

# GI CIVIL LIBERTIES DEFENSE COMMITTEE

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Once again the GI Civil Liberties Defense Committee urgently needs your support. For the first time in the history of the GI antiwar movement the Army is moving to court-martial a soldier simply for publishing an antiwar newspaper! At Ft. Greely, Alaska, a remote military outpost, Pvt. Ed Jurenas faces a general court martial for alleged disrespect to an officer (Article 89, Uniform Code of Military Justice), disobeying a lawful order (Article 92, UCMJ) and conduct impairing the loyalty, discipline and morale of the Army (Article 134, UCMJ). The Army apparently believes that the soldiers' isolation from civilian support will enable them to crush their antiwar activity. But the sole facts upon which the allegations rest are Jurenas' participation in the publication of the first issue of The Arctic Arsenal, an antiwar newspaper similar to dozens being published by soldiers at bases around the world; the newspapers appearance on post; and a story in the newspaper about General James Hollingsworth, currently Commanding General, United States Headquarters, Alaska. General Hollingsworth was commanding general at Fort Jackson in 1969 when GIs Uniteds' Fort Jackson Eight won their battle to organize soldiers against the war. The GI Civil Liberties Defense Committee is determined to prevent the Army from taking advantage of the geographical and financial barriers the GIs face in defending their civil liberties.

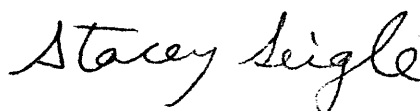
Private Jurenas, so far the only soldier facing charges, is backed by a group of antiwar GIs whose response to Army harrassment has been an added effort to bring out the second issue of The Arctic Arsenal. In addition, the GIs have requested distribution rights for the paper in accordance with Army Regulation 210-10.

The Army's move against the soldiers marks a serious attempt to crush GI activity against the war, activity clearly guaranteed by the first amendment to the U.S. constitution. The GI Civil Liberties Defense Committee is meeting the Army's illegal moves by organizing an emergency national campaign to force the Army to free Pvt. Jurenas and recognize the soldiers' constitutional rights of freedom of speech and freedom of the press. In addition to local defense, attorneys Leonard Boudin along with James

Lafferty, a co-coordinator of the National Peace Action Coalition, are making plans to file suit in federal court challenging the Army's illegal use of electronic surveillance in the case. Two GIs with personal knowledge of these practices have already given their evidence to Jurenas' counsel.

The battle to free Jurenas will be costly, but the outcome will affect the entire future of the fight for the right of soldiers to organize against the war. Many of you have supported the GI Civil Liberties Defense Committee since its inception. We now need your support more than ever. We must raise thousands of dollars to cover the cost of doing battle to defeat the Army's attempt to stop the GI antiwar movement. Please be generous -- the soldiers' struggle for their constitutional rights is our struggle as well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stacey Seigle".

Stacey Seigle  
National Secretary

FACT SHEET ON CASE OF PVT. ED JURENAS

6/4/71

Pvt. Ed Jurenas was sent to Alaska in January of this year. He and a group of other GIs published an antiwar newspaper called the ARCTIC ARSENAL, which arrived at Ft. Greely from the printer on May 20. The following day, agents of the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) descended on GIs "suspected" of possessing or distributing the paper, confiscating copies of the paper and other literature, questioning GIs about their involvement with the paper, and generally attempting to intimidate and harass GIs.

The basic tenets of the newspaper are: immediate end to the war, immediate end to the draft, full defense of GIs rights as citizen-soldiers.

On May 20, the papers arrived from the printer. Under Col. Williamson's orders (acting post commandant), a Ft. Greely supplement to the Army regulations prohibiting the distribution of literature was posted on all the bulletin boards on base.

On May 21, Jurenas was pulled out of the shower by Chief of the CID on post and told his locker was to be searched. They confiscated political newspapers and magazines, address books, personal letters, source materials that had been used to prepare the ARSENAL and sealed, stamped, and addressed envelopes containing copies of the ARSENAL which were ready to be sent to GI organizations throughout the country. IN VIOLATION OF ARMY REGULATIONS THEY REFUSED TO GIVE JURENAS A RECEIPT FOR THE CONFISCATED MATERIALS. Jurenas was then relieved of his regular MP duties and assigned to painting and hauling wood.

Both wiretapping and other electronic devices of surveillance have been used at Ft. Greely. At least two GIs with personal knowledge of these practices have made sworn statements to Jurenas' defense attorney.

On June 1, charges and specifications were read to Pvt. Jurenas by his company commander. They are as follows: Pvt. Ed Jurenas faces a general court martial for alleged disrespect to an officer (Article 89, Uniform Code of Military Justice), disobeying a lawful order (Article 92, UCMJ) and conduct impairing the loyalty, discipline, and morale of the Army (Article 134, UCMJ).

distributed by the GI Civil Liberties Defense Committee  
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