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For on-going publication of many related topics, actions and analyses,

see

"Science for the People," bimonthly magazine of SESPA, 9 Walden Street, Jamaica Plain, Mass. 02130. (Contains a list of SESPA groups throughout the country.)

also, "Spark," published semi-annually by the Committee for Social Responsibility in Engineering, 475 Riverside Drive, New York City 10027.

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Future information about Jason, and related developments, may be communicated through "Science for the People Magazine"; the SESPA groups in Berkeley and New York (Columbia U.); NYRAWFAS, c/o HDC, 156 Fifth Avenue, Room 523, New York, N.Y. 10010; Minneapolis Collective, Science for Vietnam, 1507 University Avenue, SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414; Collectif Intersyndical Universitaire d'Orsay "Vietnam - Laos - Cambodge", Batiment 211, 91 Orsay, France.

PROFESSOR HANS BETHE OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY WROTE TO THE PHYSICISTS AT THE TRIESTE MEETING, DEFENDING HIS JASON FRIENDS FROM WHAT HE FELT WERE SOME INACCURATE STATEMENTS THAT HAD BEEN CIRCULATED ABOUT JASON'S WORK FOR THE VIETNAM THE FOLLOWING REPLY WAS WRITTEN BY THE YOUNG FRENCH PHYSICIST, DANIEL SCHIFF, OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PARIS LABORATORY AT ORSAY.

Dear Professor Bethe.

I have read your letter adressed to Bruno Vitale, and distributed to all the participants to the Symposium at Trieste, and after reading it I was wondering whether we are not progressively losing any sense of reality: imagine a discussion on the chemists who advised the Nazis as to which gas to use in the gas-chambers, and people starting to distinguish between those who worked on "cyclon A" and those who worked on "cyclon B"...

It seems that, concerning the overwhelming atrocity of the sufferings imposed on the Vietnamese by the US bombs, we are no longer horrified: it may be that we have been given so many figures, so many technical details that we can no longer think about the human beings on which all these bombs fall. Or is it, as Chomsky puts it in "American Power and the New Mandarins", that we have become totally immune to the sufferings of others?

You inform Vitale that Jason has never worked on plastic fragmentation bombs. Is this really relevant? Should one not rather be appalled by scientists recommending that be dropped on the Vietnamese "IOOOO SADEYE-BLU-26B clusters" (i.e. steel fragmentation bombs) per month (Pentagon Papers, Gravel edition, vol. IV. page 122)?

To quote Chomsky again: "By entering into the area of argument and counterargument, of technical feasibility and tactics, of footnotes and citations, by accepting the presumption of legitimacy of debate on certain issues, one has already lost one's humanity." Perhaps moral statements of that kind can awaken us, could have helped awaken the physicists at Trieste, more than the technical informations contained in your letter.

Sincerely yours, is will Schill

Daniel SCHIFF

READ WHAT SOME OF AMERICA'S LEADING SCIENTISTS HAVE SAID ABOUT SESPA'S RESEARCH INTO THE WORKINGS OF JASON:

"SESPA HAS COMPILED A MISERABLE RECORD, ESPECIALLY IN NEW YORK, IN ITS DISREGARD FOR BOTH TRUTH AND FOR MINIMAL STANDARDS OF HUMAN DECENCY...YOU HAVE NO MONOPOLY ON OUTRAGE ABOUT THE WAR IN VIETNAM, AND HISTORY SHOWS US WHAT HAPPENS TO A MOVEMENT WHEN IT PROVIDES A HAVEN FOR THUGS." -- Professor Harold Lewis, Chairman of Jason, University of California, Santa Barbara

"THIS REPORT CONTAINS SEVERAL MISREPRESENTATIONS
AND/OR QUOTATIONS OUT OF CONTEXT. MORE SIGNIFICANTLY,
IT VIOLATES THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH I AGREED TO
MEET WITH SESPA, WHICH WERE THAT I WOULD LISTEN
AND YOU PEOPLE WOULD TALK." -- Professor Kenneth
Watson, University of California, Berkeley

"RELATIVELY FEW SENTENCES IN THE STATEMENT (SUMMARIZING THE INTERVIEW WITH SESPA) ARE FREE OF SOME SUBSTANTIAL ERROR OR MISREPRESENTATION. YOU DO NOT HAVE MY PERMISSION TO PUBLISH SUCH A MISREPRESENTATION. IN ADDITION TO ETHICAL ISSUES, A PUBLICATION OF THIS TYPE WOULD RAISE SERIOUS QUESTIONS OF DAMAGE TO ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND OF LIBEL." -- Professor Charles Townes, University of California, Berkeley