

COME TO THE  
PLAY TONIGHT

# The Observer

VIET STUDENTS  
SPEAK  
See Page Four

JUNE 14, 1968

Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan

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## S.E.T. Production A Success

OH DAD, POOR DAD, MAMA'S HUNG YOU IN THE CLOSET AND I'M FEELING SO SAD, by Arthur Kopit, opened last weekend in the Barn Theatre of the Student Enterprise Theatre. The play was received very well by the audiences, which were almost full houses for both nights.

The play, written in 1959, has a typically modern flavor to the stage. The characters revolve around the maudlin world of Madame Rosepettle, played by Mary Gantenbein. Her son Jonathan becomes infatuated with the girl next door, Rosalie, who in her turn tries to seduce him, and ends up dead--buried beneath thousands of stamps, coins, and books.

The play has an increasing sense of insanity and chaos. In between almost tragic drama is a light frivolity which in some places seems very out of contrast with the action taking place on stage. This is seen most strikingly in the first half of the third scene, where the gay and flighty life of Madame Rosepettle is interrupted by a fifteen minute speech concerning her dead husband and the circumstances which led her into the present state of affairs. The speech, very funny in many parts, loses its intensity because of its long duration, and as a motivating force for Jonathan's action it becomes intellectually difficult to understand the drama of Rosalie-Jonathan's seduction scene, and Rosalie's eventual death. The acting in the play is extremely good, and in many ways makes the play even more spontaneous and fun. Rosalie, played by Jane Bentzen, and Jonathan, played by Jody Shapiro, are perhaps the two best in the show, making their scenes together not only "real, but

fascinating. Mary Gantenbein also plays her role with a fine sense of spontaneity and together with Rosalie and Jonathan she forms the base upon which the worth of the show is seen. The Commodore, played by Jeff Kulik, is also well acted, although his scene with Madame Rosepettle is perhaps the duller part of an interesting play.

Special mention should be made concerning the technical aspects of the play. Tom Aston's direction was extremely good, particularly in the sense that he gave a show somewhat chaotic in nature, a well-devised sense of total integration. The direction of the show moves smoothly and vividly--culminating in a bedroom which is the best aspect of the show technically, as well as in the acting displayed particularly by Jane Bentzen. The lights, done by Donald Downing, also add a fresh dimension to the show, and Mr. Downing has enhanced and in some places added a sombre effect much needed in the play. Special mention should also be given to Jann Fitzgerald who handled the props and assistant directing for the show. Here again a great deal of effort was made to make the many dis-associated parts of the play unite into a fine overall production.

The play is well worth seeing, if only due to the fine acting of everyone concerned with the play. This Friday and Saturday Nikki Silvio will play the role of Rosalie, but it is this critics feeling that the general effect of the play will not suffer from the short time she has to rehearse. The performances are at 8:30 in the Barn Theatre.

Note: Mark Felton just asked me to mention his colorful drop, which also is a fine job.

Wylie LeClair

## OU Up Tight Over Budget Tuition Increase Imminent

By Mark Kotler

Oakland University's finances are in a typically bleak state. The Michigan State House of Representatives presently argues that Oakland's budget appropriation should be increased \$787,000 for the coming school year; the State Senate favors only a \$307,000 increase.

Either appropriation, according to Oakland's Chancellor Durward Varner, is inadequate to maintain the university's current educational level against a projected enrollment increase in the student body to over 4900 in the fall. Therefore, a fairly substantial tuition increase will accompany either appropriation, though the increase in tuition would be less with a larger budget appropriation by the state.

A joint Senate-House committee of six members (three senators and three representatives) had been meeting until three weeks ago to resolve differences in the proposed appropriations for Oakland and other state

universities. At present, the committee has recessed until June 24, unable to solve those differences. This congressional maneuver has left OU administrators up tight, not knowing how much money they will have to keep the university running less than a month before the new fiscal year begins (July 1).

### BUDGET OR HANDOUTS?

Governor Romney originally suggested to the legislature that Oakland receive a \$587,000 appropriation increase and later revised his recommendation to \$787,000. Then the senate, which is not facing election this year under the new four year term for senators, cut the appropriation to a \$307,000 increase. Then three weeks ago the House of Representatives, who seem infinitely more responsive to the people's needs and the needs of the state, restored the appropriation increase to the second amount suggested by the Governor.

Oakland's staunchest defender in Congress has so far been our own Rochester representative, Mr. Bishops.

## Resistors Honored

Berkeley, Calif. (CPS)--"Vietnam Commencement" was held at the University here May 17. The plaza at the Berkeley campus was jammed, with over 6,000 people attending a one-hour ceremony honoring those who have refused to comply with the draft. Behind the podium were 200 professors, honored guests, and a banner on the pillars of Sproul Hall reading, "Vietnam Commencement."

Plans for the commencement were begun a month ago by the Campus Draft Opposition (CDO) which planned the service and submitted an application for use of the Greek Theatre for the event. Their application was approved by Vice Chancellor William Boyd. Then the board of regents, through their legal counsel, ruled that such a ceremony would violate the selective service law and could not be held on the campus.

The CDO came back swinging, filing a suit against the University charging that the ban violated the rights of free speech and assembly. The student-faculty group also applied for permission to use the steps of Sproul Hall for the ceremony in case the regent's ruling held in court. It did, and CDO was banned from use of the theatre.

At a mass meeting the same night, the CDO decided to go

ahead with the commencement at Sproul. That day Governor Ronald Reagan had demanded the commencement not be held and that both students and professors participating should be banished. Such a ceremony, he said, "would be so indecent as to border on the obscene."

Despite the Governor's pre-description, it was a solemn affair, much quieter than most rallies held on Sproul steps. Professor Charles Sellers gave the faculty address: "Those we honor have said 'Imprison us, exile us, do with us what you will. But we won't go'."

There were special citations to Ronald Lockwood, the Philadelphia Army private who refused to serve in Vietnam, saying his battle was in the Negro ghetto; to John Wells, one of the first Berkeley students to resist the draft because of the war; and to Christian Hadyn, who recently burned his induction papers in front of the Los Angeles induction center.

Hadyn's father, actor Sterling Hadyn, was also present and told the audience, "When I fought a war it was very fashionable and the enemy was clear. Today, my son has the same enemy--fascism."

Over 800 students at Berkeley this year have said they "won't go".



## Beer Lake's Brown Waters In Question

Hot weather has finally arrived driving students to the refreshing water of Beer Lake. Sunbathers spread out their towels and relax by the waters edge. When the heat becomes unbearable, they dive in. If the swimmer can get out into the middle of the lake, he can have a good swim because most of the skum on the surface is near the sides. It isn't as easy to avoid the muck when trying to climb back out. Questions do arise as to whether or not the water is sanitary enough to swim in. The report was going around that last year the lake was tested and found purer than Oakland's swimming pool.

Perhaps students won't be too surprised when the lake is posted as unapproved and unsafe for swimming. Oscar Boyes of the Oakland County Department of Health has made a survey of Beer Lake and has found it unsuitable as a public bathing beach. Among the reasons listed were:

1. All of the water impounded in this lake is from an established county drain. The water is

surface runoff from nearby subdivisions served by septic tanks and tile fields, which may be discharging sewage to the surface of the ground and subsequently into this water course.

2. The nature of the lake bottom is blue clay, and the water is constantly turbid. On the day of this survey "visibility in the lake was nil".

3. The effluent from the cooling tower and refrigeration units also discharge directly into the lake.

It was also recommended that proper mowing or chemical weed eradication would aid in the removal of some of the aquatic weed growth around the lake perimeter, thus helping to prevent mosquito breeding.

Some students may not be content simply to dangle their toes into the water and the freshmen during Orientation will most likely prefer to ignore the signs. It should be kept in mind that the lake is just for looks and that Oakland's indoor pool is awaiting us.



# THE OBSERVER

## Music Review

### Drugs and Music - Part II

By Barry Klein

Last week's column, written before the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy, attempted to describe a certain relatedness between popular music, drugs, and politics. I illustrated examples of how popular music has treated both the subject of drugs and politics. I want to attempt in today's column to tie all these three together.

In order to do this, I must leave the popular musical orientation and explore some popular writers. Timothy Leary claims in *The Marijuana Papers* (Signet Paperback) that the 1951 United Nations figure that 200 million people in the world using cannabis indicates a psychedelic minority group. Indeed, if all these people moved to the United States there would be no minority here.

The political relevance of drugs exists in the U. S. primarily on college campuses. William Burroughs in *Naked Lunch* and Allen Ginsberg's "First Manifesto" in *The Marijuana Papers* points out the extraordinary methods by which marijuana users are sought by police agencies. The college students who smoke grass are almost immediately conscious of their felonious criminality as perceived by many segments of the American population. Those who feel this persecution (who Ed Sanders facetiously calls "The International Zionist Marijuana Conspiracy") believe

that perhaps other issues are treated similarly by the political system. As Ginsberg states in the above-mentioned article.

"What of other issues filled with the same threatening hysteria? The spectre of Communism? Respect for the policy and courts? Respect for the Treasury Department? If marijuana is a hoax, what is money? What is the War in Vietnam? What are the Mass Media?"

And speaking of media, my only remaining point is that music is a fundamental media for the distribution of attitudes under influence of such drugs as marijuana. Ginsburg recalls how he "apprehended the structure of certain pieces of jazz and classical music in a new manner under the influence of marijuana, and these apprehensions have remained valid in years of normal consciousness." This leads Ginsburg to say at the conclusion of his article that "marijuana and versions of African ritual music (rock and roll) are slowly catalyzing anti-ideological consciousness of the new generations on both sides of the Iron-TIME curtain."

The oft-list confidence of college students in the American political system would therefore be at least somewhat improved if marijuana were re-legalized. However, this would only improve the system's image in the minds of students, while not actually dealing with other problems such as the war in Vietnam, black power, and student power. Until then college students sublimate their persecution by enlisting popular



### The Obscenity of War

Re-issuing this photo, which first appeared in the "Vietnam GI" and then in the *Liberation News Service*, was by no means easy. First of all none of us, whether we like the war or not, ever want to admit to such an atrocity. Most of us read *TIME* or the local daily, where we witness brave soldiers being applauded for some heroic feat, generals lauding the efficiency of their crack troops, or we read of the loneliness of some GI from

Topeka Kansas for his girl and his family back home. There is little trepidation, and there is always optimism. Meantime the war proliferates, we continue to lose 3 to 5 hundred men a week and the VC lose God only knows how many. We bomb the North and the VC rocket Saigon.

No, the above photo will not appear in *TIME* and it will probably never be seen by more than a few thousand people. Sadly enough we must admit to

the desecration seen above, and none of us can rationalize or justify this brutal act which happened to be captured and released to the public. It doesn't matter how brutal the VC have been, are, or will be. We as Americans, who pride ourselves in our Christianity can never forget these atrocities for the glorifications and sentiment of the national or local press.

Colin Campbell

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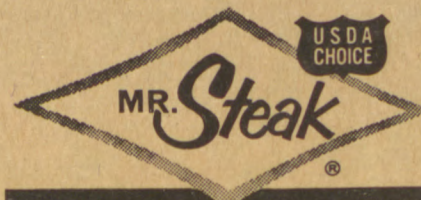
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# Viet Students Voice Resignation

**SAIGON (CPS).** (By Steve D'Arazien)—This generation of Vietnamese students is quite unlike its current American counterpart. It is largely a silent generation, closely resembling the generation that prevailed in America in the 1950's.

The political consciousness which SDS wants to encourage in the United States is not present here. Nguyen Thi Xuan Huong, a bright 17-year-old student at the Faculty of Law (a college degree is not required for legal study) was asked why she opposes the National Liberation Front.

"Because they take away your freedom," she commented. When someone observed that she had no freedom, she tried another tact: "Because they take away your money."

That is a conditioned response in many Vietnamese students. The truth only comes from personal exposure to the reality of the war. Some months later Miss Huong reported she had seen American soldiers shoot an old woman and a child. "I knew they were not VC. I wanted to yell 'Americans go home,' but they might have shot me," she told me.

Among the majority of Vietnamese students, there was a preference for Robert Kennedy in the upcoming American elections, but many of the students had a very limited acquaintance with the Senator's views.

He was favored because his brother was a favorite here, for policies which had quite different effects on the Vietnamese government than would Senator Kennedy's. (The Vietnamese government regarded Kennedy with a contempt rivaling that held for Mao Tse Tung.)

The preference for Kennedy reflected a yearning for peace

based on a revulsion against the destruction of Vietnam and opposition to the continued killing of innocent people. But there is a strong strain of anti-Communism among Vietnamese students which causes them to be wary of suggestion of a coalition government. The desire for peace and the desire not to compromise are contradictory, but the contradiction is common to the United States also.

Two tendencies are peculiar to Vietnamese students—romanticism and disinterest in politics.

The Vietnamese students are fond of listening to sad songs about the tragedy of war and unfulfilled love. They are anti-war songs (and are therefore banned by the government as detrimental to public morale) but they are not activist songs like Phil Ochs' "I ain't marchin' anymore."

The expressed feeling is one of passive resignation, of acceptance of a "cruel fate" and an inability to change anything. The defiance of the anti-war movement in the United States is not to be found among these students.

The apolitical attitude of the students is the same attitude that has characterized the Asian peasants (and ghettoized Blacks in the U. S.) for centuries. This is a land which has been ruled for centuries by a mandarin elite. Unlike the United States there is no tradition of popular government on a national scale.

Religion also plays a role. In Vietnam varying degrees of Buddhism, Confucianism and Taoism mingle with traditional ancestor worship and animism.

The central thrust of Buddhism is inward, to achieve renunciation and personal nirvana. Recently the militant Buddhists have been

emphasizing another directed social gospel strain present in Buddhism and this aspect of the religion holds possibilities for "radicalizing" the Vietnamese.

Neither Taoism, nor Confucianism (which emphasizes personal morality and obedience to family and state) advance the development of popular government in Vietnam.

For some of the students, the silence is a function of their tacit agreement with the Vietnamese government. An identity of interests exists between these students and the government. Like the government, the viewpoint of these students is a function of their class. The Vietnamese class system is much more rigid than its American counterpart because of the Vietnamese tradition of mandarin rule. Education still remains the privilege of the rich in Vietnam.

Until recently Vietnamese students have been draft deferred. As members of the Vietnamese elite, many of the students were automatically granted military commissions, if they were unable to be further deferred as government employees or graduate students. But now the lot of the Vietnamese students may change, due to American pressure and a new mobilization law may force all the students to face the fact of the war they previously avoided.

Actually, the Vietnamese students do not have much chance to develop political ideas independently. They hear only their government's point of view. The exposure is constant—propaganda is on the radio and television, in the newspapers and at the movies, blaring from loudspeakers into the city streets and at mandatory government rallies.

All of the media are

government controlled. News unfavorable to the government is censored from the press. Even President Johnson's speeches—when he talks about negotiations—are censored, as attested to by patches of white scattered throughout the papers. (Negotiation is a bad word here.)

Objective accounts of the recent history of Vietnam are unavailable at bookstores in Saigon. Possession of books expressing a "neutralist" viewpoint can lead to arrest as a subversive. Law 10-59, which outlaws Communism and Neutralism, as loosely interpreted by military courts, makes serious discussion of politics impossible.

South Vietnam is a police state. The situation here has not been liberalized since Diem took over in 1954. Public assembly is strictly regulated. Anti-Communist organizations, designed to rout out pro-Communist elements within the student body of the universities, have been formed by the government.

In the past, anti-Communist crusades and public denunciation campaigns eliminated much of the opposition to the government. Things have been quiet since then. Students know that political involvement is very risky.

So most of the Vietnamese students have resigned themselves to self-imposed silence and have closed their minds. The exclusion of honorable dissent in Vietnam has polarized the society into visible supporters of the government and their clandestine opposition.

The opposition breaks down into two categories, the militant Buddhist and the NLF. The young people are only nominally students. As in the United

States, the leadership is frequently made up of non-students. You cannot go underground and remain in the universities, which are closely watched in Vietnam.

Among students there is probably more support for the Buddhist opposition, although it is impossible to make a census. The Buddhists opposing the current government, would establish a broad coalition and take their chances with NLF participation in the government.

Many of the militant Buddhist leaders are currently in jail. The rest of these students are underground, replete with new names and false identity cards.

The student Buddhists can remain close to the universities because they are not actually at war with the government. They still have friends in school and do still get together and talk politics.

Students who join the NLF, on the other hand, rapidly lose all contact with the university population as they undergo the transformation from students to soldiers.

It is one of history's ironies that the Vietnamese students are consigned such a passive role in a war which will probably be judged to have great historic significance, while back in America students are playing a large part in turning the country around, and are being tested by fire in the process.



## MSU ROTC

### Meeting Marred

On Saturday, May 25, some 80 demonstrators interrupted a ROTC Field Day. Carrying crosses and parading back and forth, the demonstrators voiced their protest "against the training of young young men to kill people." Marching continued as the demonstrators broke ranks and generally mimicked the stern-faced future officers.

Major Leonard Nowak who, taking the whole fiasco in stride, said: "The demonstrators were somewhat disrupting, but we worked around them." Later on in the program, the cadets were to carry out an attack and destroy exercise, in which they would destroy a hut. In the mean time the demonstrators circled the hut, but Major McKee with the cool voice of military efficiency or the voice that makes sleeping easy at night said: "Actually this fits in very appropriately with our exercise." We destroyed the hut and did not harm the demonstrators. It showed that we could accomplish a mission without harming any civilians in the area."



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## Sartre Interviews Parisian Radical

LNS—May 20, 1968. An interview between Jean-Paul Sartre and Daniel Cohn-Bendit.

**SARTRE:** In a few days, without any call for a general strike, France has been practically paralyzed by work stoppages and factory take-overs. All this because the students took control of the streets of the Latin Quarter. What is your analysis of the movement that you have let loose? How far can it go?

**COHN-BENDIT:** It has taken on proportions that we could not foresee at the beginning. The goal, now, is the overthrow of the regime. But it is not up to us whether or not this is achieved. If this is what was really wanted by the Communist Party, the OGT and the other labor federations, there would be no problem: the regime would fall within two weeks because the regime has nothing to show in opposition to the full strength of the workers if it comes to a showdown.

**SARTRE:** At the moment, there is an evident disproportion between the massive character of the strike movement, which is such as to permit a direct confrontation with the regime, and the union's demands, which are relatively modest: salaries, hours, retirement, etc.

**COHN-BENDIT:** In labor combats there has always been a gap between the vigor of the action and the initial demands. But it can happen that the success of the action and the dynamism of the movement modify the nature of the demands along the way. A strike begun for a partial conquest may transform itself into an insurrectional movement... In any case, I don't believe revolution is possible, just like that, from one day to the next. I think it's only possible to obtain a series of improvements and adjustments, of greater or lesser importance, but these improvements can only be imposed by revolutionary

action. This is where the student movement, which whatever happens, will at least have brought about a significant reform of the University, even if it temporarily loses some of its energy, serves as an example for a lot of young workers. By using the traditional means of action of the labor movement—the obstacle: the myth according to which "nothing can be done against this regime." We proved it wasn't so. And the workers have flooded into the breach. Perhaps they won't, this time, carry through to the end. But there will be other explosions later on. The important thing is that the proof has been given of the efficacy of the revolutionary methods... For my part, it isn't a matter of metaphysics or of figuring out how to make "the revolution". I think, as I said, that we are rather moving toward a perpetual change in society, spurred on, at each stage, by revolutionary actions. A radical change in the structures of our society would only be possible if, for example, all of a sudden there occurred simultaneously a serious economic crisis, a powerful upsurge in the labor movement and a strong student action. Today, these conditions combined. At the most, one can hope to make the government fall. But there's no use dreaming of making bourgeois society fall apart. That doesn't mean that there is nothing to do: on the contrary, it is necessary to struggle step by step, but from the starting point of a total questioning of the whole system. The question of knowing whether there can still be revolutions in developed capitalist societies and what must be done to provoke them doesn't really interest me. Everyone has his own theory. Some say: it's the revolutions in the Third World that will provoke the collapse of the capitalist world. Others say: It's thanks to the revolutions in the

capitalist world that the Third World can develop. All those analyses are more or less well-founded, but, in my opinion, without any great importance.

Look at what has just happened. For a long time a lot of people were looking for the best way to make the student milieu explode. In the end no one found it and it was an objective situation that brought about the explosion... The active minority was able, because it was theoretically more conscious and better prepared, to light the first fuse and make the first breakthrough. But that's all. The others could follow or not follow. It so happens that they followed.

But since, no avant-garde, whether the Union of Communist Students (orthodox CP) or the Revolutionary Communist Youth (trotskyist) or the Marxist-Leninists (pro-chinese), has been able to take over the leadership of the movement. Their militants have been able to participate in various actions in a decisive manner, but they have always been drowned in the vastness of the movement. That shows that it is necessary to abandon the theory of the leading avant-garde to adopt another—much more simple much more decent and honest—of the active minority which plays the role of a permanent fermenting agent encouraging action with the help of an active minority—spontaneity finds its place in social movement. It is spontaneity that permits the thrust forward and not the slogans or directives of a leading group.

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## Black Panther Leader is Jailed: Petition Made To Reinstate Parole

**San Francisco (LNS)** -- Eldridge Cleaver is the Minister of Information for the Black Panther Party, one of many Panthers jailed, shot or threatened in the Oakland area during the past few months. As a result his parole has been revoked **WITHOUT HEARING**. **BACKGROUND:** On April 6th, the Oakland police attacked a group of Panthers as they were driving in their car. When the panthers sought refuge in a nearby house, the police shot up and tear gassed the house killing Bobby Hutton and wounding Eldridge Cleaver. Trumped up charges have been placed against Eldridge, and his parole has been revoked without hearing. We are therefore participating in an international drive to pressure the California Parole Authorities to release Eldridge.

1. PETITIONS MUST BE RETURNED IMMEDIATELY in order to maximize pressure on the parole authorities.

2. All signatures are valid on this petition.

3. Return petitions to: THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE TO RELEASE ELDRIDGE CLEAVER, 301 Broadway, San Francisco 94133

### PETITION

To: Governor Reagan, Governor of the State of California, Henry W. Kerr, Chairman, California Adult Authority (Parole Board), Curtis O. Lynum, Vice-chairman, California Adult Authority, Abelicio Chavez, William H. Madden, Dr. Thomas R. Flinn, Manley J. Bowler, Walter A. Gordon Jr., Leland M. Edman, Members, California Adult Authority.

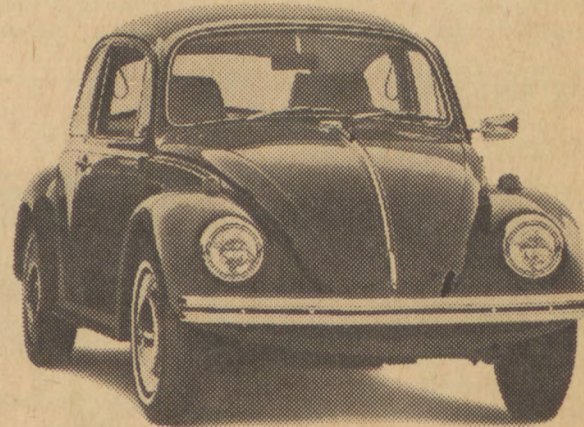
WHEREAS Eldridge Cleaver, Minister of Information of the Black Panther Party, Author of Soul On Ice, Member of the State Steering Committee, Peace & Freedom Party, is being held in prison at Vacaville, California because of his political beliefs, associations, and activities...

WHEREAS Mr. Cleaver's parole was precipitously revoked at 3 a.m., April 7, 1968, without a hearing...

WHEREAS Mr. Cleaver is being held a political prisoner in violation of his constitutional rights...

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