

GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO, THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 1908

TO CRUSH ANARCHY

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IF YOU WANT TO KNOW THE TRUTH TAKE

GRAND JUNCTION,
COLORADO

The Red Pill



125 YEARS

OF DISSENT

JUNE 2007

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YOUTH ACTIVIST ASSAULTED; POLICE BLAME PROTESTERS

On Saturday, May 19th, members of the Grand Junction Underground Action Alliance (GJUAA) engaged in a peaceful protest outside of the Solaris Square Building (home to the Navy, Marine, and Army recruitment offices) and were assaulted by the property manager, James Graber.

According to GJUAA organizer, Richard Crespin, "two of the members entered the building; they found no recruiters. A sign was taped to window reading: 'Military Out of Our Schools.'" According to a misspelled exchange between Navy recruiters and GJUAA, activists tried to set up a meeting with recruiters so that they could "speak about a couple of things." The morning of the protest the recruiter emailed back that "No one will be there." According to Crespin, GJUAA didn't get that message until after the protest.

After being stood up by the recruiters about 15 people continued to protest on the sidewalk outside of the building. "About 30 minutes after we left the building this man came out yelling and using profanity, and said he was the owner," said Crespin. "It escalated immediately. This dude was pissed. We packed up to leave when he stood on my back pack."

James Graber, a property manager for Coldwell Banker Commercial, was the man who identified himself as the owner, and in an interview with The Red Pill, Graber said, "They were bigger than me and when they tried to knock me down, I had to defend myself." In response to a question about hitting a middle-schooler in the face, Graber said, "There was no way of knowing how old they are in the heat of the moment. I was out numbered." He denied hitting any of the protesters, but the Grand Junction Police Incident Report states that "Graber kept the male away by hitting him around the area of the neck." Graber claims that he was pushed by protesters first, a charge that the protesters deny.

According to a written deposition by one of the protesters: "The guy came and stepped on Richard's bag and Richard told him to get off and the guy swung at him then [another youth] tried to get it himself and the guy swung at him."

Crespin added, "that [other youth] was only in 8th grade and the dude knocked him

down. That's when we backed off...I knew not to retaliate."

"I think it's unfortunate, but you can't go into a building and hang signs, and impact other tenants," said Graber.

Officer Stan Ancell wrote the incident report in which he determined that Graber "had a right to detain the evidence." In an interview with The Red Pill, Ancell said that hanging a sign inside the building constituted "trespass," and as such, Graber had the right to detain the evidence and to defend himself. Ancell maintained that the protesters shoved first, and that Graber had every right to defend himself. In his report, Ancell maintains that the protesters had "no authority" to be inside the building. Ancell said he was unaware of tentative plans between the Navy recruiters and GJUAA to hold a meeting.

Since recruiters' offices are government offices, anyone who is a citizen has a right to enter them.

Hanging a poster is just simply not equivalent to assaulting two minors. Why don't you call Mr. Graber at work and let him know that he was out of line, at 244-1229 •



JIM GRABER

gredpill@hotmail.com

WHO IS THE FREEDOM FIGHTER

Whoever defines freedom wins the war.

On May 12, near Mahmudiyah, Iraq, three American soldiers were killed, along with their Iraqi army interpreter in an ambush, three other soldiers were captured. The Islamic State of Iraq has claimed responsibility for the abduction; they compared the American military to "crusaders." In retort, the American military claims that this group is 'al Qaeda.' Such analogy by the Iraqi resistance movement is critical to understanding exactly what a freedom fighter is and who is fighting for freedom. Simply put, "crusader" evokes imagery of the wars by Western European Christians to recapture the Holy Land from the Muslims, beginning in 1096 and ending in the late 13th century.

Mainstream media, along with the propaganda machine from the Whitehouse, has, since 9/11, used the term 'al Qaeda' to depict a perceived enemy to the United States with an implied focus on Iraq and Afghanistan. This is not much different from the rhetoric used by Pope Urban II in 1095 during the first crusade where the Muslims were considered evil, godless, and unholy. Whether 'al Qaeda' is real or fantasy is not up for debate, and if in fact 'al Qaeda' was responsible for the attack on 9/11 is still in contention. Even for the sake of argument, if the supposed terrorists that attacked the World Trade Center and the Pentagon were 'al Qaeda,' they originated from Saudi Arabia, not Afghanistan or Iraq.

Without going into the litany of lies by President Bush, then Secretary of State, Colin Powell, Vice President Dick Cheney, then Secretary of Defense, Donald Rumsfeld, and the remaining Bush Administration that led to the illegal invasion of Iraq on March 20, 2003, none were for the liberation of the Iraqi people. Iraq was a benign country to the United States that suffered inhumane U.S. imposed embargos, and maintained illegal "no fly zones." Iraq was also a puppet for abuse from the American mainstream media; just review the CNN and FOX propaganda before the war. What became apparent at the onset, from hard-hitting journalists who asked the proper questions, was that there was "no collaborative relationship" between Iraq and al Qaeda...<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A47812-2004Jun16.html>

Fast-forward to 2007, the question that is not being asked is, why is the United States still in Iraq? What are they fighting? This is rhetorical of course, we know why; there is a military industrial complex in America that is paying huge dividends to both the Republican and Democrat parties within the makeup of the American plutocratic government. Why stop a profitable war, why stop the killing of innocent people? America defines freedom as money; more war, more money. So, if the United States is not

fighting for anyone's freedom in Iraq, who is fighting for freedom in Iraq? What the Bush crime family is using is state sponsored fear to currently justify this war, 'al Qaeda' this, 'al Qaeda' that, deviated fear here, elevated fear there. This is just as absurd as Joe McCarthy claiming everyone was a Communist during the 1950s.

America's motive and occupation of Iraq is no different than the motive of the early crusaders. The motive of the early crusaders, between 1096 and the late 13th century, under the pretence by the Catholic Church, was to plunder, rape, murder, and possess. The Muslims never invaded Europe, never launched a campaign to control outside of their region, they simply defended themselves.

The Islamic State of Iraq is part of the resistance movement in Iraq. These are simple street fighters doing a valid job of Home Land Security so that the people of Iraq can live in peace and harmony. They are fighting for their peace and their definition of public security. That definition is different from the American definition for peace. Iraq has endured the best that America has to offer militarily, everything from torture, murder, rape, bombings, American administered WMDs (white phosphorous), and did I mention the illegal military invasion of their country and culture to rob them of their natural resources? These are the Iraqi freedom fighters, fighting the Christian American military.

There is paranoia with American journalists from mainstream media, and it may be valid paranoia. Few want to risk asking the tough questions and calling the Bush Administration warmongering criminals, there is a valid fear of torture, illegal arrest, bogus charges, just ask "Padilla":<http://www.buffalonews.com/cityregion/story/77594.html> who has never committed a crime. Even fewer American journalists want to question the paradigms of freedom; does freedom mean money, does freedom mean a Wal-Mart or Mc Donald's on every corner, does freedom mean Jeffersonian democracy, does freedom mean Capitalism?

It is always a tragedy with the loss of human life, note that I said 'human life.' This includes the pain suffering and loss of over "650,000 humans in Iraq":http://www.jhsph.edu/publichealthnews/press_releases/2006/burnham_iraq_2006.html as with the deaths of the American military personnel. Without properly identifying freedom, and who is fighting for it, America will continue to drudge on with a meaningless war in Iraq and Afghanistan, that changes its causation every week; last week it was Saddam's WMDs and yellow cake uranium, this week it is 'al Qaeda,' next week it will be China, Russia or Hugo Chavez.

Every Friday • Noon

A Voice of Reason holds a lunch hour peace vigil to end the war in Iraq and Afghanistan.
At the intersection of 12th and North.

Every Monday • 5:30

Grand Junction's peace group, A Voice of Reason meets to discuss and act on issues surrounding the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.
Call 245-3720 for more info and meeting place

ARREST

of the bombing of Hiroshima. The Uranium Peace Trail Caravan highlighted our regions role in the nuclear industry and continued the community's dissent against nuclear armament and power. From August of 2005 till October of 2006, The Confluence Collective operated as an open house to any and all. The collective stood on the corner of 15th and Elm and held a weekly potluck, operated a 'free-store,' operated a community lending library, put on punk shows in the basement, ran a community bike-shop, and cooperative garden. The Confluence was nonhierarchical, antiauthoritarian, and dedicated to providing the tools and resources to promote revolutionary change.

On April 30, 2006, Western Slope Justice for Immigrants organized the largest political march in Grand Junction's history, when 4000+ people marched from Sherwood Park to Lincoln Park via North Avenue.

In October of 2007, Bev Goodrich organized the first antiwar gathering of the current war. The group that formed as a result became A Voice of Reason. In the run up to war in Iraq, the group held weekly vigils in front of the Federal Building. AVOR's first big march coincided with an international day of protests for peace on February 15th. "We were so happy to see large crowds forming," said Karen Sjoberg. Close to 300 people marched for peace that day in Grand Junction's largest antiwar demonstration. "To me dissent is especially important here in Grand Junction, because it's so comfortable and conservative, it how to make ourselves heard," said Sjoberg.

MODERN DISSENT

Dissent and citizen activism has always been a part of Grand Junction, but our current decade has experienced widespread dissent on a scale never seen in this city.

Today, A Voice of Reason is organizing for peace. Western Equality is working GLBT rights, Western Colorado Congress is protesting our water and open spaces, Western Slope Justice for Immigrants is organizing for humane immigration reform, Grand Junction Underground Action Alliance is organized by high-schoolers as counter recruitment in our schools, Grand Junction Alternative Media is producing community news that hasn't been filtered through a corporate lens.

In 2003, the Grand Junction Bill of Rights Committee brought conservatives and liberals together in support of the Constitution, and in opposition to Bush's PATRIOT ACT.

In 2004, two veterans of the war in Iraq and former Grand Junction residents, Garrett Reppenhagen and Jeff Englehart started publishing FTSSocietal.org from the frontlines. "I could be at war, in combat, then in fifteen minutes later, be writing about it on the internet. It was amazing." Both Reppenhagen and Englehart went public about the U.S. Military's use of White Phosphorous during the battle of Falluja. Garrett and Jeff are both still active with the national group Iraq Veterans Against the War.

In 2005, AVOR and Grand Junction Alternative Media co-sponsored the Uranium Trail Peace Caravan in commemoration of the 60th anniversary

SIT-IN AT SALAZAR'S

thriving

The Red Pill

ASG DEBATES RED PILL

EXPLORING THE MONSIEUR OF INVA / 104 / 31

THE BOYS WHO DON'T GO BACK.

join peace march



LARRY BURNS, PEACE ACTIVIST

"We were out there every Friday," said Kiernan. "It was sort of an impromptu group." The group, later known as Citizens Action for Peace, held numerous vigils, protests, and worked closely with the Grand Junction faith community to pray for peace.

The 90s also saw Grand Junction's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered community begin organizing, the following is from Western Equality's website:

"Western Equality (WE) was originally formed as the Common Decency Coalition (CDC) following the November 1992 voter approval of Amendment 2 in Colorado. The mission at that time was to foster grassroots education and organization to repeal Amendment 2. In its early years, CDC focused its activities on voter education, community mobilization, and influencing public policy through the publication of a newsletter, public forums, communication with elected officials, advertising, candlelight vigils, and educational presentations. It also engaged in fundraising activities including the solicitation of memberships and activity-based fundraisers."

From 1993 to 1996 workers at City Market went on strike numerous times, but organized labor, as a whole, was much weaker than it was 70 years prior. By 1997, local unions included: Colorado Association of Public Employees, Communications Workers of America, International Union of Operating Engineers, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Plumbers and Pipefitters, and Union Food and Commercial Workers.

Create Excitement at Social Function, Attack Officer of the School, Set Fire to Jail and Narrowly Escape With Their Lives

THREE MEN KILLED IN POWDER EXPLOSION

BIG

President Roosevelt Today Sent Message to Congress Urging Legislation Against "Enemies to all Mankind" --- Would Suppress Anarchistic Papers--- A Grave Problem

125 YEARS OF DISSENT: AN ALTERNATIVE HISTORY TO THE GRAND VALLEY

Though Grand Junction has long had a reputation as a conservative town, since its inception in 1882, there has been a minority that have actively dissented against the status quo and agitated for a better, more equitable future. From railroad strikes, to underground newspapers, to blacklisted Dakin Trumbo and from anti-noise protests in the '60s to antiwar protests in the 1990s and the 2000s, Grand Junction and its surrounding region has a rich history of dissent and citizen activism.

UNION YEARS

From the 1880s through the 1920s, Grand Junction was very much a union town.

In 1885, Denver and Rio Grand Railroad workers go on strike, and nine local strikers are arrested. The next year, the International Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers local #488 is organized. The International Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen was first organized in 1891. The order of Railway Conductors was organized in 1897.

In 1908, there was an extended strike on the Denver & Rio Grand Railroad. The Daily Sentinel's headline of March 16th, 1908 read: "Hundreds Quit Work: Today Fifteen Hundred machinists and other employees of the Denver & Rio Grand quit work, Refusing to Accept the New Order of Things--Strike may Spread Over Entire Gould System--A Long and Bitter Struggle Seems Certain." The 1908 strike was, for the most part, peaceful, though there were at least three reported fist-fights between strikers and 'scabs,' one striker was arrested. Almost two months after the strike started, a train on the Gunnison line was suspiciously derailed.

In those early years of the 20th century, The Daily Sentinel had a special section in its paper called "Union Labor Notes" which was edited by Frank A. Hovington, the Secretary of the Grand Junction Trades and Labor Assembly.

Also in 1908, Eugene V. Debs, the popular Socialist presidential candidate came to town and spoke to a huge audience.

The prominence and popularity of socialist and labor movements in Grand Junction's early days can be verified by John Otto, the so-called Father of the Colorado National Monument, who in 1913 felt compelled to write a letter to the editor of the Daily Sentinel stating that "Grand Junction is not a Socialist town, that it never really was, and that it never shall be.

POOR ECONOMY

Union Labor Notes

Edited by Frank A. Hovington

HUNDREDS QUIT WORK

ESTABLISHED 1893

GRAND JUNCTION COLORADO MONDAY, MARCH 15, 1906

50 CENTS PER MONTH

What is certain is that the small town of Nucla in the West-End of Montrose County was formed by Socialists. The Colorado Cooperative Ditch Company was formed by ten socialists, nine men and one woman in 1894. A Daily Sentinel article from Dec. 21, 1975, states that, "Colonists recruited had to be 18 years old, have enough money to buy at least one share of stock, and be willing to cooperate in a collective society which could reach the highest condition of social and intellectual attainment and material equality." The collective town, then called "Finyon," at its height, had 232 people, a newspaper, "The Altruist," a Brass Band, a theater group, community speakers and classes in the town hall, and had built the tallest and longest irrigation flume in the world at that time. In the end, the collective fell apart over the issue of private land ownership. The Altruist in April 26, 1899 stated: "The individual ownership of land is fundamentally wrong. The only thing that is his, is the value of improvements he has put upon the land and his right to the land exists only as long as he uses it." As the water first flowed through the ditch in 1904, after ten years of labor, the communal spirit faded in favor of private holdings, now that their forty acres of former desert was now worth something.

During the Colorado Coal Strike of 1913-1914, Walter Walker via The Daily Sentinel's editorial page pleaded for a peaceful resolution. Walker ran a scathing editorial in the April 23, 1914 Sentinel entitled, "Women and Children," which placed blame for the recent massacre of women and children in the strike camp at Ludlow, Colorado on "The Mine guards and the militia [Colorado State Militia] are not alone to blame, however, although there is no excuse to be offered for their action and the blood of innocents is upon their heads." The next day, Walker ran a front page editorial calling "upon Gov. Ammons to make a request for Federal Troops for service in the blood-soaked strike district of Colorado." Another one of Walker's editorials is poignant and short enough to be quoted at length:

UNION
The Following
MALLON
SWEET-ORE W
BARRY
FOR SALE
John

THE MAAL UNDERGROUND PUNK CLUB

MEET
UNION
DEC 2 1985
JAZZ STRIKE
BEAR SPARK
DEC 7 1985
THE MAAL
STRIKE'S
GRAND JUNCTION
227 ROOM
WIKONS WELCOME!
7 pm Saturday

THE EIGHTIES AND NINETIES

In the '80s Grand Junction was more or less a monoculture. Everybody thought that same," said Tom Pipe, Coeditor/founder of the *Anti-Crit*, an underground mimeographed newspaper that put out two issues per semester at Mesa State during the 1982-83 School year. "We were there to shake things up," said Pipe, "our cartoon with the Young Republican wearing a swastika, got people going. Dissent was what we were all about, one of our mottos was 'At least we're saying something.'"

"An angry brand of conformity ruled then," said Frank Rich, editor of *Modern Dymkand Magazine* of Denver, and then co-owner of "The Maal Underground, GJ's first punk rock night club" and quickly became a place free speech and thought. The Maal Underground opened December 7, 1983, and Rich in an email interview with *The Red Pill*. "It was the only place that punks could go to and be in their element. They didn't have to watch their words there. And once it caught on, it spread rapidly. Kids would come in one day with a norm haircut one week and the next they'd be sporting a Mohawk, probably much to their parent's horror. According to Rich the Maal was sometimes subject to harassment and intimidation: "Cops would come in and shake us down. Rednecks invaded the club a couple of times, but the tribe united and drove them out."

Maal Underground is having a reunion this summer, check out www.nyospace.com/MAALundergroundreunion

Localized citizen groups across Western Colorado sprouted up in the late 1970s in response to environmental threats to their local communities. In 1980, these groups banded together to form Western Colorado Congress, which, according to their website, has "maintained its commitments to organizing citizens on issues that directly affect their lives," over the last 27 years.

In 1986, a nuclear disarmament group, PRO-peace, organized a nine-month march from Los Angeles to Washington DC. The Daily Sentinel reported two locals were going to participate in the 3235 mile journey, and that the march was going to pass through Grand Junction. Local WWII veteran, Larry Burns, then 65, joined the march along with early on but was able to regroup and complete the journey, and walked into Washington, DC with about 15,000 people in November of that year.

The first Gulf War is often thought of as widely supported by the public, but even here as conservative Grand Junction citizens organized and protested against the coming war in the Gulf. "We were actually out there a year before any of the, you know, action," said Retired Father John Kiernan. A large peace march with 100 people in attendance marched through downtown Grand Junction on New Years Day 1991. Jan Emmons, a 17-year-old organizer said to the Sentinel, "Today is a good day to stand up."

UNDERGROUND L.T.O.

STUDENTS
ARE IN
JAIL

59 CENTS PER MINUTE

QUIET NOW UNDER ARREST TRAINED

★ STRIKER PLACED

A STREET FIGHT DY
TRAIN BLOWN

REIGNING REPORT IS **HOT** STUFF LIVES

Special

AGREE TO DENOUNCED

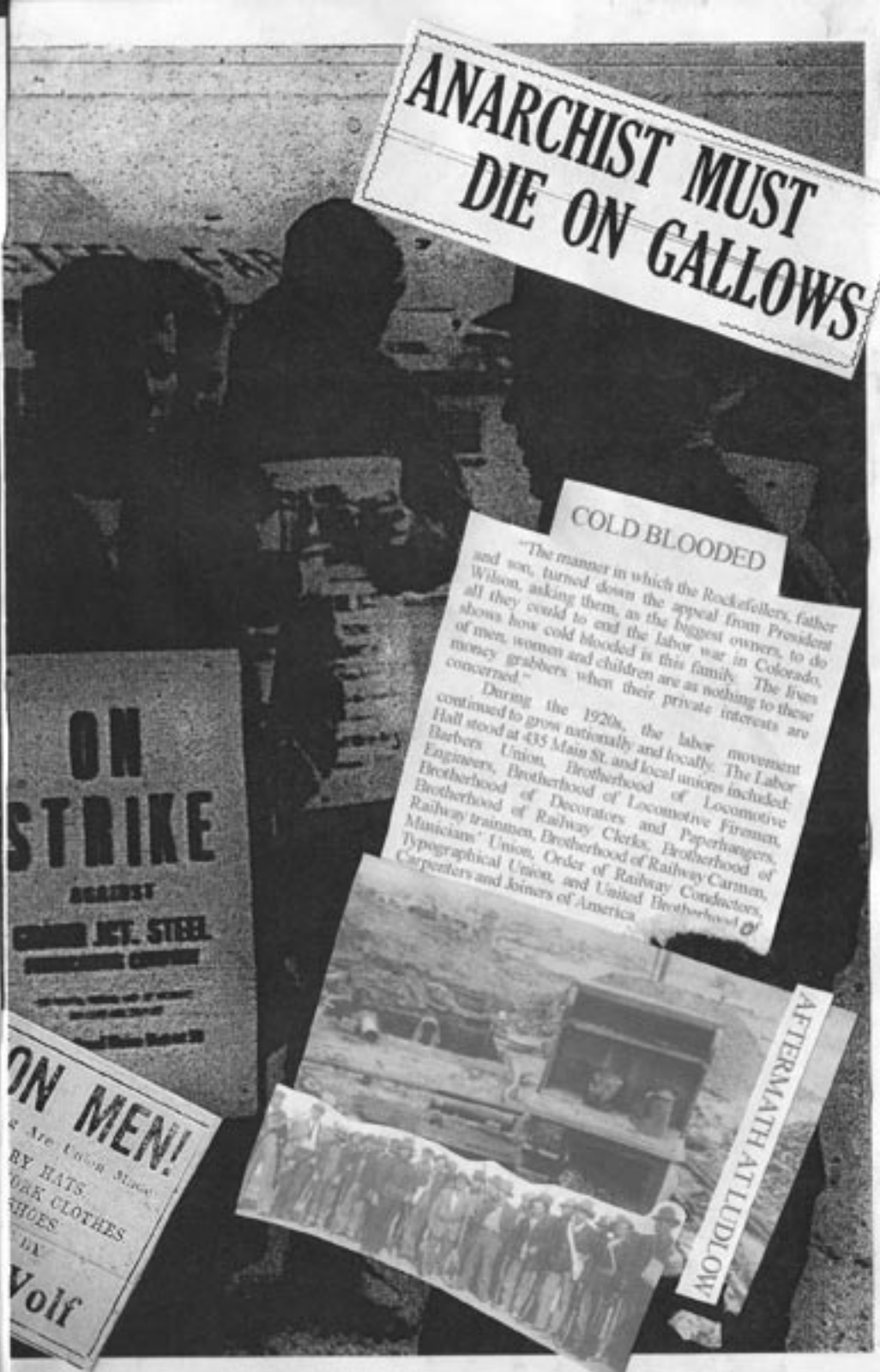
ACTION LIVE APART A BIG PLAN

GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO
Mesa
STRIKE

zone. A blue, twin-rotor Air Force helicopter soon hovered 50 feet above the aspen clearing where Margaret Puls and I stood. Men in the open door gestured and shouted unaidably at us. They could not land on the steep slope safely, and we had no intention of being passively taken off the mountain so the AEC could then claim that they had lived up to their word regarding a human-free quarantine zone. Since they'd known of our presence on the mountain for nearly a week, we wondered if some sort of special forces might suddenly slide down ropes from the helicopter doors.

In 1971, workers at Grand Junction Steel went on strike over "compulsory overtime, sick pay, additional holidays, and additional health insurance," according to a Jan. 16, 1971 Sentinel article.

In 1975, The Daily Sentinel ran an article featuring "Shantosh" an intentional community and a "well known commune." Located on 150 acres on Redlands Mesa, Shantosh, was comprised of eleven adults and one child with the goal of becoming "self-supporting." The commune had its own chickens, 12 goats for milk, ten beehives, and a sawmill. All the produce was grown organically and any surplus was sold by the group for cooking oil and salt and other staples. Started in 1971, the residents of the Shantosh, the Hindu-Sanskrit word for contentment, came to rural Colorado to gain independence. "Here, you don't even need money. You see the product of your labors," said Willie.



ANARCHIST MUST
DIE ON GALLOWS

COLD BLOODED

"The manner in which the Rockefellers, father and son, turned down the appeal from President Wilson, asking them, as the biggest owners, to do all they could to end the labor war in Colorado, shows how cold blooded is this family. The lives of men, women and children are as nothing to these money grabbers when their private interests are concerned."

During the 1920s, the labor movement continued to grow nationally and locally. The Labor Hall stood at 435 Main St. and local unions included: Barbers Union, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, Muncie Union, Order of Railway Conductors, Typographical Union, and United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

ON STRIKE
AGAINST
GRAND JUNCTION STEEL

ON MEN!
BY HATS
WORK CLOTHES
SHOES
Wolf



AFTERMATH AT LUDLOW



TRUMBO

Novelist and Screenplay writer, Dalton Trumbo, is hands down the most famous dissident Grand Junction has ever produced. Born in Montrose in 1905, Trumbo grew up in Grand Junction and wrote for *The Daily Sentinel* briefly before heading to the University of Colorado in 1924.

In 1939, he wrote the novel, *Johnny Got His Gun*, a National Book Award winning antiwar story whose protagonist, a World War One casualty, Joe, "had no legs and no arms and no eyes and no ears and no nose and no mouth and no tongue. What a hell of a dream. It must be a dream. Of course sweet god it's a dream. He'd have to wake up or he'd go to nuts. Nobody could live like that." Joe is finally able to communicate by tapping out morse code with his head, and what he communicated was a plea for death.

Trumbo joined the Communist Party in 1943, and was active in supporting union rights. In 1947, Trumbo refused to testify before the House of Un-American Activities Committee, and became one of the "Hollywood 10." Trumbo was convicted of Contempt of Congress and spent 11 months in prison and was blacklisted and unable to work openly in Hollywood. Trumbo went on to write another 30 screenplays under different pseudonyms, including *The Brave One*, which won an Oscar for best screenplay.

In the early seventies Trumbo tried his hand at directing when he adapted his novel, *Johnny Got His Gun*, into a motion picture by the same name.



JOHNNY GOT HIS GUN BY DALTON TRUMBO

A 'community' is thriving

JUNCTION Like the life

THE SIXTIES AND SEVENTIES

While the nation was being rocked by student protests against the War in Vietnam, Grand Junction was strangely quiet. The Red Pill's research was unable to turn up any information about anti-Vietnam war activism or protest activity, if you know of any, let us know: grjrdpill@hotmail.com.

There was a flurry of citizen activism related to Project Rullison, an Atomic Energy Commission, underground nuclear bomb test designed to recover natural gas from Doghead Mountain, just above Battlement Mesa. A 44 Kiloton explosion, which shook the Western Slope on September 10, 1969, brought protests from around the region. The *Daily Sentinel* from September 11, 1969 reported a "hippie chase a few minutes before the detonation." Air Force crew told the *Sentinel* that "There's more up there that we couldn't get off."

Parachute, Colorado local, Chester McQueary wrote in an article for *High Country News* about the "hippie chase" that:

"On Wednesday, Sept. 10, the go-ahead was given, and we scattered over the mountain in twos and threes, so that we could not all be removed in one fell swoop by authorities. We listened on portable radios to the countdown for the blast being broadcast on Rifle's KWSR.

At 30 minutes before blast time, we set off smoke flares to confirm for AEC officials that we



Protest for peace

The New Rules Are Up

THINGS ARE STILL

Mideast

role of U.S.

WILL ANARCHISTS GATHER IN CANADA