

of war-related industries we shall divest ourselves of specifically named stock. Corporate capitalism seems to think it has much to gain from imperialism; therefore, we cannot re-invest the newly released capital in other corporations. One corporation is only different in magnitude, not kind, when investing in major corporations. What we will do is re-invest this capital in the much needed low and moderate income housing. We will use our Stanford land for this project Dig In and the community will begin hearing from the individuals involved in the issue of low and moderate income housing. Once the Congress has decided on a site for the development of a model low or moderate income home, we will begin construction. The model home can be used to house small scale models of various proposed low and moderate income housing and multiple units. The house can serve as a meeting place for architects, interested community people and individuals who qualify for low and moderate income housing to work on designing experiments in housing.

For many years now the board of trustees and particular administrators have been making statements as Stanford University and this action must stop. Stanford Town has no democratic representation from the individuals who are continually affected by the major decisions of the town. A comparison of the process that the citizens of Palo Alto having in voting on major decisions

which effect their lives and the absence of this process in Stanford can be demonstrated with the following:

#### Decision Making on the Superblock Issue

October 1967 - Bank of America applied to city for permit to build a two story bank building on University and Bryant, and also acquired the lot between Bryant and Florence for parking. As the city and Bank of America controlled almost all land bounded by University, Ramona, Lytton, and Florence, councilman Grant Spaeth convinced B of A to work together with the city to design a major office development on that site.

May 1968 - Consultants brought in to study economic feasibility of an office tower and underground garage. Council asks city staff to solicit proposals from private developers for construction.

January 1970 - Cornish & Carey submit their "Bryant Street Project", commonly known as "Superblock".

April 1970 - Council approved concept of "Superblock" and selected Cornish & Carey as developer. City staff began to negotiate with developer, and another consultant (Optimum Systems) was hired to study project's feasibility.

June 22, 1970 - Council votes to approve project, directs city staff to draw up appropriate agreements with developer, and planning commission requested to initiate zoning change in the property, subsequently turning out to be quite favorable to Cornish & Carey.

November 9, 1970 - Council approves both the agreement with the developer and the zoning change. Fearing a citizen-initiated referendum on the May ballot, the Council called a special election to be held January 26. By jumping the gun on the project's opponents, the pro-development Council not only was able to work the proposition, but also blocked a possible voter registration drive (the polls are closed 55 days before an election), and attempted to give the developer a financial break. Cornish & Carey hoped to begin construction at the earliest date to insure better financing for the project. However, the special election cost the Palo Alto taxpayers \$10,000.

January 26, 1971 - VOTE on Superblock. Superblock defeated by nearly a 4,000 vote margin.

It is commonly accepted that the manner in which the Superblock project was finally brought to a vote of the citizens of Palo Alto was one of little democratic representation. Yet, even with this large handicap

the citizens of Palo Alto had an opportunity to vote.

CASE: PALO ALTO SQUARE (DILLINGHAM PROJECT)

1965 - Tom Ford, director of land development at Stanford, conceived of the Palo Alto Square. Through contact and personal knowledge he sold the idea to officials at Stanford, Dillingham, and Palo Alto city government, who then set the project in motion.

1969 - Four public hearings for Palo Altoans, held in the summer, following minimum legal announcements.

Sept. 1969 - Zoning change approved by Palo Alto City Council, with cursory review.

Jan. 1970 - Opposition to Dillingham project begins to organize, mostly by residents in the Palo Alto community.

Feb. 1970 - Petitions opposing Dillingham presented to Stanford President Pitzer.

Feb. 1970 - Pitzer replies that Stanford could not halt project, following approval of appropriate campus and governmental bodies.

March 1970 - Signing of the lease.

March 1970 - NO VOTE was held.

"the voters of the area have always decided, and are still deciding, how Stanford lands can be developed." - Boyd Smith, University real Estate manager

"But if a community must keep adding industry to obtain the funds to solve the problems that industry helps to create, where does it all end? Doesn't that mean that growth can never be halted?"

No. A community can halt growth if a majority of the voters decide that the disadvantages of continued growth outweigh the advantages." - Campus Report Supplement, April 6, 1970

The members of the Stanford University community, staff, administration, students, and faculty had, and have NO VOTE.

This is a call for the disenfranchised students, staff, and faculty to gather together to assume control over their own lives and community. We must disengage ourselves from direct complicity with this war of genocide. We must take positive steps to have a lasting effect on the uses of our resources in Stanford Town and the first context is operation Dig In. Dig In is to sell particular stocks that are directly adding to the war, keep control over other stocks to effect decisions in those corporations, and use this released capital in digging in and building the desperately needed low and moderate income housing. A shadow government is presently being called for and we have a beginning context.

For those of us who have been used to letting other people or unrepresented powers make decisions that directly affect us, we will have to struggle to break out of that old passive behavior and begin to use what is legitimately ours: a recognized right to direct represented power in those decisions that directly affect our lives. All of us are driven from our normal work because we recognize that Stanford University is a town with on-going normal functions. That drives us to reorder the activities of the present and take initiative in some positive uses of our community's resources.

All of the community, staff (administration), students, and faculty, are asked to feel the strength of being represented in major decisions and asked to come to meetings concerned with the first Stanford Town Congress

and project Dig In. If we initially come together over issues, the Congress does not have to take most of its time with the restructuring element of this program, but can get down to substantive issues immediately. It is hoped that the members of the community realize we all have a right to participate in the decisions that effect our lives, and that we can come together on issues. Let us dig in and move from our support of war to the support of low and moderate cost housing.

Everywhere  
The serpents exhale their poisonous breath;  
To speak of gentle peace sounds like mockery.  
Let me therefore, before I depart,  
Send my last greetings to those  
Who everywhere are making ready  
To give battle to the Monster of Evil.

Tagore

Individuals and Groups in Support  
of the First Stanford Town Congress:

Date of 1st Congress:

Issues Considered:

NOTES

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