

1st ISSUE

POLITICAL ART DOCUMENTATION
/DISTRIBUTION
May-June 1981

Number 2

Form 1040A

Use IRS label. Otherwise, please print or type.	Your first name John	Social security number 04 1492
	Present home address 885 Scott Street	Spouse's social security no. 575 10 1778
	City, town or post office, State and ZIP code Hometown, Maryland 01234	Your occupation Clerk
		Spouse's occupation Homemaker
Presidential	Do you want \$1 to go to this fund? . . . (2) . . . <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Note: Checking "Yes" will not increase your tax or reduce your refund.		

From April 1-18, 1981, P.A.D. presented a public art event called **Death and Taxes**, to protest the use of taxes for military spending and cutbacks in social services. All artists were invited to participate, with the only criteria for entry being two things: 1. the work of art should concern itself with tax protest; and 2. the work should be in a public space.

Twenty artists installed works in and out of doors in Manhattan and Brooklyn ranging from the subways and streets to fourteen H & R Block locations, from the 26th street Armory to the IRS building, from major downtown banks to ladies' rooms in restaurants. The event included posters, graffiti, stickers, overprinted 1040 forms redistributed in banks, typed dollar bills, street theatre, outdoor films, environments and performances.

On April 18, a slide show and exhibition of all the works in the **Death and Taxes** show took place at Gallery 345 for one day only. Artists showed slides and explained what reactions they got when they took their work to the streets. The following pages of this newsletter include some of what happened.

Adjusted gross income	80,000
Instructions on back	
12a Credit for contributions	
11 (See page 11 of Instructions) 11	
Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than taxpayer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.	
Preparer's signature John T. Brown	(18) 2/15/80
Preparer's signature and date	Maru Brown 2-15-80
Firm's name yours, if self and address	
Sign even if only one had income.	
Preparer's social security no.	
TAXES	
Page 6	Form 1040A (1979)

P.A.D. is a left-to-socialist artists' resource and networking organization coming out of and into New York City. Our goal is to provide artists with an organized relationship to society, to demonstrate the political effectiveness of image making. One way we are trying to do this is by building a collection of documentation of international socially concerned art. The P.A.D. archives defines social concern in the broadest sense: any work that deals with issues ranging from sexism and racism to ecological damage and any other forms of human oppression. The archive documents artwork from movement posters to the most individual of statements.

P.A.D. is also involved with the production, distribution and impact of progressive art in the culture at large. We sponsor public events (such as "Death and Taxes, discussed in this newsletter), actions (such as "Image War On The Pentagon" at the May 3rd march) and exhibitions (our second one "Demonstrate" comes up in mid-June; see the calendar). These are all means of facilitating relationships between (1) artists (in, or peripherally in, or not at all in the art world); (2) the local communities in which we live and work; (3) Left culture; and (4) the broader political struggles.

We hope eventually to build an international, grass-roots network of artist/activists who will support with their talents and their political energies the liberation and self-determination of all disenfranchised peoples.



Tito's Incubator, "The Tax Shelter" was constructed in an abandoned city lot next to Anne's house on 13th Street and Avenue A. It consisted of army tank camouflage nets over which was sewn a hand-painted 2-D Tyrannosaurus Rex skeleton in fluorescent pink vinyl. The finished canopy was approximately 30 x 50 feet and stretched from the top of the adjacent building to poles that we erected in the lot. A hand painted "construction site" sign on the fence (in English and Spanish) explained the imaginary shelter, which was called "Skeletal Estates—the very best in underground living." People were encouraged to invest their money in underground condos that looked very much like bomb shelters or coffins. Many people thought we were actually building them. Others didn't understand the piece. But most people loved the dinosaur, and thought it made the block beautiful and famous.

Anne Pitrone and Thomas Masaryk

**CAN'T AFFORD TO LIVE?
TOO ALIVE TO DIE?**

INVEST IN:

SKELETAL ESTATES

THE VERY BEST IN
UNDERGROUND LIVING

WHY PAY TAXES TO UNCLE SAM WHEN IT WILL
JUST GO TO WARS IN OTHER COUNTRIES?
KEEP YOUR MONEY. OWN YOUR OWN HOME AND GET
READY FOR WAR TOO. DON'T DEPEND ON THE PENTAGON—
INVEST IN TITO'S UNDERGROUND CONDOMINIUMS.

- APPROVED BY THE WORLD SAFETY CODE
- CONVENIENT SIZE: CAN DOUBLE AS COFFIN OR BOMB SHELTER
- ENERGY EFFICIENT (DIE WHERE YOU LIVE)
- ANCIENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL CAMOUFLAGE SURFACE
OFFERS FOOTLOCK PROTECTION FROM "INTELLIGENT" ROBBERIES
AS WELL AS CON ED + NY TELEPHONE

FOR INFORMATION
CONTACT:
TITO'S INCUBATOR
PO BOX 110
STUYVESANT STA.
NYC 10009

+ U.S. 2% =

TAX SALE - 2% OFF!!

MA BELL MOONLIGHTS FOR THE "IRS"
COLLECTING YOUR \$\$ FOR THE WEAPON
CONNECTION-- WHY DIAL A WAR? -- DIAL
"228-0450" FOR MORE INFORMATION

MONTHLY SERVICE & EQUIPMENT JUL	
LOCAL USAGE	- SEE
DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE	- SEE
ITEMIZED CALLS	- SEE
TAX	S/L 8%
CURRENT CHARGES INCLUDING TAXES	

Tax Sale—2% Off. This piece was constructed to be installed on 250 public telephone units within New York City. The purpose was to inform people that a 2% tax is issued and collected by the telephone company for the IRS for the government's use specifically for the military.

Lyn Hughes

Other participants: Stan Baker "The Human Television", Washington Square Park; Rudolf Baranick, "Death" (poster); Patrick Brennan, "Defensive Discourses", Union Square East; Edward Eisenberg, "The 1040 Bomber" (poster); D.A.R. "In God We Trust", (poster) South and John Streets; Roberta Handler, "Unfare Subway Tax"; Donna Henes "Chants/Chance for Peace", performance at the IRS building (Church and Murray Streets" at noon on April 15 to coincide with rally by the War Resisters League at noon; Ellen Levine, "Children, Animals, Guns and Money", (poster); Women's Pentagon Action Street Theatre, April 12 starting at noon in front of 339 Lafayette Street and touring the village, Lower East Side and Lower Manhattan.



War on the Armory: A 30 x 20 foot image projected from my bedroom window onto the 167th regiment armory at 26 Street and Lexington Avenue in New York City. This projected image alternated with the image of the work "Remember...". Slides went on approximately three hours every evening, and are still going on every night. Reactions range from sidewalk cheers to rotten fruit thrown at the window.

public transportation

instead of

aircraft carriers

daycare

instead of

the draft

national health insurance

instead of

military surveillance

alternative energy research

instead of

strategic nuclear arms

housing and food subsidies

instead of

past war debts

the arts and humanities

instead of

artillery

One thousand altered 1040 and 1040A forms informing taxpayers that over 50% of their tax dollar goes to military/defense spending were intermixed with unaltered tax forms and left at eight banks and savings and loan offices in downtown Manhattan from April 5-15, 1981 for taxpayers to inadvertently carry home. **Micki McGee**

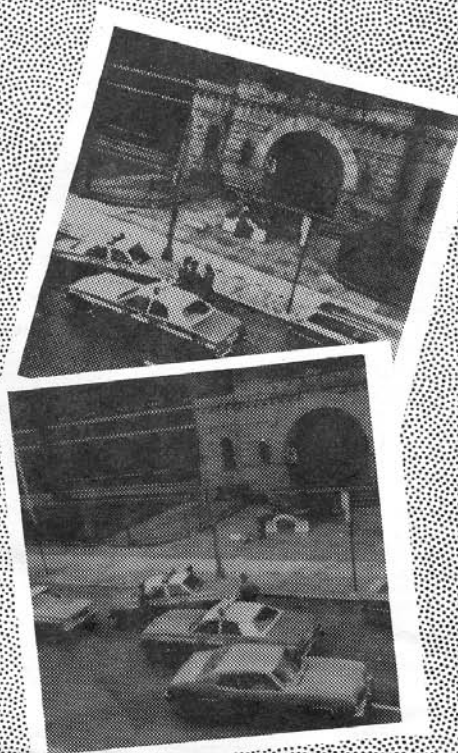
The idea of putting the stickers in bathrooms was, frankly, to get a captive audience; they were put at eye level on the backs of doors of toilet stalls (for women; men's were on the wall above the toilet) in Manhattan, The Bronx, and Brooklyn. I only saw one response—a woman in a restaurant who came out chuckling.

Lucy Lippard

Blood Money; I wanted to do a chain letter, but what better way for mass communication than money. It passes through everyone's hands. (50 dollar bills were written on, with the same statement.)

DON'T PISS AWAY YOUR
TAXES ON MILITARY SHIT
WITHHOLD A SYMBOLIC
DOLLAR. BETTER WELFARE
THAN WARFARE

Palm Sunday-14th Regiment Armory Projects: The drawing was made to recreate the elements of the installation at the 19th Division Armory building. The work was installed at 10:00 a.m., Sunday, April 12th (Palm Sunday). Information about the proposed budget for 1982 with the monument was hung on the fence surrounding the increase in military spending and the decreased social spending. The photograph was taken by a sympathetic observer from an apartment building across the street at approximately 10:45 a.m. Michael Anderson and two friends visiting the site, Nancy Cincotta and Brian Chabrunn were arrested and charged with trespassing and disorderly conduct. Nancy was taking photographs from the sidewalk at the time of the arrest. The camera was confiscated and returned two hours later with the film exposed. The criminal charges are being fought in court and a civil case is being planned against the police for unfair arrest, destruction of evidence and property, and obstruction of the freedom of political expression. Next court date, June 22nd, 9:30 a.m., Brooklyn Court House-Schermerhorn Street. All support is welcome.
Michael Anderson



Capitalism & Class Society-Organized Crime?

If we let the rich stay rich....

We'll be poor.

They own our land.

The land should belong to all of the people.

They own the wealth our labor produces....

We receive a small wage.

Lifetimes of our labor belong to them.

Tax is one more way they steal from
from our wage.

1/2 of 1% of the people in this country possess one third
of the nations wealth. (source: Federal Reserve Board)

The total wealth of the richest 2% is greater than the
U.S. Gross National Product. (source: U.S. Treasury)

The top 5% has 53% of the wealth.

The top 20% has 77% of the wealth.

If total personal income were divided equally,
each family of four would receive over \$15,000.

AND THEN THERE ARE MOST OF US. 80% of the people have 23%
of the wealth to divide up.

The bottom 20% has 1/2 of 1%.

DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH IN THE U.S.



"Rock-a-bye baby, in the tree top,
When you grow up, you'll work in a shop.
When you get married, your wife
will work too,
Just so the rich will have nothing to do."

To make room for all the people on the bottom, extend the sides of the pyramid out two feet in both directions.

I was aware as a child that there was a basic inequality. I later learned about the class structure for distributing the wealth of our nation; that we all produce. I could see no natural law for this order, only artificial theories and laws produced by and to reinforce those in power. I think it's important to see the taxation of our wage within this context....it's simply one more way in which we are robbed of the wealth we produce.
Elizabeth Kulas

Mimi Smith

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NEARLY 50% OF YOUR TAX DOLLARS GO FOR REAGAN'S MILITARY BUDGET

We are both essentially non-representational artists searching for a model. We were particularly impressed by the powerful work of John Heartfield and others created within the context of pre-Nazi Germany. We decided however that the surrealist-collage approach was not appropriate to our situation here and came up with the simple image of a reaganized dollar overrun by an ominous tank. After plastering some of the streets in the south Village and Soho we returned to tape viewer response. The reactions were a surprising (almost) unanimity of anti-Reagan, anti-militarist, politically conscious opinion. Strongly pro-Reagan sentiment came from some store owners, small business people, tourists and cops. The big question is; how would it do out there in middle America, moral majority territory?

Herb Perr and Irving Wexler

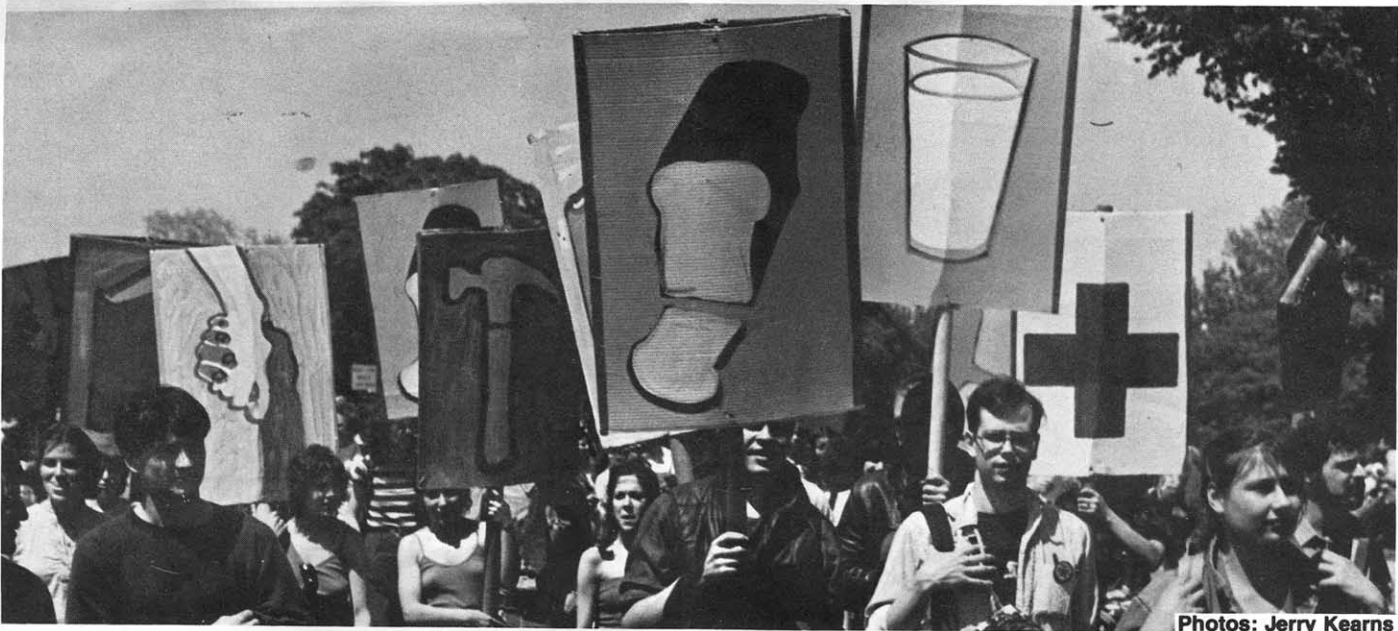


IMAGE WAR ON THE PENTAGON...

On May 3rd, over 100,000 people marched on the Pentagon to protest US intervention in El Salvador and social service cutbacks. Organized by People's Antiwar Mobilization, this was a strongly anti-imperialist, grassroots demonstration.

PAD brought a busload of 50 people who participated in our "image war," by carrying 20 double-sided placards; on the fronts were the brightly colored "good things" being cut back (a book, a glass of milk, a loaf of white bread, a leaf, a red cross, brown and white hands clasped); on the backs were the "bad things" in black and white cancelled by red X's (bombs, tanks, guns, generals). We were also accompanied by independent projects: Greg Sholette's vacuum-formed pentagons made of rope and labeled "Give Them Enough" and Dentures Art Club's three stretchers bearing a giant milk carton, a wounded tree, and a sick bus. At times we marched around the crowd turning the placards from "good" to "bad" on signal. We were cheered all along; in the sea of words and banners, the "image-only" signs proved that pictures can speak for themselves.

This was an encouraging start to PAD's participation in large political events. We realize, the importance of marching together as cultural activists, showing a strong, independent cultural voice within the movement for a democratic society. (This parallels the importance of artists working individually or collectively with issue-oriented groups. May 3rd stirred a lot of us to think more about Demonstration Art—a medium in itself that we hope to expand on in our June "Demonstrate!" show (see calendar). Send us documentation, work or ideas you have for the exhibition and for a slide show on culture in demonstrations—past, present and future.



Photos: Jerry Kearns



ANTI-WW3 INTERNATIONALIST ART PO BOX 31428 SAN FRANCISCO CA 94131 USA 427



TERRORISM

**Experience the freedom
of total control.**



INTERNATIONALIST ART SHOW

ANTI-WW3

Contemporary art and poetry from around the world

JULY 1-31 1981
OPENING: Wednesday July 1, 6-9pm

**PARSONS
SCHOOL OF
DESIGN** CONVENTION CENTER
2 WEST 13th ST
NEW YORK CITY
Monday-Friday 9-9
Saturday 9-6

Organized by
the San Francisco Poster Brigade
PO Box 31428
San Francisco CA 94131 USA



On tour from San Francisco, Los Angeles, Tucson

Three posters by the San Francisco Poster Brigade (from the PAD archives) to be included in the Anti-WWIII Show.

Political Art Documentation & Distribution (PAD)
605 East 9th Street
New York, New York 10009
Phone: 212-533-8695

CALENDAR

April 23-June 19: "The Prison Show: Realities/Representations" (art from, for and about prisons) at the Whitney Museum of American Art, Downtown Branch, 48 Old Slip, Mon.-Fri., 11-3, (PAD member Micki McGee is a co-organizer). Film series June 12-19, call 483-0011 for schedule.

April 26: "Anti-World-War-III" slide show by San Francisco Poster Brigade at Printed Matter.

May 3: PAD's "Image War on the Pentagon"—a busload of us took a series of double-sided placards, contrasting, destructive (military) with constructive (social) images, to the March on the Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

May 10: Second Sunday Meeting at Printed Matter focuses on the history of abortion rights with talks by Harriet Levarowitz of CARASA (Committee for Abortion Rights and Against Sterilization Abuse) and Karen Durbin of "No More Nice Girls." Chilling slides of imagery from the anti-abortion movement as well as films of recent pro-abortion political actions were shown.

May 16: International Day of Action on Reproductive Rights. PAD's first organized effort to work with a coalition of political groups including CARASA, NOW, Women's Pentagon Action, DARE (Dykes Against Racism Everywhere) and others to produce art work for an entire demonstration. 3,000 people participated in a march for reproductive rights in NYC and PAD members Nancy Barton, Bonnie Cooper, Lyn Hughes and Anne Pitrone organized a group of independent artists to make banners, sculpture, costumes and posters for the parade.

May 31: "The Social Possibilities of Art", PAD slide show and panel discussion at the Ethical Culture Society, 2 West 64th Street 2 pm.

June 1: "Anti-WW III Show" opening at Parsons School of Design, 2 West 13th Street. Films, video, other evening events will accompany show. Send xerox, collage, photos, postcards, posters, cartoons on the theme of Internationalism/Anti-WW3, to SF Poster Brigade, PO Box 31428, San Francisco, CA 94131 USA. June 1 deadline.

June 13: Second Sunday Meeting at Printed Matter focuses on, "No More Witch Hunts: A Day of Resistance" (June 19) opposing the new red scare politics of surveillance and harassment.

June 14: "Atlanta: An Emergency Exhibition" at Group Material, 244 E. 13th Street. Opening 4-7 p.m.

June 26: Opening of PAD show "Demonstrate! Agitate! Participate! Communicate! Liberate!" at Gallery 345, 345 Lafayette Street, with a "Fun-Raising Party" afterward from 8:30 on at 32 W. 20th Street (7th floor). The "Demonstrate" show will include the history of progressive demonstrations, new work for demonstrations and fantasies for future demonstration projects. Open to all. Contact Tim Rollins, 69-7350 (ask for library, leave message) by June 16, if you want to participate. Final deadline for work is June 21. PAD's Fun-Raiser will follow the gallery opening on June 26th and will feature two bands: **Off Beach**, and **Dog Eat Dog**. \$5.00 admission.

PAD is hoping to stimulate some new forms of "page art," so if you have an idea for an original artwork for one page of the newsletter please send us a camera ready proposal. All manuscripts and artworks should be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed return envelope.

How To Send Materials To The PAD Archives: Please send all materials in a 9½ x 12" manila file folder labeled with your name or the subject of your interests. We welcome slides, posters, artists' books, photos, publications, and other multiples, but we cannot accept responsibility for original (one-of-a-kind) material. Send to: **PAD**, 605 East 9th Street, N.Y., N.Y. 10009. Phone: (212) 533-8695.

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