

Correspondence

From page 8.

prisoners in Quebec would place these persons 'above the law'. However, there are no political crimes in Canada. Therefore, when Paul Rose is singled out for special treatment by authorities, it is these latter who are placing themselves 'above the law'. Those of us who call for Paul Rose's immediate release are merely demanding that he be accorded all the rights given to any (non-political) prisoner. In particular, since he has met all the conditions for parole eligibility, why is he not released?

Aside from courtroom appearances and one hospital visit (bound in chains), Paul Rose has been outside of prison walls just once since his arrest in 1970: for the funeral of his father last year.

Paul Rose was first eligible for an occasional parole in 1974; for day parole in 1977; and for complete

parole in December, 1980. Not only has his parole been denied each time, but he was even denied

permission to attend his mother's funeral in January, 1981. All the relevant professionals (psychologists, psychiatrists, etc.) have recommended parole, but the National Parole Board cites his

'perception' and 'analysis', his 'collective approach' as evidence of his 'danger to society.' So, he is kept in jail, for his beliefs. If Paul Rose is to be treated like anyone else convicted under the (non-political!) provisions of the Criminal Code, then he must be released immediately.

On another level, Truster's letter seems to cast doubt on Paul Rose's very status as a political prisoner. The Osgoode Hall Law Union Forum provided ample evidence of this status. Paul Rose was convicted for murder after being personally excluded from the

hearing, and his own lawyer was jailed on a vague contempt of court charge that was later dropped. A few months ago, the Duchaine Commission concluded that Rose's 'confession' was fabricated and that he was not even present the days surrounding the death of Laporte. (This 'revelation' had actually been made by Crown witnesses in the original trials.) In prison, Paul Rose has been repeatedly confined to his cell for between 20 hours and 20 hours, 40 minutes per day, for periods totalling two years. (Normally, a prisoner is so confined for 9 hours per day.) When released for his father's funeral, he was allowed only 5 hours (instead of the normal 8).

I do not know whether Paul Truster is a law student or not, but I sincerely hope that the views expressed in his letter, on Paul Rose and political prisoners in Quebec, are not representative of

our future lawyers studying on this campus.

Terry J. Klokeid
Paul Rose Liberation Committee

Sisters

Seeing the March 5 editorial, I said to myself, there's going to be a letter about this from a radical feminist. Mariana Valverde did not let me down. The editorial was so fair that it appeared worried about ruffling feminist feathers, but of course any warning to women to think before they join their "sisters" is considered a "lack of insight". The only lack of insight is that the warning was not strong enough. Excal should have advised women that if they didn't believe in any of the major issues being proposed by the International Women's Day Committee (e.g. abortion rights, strikes by the public service) they shouldn't march.

History supports this position. Many people who marched in the

Fascist parades in Italy didn't believe that people should lose their rights, but just that government shouldn't be corrupt and that trains should run on time. If one supports a broad coalition one should support all the aims put forward.

Ms. Valverde also calls a day which over 50 groups—including the 26,000 member Canadian Union of Public Employees—helped organize, and which drew only 5,000 women or .25 per cent of the Metro female population, a celebration. I wonder if it isn't time for a wake.

Berel Wetstein

Correspondence should be addressed to The Editor, Excalibur, 111 Central Square.

Letters must be typed and no longer than 250 words.

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IN MEMORY

In memory of Dr. Jonathan Chillingsworth Smythe II and Captain Malcolm Hayakawa Yak U.S. Army (ret.) O.P.H.C.M.H. Navy Cross. Killed in a bomb blast in Kenora, Ont. on Wednesday, March 18, 1981. "Man: only exists in the minds of his friends"—J.C. Smythe. Will be sadly missed by Social Science 100.6 D.

Green Machine Greetings from York University.

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