IN BRIEF

Festivities For The Fourth: Protestors And Police

Will the 4th of July in Philadelphia and Washington be a replay of Chicago '68? That's the scenario federal and local politicians seem to be hoping for.

The July 4th Coalition, the Rich-Off-Our-Backs July 4th Coalition, and the People's Bicentennial Commission are inviting hundreds of thousands of people to peaceful demonstrations in these cities. In response, Philadelphia's Mayor Frank Rizzo requested 15,000 troops, James Eastland's Senate Internal Security Subcommittee reported tall tales of left-wing violence, and columnist Jack Anderson wrote an incendiary piece called "Terrorist 'Fish' in a Sea of Tourists." Anderson warned of pistols hidden in Polaroid cameras, Dutch mini-grenades concealed in Kodak film boxes, and a roving "terrorist office, dormitory, and arsenal" disguised as a gasoline-tank truck.

But expectations of Rizzo, Eastland, and Anderson for terrorist fireworks are likely to be disappointed. In Philadelphia, while President Ford presides over "official" ceremonies at Independence Hall, the July 4th Coalition will hold a march, followed by a rally in Fairmount Park in which they expect 40,000 people to participate. Speakers will include Bill Kunstler, Dan Berrigan, Dave Dellinger, Ralph Abernathy, Juan Mari Bras, Ed Sadlowski, Clyde Bellecourt, Elaine Brown, and Karen DeCrow.

The July 4th Coalition maintains that the government does not actually expect violence but is predicting it in order to discourage people from demonstrating. In this group's view, the government cannot afford another "police riot"—such as the one which occurred in Chicago in 1968—because of the negative effect that would be produced abroad where American prestige is already very low.

The Rich-Off-Our-Backs July 4th Coalition, sponsored by the Unemployed Workers Organizing Committee, the Revolutionary Communist Party, and the Vietnam Veterans Against the War, is planning a separate march and rally at which members of the sponsoring organizations will speak. On July 1, they plan a tent city of unemployed workers and vets. Music will be provided by two groups, Prairie Fire from San Francisco and Chainbreakers from Houston. They expect about 2,000 participants.

In Washington, D.C., the People's Bicentennial Commission will hold a rally at which 200,000 people are expected. The PBC's target is the "new monarchy" of big business. Speakers will include Rubin "Hurricane" Carter, Jane Fonda, Jeremy Rifkin, Barry Commoner, Dolores Huerta, Tom Hayden, and Benjamin Spock. □

Refugees Threatened in Argentina

On June 10, a list of names and addresses of approximately 8,000 political refugees living in Argentina was stolen from the Buenos Aires office of the Catholic International Migrations Committee.

The following day, about 30 armed men, apparently members of one of Argentina's notorious right-wing death squads, invaded two refugee hotels and seized 25 fugitives. After 24 hours they were released, bruised and beaten but alive. They had been tortured and given 48 hours to leave the country.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is seeking other countries that will grant asylum to the refugees whose lives are now believed to be in danger in Argentina. The Argentine government characteristically blamed the refugees themselves, saying that foreigners without proper refugee status endangered the country's national security.

In Chile, from which most of Argentina's refugees have fled, about 130,000 people have been arrested by the ruling military junta during its permanent state of seige, according to a June 5 report from Amnesty International.

Two days later, the International Human Rights Commission of the OAS denounced the junta for "arbitrary jailings, persecution, and torture." Its report cited the case of Oscar Arrow Yanez, whose bullet-ridden body was found in the street. According to the death certificate, he died from "acute anemia" due to bullet wounds.

Meanwhile, New York City officials are getting ready to welcome the Chilean "death ship" *Esmeralda*, one of an international armada of ocean-going sailing vessels that make up Operation Sail, a major bicentennial event planned for July 4.

Chile's junta apparently regarded the ship as a safe spot to torture its victims in privacy. In the OAS Commission's report, one former prisoner held aboard the *Esmeralda* charged, "They applied electric shocks on my skin, on my testicles, on my chest and back."

Frank Baynard, the founder and general manager of Operation Sail, refused to bar the ship from the festivities. "It's too bad to hamper a good ceremony by bringing politics into the picture," he said. □

New Documents Indict Rosenberg Hanging Judge

In June 1953, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were executed for allegedly giving atomic secrets to the Russians. This June 10, 23 years later, lawyers for their sons released documents, obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, which they say "raise the most serious questions of judicial and extra-judicial impropriety" on the part of Irving R. Kaufman, the presiding judge at the Rosenberg's trial.

"At the time of the sentencing, Judge Kaufman said he had consulted and talked with no one," said Marshall Perlin, chief counsel for the Rosenbergs' sons, Robert and Michael Meeropol. "In fact, as these documents indicate, he consulted with Roy Cohn, he consulted with the Department of Justice, and he made many efforts to expedite the execution of the Rosenbergs."

According to the documents, Kaufman repeatedly indicated during the course of the trial that he would impose a death sentence upon conviction. Said Perlin, "This indicates that we did not have an independent judiciary and an unbiased judge; we had a hanging court before the trial started."

During the 25 years covered by the documents, Judge Kaufman repeatedly tried to use government agencies to counter pro-Rosenberg writings and activities. Kaufman's concern over the activities of the National Committee to Re-Open the Rosenberg Case and an article in *Esquire* are revealed in the most recent memo released, dated May 4, 1975. It records that Kaufman "expressed his opinion that some counter-action should be taken to combat the attention derived from this activity."

On June 15, the Rosenberg Committee held a benefit at New York's Carnegie Hall and a subsequent march to FBI headquarters to demonstrate for the release of the files. Former San Francisco Mime Troupe members Denny Partridge and Steve Friedman prepared a dramatic presentation based on the FBI files, and selections from the documents were read by Tony Randall, John Randolph, and Jack Guilford, and others. □

Nazis Incite Chicago Violence

"Keep the Niggers Out" is the slogan painted on the outside of the Nazi Party headquarters in Chicago's Marquette Park, in recent weeks the scene of several Nazi-led outbreaks of racial violence.

Many blacks and Latinos have recently started to move into the Marquette Park neighborhood, previously a stronghold for working-class whites, including many policemen and other city employees.

On Sunday June 6, a riot erupted there as 200 white youths, led by Nazi Party members, threw rocks and bottles at policemen and blacks in cars and buses. The white youths had mobilized to confront an open housing march which failed to materialize. "The Nazi Party gathered this crowd and incited the community into this state of behavior," charged Assistant Deputy Police Chief Carl Dobrich afterward. Many of the white youths, wearing t-shirts emblazoned with swastikas and the slogan "White Power," carried signs saying "Niggers Beware." The suspicion of many observers that policemen who live in the area have been involved in the anti-black demonstrations was borne out by the revelation that an off-duty Cook County corrections officer was among the injured demonstrators.

The following Tuesday, Mayor Richard Daley condemned the Nazi Party for its role in the racial violence. Later in the week, Nazi Party leader Frank Collin was served with a temporary restraining order prohibiting him from inciting racial violence in Marquette Park.

The continuing racial tension in the Marquette Park area prompted a delegation of representatives from various civic, religious, and political groups to visit Deputy Mayor Kenneth Sain to express "alarm and anger at the dramatic increase of racist violence in our schools, neighborhoods, and parks" and to demand that Mayor Daley and the City Council immediately denounce the Ku Klux Klan and the American Nazi Party.