Victims Mark Stergionis Upbeat V.3, n. 8, 1970

The Red man is on his "reserved" barren land, groping under a bush for s snake to eat while his grandsons sell rocks to tourists along the highway. The jobless, uneducated Black man is caught in the vicious cycle of our ghettoes. Our sons, forced by some omnipotent sadist to kill other men, women, and children; then court-martialed when they refuse. The super-capitalist with his fleet of personal limousines filling his bath from gold faucets, wondering what his college-scholar, \$100 dollar a week son is doing locked in the bathroom. If he only knew what the boy had in the needle!

Believe it or not, they all have something in common. They are all victims of the military-industrial complex – a huge machine, coupled with a sometimes not-so-honest political system which keeps them "out of sight, out of mind." The poor people will stay like that forever – they're a minority and have no voice – the system specifies that. Forty-nine % is no good, you have to have 51. It is the kind of politics that is ruining the country -- an institution in which the politician comes out once every four years, smiles and shakes your hand, and for three years and nine months is held up in Washington, where he won't have to look the people in the eye. The poor red man, the poor black man, the dying robot sons, the worried father -- he wont' have to look them in the eye and say "you know what I did today? I increased your taxes. And you know what we're going to do with that money? Find new ways to kill. Burn the lungs. Wrack the body with spasms. Build enough bombs to reduce the world to ashes ten times over. And together with the military-industrial complex, we're building more factories to make for each man 2,000 of what he needs only one of. So your children won't know what clean air and water is. And the big surprise! We've found another excuse to prolong the needless slaughter in Vietnam."

What is the answer? Can we stop the slaughtering, and save our environment and indigent. Can we find new ways to live instead of die, find new cures, and make life easier instead of a hell. Our Lord died defending these causes. He offered the "New Way!" Let's hope we're wiser than the Romans were (look what it did to them)!