

April, 1970

Dear CPP'er,

Here's your copy of Interrupt. After the last issue, the Interrupt Collective made the political decision to discontinue our dealings with non-union print shops. One of the advantages of changing to union labor is our new magazine binding. Another is lower cost. The most important is political integrity.

Peace,  
Ken, Joan, Barbara,  
Burt, In, Jon, Stu

P.S. — VERY IMPORTANT! —

CPP is having a general meeting in NY  
to discuss the plans for Spring.

It is on Monday, April 6, at 8:00 p.m.

At the Universalist Church, 4 W. 76th St.  
in Manhattan.

(TEAR THIS PAGE OFF & POST IT SO YOU'LL REMEMBER!)

# Interrupt

10

NEWSLETTER OF COMPUTER  
PROFESSIONALS FOR PEACE

April 1970

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## DEMONSTRATE TO END THE WAR

The peace movement has been in the doldrums this winter after the mass outpouring of November 15th; however, the momentum is picking up. Beginning with the March anti-draft protests, this spring should witness the largest turnout of people against the war in the history of the movement. The target date is April 15th.

Here in N.Y. there will be various demonstrations in the morning, coordinated by the Vietnam Peace Parade Committee, involving neighborhood peace groups, college and high school students, labor unions and professional groups. The emphasis in April will be on the economic impact of the war on the American people-the inflation, higher taxes, and wage suppression.

There will be actions at the Internal Revenue Service, Washington Square Park, City Hall, Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, and Columbia Univer-

sity. Feeder marches will lead from the above to Bryant Park for a mass rally sponsored by the Vietnam Moratorium Committee. The CPP Honeywell Committee has taken an active part in coordinating the "professional" groups-psychologists, social workers, teachers, medical workers, etc., in their own demonstrations that day. From 12 noon to 1:30 P.M. there will be two picket lines, one at G.E., 2nd largest war contractor, at 51st & Lexington Ave., and one at Honeywell, manufacturer of the anti-personnel fragmentation bomb, at 42nd and 2nd Ave. From these demonstrations we will go to a rally at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, 47th between 1st & 2nd Aves, from 1:30 to 3:00 P.M. Then on to the mass rally at Bryant Park from 4-6 P.M.

Those people interested in helping planning, participating, making posters, prior leafletting, etc. call Jay Bitkower 623-3224/799-4354

Jay

## Perspectives

### INTERRUPT

#### NEWSLETTER OF COMPUTER PROFESSIONALS FOR PEACE

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## ACTION NOTES

During the interval since the last issue of Interrupt, CPPers have been pretty busy, not just in CPP activities but also in support demonstrations of various kinds. Large contingents participated in several demonstrations in support of the Chicago 7 (or 8 or 10--however you figure it). It's fortunate there are no more or Judge Hoffman would be running out of fingers). Although there is disagreement within the group about supporting the Black Panthers politically, there is no doubt that their civil liberties are being severely curtailed and on these grounds many of us demonstrated in support of the N.Y. Panther 21.

The organizers of the sporadic demonstrations against the subway fare increase here in New York can also rely on some of our members. The rent control controversy continues, and we've been helping circulate petitions for less rent, more control.

As a peace group, we see that the war is related to all of these evils--repression of opposition to the war, the rising cost of living, the decay of the cities. We have a stake in seeing a reversal in all of these trends, that is why we are activists.

The Spring Peace Offensive is beginning. CPP will be taking a leading role in the April activities--marches, rallies and demonstrations.

The emphasis is on economics this time. We are aware of the faulty moral and political assumptions in American foreign policy which led to the War in Vietnam (and now Laos). However, it seems that many people can put enough distance between these issues and their everyday lives so that they feel very little discomfort. But the economic issues are not so readily dismissed. Inflation; unemployment; rising prices (let us not forget the struggle of the Postal workers); war profiteering (remember Honeywell); the lack of funds for much-needed social services, health, education home building--the list is endless

CPP hopes to continue expanding its membership. We thank those of you who have joined or contributed, and hope you will continue to be active. Chapters in Boston, Los Angeles and Philadelphia areas are really moving into action, and of course the New York group is still flourishing. We urge the rest of you to send in your 1970 membership dues (economics is pretty important for our survival, too!) and to join us in the Spring activities. We need your commitment.

WE MUST END THE WAR NOW!

## WOMEN'S PAGE

Most of the women active in CPP are also in women's liberation groups. In the past months many of us participated in the International Women's Day celebration, the Ladies Home Journal sit-in and the march to end abortion laws. As our women's consciousness increases, we've been thinking of special women's demands to include in CPP's program, as well as fighting male chauvinism in the group. So it figures that one of our first steps is a women's forum in Interrupt; this is just a starter. The problem is that we'd need at least an entire issue even to begin to cover all of the aspects and implications of women's liberation (and one of these months we may just do that!).

So this little article is just to begin raising some of the fundamental questions. We are soliciting correspondence and articles in response (from women only, please) and we hope in this way to expand our coverage of issues of particular relevance to us as women.



A lot has been said in the three months of this decade about women and liberation. A great deal remains to be said, and more importantly done. We women in the computer field are comparatively well paid, and have potentially more interesting jobs than our sisters who are channeled into secretarial or housewife roles. But what does this mean? Where are the women managers, supervisors, and consultants? At the recent Composo Show in the East, all one could find were carefully suited "business men" and a gathering of show bunnies beautifully mini-skirted to attract attention to the products that the men were selling.

Equal pay and equal job opportunity in our field, or any other, is not enough. It is becoming clearer to women certainly, and to some men, that we will not be satisfied with the dual role of job and house/husband/child care. For many years businesses did not want to hire the career woman with a family, for after all, she would have to take time off when the children were sick or othermatters needed her attention. Many women did choose, and are choosing not to take additional job responsibilities because they have a family. But there appears to be no clear-cut biological reason why "family" problems must fall solely on the women's shoulders. We have felt this for quite some time despite the fact that society and its propaganda arm--the school system--teaches us that nursing a sick child or cleaning a dirty house is women's

work.

Unfortunately, as business finds it more and more profitable to hire and promote women, the larger issues of role playing and family structure may be submerged. Since the beginning of the Vietnamese war a growing number of women have entered the computer field in place of the men who were not available on the job market. Today most businesses are faced with a severe shortage of middle management because the bright eager men of the fifties and early sixties have chosen to drop out or follow other paths. Within a few years I am sure we will see these positions filled by women-not because business will have become more understanding of women's liberation-but because it is economically satisfying to the corporate structure.

This is why we believe that any isolated demand such as day care centers, equal pay, or equal opportunity will fall far short of a redistribution of the family oriented roles in this society. Of course we will continue to fight for these necessities. The computer field now looks like a feudal hierarchy, with, at the base of the pyramid, a large number of women in keypunching and lower level programming jobs. We have a long way to go towards equality in an economic sense, and a far longer way to social and political liberation.

Joan

## There Are No Technological Solutions . . .

The following article is based on a talk given by Irv Rinard in the New York CPP February 19th general forum.

There are no technological solutions to the critical problems facing mankind today, i.e., nuclear armaments control, population control, and defense of the environment. Either none exist or they will take too long to develop to be of any use. Unfortunately relatively few of those whose profession is technology are willing to accept this thesis, fewer still to act upon it.

What do we mean by a technological solution? Rather than play the definition game, let us look at a few examples. Each succeeding generation of nuclear weapons has been hailed as a solution (technological) to problems not solved by the preceding generation. We are now being given ABM and MIRV and the possibilities of arms control seem more remote than ever.

Population control is another example. There is no question that the world's population is out of control and that it is too large already. The technical means exist for birth control, for birth prevention and abortion. So the solution is hardly technological.

Even for those problems where there is potential for some degree of technological solution, the following points must be kept

in mind. Good technological solutions take time to develop. Otherwise they create side effects which may be worse than the original problem. DDT got rid of insects (for awhile until they developed a resistance). Now how do we get rid of DDT when almost all that was ever sprayed is still concentrating itself in the food chain? How do we get rid of the DDT in you and me?

Phosphate based detergents (the 2nd generation detergents) solved the problem of biodegradability created by earlier types of detergents. But phosphate is a powerful nutrient for plant life. So now how do we keep it from mucking up the ecology of such rivers, lakes and oceans as are still functioning? And how do we keep yesterday's dishwater from being tomorrow's drinking water?

And what about the side effects of that marvelous solution to the transportation problem, the automobile? Is suburbia a solution to the housing problem? Maybe smog will be a solution to the population problem.

So when the technologists announce the next great breakthrough, think twice. The solution may be worse than the problem.

### CPP ANNOUNCES YET ANOTHER GENERAL MEETING!

We will be discussing our plans for the Spring Peace Offensive. For those who stay the whole meeting, refreshments will be served.  
WHEN AND WHERE  
Monday, April 6, 8 PM. The Universalist Church, 4 W. 76th St. NYC.

## ON REPRESSION

The wave of repression being unleashed by the government should encourage each of us to re-examine the freedoms that were so loudly proclaimed in our civics classes. Do we have freedom of speech and freedom of assembly, or is it granted only as long as our energies are safely confined within the "sacred" two party system?

How much freedom do we have when the media is controlled by the whims of corporate advertisers? There is practically no representation allowed for dissenting views. People with pacifist orientations like the Smothers Brothers, Joan Baez and Pete Seeger are censored. Liberation News Service and members of the Venceremos Brigade (Americans who went to Cuba to cut sugar cane) are under investigation by Sen. Eastland, who is afraid that another view of Cuban life will be presented to the American people. Reporters for the straight media are having their notes subpoenaed, which in effect makes them serve as agents of the police.

A quick review of history will show that the repression of black people and workers is nothing new. The murders of Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, Medgar Evers, Fred Hampton, and the systematic massive repression of the Black Panther Party just scratch the surface. Thousands of poor people, mostly black, are rotting in jails throughout the country because they can not afford bail or adequate legal representation. In most cases their "crimes" stem from a life of poverty, disease, and drugs.

After the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia a great period of repression swept the United States. Led by President Wilson's Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer, government support for even the conservative labor unions was rescinded and a murderous attack was made on the radical labor movement.

In 1920, a suspicious bombing occurred on Wall Street. During the "red raids" following, Mitchell arrested 2500 assorted radicals and deported 5000 "suspicious" aliens. The remnant of the International Workers of the World (IWW) was arrested and murdered nearly out of existence. The IWW believed in the necessity of class struggle and refused to serve in World War I, which they considered a conflict between imperialist powers. In "liberal" New York State, Communist and Socialist labor leaders were imprisoned, and five Socialists were expelled from the state legislature. "Reds" were removed from the New York City Council as well.

Another example of repression was the Steel Strike of 1919. More than 300,000 steel workers under the leadership of William Z. Foster left their jobs. US Steel, headed by Judge Gary, together with other companies, fought the strike with hired goons, strikebreakers, state and federal troops, martial law, and a vigorous racist campaign against Foster for his views on racial tolerance. Twenty men lost their lives before the strike was broken. It was not until 1937 under the CIO that the steel workers gained union recognition.

What has changed in recent years is that the government repression is also directly affecting middle class white people. The Chicago 7-9-10 represent a cross section of the white movement. Nixon and Mitchell felt that they could intimidate us by the trial (This has had about as much success as bombing North Vietnam into submission). After all, Tricky Dick has a long and glorious history of red-baiting dating back to his Congressional days.

I have come to realize that any success in our movement will be met by either the phony conspiracy statutes, draft laws that have sent 1000 men to federal prison for refusing to serve in the war against the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

# PROJECTS

## SERVICE

The Service Organization of CPP is designed to provide technical services to movement organizations. There are presently two groups in New York that are utilizing our services.

The Fellowship Of Reconciliation's (F.O.R.) mailing list was converted to a computerized system about one year ago. Help is needed to maintain the existing system and make necessary improvements.

The "Guardian", a radical newsweekly, is in the process of a mailing list conversion. This system is more involved than the one for the F.O.R. Several people are needed to make a regular part time commitment to serve as consultants and problem solvers for this project.

We in the computer "profession" have specialized skills that can be utilized by the movement. Most of us are presently being used to support the U.S. war machine, ABM's, credit card gimmicks, Wall Street, outer space extravaganzas, etc. Unfortunately, in our advanced capitalist society, money talks. Organizations struggling against war and racism are unable to pay our salaries. Our aim is to begin to fill this gap by providing computerized mailing services at costs that limited budget organizations can afford.

For additional information and to volunteer, contact Stu Davis, 523 E. 85th St., NYC 10028, phone 628-8133.



The following article is by Stan Robinson, a member of CPP-Boston. CPP is interested in supporting the illegally fired Codon workers. Stan is looking for "clean" work in the field. Any suggestions for supportive action from our readers would be appreciated.

## LABOR

Five computer professionals were fired at Codon Corporation, Waltham, Mass., last Fall for "bad attitude"—they had been organizing a union. Based on a charge filed by Stanley Robinson (one of the 5) of Wayland, Mass., the National Labor Relations Board issued a complaint against Codon for unfair labor practices.

Codon is a small software house with an attached time sharing service bureau subsidiary. The software house consisted of about 18 professionals plus secretaries and management. The idea of a union among the professionals evolved gradually over a period of about six months. During this time salaries were divulged and common grievances were discussed. Among the grievances was a concern that management might bring in war work. Management in turn became increasingly unsympathetic with the "unprofessional" radical attitude of the employees.

In early October, 1969, the union met. They decided to confront the management about the apparently unjust firing of one of the programmers. At the ensuing confrontation management threatened to fire any employee caught exchanging salaries or grievances. And four more programmers were fired.

Under the law, illegally fired employees are entitled to full reinstatement plus full back pay, but no damages and no guarantee of future salary review or fair treatment by the company. The employees do not have to hire their own attorneys; they are represented by NLRB counsel. The employer must pay for his own attorneys, but he has at his disposal several gimmicks to reduce or escape the consequences of illegal firings. Many businesses have experienced anti-labor lawyers who know the tactics well. Codon's counsel is no exception. The net result of the law is in most cases that employees illegally fired for union organizing pay penalties in lost wages, uncertainty about the outcome of their cases, unfair treatment after reinstatement, and difficulty in finding work elsewhere.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHOP

Up till now the Workshop has discussed problems of broad scope, as the reading list in the November Interrupt indicates. While the level of consciousness of the participants has risen, there has been little direct output from the Workshop to the rest of CPP.

As a change we have undertaken a project to examine the role of technology in society and the role of the computer in particular. Five areas were proposed for study-the military, data banks, computer generated automation, education and medicine, and the relationship of computers to urban planning. We have decided to focus initially on the military and automation.

The use of the computer by the military is all pervasive. It is used for every task possible including administration, inventory control, systems analysis, and war gaming. The central conclusion that seems to be shaping up is that modern warfare without the computer would be impossible. Take the computers off the ships, out of the aircraft, away from the gun batteries and missile sites and then try to fight a war. This thesis will be pursued further in the workshop. Also of interest will be the extent to which the computer industry is dependent upon the military.

Some books of interest concerning the project are given in the following list.



### A. General Background--Computers, Technology, The Industrial Revolution

1. Hobsbawm, E.J., The Age of Revolution (1789-1848), Mentor, New York, 1962.
2. Graham, H.D., and Curr, T.R., Violence in America: Historical and Comparative Perspectives. Signet, New York, 1969.
3. Heilbroner, R., The Worldly Philosophers.
4. Snow, C.P., Science and Government, Harvard, Cambridge, Mass., 1961
5. Greenberger, M., Ed., Computers and the World of the Future, M.I.T. Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1962.
6. Mesthene, E.M., Technological Change, Mentor, New York, 1970.

### B. Computer Involvement in the Military

1. Wilson, A., The Bomb and the Computer, Delacorte Press, N.Y., 1968.
2. Rapoport, A., Strategy and Conscience, Shocken Books, N.Y., 1964.
3. Chayes, A., and Wiesner, J., Ed., ABM, Signet, N.Y., 1969.
4. Calder, N., Ed., Unless Peace Comes, Viking, N.Y., 1968.
5. Quade, E.S., Ed., Analysis for Military Decisions, Rand McNally Chicago, 1964.
6. Barnet, R.J., The Economy of Death, Atheneum, N.Y., 1969.
7. Melman, S., Our Depleted Society, Delta, N.Y., 1965.
8. Lapp, R., The Weapons Culture, Pelican, Baltimore, Md., 1969.
9. Hersh, S.M., Chemical & Biological Warfare, Anchor, N.Y., 1969.

## MONEY TALKS?

The following article grew out of CPP-NY discussions. We include the article in this issue of Interrupt to solicit your opinions. If the plans prove feasible, they will be presented to various Peace group coalitions for implementation.



We find the banks to be in large measure responsible for the Vietnam War and the resulting misallocation of resources. Evidence of their involvement in the war can be shown:

- 1--Banks purchase large amounts of military contractor's stock to include in personal trust portfolios.
- 2--Banks divert a large share of the Commercial Credit Pool away from non-military areas into military projects.
- 3--Banks lend in advance on guaranteed military contracts, which has the effect of tightening the credit market.

We therefore are planning to begin a nationwide campaign declaring December 19, 1970 to be National Bank Day. The campaign will ask all citizens opposed to the War in Asia to withdraw their money from the bank on that day; to keep it out for 3 business days; and to be ready to withdraw it again on call. The participation of all Peace groups will be actively solicited for this is a mammoth undertaking which can not be attempted by CPP alone.

We hold no illusion about the effect this will have on the banks. Even three million participants will cause no more than a minor disruption to the banks, given the small average size of personal bank balances. and the

quantity of currency which the banks have available to them.

However:

--The effect upon Europeans who hold American dollars, and upon the stock market, could be overwhelming. A great many Europeans holding dollars and stock owners may overestimate the effect that National Bank Day (NBD) will have on the banks. Many speculators in these markets, anticipating a decline, may in fact bring one on.

--NBD offers us a wonderful opportunity to publicize the responsibility of the banks for our current economic situation.

--NBD offers us the chance to show the Administration that there is a real economic power, not just sentiment, opposed to war and militarization.

--Bank Day will provide an opportunity for millions of people who are opposed to the War, but would never go out in the street to demonstrate, to engage in their first radical act.

Jon

◆◆◆◆◆  
REPRESSION continued from page 5

Vietnamese people, or anti-strike legislation. As the struggle increases and the "usual government forms" do not suffice, we may all receive the same treatment as our black brothers and sisters--police murder.

Protection of the movement must be part of all of our campaigns. As long as one of our sisters or brothers is in jail, none of us is free.

Stu

FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS!

ALL U.S. TROOPS OUT OF VIETNAM & LAOS NOW!

## ECOLOGY ACTION 1: Beer and Soda Cans

For the duration of the environmental crisis, CPP will present in each issue of Interrupt a Round Earth ACTion (REACT) which you, the individual, can carry out on your own. You don't have to join a group for this, or go to meetings, or attend demonstrations; all you have to do is do it.

Most beer and soda cans used today are made of anodized aluminum. This marvel of technology, unlike its steel predecessor, does not rust. It is as impervious to corrosion as any artifact yet developed by man. The can you opened today will probably be only slightly the worse for wear when recovered by some archaeologist a million years hence. And he probably won't have much trouble finding one. Figure it out yourself. Two hundred million people in the United States, a can per person per day, 365 days a year, and, you guessed it, 73 billion cans a year.

What can you do? First, accept the fact that disposable containers have to go, ere we are all chin deep in empties. Containers must be recycled. They must either be refilled or resmelted. Then:

- (1) Stop buying beer and soda in aluminum throw-away cans. Tell your grocer or liquor dealer why. For the time being, buy in bottles. Glass eventually reverts to sand.
- (2) Write the brewer or cola maker of your choice. (Addresses available below.) Tell him you've flipped out on flip tops. Flatten out your last can, mark it VOID, and send it with your letter. Demand that he recycle his containers or get out of the business.
- (3) Contact your local legislators. Demand laws prohibiting the disposal of disposable cans via your already overworked sanitation man. And if said legislator is reluctant, start sending him your neighborhood empties.

(4) Spread the word.  
A last note on the absurdity of aluminum cans. The United States is a net importer of bauxite ore from which aluminum is made. Eighty-seven percent of what we use is imported. Not only that--what we use accounts for over twenty-eight percent of the total world usage. Three cheers for the cowboy economy.

Irv

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Anheuser-Busch, Inc.  
721 Pestalozzi St.  
St. Louis, Mo. 63118

Liebmann Breweries, Inc.  
36 Forrest St.  
Brooklyn, New York 11206

Royal Crown Cola Co.  
P.O. Box 1440  
Columbus, Ga. 31902

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P. Ballantine & Sons  
57 Freeman St.  
Newark 1, New Jersey

Pabst Brewing Co.  
917 W. Juneau Ave.  
Milwaukee 1, Wis.

F & M Schaefer Brewing Co.  
430 Kent Ave.  
Brooklyn, New York

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Carling Brewing Co.  
9400 Quincy Avenue  
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Pepsi-Cola Co.  
500 Park Ave.  
New York, N.Y. 10022

Jos. Schlitz Brewing Co.  
235 W. Galena St.  
Milwaukee 1, Wis.

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Coca-Cola Co.  
310 No. Ave., N.W.  
Atlanta, Ga. 30313

Piel Brothers, Inc.  
315 Liberty Ave.  
Brooklyn, New York 11207

Seven-Up Co.  
121 So. Meremac  
St. Louis, Mo. 63105

# Quote without Comment

## PEOPLES ACTIVITY

### "WAR FOES ADOPT BUSINESS TACTIC"

“The tactic involves the employment of proxies in an attempt to force Honeywell to cease its armaments production.”

NYTimes

### "ANTI-WAR PROTESTORS ERASE 1,000 DOW TAPES"

“A group called the Beaver 55 reported that they had erased 1,000 tapes containing information on research on napalm, defoliants, and other chemical weaponry.”

Computerworld

### "ACLU ATTACKS ARMY'S CIVILIAN DISTURBANCE DATA BANK"

“The Army's computerized data bank on lawful civilian political activity has come under renewed attack.”

Computerworld

## RADICALS SEEK

### "RADICALS SEEK ABOLITION OF ILLIAC IV"

“Abolition of the Illiac IV computer has been requested by the Radical Union, an offshoot group of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), at the Univ. of Illinois in a letter written to the Chancellor last week.

Following the announcement two weeks ago that the \$24 million computer would be used in a Dept. of Defense military application....”

Information Week

## CORPORATE ACTIVITY

### "HONEYWELL TARGETS SO. AFRICA"

“Honeywell Computers South Africa PTY, Ltd., a new firm, has launched a marketing campaign aimed at capturing a major share of the South Africa EDP market.”

Electronic News

### "VIET RECONNAISSANCE GOING REAL-TIME VIA COLOR VIDEO"

“...the Department of Defense has underwritten CBS Labs' high resolution imagery scanning and transmission programs at a cost totaling near \$50 million in the past ten years, payoffs to industry and commercial companies will be phenomenal....”

Electronic News

## "STATEMENT FROM IBM"

(ed. taken from their statement on the recent bombing of their N.Y. office.)

“The IBM Company is a defense contractor, although this represents only a modest amount of total IBM business. We intend to continue to respond to requests for bids from the government in any area where we believe we have competence.”

Computerworld

## GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY

### "CALIF. TO USE EDP SYSTEM TO FIGHT WELFARE FRAUD"

“A computerized system will be started by the state to crack down on welfare fraud.... The system will match master tapes in the state Department of Social Welfare on welfare eligibility with computerized records on wages at the Department of Employment.”

Information Week

### "NATIONAL ACADEMY SCOLARS TO INVESTIGATE DATA BANKS"

“The National Academy of Sciences has begun an investigation into the extent of computer data banks and their impact on individual freedom and due process of law.

A panel of 23 businessmen, scholars, government officials, lawyers, and computer professionals will act as advisors to the study.”

Computerworld

### "NATIONAL DATA BANK HEARS SUPPORT"

“A voice in favor of a National Data Bank is that of Martin Ernst, vice president of the Management Sciences Div., Arthur D. Little, Cambridge, Mass. Speaking before the Operations Research Society here (Chicago), Ernst detailed the application of certain management sciences to improve this country's social systems.”

Information Week

### "COMPUTER RATES PACIFICATION PUSH"

“United States officials disclosed a new method today for measuring pacification of villages in South Vietnam.

Under the revised system, each district adviser answers 139 'more or less' objective questions. A computer and not the district adviser interprets the information and marks the scorecard.”

NYTimes

## Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

I would like to take strong exception to the publication in the last issue of Interrupt of the poem by Ho Chi Minh.

Interrupt is an excellent newsletter and is largely responsible for the growth of CPP. Yet, it seems clear that this appearance of endorsing the Vietnamese political movement led by the late Ho Chi Minh is in contradiction to the program of CPP as evolved by its members in public discussions and meetings.

CPP's program demands that this Nixon Administration end its interference in the political life of Vietnam, cease its support of the Thieu Regime, withdraw all American troops and allow the Vietnamese people to decide their own future. Our aim is, along with other Americans who favor peace, to win enough support for our demands to force the Nixon Administration - or some administration - to comply with them.

The peace forces in the U.S. now face this problem that we were stronger two years ago, when Johnson decided not to run again and finally stopped this bombing of North Vietnam, than we are today. Nixon's clever tactics and demagogic reassurances appear to have secured him the support of a majority, albeit "silent". Unless we can win enough people to our side the war will continue - and thousands more American men and Vietnamese men, women and children will die.

Surely we must aim to win those millions of Americans, computer professionals among them, who may not "appreciate" the poetry of Ho Chi Minh. Each of us individually has a perfect right to think, write and act as we please. But, when we as an organization address our potential constituency, should we not forego our private viewpoints, just as we do not wave N.L.F. or North Vietnamese flags, or actively seek confrontations with the police at peace demonstrations?

If some people who might otherwise support CPP are turned off by Ho Chi Minh's poetry, what price its publication? Doesn't it come down to this - do we want a movement, including "squares", that can bring about peace - or do we just want a "movement"?

Sincerely,  
Richard M. Klein  
March 1, 1970  
New York, N.Y.

To the Editor:

I enjoyed reading the February issue of Interrupt very much. I would like to see this publication expand in size and increase its frequency of publication in the future. It is one of the few computing publications that warrants reading (or can be read) from cover-to-cover. I wonder if you would publish the following announcement in your next publication:

Any Vietnam Moratorium Committees or other peace groups interested in preparing mailing lists and using computers to process them should contact Michael Malcolm, c/o The Vietnam Moratorium Committee, P.O. Box 8875, Stanford, Calif. 94305. Instructions, data-preparation forms and Fortran programs are available.

Peace,  
Michael A. Malcolm  
Feb. 16, 1970  
Mt. View, Calif.

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Several checks written on the CPP account at Chemical Bank bounced last month. The reason? Invalid signature, said Chemical. Yes, they conceded, it was possible that they had lost the signature card on the signer, but could we now please turn in a complete new set of cards.

Very curiously, this difficulty came up right after we had written a \$50 check to the "Bond", the American Servicemen's Union newspaper, and a \$50 check to the Black Panther legal defense fund.

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## ECOLOGY: NEXT FAD OR LAST CAMPAIGN?

April 22nd is Earth Day, the day of the first national environmental teach-in. It marks either a beginning or an end; the beginning of a revolution or the end of life as we know it on this planet. Would that it were possible to speak in less cataclysmic terms but that, unfortunately, is where it's at.

Civil injustice, poverty, Vietnam--oh, what enthusiasms, what dedications and demonstrations have been mobilized in opposition to these evils. And, oh, how meager have been the results and how few are left to carry the banners. Those armies that have marched on Washington in one cause after another, those millions, where are they now? Lined up outside the next recruiting stand-- the one with the sign that reads Ecology.

Unwarranted cynicism? Look at the stakes. Poverty, hunger, injustice, repression and war are hardly new problems in the speckled history of mankind. They remain permanently unsolved and still mankind somehow muddles on. But should this one and only ecosystem, of which man is but a small though unholy part, should this ecosystem collapse, there will be no man, there will be no problems, at least not in the form that we now know them.

The catalog of ecological threats is long and growing longer. (See The Environmental Handbook, Ballantine/Friends of the Earth, NY, 1970, for starters.) Catastrophe lurks in every automobile exhaust, every box of detergent, every supertanker, every can of DDT, every electric power plant, every pound of fertilizer, and even in every newborn child. The time left to solve these problems is not long, perhaps only the next decade.

So defense of the environment is a prime order of business. And it will make revolutionaries of us all. Not revolutionaries with dynamite in one hand and the red flag in the other, but revolutionaries who walk rather than drive, repair rather than throw away, recycle rather than discard, revolutionaries for whom the spelling of God is not GNP. Because the only enduring solution is a change in lifestyle

The question is will those who are now signing up in such great numbers stick out this campaign as they have not the others? Or will they seek a limited enlistment to be terminated as soon as a handful of token victories have been won? If so, they may as well stay at home. Better they face up to the alternative--that it is too late already--and adopt a hedonistic philosophy for the rest of their limited days.

Irv

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## LABOR COMMITTEE: 9 - 5 POLITICS

Several of us in CPP feel that necessary changes will never come about unless they are demanded by large numbers of American people. We therefore see ourselves in a role of mobilizing as many people as possible to make the requisite demands.

We must constantly point out to the people we see every day that all of the solutions have political roots, that the American political currency is bogus, and that the people must take an active part in the decisions that affect their lives.

Many of us are already talking politics

every day at our jobs. We formed the Labor Committee to increase our competence. These are our tactics: we discuss among ourselves our individual politics and offer each other advice; we research similar activities; we seek advice of experienced organizers.

Until we have done a lot more research and heard much more advice, we will not be prepared to set any concrete goals. We are, however, developing an interim policy statement to present to the body of CPP sometime soon.

Ken

# Do We Want a Computerized War?

Computer Professionals for Peace has become increasingly concerned with the relationship of computer work and its technological applications. We ask the following:

WHY DOES THE WAR IN ASIA CONTINUE TO ESCALATE?

—Vietnam, then Laos, now Cambodia.

WHY DO WE ALLOW THE CONTINUATION OF MILITARY PRIORITIES IN THE FIELD?

—The Department of Defense operates 14,000 computers on a 1970 EIP budget of 1.1 billion dollars.

WHY DO CORPORATIONS CONTINUE TO SEEK AND ACCEPT DEFENSE RELATED CONTRACTS?

—37% of Honeywell's 1968 sales were in Defense and Aerospace.

WHY DO CORPORATIONS CONTINUE TO SEEK AND ACCEPT WORK POTENTIALLY INJURIOUS TO INDIVIDUAL CIVIL LIBERTIES?

—More data banks are being developed for police, credit, and government use.

WHY IS PLANNED OBSOLESCENCE OF HARDWARE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE?

—IBM's 360 was known to be overpriced and inefficient when its marketing plans were developed.

WHY DOES THE DE FACTO CLASS STRUCTURE IN THE COMPUTER FIELD CONTINUE?

—Keypunch operators are overwhelmingly minority group women.

—Computer operators are largely non-college men, many from minority groups.

—Programmers and analysts are mainly college educated middle class whites.

—Managers and corporate officials are virtually all men.

As an organization of technical workers we have the power to help force a solution to these problems. We insist on using our skills for constructive, not destructive purposes.

By joining together within our work places, instead of acting individually, we can demand the following:

- ALL EMPLOYEES PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN DECIDING THE TYPE OF WORK DONE BY THEIR CORPORATIONS.
- AT LEAST 10% OF OUR TIME ON THE JOB BE USED FOR WORK WE CONSIDER MEANINGFUL—EDUCATION FOR MINORITY GROUPS, DATA PROCESSING FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS, AND DISCUSSION SESSIONS TO DECIDE COMPANY POLICY.
- THE ELIMINATION OF THE ENFORCED CLASS STRUCTURE IN THE FIELD BY REQUIRING NECESSARY TRAINING PROGRAMS AND PROMOTIONAL MOBILITY ON ALL LEVELS FOR ALL PEOPLE.

Computer Professionals for Peace needs your participation and support. Join us!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  I'd like to join. Here's my \$10

STREET \_\_\_\_\_  Please put me on the mailing list

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ contribution

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