

Notes on the History of the Non-Violent Action Committee
Bruce Hartford

Formation. Nov. 1963
General Situation

The formation of the nvac was a direct result of dissension in Los Angeles CORE. For three years there had been two factions fighting within the organization. The "Action Faction" and the "Conservatives". Basically the struggle centered around a difference in orientation. The AEs were for strong militant direct action to be supported by community relations (publicity campaigns). the Conserv. orientation was just the reverse. ~~As a consequence of this struggle~~ orientation ~~the~~ Both factions agreed that there was too little support for CORE in the negro community. only 33% of CORE was negro and most of the actions were predominantly white or sometimes all white. Almost all of the negroes in core were upper class negroes. Both factions recognised the need to get support from the masses of lower class negroes but there was a difference of opinion on how to achieve this. Because of the difference in orientation between the two factions there was a power struggle. (I was in the action faction) One of the major things that infuriated the AEs was the fact that ~~the conservatives~~ even though CORE was supposed to be an Action organization the consies would vote against actions, refuse to support actions, and sabotage actions. They were able to sabotage actions in many ways 1, give out bad statements to the press (they ~~were in charge of~~ had captured complete control of the committee which was charged with the giving out of press releases) and when interviewed sabotaged the action. They would also stack a meeting and vote through the cancellation of an action. Because of this constant warfare it was almost impossible for an action program to succeed. it was also difficult for them to do

Chronology

Sept. 1963. CORE voted to begin a campaign against the board of Education to force them to de-segregate the defacto segregated schools in L.A. The U.C.R.C. and the NAACP had been negotiating for almost two years over this point and had made extensive investigations which we had the results of. The consies fought the program but lost. The campaign was to be directed by a steering comm. of one member of the action comm, one member of the education comm. and the project coordinator. They were to devise and run the actions and negotiations.

~~Sept 16 CRICC (Civil Rights Comm)~~

Sept 7-8 Training session for a fast. The trainees went 48 hours without food or cigarettes. They slept on the floor of the house in which the session was held.

Sept 13 8 fasters entered the hallway of the board of education and sat down. They would stay there ~~until~~ with out food or smokes until the board gave in.

Sept 16 the first day of school. CRICC (Civil Rights Improvement Co-ordinating Comm.) tried to start a boycott of Jordan High. to protest segregations. (it fizzleled and was compleatly aborted by the end of the week)

SEPT 19 Student protest march. 500 Students cut classes and walked in the rain from Wrigley field to the B of E. (6 miles). (only 5 fasters were left the other three had dropped out.)

Sept 23 ~~Fast~~ The last three fasters were pulled out by an executive board meeting with out thier consent. They were yanked out 1½ hours before the security gaurds were going to have them forcibly removed.

Oct 3 Study -in. Students came to the board and during the meeting lined the halles and quitly studied. 300 students came.

Oct-10 2nd Study-in 400 students

Oct 17 3rd Study-in 300 "

Oct 24 4th Study-in 200"

Oct 24-25 All night vigil inside the B o E halls 150 persons. The consies were very agitated about this action and were against it. They started to say that it was illegal

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because The membership had not voted on the. They were also mad because the Study ins had been called off. The calling of of the study-ins and the calling for the vigil were done in accordance with the steering comm. set-up. After the vigil the BoE ~~had~~ claimed that we had broken into the office and stolen hyodermic needles and that there had been licentious behavior in the halls. The consies released story through the publicity comm. (consie controlled) that in effect agreed with the boe Earl Walters made a statements over t.v. that backed up the boe claim. None of their claims were true and none of the consies had been on the action. Or anywhere near it.

Oct 31-Nov 1 2nd all night vigil x There was a big fight in the exec. board as to wether or not we could call a 2nd vigil. We won by a narrow margin. Only 29 of our demonstrators got into the boe hallways before the security gaurds locked the doors (they had never locked the doors before). Later when we inside learned that there were many people outside who wanted to inter we found a door that was unguarded and opened it and sat down inside the door way to keep it open so that new people could enter. The gaurds beat there way through us (injuring many) and arrested three of us and got the doors closed. (we got some of the outside people in. The three who were arrested were arrested for battery. The consies (none of them were present at the action) issued press releases with out even talking to the people ~~inside~~ inside the building. They ~~were~~ made statements th t were very bad and they in effect agreed with the statements of the security gaurds. ~~what before this happened~~ During the previous Vigil they had called a constitutions meeting of the membership to alter the constitution. At that meeting they did not compleat the constitutional changes and they were finished at a meeting while the 2nd vigil was in progress. Due to the fact that these meeting coincided with an important action none of the action people were present. At this meeting they decided that all actions ~~and~~ had to be originated in the subject committee (housing, education etc) and approved by the membership. this took away the duties of the steering committeee and the traditional duties of the Action committees. They also decided that the only people who could release any public statements were the publicity comm.

Nov-7 ~~Weekend~~ 3rd vigil. 50 people. They did not try to lock the doors. We had been able to get this third vigil approved because it was planned before the new constitution went into effect. (The board met every thursday and every monday We had been having an action every thursday since school began except thanksgiving when they did not meet)

Nov-14 No action because nothing approved. This night a bill of actions was brought before the membership. This slate of proposed actions was gotten through the education committee because Rev. Samules brought in enough beer to get the consie members of the committee drunk. When the chairman of the committee (a consie) presented the actions to the membership he was sober and against them as he made quite plain. The ones that were passed were passed only because a minister ~~from~~ from plaquimine La. was attending the meeting and read the membership out when they voiced opposition to the actions. Enough people were shamed by him into voting for the action. The actions voted in were;

- 1- sing-in. to sing inside the board meeting when they stop discussing the things that we want them to discuss.
- 2- A picket line inside the board room.
- 3.- Christmas carol and student march during the christmas season. Students to march to the boe and sing carols outside the boe room.
4. student march between Jordan and South Gate high to show how easy it is to get from one school to another.
5. exchange white and negroe students for a day. White students go to a negro school and vice versa for a day.
6. Block const. of expanded facilities at Jordan
7. Pull of a student boycott.

The proposal for a freedom camp at the boe was tabled. The freedom camp was to be that we pitch tents in the boe patio and live there with teacher and other lecturers come up to speak to us.

A proposal to sit in the board members chairs and conduct a mock meeting ~~at~~ at the time of the regularly scheduled meeting was failed.

Nov. 18 sing-in at the boe. 20 people. boe said that if we did it again we would be arrested. They knew about it in advance. Fantastic opposition from consies.

Nov 21 General election of CORE officers. ~~Backdoor~~ a nominations comm. had previously nominated somebody for each office. The nominations comm was consie controlled. Nominations were also allowed from the floor. * means nominated by ~~Chairman~~ nominations committee. # means consie @ means ~~the~~ action faction \$ means neutral Chairman; Art Silvers*#, vs Danny Grey@, vs Woodrow Coleman@.
Art-85 Danny 15, Woody 10

V. Chairman ; Sylvia Richards*#, Danny Grey@
Sylvia 75 Danny 35

2nd V. Chairman Paul Jackson*#, Danny Grey@
Paul-50 Danny 10 Write ins for Taylor (NAACP head) 30

Treas Roberta Nicholson*# vs. ?
won

Sec. Barbra Britton*\$ vs. ?
won.

After the election the action faction met at the olimpian coffee shop. At this time the suggestion of starting a new organisation was brought up. However it was decided to have another meeting to talk things over and see what we wanted to do. There were about 30 of us at this meeting. (After the elections ~~that~~ the only other action taken against the boe was the caroling but with out the march.)

Dec. 3 Conferance of the action faction at the office of assemblyman merv. Dymally.

The meeting was supposed to be one of the the AF ~~but~~ the consies heard about it and Bruce Boyd and a few supporters attended. Also attending were some people from some of the negroe democratic clubs that disliked core and had come the the mettein to tell us so. These groups had there day and were then asked to leave. After they were gone the 30 or so of us that were left discussed the situation. We decided that we could not work under the present conditions in L.A. core. It was decided to try and change core one more time and if this last try failed we would form a new Core chapter. We decided on 7 constitutional changes that we felt were absolutly necessary if we were to continue with LA core. These were; 1-Voting requirments were to be 1 months trial period, 1 orientation, 1 training sesion, one compleat action every 30 days. office work was not enough for voting membership.

2- The general membership votes to initiate an action campaign. The action comm. ~~thenxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ is then in charge of the action and carries it out as it see fit. 3-Termination of an action campaign can not be voted on with out the prior approval of the action comm. 4-The project coordinator is in compleat charge of all press releases given out about the action and he may request that a press officer be assigned to the project by the pub. ⁵comm./Campaigns may be recommended to the membership by the action comm. 6.-Negotiating team may have a maximum of 4 members of which one has to be the project coordinator and the chairman of the action comm. or their appointees, ~~for~~ These proposals were to be brought to the exec. comm of core to have them bring them before the membership.

Dec 5 Core Exec meeting. The exec board refused to bring these proposals before the gen membership. They suggested that we try to change the constitution by petition and then eventual vote. ~~As~~ this would take about 4 week we refused, especially because the amendments would have no chance of passing unless presented by the exec board.

Dec 7 Organizational meeting of the new group at Danny Greys house. It was decided to try to become a new CORE chapter with the name Central COR E. Investigating teams were made up to look for job discrimination. Jay Frank and I checked out several places and found two likly targets. Buic-pontiac factory and a drive in restaurant with two branches called the Wichstand.

Dec. 10 meeting at Verna Williams house. Jay and I reported. It was voted to further investigate the Wichstand. The opposition of la core to us was inclosed (see attached statement by Earl Walters. this was one of the mildest statements made.) The fact that LA CORE might prevent us from using the name core was discussed. It was known that they were trying to do so.

Dec 17 meeting at Jean Dalberts house. Report on the Wichstand from the negotiating

~~XXXXX~~
~~XXXXXX Robert Hall~~

team, Robert Hall and Jerry Farber. (Robert Hall, Danny Grey, and Woodrow Coleman had been elected co-chairmen). It was decided to start action against the Wichstand on Dec 20 if ~~km~~ no progress was made before that. The opposition of la core to us using the name of core ~~mt~~ had resulted in a letter from the national office saying that we should not use the name untill the National Action Concil met to decide on our status. We decided that if we entered an action under the name of core they would not make us stop.

The Wichstand

The Wichstand is a chain of drive in restaurants (two). Wichstand number one at the corner of Florance and Figueroa has been in business scince 1939. It has had only one negroe employee in all that time (he lasted a year) Florance and Figueroa is in the heart of the negroe ghetto. The manager there is somewhat friendly to us. The wichstand has spaces for about 40 cars to have car-hop service and it has 14 seats inside the building. There is also a bar on the premisis owned by the same people. Wichstand number two was built in 1958 at a cost of almost \$1,000,000. It is located on the corner of Slausen and Overhill. This is just North of the Inglewood city boundry and is in an all white neighborhood. However it is only about 1 mile from the negroe ghetto and some of it's clientel is negroe. It has space for about 50-60 car-hop service cars. Inside it has a regular restaurant seating about 100 people and a cocktail lounge. Both stands are owned by the Burford bros. #2 is managed by John Marshall ~~me~~ who also has some controll over #1. Marshall is in compleat controll and the Burfords usually don't interfear. At the time of our investigations the two stands had 95 employees none of whom were negroe. Our negotiators tried to talk to the managers but Marshall would not see them. The manager at #1 however agreed to hire a negroe girl and did so. However she quit after 3 hours claiming harrasment by the other employees. The manager ~~thence~~ later hired two negroe girls (one so light that you could hardly tell she was a negroe, her hair was blond). However the owner

still refused to talk to us and so did Marshall. Our demands were the immediate hiring on a negroe in each restaurant and compensatory hiring of negroes as spaces opened up up to a percentage of 10-20%. We also wanted monthly statistic of hiring and firing. We also wanted an agreement to hire on a non-discriminatory basis. at both stands All the time that we picketed ~~/xxx/~~ we were heckled and many times a night cars cars entering the driveway would try to hit our pickets. We also drew a great deal of support from the negroe community. Often they would bring coffee or chicken dinners down to the line. The negroe gangs also supported us. The Slausens (#1 was in their district) kept a security patrol on 1½ hour shifts to protect our line. However the other negroe gangs also supported us.

Dec 20 a 24 hour picket line was begun at #2. We discovered that #2 was the hang out of a multitude of white teenagers from Inglewood. Inglewood is an all-white anti-negroe city. Our line had no appreciable effect on his bussiness. The white teenagers taunted us, and threw a few eggs and fire crackers at us. We started the line at about 9 in the morning. In the evening the teenagers stole the picket signs that were not being used. At 11:00 P.M. The line was called and an emergency meeting called at Mari Goldmans house. The reason for this meeting was because James Farmer had called her and ordered us not to use the name of core. We then decided to call ourselves the Non-Violent Action Committee. It was also decided to cancell the line at #2 because it was not affecting the bussiness. We voted to start a line the next morning at #1.

Dec 21 picketing was begun at #1. After a few days it was decided to only picket from 4:30 P.M. to 2:00 A.M. as that was when they had the most bussiness. Our line was very effective. By the managers own admission we cost him 80% of his bussiness. A week or so after we began picketing the Wichstand got a temporary restraining order from an Inglewood judge that forbid us to picket. We ignored the order. About 30 of our pickets were served supenas for contempt of court they were to apper

Friday Jan 10 was supposed to be the day that the judge held the hearing on the violations of the temporary restraining order. However as he had not yet made a descision on the injuction that hearing was continued untill the 17 of Jan. On Monday Jan 13 the judge decided on the injuction. We were to be limited to 8 people and some other minor limitations. That night we had a meeting on the line and it was decided to violate the injuction whenever we could. We did violate the injuction for the rest of the week, however they did nothing to stop us. Friday, Jan 17. The hearings of the violation of the restraining order were held. Wirin got ~~the other lawyer~~ the other lawyer so boxed up that he had to drop the case. The Wichstand closed a few day's earlier and h s not reopend.

At the meeting of the 18th of Jan it was decided not to go up to the Wichstand at Slausen and Overhill. At the meeting of Jan. 25 Committee were set up to 8investigate new targets for future action. The targets were; Van De Kamps, Bakeries, Sees candies, and Hodys restaurants.

Hall of Justice Sit-In.

Jerry Farber, Scot Van Leuvan, and Mike Robinson; all members of N-VAC; were arrested in Nov. on a CORE demonstration at the Board of Education. (This was before N-VAC was formed) The were tried and convicted to 1 yr. probation and a 50\$ fine Or 5 day's in jail. The lawyers later got the sentence reduced to 6 mos. probation and 3days in jail. CORE decided to havesome sort of demonstration while they were in jail. They were to begin their sentence Thur. Jan 30th. Wed. Jan 29. Some N-VAC members (all ex-CORE members) were asked to attend an emergency Action Committee meeting of CORE to plan for the demonstration when the three went to jail. The CORE general membership had previously ~~approved~~ given there approval to any combination of sit-in, picket, or jail-in (The people who were on the demonstration when the three were arrested asking ~~or~~ demanding to go to jail with them). At the meeting Wed. night there were about

3 CORE members present (quorum for the committee is 8), 2 UCLA CORE members and 5 N-VAC members present. The feeling of the Action Chairman and some of the CORE members was that all that should be done was to have us sit and watch while they were taken to jail, then to sing as they entered the prison and then go over to the Board of Education and listen to the boards meeting. As this was a CORE demonstration N-VAC and UCLA CORE could only voice opinions. After much arguing N-VAC persuaded CORE to have a picket line around the hall of justice (where they were to serve their sentence) untill the board meeting and then to take the picket sign into the board meeting and sit with them.

Thur. Jan 30. The people who were to go on the demonstration were supposed to meet at the CORE office in the mornign. Only about 12 people showed up. Of these 6 or 7 were N-VAC and 2 UCLA CORE. (There would have been more N-VAC but our phone committee had decided not to call the membership ~~and~~ as the action was to weak to bother ~~with~~ with. During the mornign the discussion of the previous night was resumed. ~~The action chairman was in charge of the demonstration and the N-VAC people wanted to have a sit-in at the Hall of Justice. The action chairman was opposed to this. However N-VAC subtly threatened to call a rump N-VAC meeting and do it as an N-VAC project if CORE didn't. The Action Chairman of L.A. CORE then capitulated and put Danny Grey (a member of N-VAC and former member of L.A. CORE) in charge (Later Art Silvers/told the Action Chairman that Danny could not be in charge so he put Esther Gutenplan in command. AS things were decided at that time we were to sit in untill we were asked to leave. At 4:00 When the 3 were taken to jail and we began the sit-in the Action Chairman had been convinced to let us stay after being ordered out and to face the probability of arrest. The lawyer had told us that we would be arrested with out a doubt. We began the sit in at 4:00. At 5:30 we were informed~~

by the police that we would be allowed to stay as long as we desired. Up untill this time all the people on the sit-in and ~~in~~ all those who came down to join were told that there was a 100% probabilitiy of arrest. At this time there were 23 people siting-in who were willing to be arrested. 8 members of N-VAC (As soon as the sit-in was decided the N-VAC phone committee started to rally the mambers. This began about 4:00), 6 Members of CORE, 3 members of UCLA CORE, 2 members of the Youth Action Union, 1 member of Berkly CORE, 1 member of Valley CORE, and 3 unafiliated persons. The sit-in was to last untill the 3 got out. During the night untill about 6:00 people arrived and others left at variose times during the night. Only 6 persons stayed the entire night (they left when the doors opened at 7:30 A.M. and new people arrived) of these 6 ~~4~~ 4 were from UCLA CORE and 2 were from N-VAC. All in all during the first day (4:00 P.M.-Jan 30 - 7:30 A.M. Jan 31) 37 people sat-in for variose lengths of time 14 from N-VAC, 7 from CORE, 5 from UCLA CORE, 2 from the YAU, 1 from Valley CORE, 1 from Berkly CORE, and 7 unafiliated persons.

Jan 31. The sit-in lasted untill 6:00 A.M. Feb. 1st when the 3 were let out of jail. This was 36 hours early. According to statements made by the police and sheriffs the reaseon that they were let out early was because of the sit-in.

4 persons stayed from early morning (7-8:30) to the end of the sit-in 23 hours later. All of them were members of N-VAC. 15 persons stayed from the time that the doors were locked (about 6:00 P.M.) untill the end (6:00 A.M.). 9 were N-VAC members, 4 were CORE members, 1 was from UCLA CORE, and 1 was from the YAU. All totaled there were 34 peopled who sat-in the second day, 12 N-VAC, 11 CORE, 3 Valley CORE, 1 UCLA CORE, 7 YAU. ~~The totals for the entire sit-in were~~

The total number of man hours put in by each group over the intire sit-in were; N-VAC 250 hours, CORE 110 hours, UCLA CORE 85 hours, YAU 35 hours, Valley CORE 11 hours Berkly CORE 3 hours, unafiliated persons 14 Hours. Total 509 Hours.

Although this was a project carried out under COREs name it was in actuality sustained by N-VAC. This fact was recognised by the action Chairman of L.A. CORE

when he informed newsmen that this was a joint action of L.A. CORE and N-VAC.

None of the papers mentioned N-VAC. When ever the Chaيمان of the Action Committee was not present which was most of the time an N-VAC person was spokesman.

At the meeting of Feb2. it was decided to investigate Cliftons Cafeteria and the Hollywood Palladium. It was decided to begin negotiations with Van de Kamps.

Present at the hall of justice sit-in

(C-L.A. CORE, N²NVAC U-UCLA CORE W-Valley CORE, Y-YAU, B-Berkly CORE, F-Unaffiliated. * means risked arrest, the number of hours follows. each number is the number of hours at each time I.E. 6 19 means 6 hours then left then another 19 hours)

C *	1 1/2	Bo b Hubbard	N 3	Bitsy Sniper
C *	3 1/2, 10	Cleveland Wallace	N 4 20	Woodrow Coleman
C *	1 1/2, 4	Sam Lumpkin	N 4 20	Esther Gutenplan
N *	3 1/2, 22	Jay Frank	Y 4 11	Stephan Solimita
V *	3 1/2, 5 1/2	Le Faucette	X 4 1	Mike Gratz
NN *	5, 5	Danny Grey	C 2 14	Doug ne Nelson
N *	2,	Germain Viltz	C 8	Candy Brown
N *	5 1/2, 22 1/2	Richard Thom son	N 5	Diane Du Fult
NN *	6 1/2, 21 1/2	Mari Goldman	C 18	Vaughn
NN *	5 1/2, 22 1/2	Bruce Hartford	N 6	Robert Hall
C **	7,	Jean Samual	U 18	Caroline Sweezy
C in and out		Fater Samual (action chairman CORE)		
U *	13	Andy Schifferan	C 1	Rex Regan
U *	13	Bruce Williams	C 16	Danny Grant
UU *	14	Russ Ellis	Y 2	Mariaon Gordon
UU *	14	Judith Ellis	Y 2	Marv. Traeger
N *	12	Tony Wattix hopping	C 2	Leo Mouton
F *	12,	Vicki Sharnof	C 2	David Pearl
F *	2	Nancy friedman	N 16	Rev. Brown
F *	2	Frank Lindenfels	N 16	Grant Newshom
B *	3,	Buzzy gramm	Y 1	Toby Bye
N *	3,	Irving Kuisch	Y 1	Alan Zach
N *	3	Les Evans	V 1	Dennis Gaston
N	4	Pete Flint	V 1	Jeff Trosper
F	4	Calmill Scortino	Y -1	Mike Gratz
N	12	Herb Kallekey	F 4	Be nny ?
				Roberta Ludman

TOTAL DIFFERANT - 51

N-18
C-12
U-5
V-3
Y-6
B-1

VAN DE KAMP'S

We began to investigate Van de Camps in the later part of January. Our investigation showed. That Van De Kamps (vdk) was a very large company with many division. The 3 divisions were Baking, Retail and restaurant (including a line of frozen food.). vdk has 6 restaurants, 1 drive-in, 1 bakery, 1 frozen food plant, about 500 retail outlets. The retail outlets are either shelves rented in supermarkets, large concessions rented in markets with a vdk girl taking the money, or independant shops. vdk is owned by General Baking. vdk resisted unionization for 20 untill General Baking bought them. We found that there were NO negroes in the administrative staff, no negro truck drivers, some negro men working in the bakery, out of 200 weomen in the bakery 3 were n out of those 3 1 was just promoted from clean up to wrapper after seven years the other two are still on clean-up. out of 250 women in the frozen food plant there are no ne there are a few ne janitors. the Restaurants hires a few ne, cook and ne bus boy's and bus girls. none of the waitresses and cashires are ne & these are the ones that get to wear the fancy dutch costumes). out of about 500 women working in the retail division there are 5 ne, 2 of thses are only part time relief girls. On our first negotiation seseion we ~~xxxxxxx~~ talked to the personell manager who was not able to give us any information. he said that we would have to talk to that general manager Mr. Simon. We tried to make an appointment with Mr. Simon but we were not able to do so. After a while we sent him a telegramn tell him that we would be in his office the next day. He then called us and set up a meeting with a labor relations specialist that they had hired. We told him that at that meeting we wanted no more the 4 persons from their side, and we wanted them to have a statistical breakdown of their employees ~~xxx~~ by race and job catagory, we also wanted somebody there who could make descisions from vdk. They had 5 personst there. Larry Lawrence, the labor specialist, the personell director th t we had talked to before, and 3 union men, (2 from the teamsters and 1 from the bakers union). They did not have the staistical breakdown and they said that they would not give us onw. they also said that they were going to turn the whole matter over to the Human Relations Council or the UCRC. It was then decided to go into Action against vdk at the next meeting. Action

Feb 15-10 of the 30 or so retail out-lets in the ne community were assigned to teams of 2 or 3 to be leafleted begining the 21st of Feb.

Feb 20

A picket line was thrown up around vdk's large restaurant-store complex on Wilshire blvd next dore to Orbachs. the line was from 5:00-10:30. about 45 persons participated.

Feb 21 -----Mar 3

leafleting on individual stores began. this was very poor very few people turned out and few stores were hit. Some stores let us stand next to the vdk shelf. other didn't.

Feb. 28

a picket line from 5:00- at the ABC market at Manchester & San Pedro vdk had a large shelf there. about 10 people.

Feb 29 picket line 12-3 at the vdk complex on wilshire. 15 people.

March 4 6;30

Shop-in at Shoppers Market 43rd & Central. The shop-in consisted of us going into the store wearing our signs, marching through the store and up and down the ailses. Then going to the vdk shelf and placing all the vdk products into the shopping carts and then leaving the carts at variouse places around the store. KCOP and a radio station covered this shop-in. About 25 people participated. That night we also went to the ABC 53rd & Main, Von's 50th & Vermont, ~~ABC~~ Food Giant 73 rd & Compton, Safeway Sunset & LaBrea, and Hollywood Ranch Market Fountain & Vine. By the time we had gotten to the last store we had only 18 people left. At the last store Mari Goldman's two rear tires were slashed.

~~Mar 5 6:30x~~
~~Shop-in 15x~~

Bruce Hartford

Mari Goldman

Bob Freeman

Annette Becker

Wilfred Hedspeth

Robertta Krinsky

Jerry Farber

Diane DuFault

John Freeman

Woodrow Coleman

Jean Dalberg

Le Faucette

Danny Grey

Jay Frank

Mike Robinson

Candy Brown

Germain Viltz

Fred Krinsky

Mar 5

Shop-in.

Food Giant- Crenshaw nr. Rodeo

Von's - Santa Barbara & crenshaw

foodfair- 54th & crenshaw

vons - 88th & western

We had some radio & t.v. (KTLA) coverage at the first store. the 2 vons stores both were the type that had vdk cashiers. at these stores we only loaded up the cart and left them right there. at the 88th & western store they called the cops and about 4 or 5 cars showed up. but they did not arrest us. there were about 15 of us. (average) (10 stores to date)

jakie king	jerry Farber	danny grey
danny cohen	bruce Hartford	woody coleman
mari Goldman	jay Frank	bob freeman
john freeman	earl rohades	mike robinson
sue Kovnor	roberta fr Krinsky	fred Krinsky
diane DuFoe	charlse bratton	

Mar 6

shop-in

Safeway-midtown

Thrifty-mart-vermont & adams

Alexanders - 30th & vermont

abc - manchester & san pedro

abc - 108th & main.

fuzz called at the last store. they took our names and identification but did not arrest us. they took my name even though i was taking pictures and not shopping in.

bruce Hartford	jerry Farber	woody coleman	charles bratton
mari Goldman	danny cohen	danny grey	
annette Becker	bob freema	john freeman	
roberts krinsky	fred krinsky	sue kovnor	
jay frank	jean dalberg	jackie king	

(15 stores to date)

Mar 7

shop-in

All repeats of stores previously gone to. we have so far been refraining from going to better food markets because they have been co-operative from the start.

shoppers - 43rd & central

food giant - 73rd & compton

vons - 88th & western

vons-50th & vermont at this store we did not go in because we had to delay our entering the store after we got there due to the fact that new people were coming and others had to eat. When we were ready we found that the manager had called the police and several cars were waiting for us. (he had been tipped off because we had met in the lot). Due to the fact that his store was almost empty and we did not want to be arrested is no one saw us we told the fuzz we were going next and then went there they did not believe us and did not follow us so we had no trouble at the next place.

vons - Crenshaw and Santa Barbara

Shoppers 43rd & Central.

bruce	woody	danny
sue	jay	roberta
fred	jerry	esth er gutenplan
annette	jean	richard thompson
jackie	howard minkin	charlse bratton

Mar 9

a shop-in was called but not enough people showed up to have it.

Mar 12

another shop-in was called but the persons with the signs and leaflets did not arrive so there was no shop-in.

Mar 14

sit-in

A sit in had been planned for the vdk restaurant on wilshire. However they were closed for remodeling. we changed the place & of the sit-in to there restaurant at their main plant near glendale. on san fernando road. The sit-in began ~~and ended at 3:45~~ 3:45 and ended about 8:00. We sat-in so as to block the main interance to the dining room and so as to block one of the enterances to the bakery shop. some people did not step over (or on us) and thus were turned away, but i would say that an equal number went in to eat just to have the pleasure of stepping on us. all the demonstrators were roughly treated, all were kicked and stepped on, some had things thrown at them and others were stabbed with forks. one demonstrator (jerry farber) was thrown out flat and kicked in the stomch another jay frank was thrown out and kicked in the groin. everyone was hurt to some extent. I had to leave the demonstration after about an 1/2 hour because I could not remain non-violent. i took photographs for the rest of the time. there ~~was~~ was a great shortage of negroes on the sit in but no shortage on the line outside.

on the sit-in (* only part of the time)

woody coleman	annette becker	judy ? (friend of robertas)
allen ? freind of roberta	roberta krinsky	fred krinsky
jerfy farber	jay frank	mari goldman
richard thompson	lee arond	jacki king
bruce hartford*	mike robinson*	jean dalbert*

on the line out side or oth r outside work

danny grey	charls bratton	bob freeman*
al oliver*	?? fellow with the	leather glove

ben goldman*

Mar 15

sit-in.

~~At the sit-in~~ the sit-in began the same as it did on the 14th. the sit-inners sat in at about 3:45. There was the usual comotion. one of the custermers grabbed sue kovner and annette becker by the hair and pulled them out of line. After a while the fire department came and began to take pictures. They then said that the sit-inners were violating a fire ordanance. they then cleared the building and took some more pictures. I was taking photographs for us and was asked to leave. A few minutes after i was forced to leave the building they began arrests of those sitting in. those arrested were.

woody coleman	annette becker	sue kovner*	* is juveniles.
lee arond*	roberta krinsky*	fred krinsky*	
jerry farber	allen gold*	danny grant *	
jay frank			

on the outside were

danny grey	bruce hartford	charlse bratton
richard thompson	ben goldman	le faucette
kathy ruble	laural ?	

the tires of richards and bens car were puctured (all four of them) and something was poured in bens oil. air was let out of jerrys ~~xxxx~~ tires. some of those arrested were carried out in stretchers and some were carried out by hand. jerry, jay, & woody ~~xxxx~~ (all stretcher) were put 'n the paddy wagon roberta, sue, (both S) and annette were put in one police car, fred allen, & danny in another, and lee in a third.

Sit-in#3

March 21 1964

A sit-in was called for the restaurant ~~xx~~ on Laural Canyon in the valley. By about 3:30 there were 35 people picketing. Earlier in the day Robt. Hall, Mike Robinson were picked up by the police at Dooleys hamburger stand near the office (4825 S. Central) a girl named sidney was also picked up. All were picked up on suspicion. ~~They~~ Mike and Robt. were out by 3:00. At about 3:30 ~~the xxxxxxxx picket line~~ every N-VAC member who was present (a membership meeting had been called to take place on the line) was asked to vote as to whether or not chains were to be used on this sit-in the vote was 11-1 for it. Those who expressed willingness to sit-in were taken over to Le Faucette's house and the chain in was discussed and there was a rehearsal ~~xxxxxx~~. Of the 15 persons who were sitting in 11 were willing to chain themselves together. Each person carried one chain and a padlock. At a given signal they would all chain their left leg to the ~~xxxxxx~~ right leg of the person on their left. The 4 who were not going to chain themselves together would sit in front of the chainers to give them time to put on the chains. The chains were not to be put on until the police and the fire dept. had already declared us a fire hazard and said they would arrest us. At about 4:30 we went inside the restaurant and sat down. A few minutes later the fire dept. came and went through there rigamarole. ~~xxxx~~ when they started to arrest us we put on the chains. They delayed about 10 minutes and then brought in a bolt cutter. They carried out most of us in stretchers by 5:30 all of the arrests were over. there was no violence except for one person spilling hot coffee on me and the police being a little rough with Robt. Hall Mari, annette and danny cohen. All the men were put in a paddy wagon and the girls in a police car. The men were taken to North Hollywood Precinct station where they were booked on breaking a fire ordinance.

Those arrested were (*denotes those with chains)

Robt Hall*	Jay Frank *	Annette Becker*
Mari Goldman*	Mike Perlowin*	Cleveland Wallace*
Bruce Hartford*	Jerry Farber	Danny Cohen*
Woodrow Coleman*	Doug Nelson	Howard Minkin
Robin Hirsch	David Hoeffer	Richard Thompson*

The girls were taken to Lincoln Heights jail. Everyone stayed in jail until arraignment. The girls all shared the same cell. All the men except Bruce hartford, Danny Cohen, Cleveland Wallace, and Mike perlowin also shared the same cell, the add 4 shared a different cell. The men were arraigned in Van Nuy's court and charged with violating a fire ordinance disturbing the peace and something like trespass. The bail was set at \$100. The girls were arraigned at downtown court and charged with violating a fire ordinance. Bail for them was set at \$250. The girls were bailed out of Lincoln Heights in the early afternoon. They were transferred from Van Nuy's to Lincoln Heights even though the police knew that our bail bondsman was on his way to Van Nuy's. When we arrived at Lincoln heights they made us change into prison blues. They tried to ~~xxx~~ give us x-ray's but we refused. we were kept there until late afternoon when we were released (this was late monday (24th))

Raid #1

March 22 1964

There were about 30 people who were picketing at the Laural Canyon restaurant, in the heavy rain. There were not enough persons who were willing or able to get arrested to repeat the previous day's performance. It was decided to go to the Rosco restaurant with about 10 persons and to sit in until the police came to arrest them and then to leave. this they did.

~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~

Shop-ins were planned for the weekend of the 28th-29th ~~xxxxxx~~ for the 28th but not enough people showed up to do it.

April 3 Raid #2

After meeting at the office and the glendale restaurant a picket line was begun at the glendale restaurant. About 10 members of the Nazi party were present. 6 of the were in full uniform. they picketed and chanted. Later 9 of went on another ~~xxxxxx~~ raid. We hit Rosco, Laural Canyon and Pasadena.

on the raid were
Charles Bratton
Danny Grey
richard thomson (lookout)
* ? with a beard (tom)

Bruce Hartford
Jay Frank
Annette Becker

Marlene Dickson
Le Faucette
John Tavasti

The next weekend more demonstrations were planned but not enough people showed up to carry them out.

April 18

Shop-ins

ABC 54th & Main

Food Giant 73rd & Compton

ABC Manchester & San Pedro

ABC 108th & Main

Vons 88th & Western

Thrifty Mart Vermont & Adams

At the last store (Thrifty Mart) As we walked out of the store the police said that we might be under arrest. We stood outside the store and sung. Then one of the officers ~~said that we were under arrest~~ asked us to show identification which we refused to do. Then one of the officers said that we were ~~under~~ not under arrest and we started to leave. before we had got to our cars another officer said the we were under arrest so we went back to the front of the store. Then they made like to put us in the police car so we sat down and locked arms. The manager of the store came out and said that ~~he~~ he was making a citizens arrest. The police then ~~xxxxx~~ broke mari out of the circle and drug her to the car. They then tried to take annette. Annette was being held by Robt. Hall on one side and me on the other. To break my grip they grapped me under the throat and pulled my head back, choking me. They then did the same to Robt. They then dragged annette to the police car. The sargent the came and said that if we would co operate they would not arrest us. We asked if we were under arrest And he said that if we would give our names we wouldn't be. So we got up and left (with the girls) some of us did not give our names as we were not asked to do so after the sargent talked to us.

Danny Grey
Bruce Hartford
Woodrow Coleman

~~Mari~~ Mari Goldman
Robert Hall
Jay Frank

Charlse Bratton
Annette Becker (last shop-in only)
Richard Thomson (first 4 only)

4-26-64

Rally and Demonstration

It was poanned to have a rally ~~and~~ at South Park Sunday the 26th at 2:00p.m. and then to go to the Van De Kamp's restaurant on Wilshire. We were supposed to go and speak in different churches to get the church people out. However the only church that would let us speak was Rev. Dawkins church (this was the sunday before) he had promised us support but later reneged. On the 26th Robt Hall and I went out to distribute leaflets about 12:00 while Woody, Annette, Jay, and Reginald stayed in the office. At about 1:35 ~~thex~~ a police sergeant came into the office and asked woody questions about the route we were going to take to ~~vdks.~~ at about 130 police came to the office ~~and~~ with warrents for the arrest of woody, anntte, and jay, all of whom were dragged into waiting police cars. these warrents were sworn out on Friday on a complaint by the manager of the Thriftymart at Adams and Vermont. The police could have serv3d these warrents saturday because we were all in the office and they knew it but they wanted to use them to break up the rally. When robt and I got back fromt leaflet distribution we found out about the arrests. We then went to Celes Kings office to arrange bail and to call the press. We then went to the park were we found that Mari and Danny h d just been dragged off. Councilman Lindsay was there but all he said was had we permission to use the park. A number of CORE people were there because James Farmer had been holding a meeting of the Executive boards of the SO. Calif chapters earlier in the day. I had called to a restaurant were I knew some of them were eating. Jerry Started the rally and then took the people over to demonstrate against newton street police station who had made the arrest. While making a telephone call there I was arrested. Eventually over 40 people were on the picket line including J Farmer. I was handcuffed and taken to the glass house where I was put in with danny and robt. later were taken to lincoln hights and put in solatary confinement because we started a bus load of prisoners singing. We were bailed out late that night. arrested were

Bruce Hartford
Woody Coleman
Jay Frank

Annette Becker
Danny Grey
Mari Goldman

Robert Hall
Charles Bratton was picked up
a few nights later.

THURSDAY OCTOBER 31
STUDY - IN

WEEKLY WASS

FOURTH

CHURCH

STUDENTS

5-2-64

There was a picket line at The Van De Kamp's restaurant on Wilshire. There was only a few people present.

5-9-64

Another picket line was called for the Wilshire restaurant. Not enough people showed up to have it.

5-11-64

The trial of the 4 adult defendants of the first sit-in began. The charges against the 6 juveniles had been dropped by the judge some time earlier. The charge of trespass was dropped by the court before the trial began. An all white jury was selected. It had two mex-americans. Herb. Porter the attorney for the defense did not present any witnesses. the trial lasted over a week. The 4 defendants - Woodrow Coleman, Annette Becker, Jay Frank, and Jerry Farber- were convicted of violating the fire ordinance and of disturbing the peace. They were sentenced on 6-11-64. Woodrow got 15 days and the other three got 10 days (actually it was jail or fines of 150\$ and 100\$). The reason that Woody got more time was that he appeared to be the leader. The charge of disturbing the peace was dropped by the judge.

6-6-64

Sip-in #1 VdK Wilshire.

The sip-in is where we go into the restaurant and order a cup of coffee and then take as long as possible to drink it. The sip-in lasted from 3 -7:30.

All totaled about 100 people participated. The management was annoyed. We also had a picket line going on outside. Many of the sip-ins had signs at their tables.

6-13-64

Sip-in #2 VdK Wilshire.

This sip-in began at about 12 and lasted till about 8. There were about ~~125~~ 75 people participating.

6-15-64

The 4 convicted sit-ins began to serve their sentences. It had been decided not to appeal the cases.

6-18-64

Sip-in #3

VdK Wilshire

This was the most successful sip-in to date. This was due to the fact that it was a thursday night and the restaurant was very crowded. The management was extremely annoyed. There were about 50 persons participating but we cut down on their business a great deal. However like the previous sip-in we fell short of a great success, by an extremely small margin. In the other sip-ins the addition of 10-20 more people would have caused long lines to form of waiting customers and would have driven away a great many more. On this sip-in if everyone had sat at table alone that would have been enough to ruin their business.

6-20-64

We have heard over the news that VdK has gotten a Temporary Restraining Order prohibiting our demonstrating until the judge can decide about an injunction.

6-24-64 to 6-29-64

On the 24th Jerry, Jay and Annette completed there sentences. Jerry and Jay however refused to leave the jail cell unless Woodrow was also released. They were eventually carried out of the cell (very roughly jerry was kicked in the balls by an officer etc.) and dressed and dumped out on the sidewalk. A round the clock sit-in on the steps was began untill Woody was released. Jerry and Jay stayed the whole time others stayed for parts of it. There were participants there also from CORE, Bruin CORE, and Valley CORE. some of those participants were (*denotes those who stayed at least one night)

Robert Hall*	Sue Akerstien*	Marlene Dickson*
Annette Becker*	Cleveland Wallace	Berryniece Powdrill*
Mike Robinson*	Sue Welsh	Mike Wolfson*
Richard Thomson*	Robert Krinsky	Charlie Samuels*
Danny Grey*	Fred Krinsky	Amiee *
Bruce Hartford*	Judy Rubenstein	Jon Tavasti*
Mari Goldman	Shelia Tomlinson	Rev. Jones
Larry *	Caroline Sweezy*	Also many others.

7/2/64

Sit-in # 5

Sit-in # 5 was at Laural Canyon. There were about ~~25~~ 25 persons taking part but this was enough to really block up there bussiness. We saw many customers turn away because they could not be seated and there was a large waiting line. They took extensive pictures and several times asked us to leave.

7/11/64

Picket line at Wilshire. We were (7 of us) served with our contempt of court notices.

7/14/64

The shop-in trial began. On trial were Danny Grey, Woodrow Coleman, Annette Becker, Robert Hall, Mari Goldman, Jay Frank, Bruce Hartford, and Charles Bratton (who had only been passing out leaflets not handling goods). The judge was Mario Clinco and the prosecutors was Robert Rowe assisted by Bruce Nelson. We were convicted of trespass and disturbing the peace and found not guilty of malicious mischevious. Later we were sentenced, after refusing probation, to 30 for all except Woodrow and Charles who got 60 days. Woodys sentence was longer because he was evidently the leader and Charles because of his record. The trial took a long time most of which was spent in selecting a jury. They refused to let a Negro sit on the jury and eventually kicked off 18. Some one in the prosecutors office told us that they were not allowed to have a Negro on civil rights case juries. Our attorney Luke McKissak did a terrific job.

7/17/64

~~Training session and picket line.~~

~~We had an all day training session in non violence which was quite extensive and very good. Later we went to Fletcher and San Fernando and had a picket line.~~

7/25/64

Picket line at Laural Canyon. The picketer were threatned with being mopped with hot tar.

8/1/64

Training session and picket line

We had an all day training session in non-violence which was very extensive and ver good we covered everyting from picketline to sit-in with all kinds of harrasment Later we had a picket line at fletcher and san fernando.

8-5-64

The second sit-in trial began. The defendants were Woodrow Coleman, Annetee Becker, Mari Goldman, Richard Thomson, Robert Hall, Bruce Hartford, Jay Frank, Cleveland Wallace, Mike Perlowin, Doug Nelson, Robin Hirsch, Dave Hoefler, Howard Minkin, Danny Cohen, Jerry Farber. The judge was named Holaday, the prosecutor (a Goldwater Republican) Bruce Nelson, and our defense attorney was Hugh Manes. The Judge was very bad and autocratic. He very strictly limited the voir dier. He made many other rulings against us. We were convicted of breaking the fire ordinance and aquited of disturbing the peace and of tresspassing. The jury was out 2 day's.

8/10/64

During the lunch break we picketted the Van De Kamps outlet at the grand central market.

8/11

picket at Grand Central

8/12

picket G.C.

8/13

Picket G.C.

8/14

these date may be slightly wrong

Picket G.C.

8/17

Picket G.C.

8-5-64

On the night of 8-4-64 it was announced over the radio that the FBI had discovered the bodies of the 3 civil rights workers in Mississippi (James Chaney, ~~Michael Schwerner~~, Andrew Goodman, and micheal Schwerner). About 3 A.M. that morning we called together a N*VAC meeting at Jerry Farbers house. It was decided there to try to get all the civil rights groups in town to participate in a mass sit-in demonstration at the Federal Bldg to begin that evening. The purpose of the this demonstration which was to last indefinitely and in the hops of getting enough people together so that we could spill out into the street. It was decided at the meeting that N-VAC people had to be in complete charge. That morning we called up all the CORE chapters and friends of SNCC and they agreeded to co operate including that N-VAC should be in charge. We called together a press conferance for noon. At that time Levi Kingston from friends of SNCC came with a press statement that said that he was calling the demonstration (he had earlier agreed not to use this statement and especially not to have only Sncc name on it) he also brought with him Earl Walters from the UCRG. During the conferance he said that this was not to be a demonstration but a memorial which was the very thing that we had been most against and the reason why we had wanted to be in compleat charge, we wanted a demonstration that would be noticed in Washington not a memorial. Later in the day L.A. CORE said that they ~~would~~ could not participate officially unless some of their people were running it. When we got to the Federal building we found out that SNCC intended to have a silent vigil and if we wanted to have a sit-in they would not co-operate. We then began our sit-in while the vigiled. thus there were two demonstrations. They told people not to join our sit-in. They eventually could not stand silently for over an hour so they changed their demonstration to a picket line with singing. They had about 70 people max at any one time. We had about 30 max. at any o one time. About 3 A.M. that morning we decided to cancell our sit-in because it was just disrupting the civil rights movement to have to opposing demonstrations. At eh time we left we had about 11 people and they had about 5 gaurding the coffin. The coffin ~~was~~ which they had carried around on the picket line symbolised the death of the three workers. They kept the vigil going for about 5 days.

8-8

There was a picket line at Laural Canyon(?)

8/9 10 11 /64

On the nights of these date we put up the 100 posters that we had silk screened. They were

(betanoh 70d1)

about the size of picket sign and said DONT BUY VAN DE KAMPS they discriminate against negroes. Support our demonstrations. N-VAC etc. It also had our symbol on it. We put these up on walls fences etc.

8/15/64

We had a sort of "Chain-in" at the Thrifty-Mart at Adams and Vermont. What we did was for those who were on trial or who had been on trial chained themselves wrist to wrist and stood along side the entrance to the market. We wore signs saying 60 days in jail, 30 days in jail, on trial now etc. We also had a picket line.

those who were chained

Bruce Hartford

Robert Hall

Robin Hirsch

Danny Cohen

Jerry Farber

Jay Frank

Woodrow Coleman

a couple others.

8/16/64

small picket line Adams & Vermont 3-5 people

8/22/64

Picket line at the Better Foods Florence and San Pedro 15-20

8/29/64

Picket line at The Shoppers mkt. 43rd & Central 10-15

9/5/64

Picket line at the Shoppers mkt, 43rd & Central 5-10

9/11/64

Picket line at ABC 54th & Main 4-5

9/12/64

same 8-12

9/18

same 4

9/19

same 6-8

9/25

same 4

9/26

same 5-6

10/3

picket food ~~at~~ mkt. Santa Barbara near Western 2-3 *woody annette Bruce*

10/4

same 5 *Woody, Caroline, Bruce, Richard, Danny G.*

10/9

same 2 *Woody, Bruce*

10/10

picket Wilshire restaurant. ?

(17001 0015494)

10/17

picket line at Vons 51st & Vermont called but not held due to lack of people and signs.

10/24

picket line at Vons 51st & Vermont (2-3 people)

During the last 2 months we have been expending most of our energies in fund raising to pay off our large debts. We owe about \$5,000 to the bail bondsman and several thousand dollars are needed for legal costs. Actually not so much now that we have gotten a \$3,000 transcript free. We have had 3 parties raising about \$500 and have sold about \$200 bumper sticker.

→ Pasadena
Kilshur

→ Kilshur

→ Mithun to Mithun

DISCRIMINATION

DON'T SUPPORT

FROM DON ALTON AND HIS OTHER BROTHERS WHO ENJOY IN RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

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BOYCOTTING DON HAS BEEN PROTESTING FOR OVER A YEAR

WOMEN OF SEVERAL HOUSING AGENCIES WHOSE DISCRIMINATION

HOME SWAINS COMING TO PROVIDE FINANCING TO DON ALTON

DISCRIMINATION

FINANCES

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