ENGELFINGER MET BY 350
by Paul Booth

Three hundred fifty demonstrators greeted Charles W. Engelhard February 17 when he arrived to receive the Broaderhood Award in Newark, N.J. Engelhard, the key American investor in South Africa and one of the most powerful men in America, was awarded the award at the National Conference of Christians and Jews (New Jersey) in an annual banquet kicking off Brotherhood Week.

The demonstration, called by SNS, the American Committee on Africa, COCOSAN, and WAC, was called "Hey, Hey, What Do You Say, Take His Banks and Mines Away" and "Brotherhood Can't Be Bought" as 800 members of the business and political elite of New Jersey entered the Robert Treat Hotel for the SNS plate banquet.

Healthy contingents were present from SNS chapters at Columbia and NYU Downtown (the buses were chartered from the City), and from the Newark Community Union Project. NCTP was also involved that evening in a battle over a City Hall proposal to pad the local poverty war corporation — that proposal was turned down overwhelmingly.

Engelhard is the director of two large corporations in South Africa, controls a monopoly on platinum distribution in the US, sits on the commissions that set working conditions in South African mines and the boards of directors of the native labor "re-education" camps. His financial empire has been built in his own lifetime, and he has combined his financial pursuits with playing a leading role in Democratic Party politics in the state and nation.

SNS and the American Committee on Africa (ACOA) have been building their program exposing American "partners in South Africa" as Congressmen and Senators toward the Congressional Investigation of South Africa called by Rep. Barry O'Hara of Chicago for early March. The American political interests in South Africa were neglected in the invitation list to the hearings, and SNS and allies have been coordinating in the home districts of the 9 members of the Committee to demand that Engelhard, David Rockefeller, Douglas Dillon, Boeing Aircraft, and other key figures in US economic backing for Verwoerd be subpoenaed.

In 1961, after a series of financial blow-ups had been dealt to the South African regime following the Sharpeville Massacre and the subsequent suppression there, Engelhard organized a bail-out operation in the U.S. that saved the day. Both the Chase Manhattan and the First National City Banks played an important role in that operation, as did U.S. government-influenced institutions such as the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, and Export-Import Bank. The Department of Commerce has unapologetically admitted to my Constituents the complicity of the U.S. government's complicity in financing the Sharpeville Massacre in 1961.

The banquet inside the hotel gave a sharp contrast to the spirited demonstration. The 800 distinguished citizens gave a rather ritualistic applause and ovation in response to Engelhard's acceptance speech. The industrialist explained his brotherliness with the following anecdote:

"As a boy, I spent one summer in Europe. I had plenty of nurses and guardsmen to see I didn't go astray. A man of consumption came up to me while we were waiting for a train and asked for some money. I had only ten francs or whatever the coin was then, and I didn't give it to him. Later, when we reached Paris, I bought some peaches with that coin. They didn't taste so good."

"Since then no one has come to my office with a cause who hasn't been listened to, had his proposal evaluated, on its merits, and, in most cases, hasn't gotten some result."

Later he commented on the demonstration:

"I believe that the principles I mentioned (of Americanism) apply not only to our own country, but worldwide. I do business in many countries. I've always felt it was in the national interest to do so, to show people in other parts of the world how we operate. I have also felt that it was an obligation as a man to not criticize people in these other countries. America is not perfect and until we achieve this perfection I do not believe we have that right. That I guess is what separates me from those people outside."

Last year, during the preparation for the Chase Manhattan demonstration, SNS researchers led by Todd Schiller were mightily impressed by the way Engelhard seemed to symbolize modern corporate America, with his liberalism and cosmopolitanism and his role in extracting wealth from underdeveloped countries.

Further research has borne out this impression, and in being published in Tom Condit's revision of "The 4th of Power: American Involvement in South Africa." As well, Paul Booth and Christopher Vlamis are preparing a study of Engelhard and what he represents for Ramparts magazine.

Teach-Ins and educational activity around South Africa are being projected for the University of Nebraska, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Boston, and elsewhere.

LATE REGIONAL NEWS

(San Francisco)

1. The San Francisco Mime Troupe will be going on the road to New Orleans and New York in the middle of April and would like to do benefits along the way on university campuses sponsored by SNS chapters (the take would be split).

2. This would be a good opportunity for chapters to work with radical theatre on the campus and raise money. The Troupe will have workshops after each performance of the show they are taking on the road. The Mime Troupe is a 1968 experiment of a new form of theatre called "fictional theatre," or a "living"sculpture.

3. Norm Potter from the San Francisco office will be on east in the next week and will be doing bookings in Ill., Mich., and Ohio.

4. Contact the San Francisco office for information.

5. J. C. Davis, the director of the Mime Troupe, is also working on setting up a radical booking agency that would work throughout the US in distributing underground films, slides, etc. on campuses.

6. Norm Potter has scheduled the first adult organizing meetings. Most people are interested in organizing progress. He is also working with faculty people at San Francisco State who are mostly interested in university reform. This is seen as especially significant since it is the first active organizing to be done among faculty people.

7. Ron McEldowney is working on a program for those refusing to pay taxes this year. The government says that Ken owes them $25 and he is refusing to pay. Instead, he is planning to give the money to SNS or VAC. He hopes that he can broaden the value of the action and is working with some people from the War Resisters League in formulating a program for other.

8. The New School is attempting to move this week into the new building. There are problems with the realtor due to a conflict of weltanschauung — the realtor is a former white South African.
in March at the 'Tremont Street Methodist Church.' You need adult organization.

Brookline organization is moving ahead with about 10 people who are broadening the base in the community by building in the next two or three weeks. A club, study groups, visiting civic groups, etc. There is a discussion group taking place on culture and will gather as soon as the people involved are found. The organization of local students, and young married couples.

State University strike

Brandeis and Harvard SDS members are working with student support of a picketing group set up by 450 striking workers of the J.L. Thompson, Black and Machine, a department of the Brandeis and students are now planning to jointly maintain a strike newspaper.

A new staff member has been hired for high school organizing. Apparently the George Washington High School in that section is picking up.

NEW YORK

The absurd

Following the hearing of the England Brotherhood Award last week, it was almost too much when President Clinton was awarded the "National Freedom Award" at Freedom House this week. So, 6,000 people picketed the awards dinner and Jim Rock from the state (75% of the land is government-owned) and Albuquerque is extremely militaristic, having three bases plus the A.P.C. We had up to 30 people demonstrating, including 3 faculty members.

AUSTIN

The University of Texas chapter has sent a letter by certified mail to the U.S. Attorney in Washington protesting the convictions of the Soviet writers Andrei Sinyavskii and Yuri Tyniol. The letter, signed by Al Shahid, program chairman, read in part:

"Admittedly, we are not disillu- sioned by your acts, and down deep we doubt that we expected a much different act, but it indicates that any nation could hold its creative artists so cheaply.

"Your entire attitude is one of restriction of free speech and human rights, and we hereby protest your actions toward these two men."

Stanford SDS is doing research on Congressional peace candidates and requests that people in chapters send them the names, addresses, and if possible, the policy statements of local candidates who oppose Johnson's Vietnam policy. The information should be sent to Tom Shriver, 1945-30 Fluid Ave., Menlo Park, California.

JOHN, the SDS-sponed community union in Chicago's white North side poverty area, is seeking a full-time lawyer to work as a member of the project staff beginning this summer. JOHN will be able to pay this lawyer about $250/wk. We are probably looking for a young law school graduate with some movement experience, but who would be willing to devote a year or two to this project to work. It will be necessary for this person to have passed the Illinois Bar before he could be fully effective at JOHN; but it would be possible for him to begin working with JOHN while preparing for the Bar exam.

The work of the lawyer could fall into five areas. (It must be emphasized, however, that the lawyer would have to see himself as an organizer as well as lawyer. He must be a friend in the neighborhood as well as a respected professional. His legal judgements must often be political judgements as well—such as the decision to accept with or without any particular case.) The five areas are: welfare appeals and challenges to the collection of Public Aid regulations; small civic suits against landlords and other institutions in the neighborhood; police complaints, and challenges to criminal practice (e.g., the constitutionality of disorderly conduct arrests); housing enforcement; and defense of JOHN sit-ins and other arrrests or harassments.
National Secretary's Report

by Paul Booth

The long-range plan probably involves the purchase of canical equipment, the hiring of some part-time labor, and generally the establishment of a composing operation in the NO. The Frimen Justiceworkers cost $10,000, and we will also need a type writer and a muffin which the director includes 30-man-hours of composing and a sum-day of paste-up each week. Sam was mandated to present a detailed report next term.

We received $1000 for the wider distribution of our films. $400 was set aside for prints; John Kinsinger is to work up the brochure to send around on the films. $280 will pay outstanding bills on the newspaper. A $65 machine will be purchased to speed the making of the paper - specifically the wrapping and labelling. It has gotten out two days late this year, sometimes worse.

We need a fund-raiser. Booth was mandated to approach Norman Pettman from Austin on that subject.

Booth reported on the financial woes (considerable - Sarah Worby needs $800/12 to survive at the New York office). He was mandated to do a general report on the financialization. NOTES: regional offices should help out by sending in reports on financial condition, level of chapter activity, etc., especially providing information helpful at zooming in on an overcost. Booth was also mandated to get out letters about summer projects.

Any regional office considering the running of a summer project or institute should let me know. In the first place, we will be doing a good deal of fund-raising for these. Secondly, the $65,000 can help in the recreation. Thirdly, it's no good to postpone reckoning with this problem - the thing is not only in clear enough order in April so they can be coherently presented to the IC. And, the crucial ingredient of success is the amount of preliminary thinking and structuring that we put into these projects. Right now all I want is a tentative idea, some suggestions have included regional institutes on Left Summer Schools; carnavales, political, theatrical, artistic, etc.; organizing projects around electoral campaigns; FRAP-style summer projects tied into community union organizing; glorified summer chapters; and research projects.

On the rub of a springtime movement building at History Institute (formerly called a Leadership Training Retreat), Booth was instructed to call together the staff group and determine responsibilities for it. There will be an RC ballot shortly to determine the NO's location. The MAC also decided to try to tighten up on making sure that delegates are elected in advance by chapters (as in the old days). Bob Speck will be sending out a mailing telling chapters how many votes they think they are entitled to. As well, he will write up a proposal on credentials (how far in advance chapters should say if we have identified the 80% of the names of their delegates, etc.) which will be on the local bulletin board.

An outfit called the National Dialogue on Vietnam, set up by my friends and the teach-in faculty, will be creating out a comprehensive speakers directory to all kinds of groups. We should be fully represented on this list: we have submitted the names of the Chicago SDS people who speak against the war. You should send in similar lists for every American city.

Jeremy Brecher suggests the following text for freedom budget petition:

"Our country has great unmet needs, yet our government is failing to expand spending for those needs. In many cases it is even cutting back that spending. We protest those cuts, both and calls, and believe instead to spend money which would use our country's great wealth for free high-quality education for all, good housing for all; new towns, neighborhood renewal, new jobs, community owned, improved public transportation and other programs to make our cities fit to live in; the best medical care possible for every American; economic development and a greatly expanded peace corps and community action program for underdeveloped areas at home and abroad; and the abolition of poverty not only through the direct provision of income and social services but by guaranteeing the right to a decent job and by supporting truly community owned improvement organizations."

LATEST ON SOUTH AFRICA HEARINGS

Congressman O'Hara is sitting tight on this. The government was served to testify. SDS was not invited. However, George Houser, of the American Committee on Africans, can be expected to give a full exposition of the economic interests. His testimony will be based on the summer research project on South Africa in which Ken Kehrwald, Judy Bush and other SDS people participated.

O'Hara has invited several businessmen to testify and they have turned him down (surprise!). Assistant Secretary of State William Miller, who is expected to be a candidate for the Senate in Michigan this fall, will testify in both closed and open hearings.

NO BREAD

SDS is in pretty bad and financial shape. It's not that the basic

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minimum services aren't being performed if you call your standards low. This paper comes coming out—and some new publishing is expected to appear (at about one-third the desired pace). Some staff continue to be able to travel around to visit and meet. But something else is lacking.

Every regional office is living the hand-to-mouth existence that has been going on at the NC meetings and that is an organizational disgrace. The decision to continue effective regional offices is being nullified by the financial situation as more and more staff are forced to take full-time jobs.

The new literature program that was established in Lawrence, Kansas is faced with the problem of how to get new and interesting new papers ready to roll and not enough money to purchase paper.

As for initiating new activity, the theory is made evident through the letters that come in asking for help to conduct some of new or old organizing for this or that organizing project. The OCI Project needs a couple of people to travel in the southwest and for publications.

The grape strike news bulletin which the San Francisco office is producing for the strike drivers has been discontinued. The strike may have to be discontinued unless it cuts this and its editor with it. Such a move would mean a decrease for the strike drivers.

A number of chapters have requested that the "movement skills and history" released by the National Council actually occur this spring. The request will, if the money for it appears, be a valuable learning experience for people planning to take significant chapter responsibility.

There are two other realities in the organization that can be contrasted to this tale of woe. The first is the national level of political activity. The mail shows that SDS—at its local base—is strong enough that it doesn't require a national hook to keep people organized. The talents and enthusiasm exist in the local units to enable people to plug intelligently into the array of national programs elaborated at the NC. Two dozen chapters (that I know of) are moving on the grape strike. Another dozen are working on South Africa. The largest number of chapters is working on Vietnam and draft-related activity. And several dozen are working on their own projects.

Another reality of a different sort, is the prevailing mood of optimism about the organization's ability to sustain itself and continue to grow. I find this generally in my travels.

The moral of the story is that chapters should be doing some fund raising. The easiest device is to pass the hat at chapter meetings, and reserve the take for a special purpose: paying back lit. orders, signing a special check to the Lawrence printing office (12122 Ohio, Lawrence, Kansas), paying the transportation and room and board for a member of the chapter to attend an international retreat over Easter break, helping support regional staff, national staff (who have been missing salary off and on lately), etc. There are more effective ways to raise much. Such as asking people who have a lot of cash in growing stock and/or holding singing benefits, or holding holding singing benefits (contact the N.O. for help on that, etc.), raising the financial cost of building the Left in America must be borne by those who feel its importance most strongly.

ANN ARBOR POLITICAL DEFENSE

VOICE has adopted the following text for petitions to be presented to draft boards. The petitioned date for the support marches has been set for March 2.

The undersigned, called on the local draft boards of to pledge not to use the draft as a weapon of self defense against repression然是 anyone of any kind.

Thirty students at the University of Michigan have sent their draft boards for a six-month demonstration last October 15th protesting U.S. intervention in Vietnam. A student at the University of Delaware lost his conscientious objector status for picking against the war.

This arbitrary use of power confirms our worst fears—that America, in time of war, will restrict the freedoms for which we are supposedly fighting.

The power over life and death which has been invested in draft boards should not be used as a bludgeon for suppressing dissent.

SOVIET WRITERS DEFENSE

About half a dozen NWC members responded positively to a proposal by Bruce Schneidem, Bob Speck, and John Russell of the N.O. staff that a statement be made on the subject of the Soviet writers. The following was drafted by Schneidem and Paul Booth and sent to the N.C. on February 24th.

"As young Americans working for democracy and freedom in our land and in the world, we are outraged by the actions of the Soviet government in jailirg the writers Sinitsynsky and Daniel. The banishment of belief and free expression is contrary to the principles of justice and democracy. As radicals we are familiar with repression; we oppose it wherever it occurs, and express our sympathy with the Russian students who demonstrated against your actions. We are appalled that any nation could hold its creative artists so cheaply, and fear that the world will not yet learned the awful lessons of its own "Victorianism.""

For Leads (Both) It seems to me that the value of such a statement would be its effect in the "pressure-group politics" that the Soviet regime must weigh. To them, I think, we are classed with "Neutralist opinion" and a vehement response to this current harangue will give them pause. Thus, it seems to me that we have some political effect and therefore does not contradict the resolution of the convention last summer.

Argument: Lee Webb and Joyce Bennett of the N.O. both feel that this would be indulging in "statementism," and therefore fly in the face of the 1963 convention's position against such kind of politics. Joyce further thinks that, despite its motivation, the statement would reinforce the Cold War ideology of people to the right of us.

OCEANS TRIP

On his recent trip east, Carl Oglesby spoke to the Great Neck Forum (700), the Methodist Student Movement (150), Vasser SDS (300) with Mike Locker, Miami U. (Osford, Ohio) (700 with overflow), Union Theological Seminary (200), Howard (450), Trinity College (300), Yale (400), spend a day at the New Haven project, Williams SDS (150) with Sid Finehrish, Amherst with Prof. Eric Wolf (350), St. Mary's (350), Taft — informal talk to the interested in a forum on SDS, Brandeis SDS (350).

"It seemed like a triumphal tour. We got not so much ovation everywhere. This was based on the reputation of SDS and of Carl's Washington speech.

A STORY

While returning home on the train from New York just a few weeks ago, the younger brother of an SDS organizer in New York City got into a heated discussion about the war in Vietnam. The disclosure was shortly disinteracted, with neither his Hero nor his fellow-passenger nailing any hecatom. Finally, champion's dad's pin and flung it out the window. To this, our defender responded: "That's the last straw — now you've gone too far" and smashed him one, causing him to bleed from the lip all the way home. SDS pins are 25 cents, available from the N.O., at 10c a piece and half price to chapters in bulk.

NEW LEFT NOTES

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