

instead. It was the first time television workers had protested to assert their right to tell the truth."

Kilson's counter-insurgency techniques have been used in Kenya (where 10,000 suspected Mau Mau were murdered and another 40,000 interned), Muscat, Oman, Cyprus and Malaya. They're in full use in Ireland, beginning to be used in England, and could be

implemented elsewhere if the British decide the time is right.

The following publications and groups provide information on development in Ireland: *Just Books*, 7 Wintavern St., Belfast (anti-authoritarian bookstore), PAC News, 182 Upper St., London N1 (Newsletter of the Prisoners Aid Committee), *Republican News*, 170a Falls Rd., Belfast 12 (paper of the

provisional Sinn Fein, now published underground), *Troops Out*, Box 10, 2a St. Pauls Rd., London N1 (paper of the United Troops Out Movement), *TUGAR*, C/O 40, Cabra Park, Dublin 7, Ireland (Bulletin of the Trade Union Campaign Against Repression), and the *Workers Research Unit Bulletin*, C/O 52 Broadway, Belfast (non-sectarian socialist research group journal).

to seven years.

The government, they believe, was relieved not to have to bring them to trial because such a trial would have exposed the relationship of the state to the Heart fortune. By exposing Patty's life, it would have embarrassed her family's efforts to get her released from prison immediately. Also, it would have highlighted the Heart family's history of greed, manipulation of public opinion, open advocacy of racism, and championing of imperialist aggression.

"Like anyone," the two conceded, "we experience doubts, pain, sadness and loneliness" in confronting a future of years more of degradation and separation in prison. "But our feelings elude within a pervading sense of strength, knowing that 'time' can't destroy the sense of freedom that's within us."

In pleading guilty, Bill and Emily took "full responsibility for our participation in the first political kidnapping in this country." They remain proud that their actions against the Heart family to funnel two million dollars worth of food to poor California communities, shattering the instability of the ruling class. And they retain their "confidence in our combined strength to continue fighting for the principles we believe in—the right of all people to control their own lives and to be free no matter what the costs."

GBJ holds court

Members of the urban guerrilla George Jackson Brigade turned their recent Seattle trial into an indictment of capitalism and some jurors found it guilty as charged. Faced with several counts of bank robbery, explosives and conspiracy, Terese Coupez and John Sherman, acting as their own lawyers, planned to present a defense that their acts were justified in the face of the current system. Although the judge ruled against this plan, they were still able to take the offense: affirming their revolutionary actions while

explaining that armed struggle is not "terrorism." The surprise came when, although the two had presented themselves as urban guerrillas, some jurors held out for acquittal and others suggested leniency.

They each got twenty year sentences instead of the maximum 120 years. The success of their appeal to the jury shook up the State to the point that it has now dropped any further prosecution of GJB member Rita Brown (held in Alderson, Va. federal women's prison) because she's already got more time (25 years) for fewer "crimes" than Coupez and Sherman were sentenced for. While Coupez and Sherman were holding court, Janine Betram was being sentenced to ten years after pleading guilty to the same charges. While Betram was sentenced separately, she released a message expressing "love and respect" for the other GJB members.

The courtroom victory of Coupez and Sherman prompted the government to offer Sherman deals on upcoming trials (he's the only GJBer still facing jail). He answered that the only deal he'd accept is freedom. In a trial in September Sherman was given thirty years for his role in the Brigade's aborted bank robbery in Tukwila, Wa., but the time runs concurrent with his other sentence. He faces one more trial (escape from custody) and is, thus far, eligible for parole in 8 1/2 years.

In a statement at the Trevilla trial Sherman said he no longer considered himself a member of the GJB because of the possible confusion about whether, from his isolation in a cell, he's speaking as a Brigade member or as himself, and because he can no longer share in the daily development of the group although he doesn't know if the GJB will continue to exist.

Sherman stressed that his withdrawal from the GJB should not be taken as a denunciation of the group. "I'm proud that we rejected the view that the common people in the country are unfit for revolution... I'm proud of our willingness to listen and change, and to learn from our mistakes and our successes."

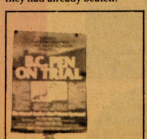
For more information about the GJB write the Public Support for the George Jackson Brigade committee, P.O. Box 22204, Seattle, Wa. 98112 or Left Bank Books, 92 Pike St., Seattle, Wa. 98101.



A US mime troupe staged a vigil near the Spanish Embassy in Washington recently to protest the jailing of Spanish mimes who were arrested for "insulting military officers" by portraying them as fascist stooges.

Feminists face life Again

Two feminist prison activists in Vancouver have been dragged into the courts again to face a prosecution intent on putting them behind bars for life. Betsy Wood, 48, and Gay Hoon, 32, were directly indicted in August in a vindictive and harassing move after the prosecutor bypassed a judge who had dismissed their case and obtained authorization from the Attorney-General to proceed with the same charges they had already beaten.



Brent Taylor with "subversive" Wood/Hoon poster.

The charges which arose out of an aborted mass breakout last January at the maximum security B.C. Pen were dismissed after a preliminary hearing in June when the judge ruled the prosecution had not presented enough of a case to commit the two to trial.

Undaunted, the prosecutor resorted to a political instead of a judicial process to press charges viewed as the most serious and most arbitrary to confront politically active

people on the Canadian West coast in at least a generation. They are obviously meant as a warning to other activists to lay off the prison system.

Wood and Hoan have been key figures in the campaign to focus attention on the B.C. Pen's solitary confinement unit, which penal experts have called one of the most brutal in North America.

The two were present in the visiting area of the Pen last January and taken as hostages when five prisoners, all with long experience in solitary, attempted to smash their way out of the prison. A guard was stabbed during the incident.

One prisoner, Steve Hall (see letter from Millhaven pen in Roadside Notes), was tried in April and sentenced to life. Of the remaining prisoners, Dave Bennett, Ralph Saumer, and Richard Wright, have been sentenced to 5 years concurrent, for each charge of attempted escape and mischief. Charges of attempted murder and possession of dangerous weapons have been stayed.

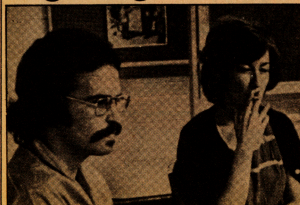
The fifth prisoner, Andy Bruce, who has spent nearly eight years in solitary, has yet to appear in court.

Supporters of Wood and Hoan have been targeted for harassment. Two activists were arrested for sticking up Wood/Hoon posters (these are the only posters, out of hundreds around Vancouver, that people have been prosecuted for). One was acquitted but the other, anarchist militant Brent Taylor, was sentenced to a week in Okalla prison for putting up one poster (the sentence was later reduced to three months probation).

Wood and Hoan go to trial tentatively Nov. 27 in the New Westminster courthouse, but watch for a possible change of venue. For more info, contact the Solitary Confinement Abolition Project, Box 758, Station A, Vancouver, B.C.

Money is urgently needed for the Wood-Hoon Defence Fund, P.O. CCCE, Credit Union, 205 East Sixth Ave., Vancouver, B.C.

Harris' still fighting



Bill and Emily Harris

Former Symbionese Liberation Army members Bill and Emily Harris have been sentenced from life to life in prison for their role in the SLA's kidnaping of Patty Hearst. The Harrises had entered guilty pleas to the charge, while denying Hearst's claim that she had been tortured, raped and

brainwashed.

Their guilty plea, they stated, was a pragmatic choice made to "gain control" of the amount of time they have to serve. In a statement to the court they stressed that it "does not represent bowing down to the State". Their lawyers estimate that they could be on the streets in five

BURJU is a "jail-house lawyer" collective, recently formed in the Georgia State Prison to provide legal and financial assistance to the many "penitents and forgotten" prisoners who are "victims of the same monster that captured all of the others." While recognizing the importance of organizing around "political prisoners," the collective plans to address itself to the needs of the often forgotten prisoners locked down for economic crimes rather than those held on explicitly political charges. They ask that financial support be sent to **BURJU**, c/o First Federal Savings and Loan of Atlanta, Box 3251, Atlanta, Georgia 30302. Other correspondence should be sent to Gerald Price, 70725, E-1, Georgia State Prison, Gadsdenville, GA 30443 or Abdul Shabazz, Homead, 70825, E-1, at the same prison.

Four Black Americans, Jean and Melvin McNair, Joyce Tillerson and George Brown, are facing trial in France as a result of their 1972 hijacking of a jet from Florida to Algeria. The four successfully fought extradition back to the US but, due to a Franco-American treaty, will be tried on the hijacking charges in France. However, one of the group, George Brown, is being extradited to the US to serve the remainder of a robbery sentence in Trenton Penitentiary in New Jersey where he escaped in 1970. Before leaving America all four actively opposed US involvement in Vietnam (one is an army deserter) and fought for Black Liberation. For more information, and to send send letters asking the French government not to extradite Brown, write Comité de Défense des 4 des Fleury, C/O Pasteur Marcel Hermitte, 2 Alice Maurice Ray, 92260 Fontenay aux Roses.

U.S. authorities have a five year plan (1977-82) to spend 1.4 billion dollars increasing America's prison capacity by 24%. In Canada, the government intends on building twenty-four new federal prisons at a cost of \$500,000,000. Opposition is building in both countries. Check with Jericho, National Moratorium on Prison Construction, 3016 Mt. Pleasant Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20010 and the Moratorium Committee on Prison Construction, Box 2175, Station D, Ottawa, Ont. K1P 5W4.