

What's Wrong with the War in Vietnam?

I. KILLING IS THE SAME EVERYWHERE



Mother and brother cry for James Chaney, killed with Michael Schwerner and Andrew Goodman while working for civil rights in Mississippi.



"We have to convince the country that civil rights workers get killed in the South because the government has a certain attitude toward killing in Vietnam. The concept that it is all right to kill an 'enemy' affects the morality of the country so that people can be murdered here."

Courtland Cox of SNCC quoted in The Nation, July 19, 1965

Vietnamese woman cries for her dead.

LOVING ONE'S NEIGHBOR

ELECTRIC CATTLE PRODS IN GEORGIA

"At the landing, the G.B.I. Georgia Bureau of Investigation agent jammed the prodder into Shapiro's genitals and continued shocking him all over his body, including his eyes. The pain was so great that the youth jumped up and ran inside the police office, the agent running after him, burning the back of his neck."

"Miss Snyder was dragged into the jail reception room. Several minutes later, the G.B.I. agent entered and applied the cattle prodder next to her eye, raising a black welt. He then turned to Miss Klein and burned her legs and upper thighs."

-- The Gazette and Daily, York, Pa.

ELECTRIC PRODS IN SOUTH VIETNAM

"One of the most infamous methods of torture used by the government is partial electrocution -- or 'frying' as one U.S. adviser called it.... Sometimes the wires are attached to the male genital organs, or to the breasts of a Viet Cong woman prisoner.... Other techniques, usually designed to force onlooking prisoners to talk, involve cutting off the fingers, ears, fingernails or sexual organs of another prisoner. Sometimes a string of ears decorates the wall of a government military installation."

-- Beverly Deepe, N.Y. Herald Tribune

THE PEOPLE WILL WEEP

"Most liberals think of Mississippi as a cancer, as a distortion of America. But we think Mississippi is an accurate reflection of America's values and morality. Why else can't the people who killed Andrew, James, and Mickey be brought to justice, unless a majority of the community condones murder? Sheriff Rainey is not a freak; he reflects the majority. And what he did is related to the napalm bombings of 'objects' over Vietnam."

--Bob Parris of SNCC

"...in a memorandum conveyed through the Central Intelligence Agency shortly before Mr. McNamara's trip, General Thi, the army's I Corps commander, called on the United States to send a great number of combat troops.... The memorandum said that the Americans must no longer concern themselves with the reaction of the Vietnamese people, that the need outweighed such political considerations."

-- The N.Y. Times, July 21, 1965

"...that course of action will lay a foundation of hatred on the part of the colored races of the world against the American people."

-- Senator Wayne Morse

"If the war hawks prevail and we become involved in a big war, they will rejoice. In the end the people will weep."

-- Walter Lippman

What's Wrong with the War in Vietnam?

II. THE PEOPLE CAN'T VOTE

A letter to the editor:

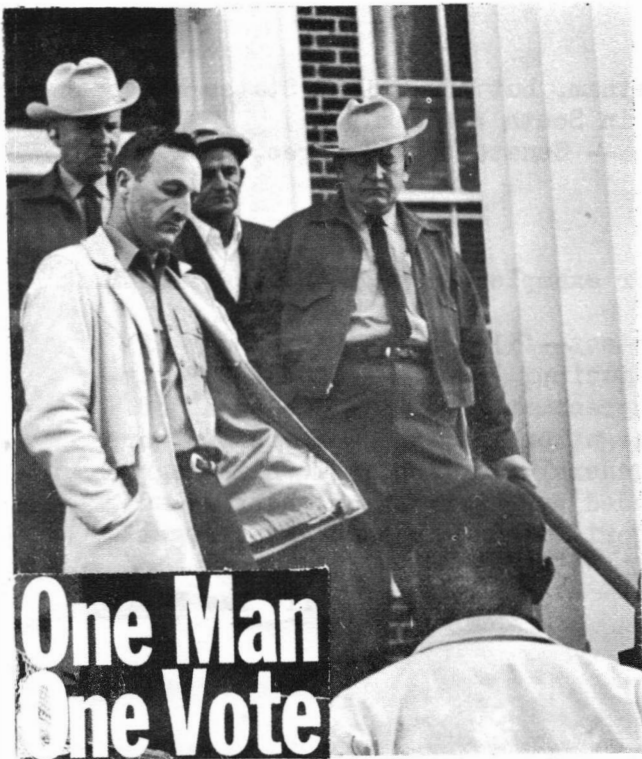
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Perhaps our basic flaw in policy is that too many of our leaders, both military and political, have succumbed to the antidemocratic disease which has raged in our South for decades. We have a tendency to underestimate the little people on this globe, the brown people and the black people and the yellow people. We glory in our technology and in our weapons of death. We think that we can frighten them, that we can blast them to bits. And meanwhile they keep on singing, "We shall overcome!"

BERNARD FORER.
West Chester, Pa.
Washington Post,
3/30/65

1. Free elections were provided in the Geneva Agreement of 1954 (ending French war in Vietnam).
2. The U.S. stopped the elections from taking place.
3. The South Vietnamese demand: the right to vote.

He wants to vote --



He also wants to vote --



GOVERNMENT BY THE PEOPLE

THE GENEVA AGREEMENT OF 1954 PROVIDED FOR FREE ELECTIONS

"7. The Conference declares that, so far as Vietnam is concerned, the settlement of political problems, effected on the basis of respect for the principals of independence, unity and territorial integrity, shall permit the Vietnamese people to enjoy the fundamental freedoms, guaranteed by democratic institutions established as a result of free general elections by secret ballot. In order to ensure that sufficient progress in the restoration of peace has been made, and that all the necessary conditions obtain for free expression of the national will, general elections shall be held in July 1956...."

THE UNITED STATES AGREED TO ABIDE BY THE GENEVA AGREEMENT

"The Government of the United States...with regard to the aforesaid agreements and paragraphs...will refrain from the threat or the use of force to disturb them....In the case of nations now divided against their will, we shall continue to seek to achieve unity through free elections supervised by the United Nations to insure that they are conducted fairly."

-- Walter Bedell Smith, U.S. Representative to Geneva Conference

BUT ELECTIONS WERE NOT HELD

"Since President Diem's American advisers endorsed his decision against holding elections, the North Vietnamese felt free to accuse the United States of the first violation of the settlement."

-- Peter Grosse, N.Y. Times

DEMOCRACY IS PREVENTED IN SOUTH VIETNAM

"We talk about democracy in South Vietnam, but the United States has been the major force in preventing democracy in South Vietnam."

-- Senator Wayne Morse, in May 1965

AND DEMOCRACY IS PREVENTED IN OUR SOUTH

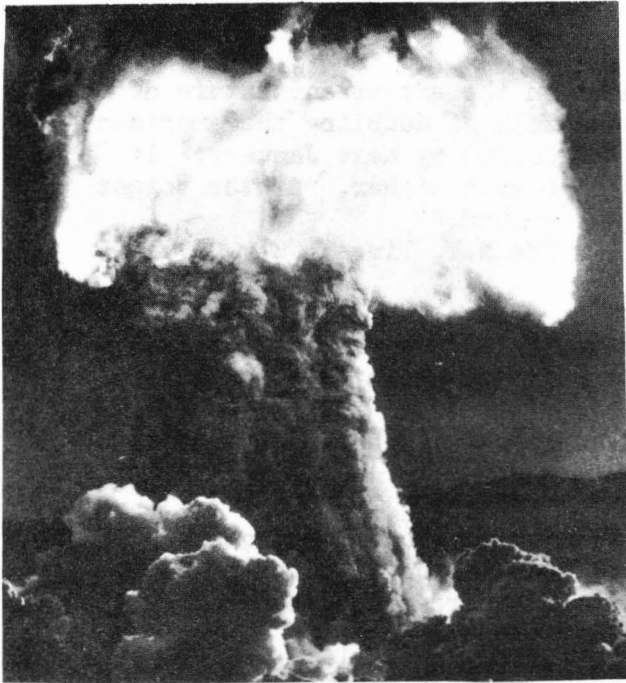
Few Negroes can vote in the South--for example, only 7% in Mississippi.

"The Mississippi challenge is the contest--filed on the first day of Congress this year on behalf of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party--to the right of the five Mississippi Congressmen to sit in the House of Representatives. It is based on the allegation that the Congressmen were nominated and elected in a primary and general election from which Negroes 'were regularly and systematically excluded by intimidation, harrassment, economic reprisal, property damage, terrorization, violence and illegal, unconstitutional registration procedures.'"

-- George Sloff, The Nation

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III. IT MAY END IN BLOWING UP THE WORLD



"The Vietnam war must be
stopped. . . . It is worthless
to talk about integrating if there
is no world to integrate in."

-- Martin Luther King

Ruins of Nagasaki after atom bomb Aug. 9, 1945



THE ROAD TO NUCLEAR WAR

"While there has been no official announcement on the extent and nature of the planned increase in U.S. strength, there has been talk of doubling the American force by the end of the summer and raising it to 200,000 by next January. If Hanoi pours in more troops, the U.S. total could go much higher. At the height of the Korean War the U.S. had 250,000 men on the ground."

-- The N.Y. Times, July 25, 1965

"Senator George Aiken, Republican from Vermont, said today he was personally convinced the U.S. is preparing to expand the war in Southeast Asia and possibly to engage Communist Chinese land forces."

-- Washington Daily News, June 23, 1964

"Gen. Johnson [U.S. Army Chief of Staff] said nothing about any decisions taken in his visit [to Vietnam]...but sources close to the mission said topics under study had included commitment of U.S. combat troops, increased bombing of North Vietnam, selection of possible targets for nuclear attack..."

-- Washington Post, March 13, 1965

"I'm flatly and completely opposed to...the Vietnamese war...because American involvement in any Asian conflict is going to be a nuclear involvement. I am satisfied that there is no other way this country could meet the manpower and geographical advantages that a Chinese-backed force would have over us."

"I am permitted to say, within the bounds of secrecy and in my capacity as a member of the Foreign Relations Committee...that we cannot win a land war in Asia with American conventional ground forces. That is fully recognized by outstanding military experts."

-- Senator Wayne Morse, March, 1964

"How many megatons do you need to destroy? What we have on hand will kill over 300 million people in one hour."

-- President John F. Kennedy, July, 1963

"In my opinion, if nuclear war begins, it will be a war of extermination."

--Senator Richard Russell
Chairman of Armed Services Committee

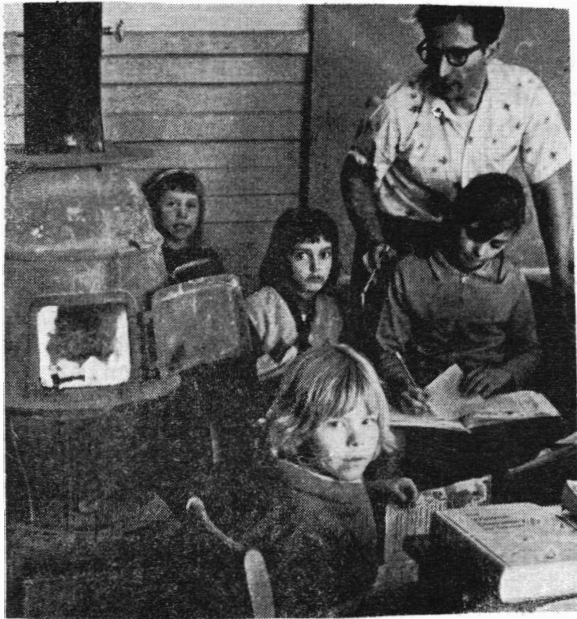
"Ithaca, N.Y. (AP) -- Sen. Wayne Morse (D.-Ore.) has charged the U.S. with trying to build up the war in South Vietnam to the point 'where they will have an alibi and an excuse to bomb nuclear installations in Red China.'"

"Morse...also accused the Pentagon and the State Department of keeping necessary information from the American people."

-- The York Gazette and Daily, Feb. 24, 1965

What's Wrong with the War in Vietnam?

IV. WE NEED THE MONEY HERE



for schools, housing, medical care, JOBS!

for playgrounds, parks, urban renewal, old age assistance . . .



while

over 2 million dollars

are being spent in Vietnam

each day

with this result

TO PROMOTE THE GENERAL WELFARE

Headline: June 17, 1965, B-52's BOMB AREA NEAR SAIGON; 2 LOST

Cost of each B-52: 8 million dollars -- Cost of four modern schools: 8 million dollars

Headline: \$21 MILLION IN BOMBS DROPPED BY ONE U.S. SQUADRON IN 99 DAYS

"Da Nang, Vietnam (AP) -- Maj. James A. Minish and his men have cost Uncle Sam \$21,241,250 in 99 days.

"The \$21 million figure reflects the cost of the ordnance his squadron of F-100 fighter planes expended while flying nearly 1 3/4 miles and 2,200 sorties.

"It doesn't include the fuel consumption, salaries of the flyers, or the value of two planes lost in action....

"The \$21-million-plus total included 750,000 20mm cannon shells at \$2.05 each, 3,500 bombs at \$350 each, 2,250 napalm bombs at \$275, and 17,200 rockets at \$1,950 apiece."

-- The Gazette and Daily, York, Pa., July 9, 1965

The cost of the 17,200 rockets alone would provide \$4,000 annual income for over 8,000 families. Approximately two-thirds of all Negro families in the U.S. subsist on less than \$4,000 and almost one-third of white families live on less than \$4,000.

One billion dollars spent on military contracts provides only 85,000 jobs directly.
One billion dollars spent on school construction would create 130,000 jobs directly.

ONLY 7½ BILLION DOLLARS FOR PEOPLE --- 57 BILLION FOR THE MILITARY

The estimated national budget for last year ending June 30 came to 97.5 billion dollars. \$57.1 billion of this was spent for national defense and space, while only \$7.5 billion was spent for health, labor, education, housing and community development, poverty program, and aid to the needy.

"There is no doubt that America today is capable of bridging the huge gap between our unparalleled affluence and our grinding poverty. The proposed bill would authorize \$1,895 billion for fighting poverty. This amounts to one-third of 1% of the estimated \$660 billion gross national product for 1965. It provides for our domestic war against poverty less than 4% of this year's defense budget of \$53 billion..."

-- Rep. James H. Scheuer (House Debate on poverty program, July 21, 1965)

Saturation bombing of a two-square mile forest area 25 miles from Saigon, supposed to be a Vietcong base, resulted in two of the bombers destroyed in collision over the sea while refueling and another turned back because of mechanical failure, 500 tons of bombs dropped, 8 lives lost, destruction of the forest. No Vietcong soldiers were in the forest. (June 17, 1965)

Cost to the United States: \$20 million.

"THIS COUNTRY HAS GONE MAD"

Dear Internal Revenue Service:

To explain that I shall again refuse to pay that 60% of my income tax which goes for armaments:

"The rockets red glare, the bombs bursting in air, gave proof through the night that our flag was still there."

And the United States flag waves in the international winds as pompously and blindly and stupidly as Governor Wallace's Confederate flag waves in the storm winds over the Alabama State Capitol.

And most of the people of this country sit and watch it all on TV--all about the war in Vietnam, and they say either, "Tsch, tsch, isn't it frightening?" or "Let's bomb the hell out of them." THEM is a person, a man or a woman or a small child or a dog or a cat or a pet bird.

He chokes on our gas.

He is burned to death by our napalm.

He is shot in the head with our guns.

We compete with the Communists in methods of torture.

We talk about democracy and Christianity--and we try out a new fire bomb.

We talk about peace and we move thousands more men and nuclear weapons into Vietnam.

This country has gone mad.

But I will not go mad with it.

I will not pay for organized murder.

I will not pay for the war in Vietnam.

--Joan C. Baez

Bombs Kill Viet Village Innocents

By John T. Wheeler

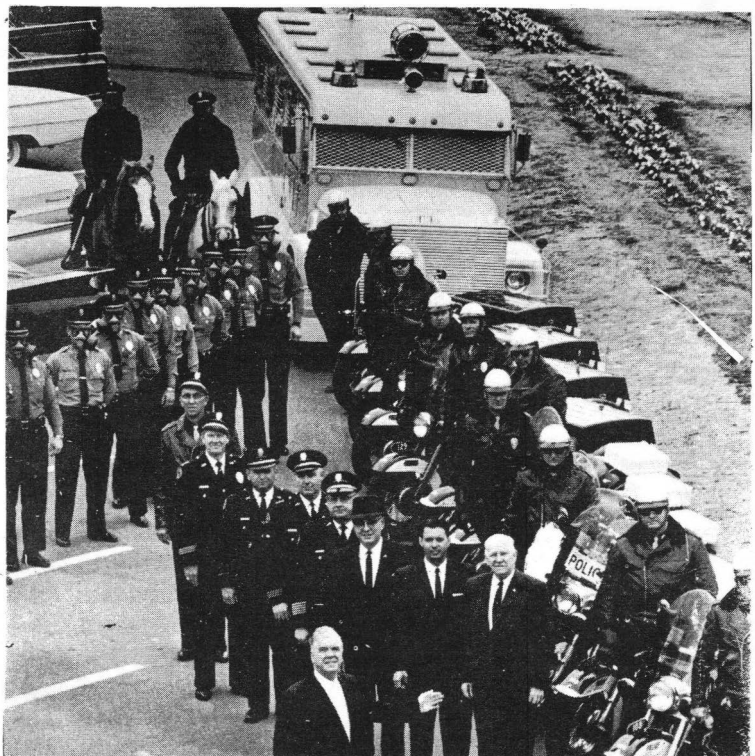
BAGIA, South Viet-Nam, July 18 (AP)—The wailing of women and the stench of burned bodies greeted the column of troops as they marched wearily into Bagia.

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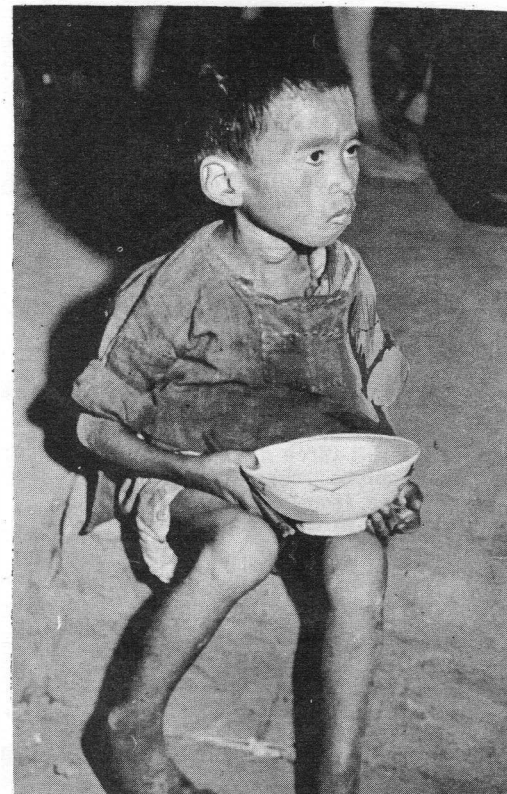
Bagia, with a high percentage of Catholics, was considered a pro-government village. It was hit three days running with bombs, rockets and cannon fire from American and Vietnamese fighter bombers.

* * *

In explaining the bombing a U.S. Air Force officer said: "When we are in a blind like we were at Bagia we unload on the whole area to try to save the situation. We usually kill more women and kids than we do Viet Cong but the government troops just aren't available to clean out the villages so this is the only answer."



"We've got a larger than usual police force," Mayor Allen Thomson of Jackson explains. "It's twice as big as any city our size." The force was built up to control voter registration and other civil rights workers. "We're going to be ready for them," he explains, "they won't have a chance."



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