

PIQUED BY PIC

To the Editor:

In the last issue of the Barb, a photo was run with it taken from the film "The Damned". It depicted a male transvestite in the company of uniformed nazis. The story in the "Damned" is about the murder of a number of homosexuals who helped place Hitler into power.

Firstly, the photo was run without consulting me. I have no control over the titles, photos or anything else run with my articles. I object to the photo and the title for several reasons.

It presents a stereotype. This is one of the things that I and a number of other transsexuals have been struggling against for a long time. Transvestites and transsexuals are different manifestations, much different; and indeed, although they are, the public has a attitude which views such things as "fascist" or on that level, but really, calling something fascist is just another way to oppress people.

My struggle is against male supremacy, nothing more and nothing less. And that includes anti-transsexuals; both male and female.

We are growing in number (approximately 100,000 in North Am-

erica) and in ability to defend ourselves, although we have few friends and the oppression against us is great indeed.

Am I a fascist? I have publicly offered my support to Cuban gays both in Cuba and in exile. I consider the oppression of gays in USSR and China - and now Chile - fascist oppression. I do not support Mao, USSR communism or Castro's regime.

Indeed, WE WILL NOT EXPERIENCE THE SAME FATE OF GERMAN GAYS WHO WERE USED BY HITLER AND THEN OFFED. NOT THIS TIME.

We will not be cannon fodder for anybody's revolution but our own. So, too, the attempted co-option/takeover of gay-lib by the Socialist Workers Party has been noted and repelled.

The gay movement is now an international movement, bridging all ideologies and political philosophies. In England, Sweden, West Germany, Italy, France, Canada, Australia and other nations gay liberation is continuing to develop. Everywhere, the prejudices are the same; laws may be a little different but the prejudices still exist.

And the next phase of gay lib will be an attempt to liberate our

sisters and brothers in the USSR, China, and Cuba, like it or not, baby.

Because gays in those nations are being oppressed. Some of them know about gay lib in other countries, and gay lib WILL develop in these nations.

International Group in England is now publishing an international gay lib publication (mostly in English, but including articles in German, French, Italian and Spanish) and it is only the forerunner of things to come.

Gay groups are springing up all over the world, inspired by the efforts of gays in the USA.

The gay in Russia does not see socialism as any answer to her or his oppression. The gay in China does not either. And certainly not the gays in Cuba, where pig Cuban hets (who cares if they are red or not? They're pigs.) have declared to place the full weight of the Cuban revolution towards eradicating homosexuality world-wide. A genocidal declaration. A horrifying declaration. A fascist, brutal, inhuman declaration.

International Group published data gathered by Camp Ink, an Australian group, on the situation in regards to laws worldwide:

(Because of limited space, the table of data is not reproduced. Essentially, it shows that 50 nations have laws punishing gays.) It (the table--ed.) did not say whether "China" referred to Taiwan or the Peoples' Republic of China. Nor was any data on Israel or a number of other nations given. However, the 1st certainly shows that the struggle of gays is an international one.

Today San Francisco, tomorrow the world? In the case of gays, YES! In the case of women, YES! In the case of transsexuals, who cares? IT is not our world. It is a world of sexually polarized creatures, who define themselves as "male" or "female" because they can't cope with the transcendental nature of hermaphroditism.

From International Group: "Australia's pro-Pekin Communist Party has attacked Women's Liberation as 'revisionist'. HOMO WEEK was held in Sweden from May 15. FUORI, Italy's gay lib movement is growing. FHAR, France's gay lib movement is growing. Thailand--drag queens are demanding the legal right to marry men. England--gay lib continues to grow and develop. Germany--film on homosex barred

from TV, gay groups outraged. Canada--gay lib continues to grow and develop."

It takes a lot of nerve for a communist to tell a gay liberationist that "socialism is the answer" to the oppression of gays, in view of the facts. Gay lib is becoming a purist movement, stripped from the trappings of communism and fascism, and the groups which see us as cannon fodder for their goals (same old shit, rolling fags) and from every point of the globe we are telling het pig oppressors to get out of our way, take their het ideologies and eat them. Our revolution is an international one and was never thought of by Mao, Marx, Lenin, or Castro, or by Adolf Hitler.

But back to the Barb photo: the decadence depicted in the photo is that of heterosexual supremacy; which is FASCIST by its very nature, its very core of male supremacy. It is a photo of Castro, of Brhznnev, of Nixon; and indeed, of groups of the Left who would use us as a cannon fodder.

Call us fascist if you will. Call us whatever you like. But know damn well that we--woman, gays and intersexuals -- see through your games, and will eventually triumph. It is too late to try and smash the gay and the women's movement; it is too late to try and co-opt us. too many millions of lives have been radically altered by our struggle; too many sacrifices have been noted; and too many attempts to co-opt our

strengths have been repelled. Do not attempt to box us into political bag, as we cannot be; no political ideology has been defined by us. We will produce our own and it will be international and you heterosexuals, will find yourselves on the receiving end of fury for change. You, males, will find yourselves oppressed by women and it is so justly deserved.

Max Scherr says that I have a tone of anti-Semitism in some of my charges. Only in the respect that Jewish gays and women are quite oppressed, that the Jewish religion, as well as the Christian, is anti-gay and anti-woman. Indeed; from that perspective I am anti-Semitic. I am against any religion, ideology, bla bla bla that oppresses women and gays.

And that is where I am at. Analyze it anyway you want to but be aware that no longer will your jackboot made in every nation of the world be placed upon my throat without one hell of a struggle.

Angela Keyes Douglas
ex-writer for the Berkeley Barb

(Editor's Note: Angela's analysis of the photo is essentially correct. We intended it to illustrate the comments Angela has made about right wing groups in Miami. We regret that we have not yet reached a level of consciousness that would allow us to see eye to eye with Angela and oppressed people like her. This letter goes a long way toward helping us understand.)