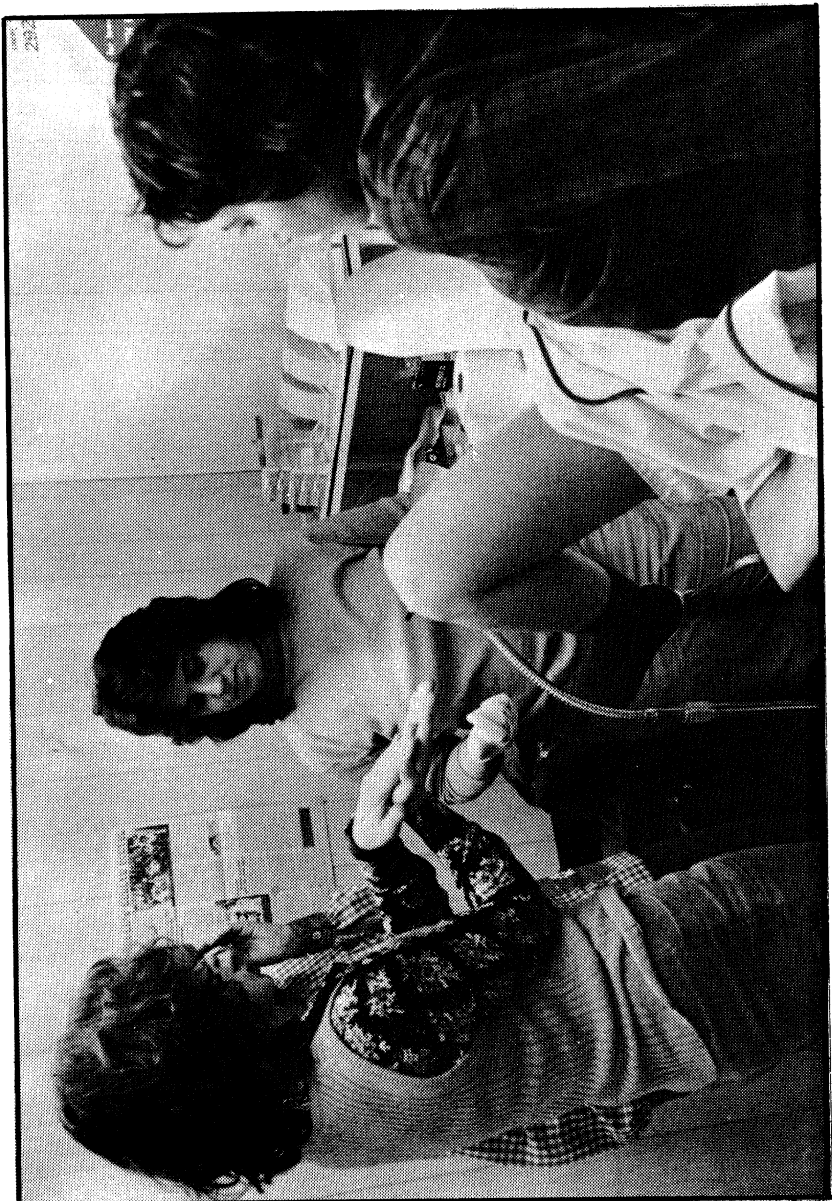
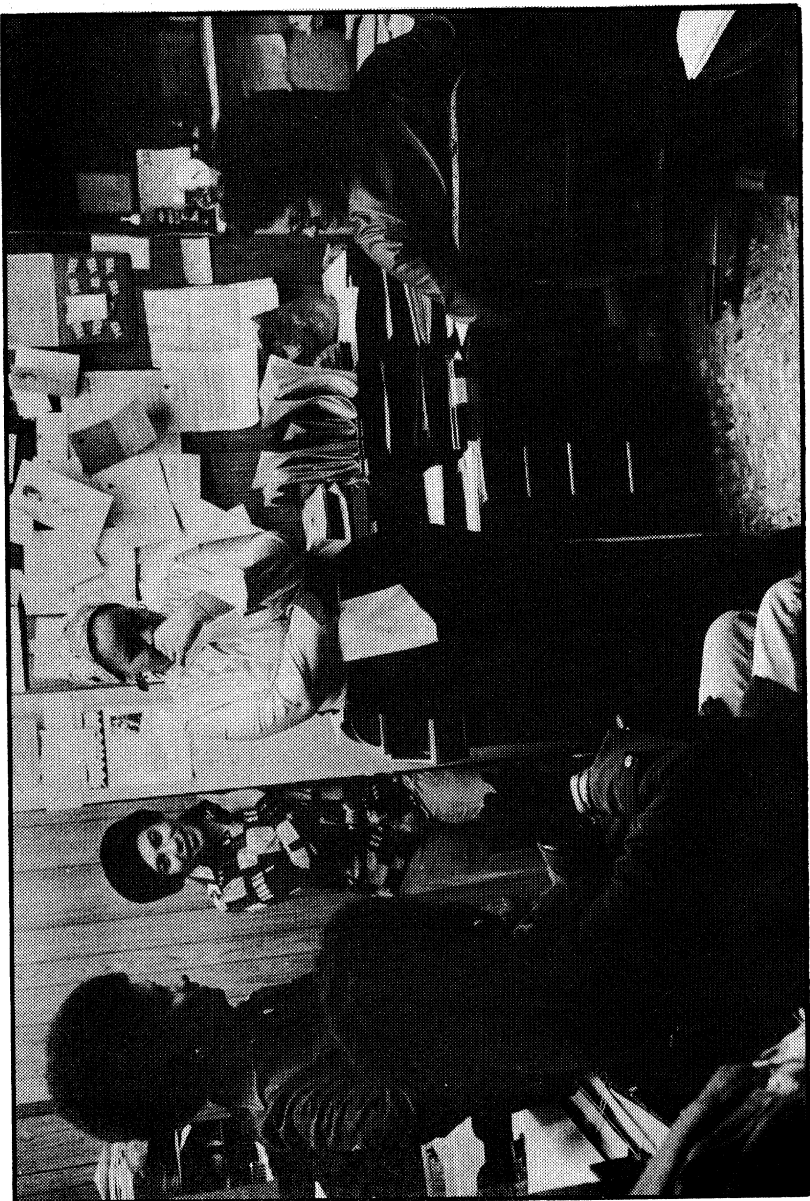
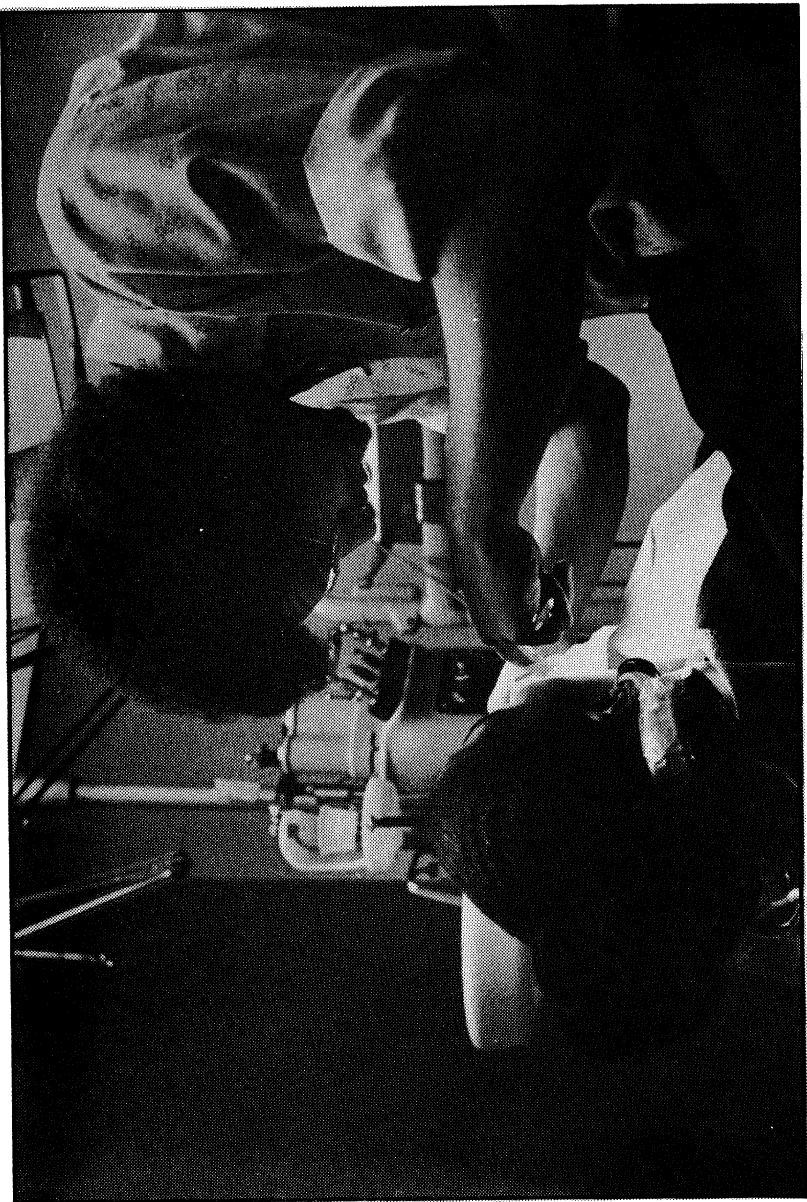
The calendar is available from the LSM Information Center, PO Box 94338, Richmond, B.C. Canada V6Y 2A8 for \$2.50.

Among other calendars produced this year are "...To Secure Peace and Liberty" -- volume 21 of the War Resisters League Peace Calendar and Appointment Book, which is \$3 from WRL, 339 Lafayette St., New York, N.Y. 10012.

"Vietnam: The People's Resistance" -- the Syracuse Peace Council 1976 wall calendar. It's \$2.75 or \$3.25 mail order from the Syracuse Peace Council, 924 Burnet Ave., Syracuse, N.Y. 13203.

The University of Philadelphia chapter of the New American Movement has a Labor History calendar for \$2.50. Write to NAM, 4512 Springfield Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19143.

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TOP RIGHT: A dentist working on a root canal at the People's Health Center in Bronx, New York.

SEE THE ARTICLE ON A COMMUNITY HEALTH CLASS GIVEN AT THE CENTER ON PAGE 1.

CREDIT: LNS Women's Graphics

TOP LEFT: A medical worker checking blood pressure at the People's Health Center in Bronx, New York.

GOES WITH STORY ON PAGE 1.

CREDIT: LNS Women's Graphics

BOTTOM RIGHT: Medical workers in the office of the People's Health Center talking with people who have come to see the doctors. Medical workers earn as much as the doctors and dentists. They have learned skills in the class at the center.

GOES WITH STORY ON PAGE 1.

CREDIT: LNS Women's Graphics

BOTTOM LEFT: Women medical students performing and discussing a pelvic exam at the People's Health Center. They learned by working with one of the doctors at the center. They are starting a women's night there to perform pelvic exams, make tests, and share some of the medical knowledge they have learned.

CAN GO WITH THE ARTICLE ABOUT THE COMMUNITY HEALTH CLASS ON PAGE 1.

CREDIT: LNS WOMEN'S GRAPHICS



A PAGE OF GRAPHICS FROM 1976 CALENDARS

TOP RIGHT: The Wisconsin Peoples History  
Calendar 1976.

May be obtained at: 204 N. Few, Madison,  
Wisconsin 53703 for \$2.50.

Graphic shows the John Deitz family  
making national headlines in 1906. They  
waged a six year battle against the Weyer-  
haeuser Syndicate, a lumber trust that owed  
them \$1,700.in

TOP LEFT: Africa Liberation Calendar 1976.  
Faces of Guinea-Bissau.

LSM Information Center, P.O. Box 94338,  
Richmond B.C. Canada v6Y2A8 \$2.50.

CREDIT: LSM Photo/LNS

BOTTOM RIGHT: from El Calendario Chicano  
1976. "La Feria En Reynosa".

Write: Southwest Network 1020 B Street,  
Suite 8, Hayward, California 94541 \$3.00.

CREDIT: Carmen Lomas Garza/EL CALENDARIO  
CHICANA/LNS

BOTTOM LEFT: Cyclar Women's Community  
Calendar 1976.

by: Travelinglight, P.O. Box 6063, Austin,  
Texas 78762. \$4.00 plus 50¢ mailing.

CREDIT: Robin Birdfeather/CYCLAR/LNS