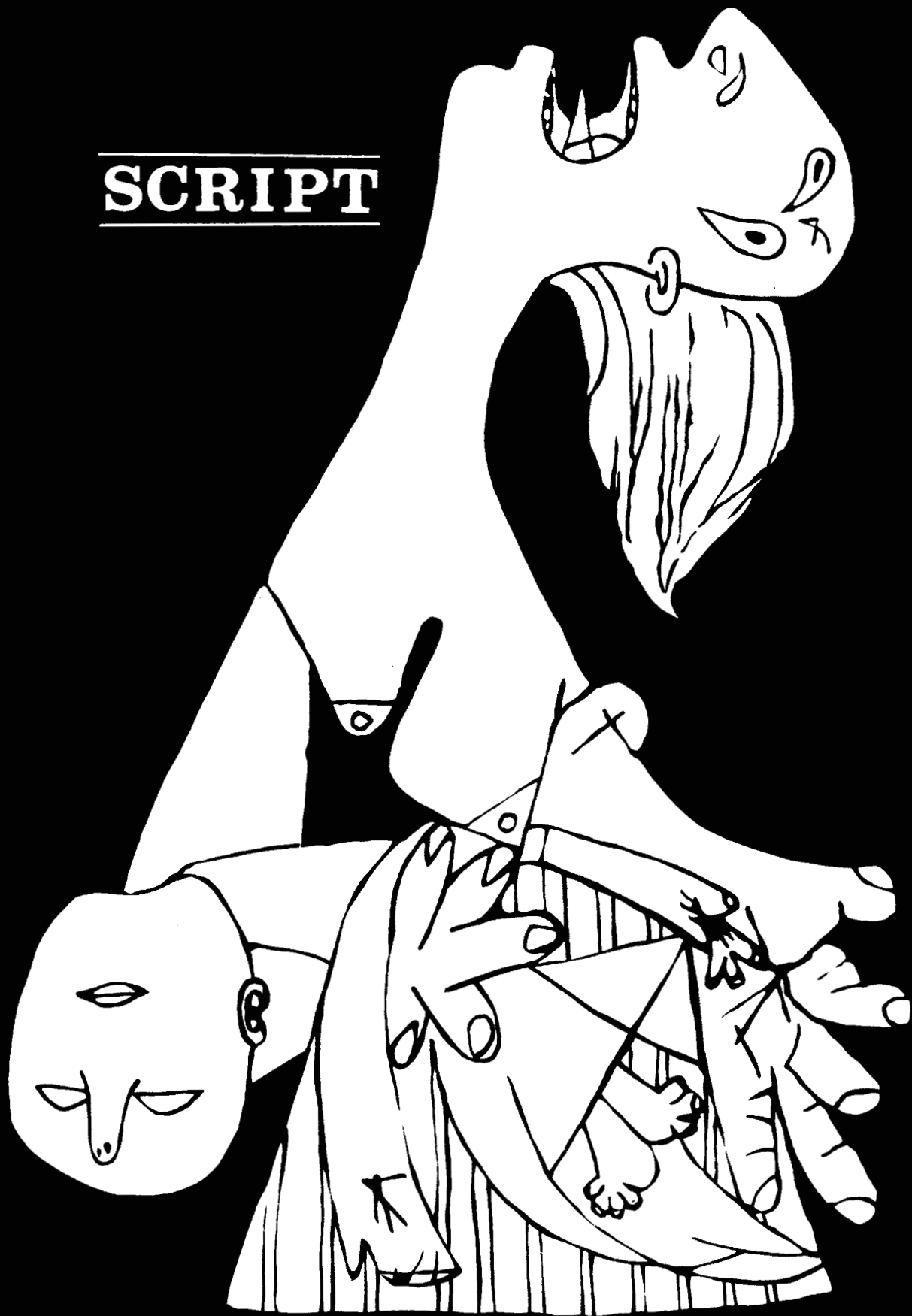


AUTOMATED AIR WAR

SCRIPT



THE AUTOMATED AIR WAR

Script

1. Title For over two years, NARMIC has been compiling information on military developments and weapons systems. The strongest single trend found in this research is the automated air war, the electronic battlefield.

2. Credits NARMIC prepared this slide show from numerous sources, including: drawings by Laotian refugees provided by Fred Branfman, pictures brought back by GIs, photos from AFSC's Vietnam clinic. . .

3. Sources . . . pictures and ads from military magazines, and illustrations from the hearings held by the Senate Electronic Battlefield Sub-Committee. Our purpose is to explain the heart of this system, and how it has transformed the Indochina war.

4. Nixon President Nixon ran for office on the pledge that he would end the war in Vietnam. But since he took office, the war has expanded into Laos and Cambodia.

5. Bomb chart He has ordered more bombs dropped on Indochina than were dropped in all of World War II. Three million Indochinese people have been killed, wounded or made refugees by the war since Nixon became President.

6. Jet Nixon says the war is winding down, but it is only being made less visible. Instead of a ground war with American troops and casualties, it is an automated air war with American planes and bombs.

7. Pentagon Papers The Pentagon Papers reveal that the U.S. secretly began plans to automate the U.S. side of the battlefield in 1966.

8. Sylvania ad 3 billion dollars, and an untold number of lives, were spent implementing this electronic warfare plan before Congress or the public learned of it.

9. Westmoreland The automated battlefield was first revealed in the press when General William Westmoreland described it to a military-industry gathering in October, 1969. Automation of the war, according to the military, is necessary for three reasons:

10. Demonstration First, in the words of Westmoreland, the American people are . . .
11. Opinion poll
collage . . . "questioning the role of the Army more than ever before."
(Pause)
12. GIs Secondly, ". . . the trust and confidence that have traditionally motivated the soldier are being questioned," according to Westmoreland.
13. Armed Forces
Journal
collage Armed Forces Journal put it more bluntly: quote "By every conceivable indicator our army that now remains in Vietnam is in a state approaching collapse, with individual units avoiding or having refused combat, murdering their officers, drug-ridden, and dispirited where not near mutinous." end quote
14. Indochinese
with gun Thirdly, the U.S. faces in Vietnam, as Westmoreland put it, "an elusive and cunning" enemy that has made the U.S. Army almost a "giant without eyes."
15. Uncle Sam Faced with an American public that wants peace, an army that won't fight, and an enemy that won't lose, the U.S. government has found a way to give the appearance of peace while continuing its war. How? By trying, in the words of Westmoreland,
16. GI with
bandaged head to "replace wherever possible the man . . .
17. Computer . . . with the machine."
18. Pushbutton
face A giant machine, run by a few people who are protected by push buttons from seeing their victims as anything but blips on a screen. This reduces the human element, the human horror, and the human error for the U.S. side of the battlefield.
19. Cartoon But the horror is not over for the people of Indochina, who continue to die from automated bombing.
20. Woman on road In the automated battlefield, a person designated "enemy" is, according to Westmoreland, ". . . located, tracked and targeted almost instantaneously."
21. Bombed land Westmoreland went on to describe the goal of automated ". . . battlefields on which we can destroy anything we locate through instant communications and the almost instantaneous application of highly lethal firepower." He said this system makes. . ."the need for large forces . . . less important."

22. GI, peasants Another Army spokesman, General Ellis Williamson, stated: quote, "We are making unusual efforts to avoid having the American young man stand toe-to-toe, eyeball-to-eyeball, or even rifle-to-rifle against an enemy . . ."
23. Senators at Hearings "How less painful it is to use firepower to fight him at a distance . . ." end quote. He told this to the Senate Electronic Battlefield subcommittee shown here.
24. 1, 2, 3 diagram Three things make today's automated warfare distinctive. First is that electronic sensors, not men, are finding the targets. Second, the targets are struck by computer-directed aircraft filled with electronic equipment. Third, the bombs they drop are designed primarily to maim people and drive them out of "enemy" areas.
25. ADSIDS on table This sensor is an Air-Delivered Seismic Intrusion Detector - an ADSID. Planes drop hundreds of these over a wide area. When an ADSID lands, it buries itself, leaving only the antenna showing. . .
26. Implanted ADSID . . .an antenna designed to pass for a tropical plant. If anyone walks through the area, the sensor transmits the footstep vibrations to the computer. These sensors cannot distinguish between "a group of woodcutters coming . . . down the trail" and a squad of troops, according to General John Deane, the head of the special military command on the automated battlefield.
27. Girl, dung sensor Another sensor is disguised as animal droppings. This one, made by Honeywell Corporation, was brought back by a Vietnam veteran. If you step on it, it signals the computer, which decides if you should be bombed.
28. ACOUBUOY ACOUBUOY microphones fall from airplanes on little parachutes. The parachutes disintegrate in the jungle trees, leaving only fine wires which hold the camouflaged microphones. One Air Force officer said, "We wired the Ho Chi Minh Trail like a drugstore pin-ball machine and . . ."
29. Relay aircraft ". . . we plug it in every night. . . Warfare has gone electronic." End quote. Information from these electronic bugs is relayed by aircraft to a computer ground station in Thailand.
30. People sniffer Other sensors are carried on board aircraft. The "people sniffer" shown here detects ammonia in human body odors. Developed at a cost of one and a half million dollars, "people sniffers" have been effectively countered by the Vietnamese. They hang buckets of urine in the trees to saturate the sensing elements.

31. Goodyear graph Other air-borne sensing devices, such as Goodyear radar, scan the countryside below. Data from these different sensors are transmitted to a computer ground station.
32. Computer center (black & white) This one in Thailand receives sensor data from Laos, where the automated air war has been most completely implemented.
33. Computers (black & white) Inside, the IBM 360-65 correlates the sensor input with information about terrain, photo reconnaissance data and previous intelligence, to produce a print-out of potential targets. The report of the Electronic Battlefield Subcommittee describes how computers use sensor data to direct the bombing.
34. AVIONICS monitoring screen When, quote, "a particular sensor string activates, a sketch of the roadnet which that string of sensors is monitoring is called up on a cathode ray tube.
35. Computer with bulletin board in background "The computer automatically displays and updates the movement. . . of the target along that road segment.
36. Phantom ad "One or more F-4 Phantom jets are then instructed to enter the coordinates . . . into the aircraft's computer. . . .
37. Right Down the Alley "This gives the aircraft the course to that point and automatically releases the ordnance that is, bombs at the proper time to hit the target. Using area-type ordnance. . .
38. Destroyed village "excellent results have been obtained with this blind-bombing method." End quote.
39. SMASH gunship The computer has other aircraft besides jets to choose from. Textron, which makes zippers and Schaeffer pens, boasts of its "prowling hunter/killer chopper that sees in the dark to destroy the enemy."
40. Infra-red screen in helicopter The pilot uses this infra-red screen to see in the dark. General Williamson described using a similar night-vision helicopter gunship: "As soon as an unmanned sensor registered, a Night Hawk helicopter was dispatched to the scene.
41. Helicopter "We killed 103 North Vietnamese soldiers during a one-month period, using this technique, at no personnel cost to us, not even an injury. . . we could often fight a major battle without actually committing the physical bodies of our men into the danger area."

42. Tracers at night A Quaker hospital worker in South Vietnam describes the effects of an older gunship. "Several of us went to the roof about 3 a.m. The Americans unleashed the terrifying 'Puff the Magic Dragon,' . . . that spews forth 5,000 machine gun bullets per minute. . . . It belches forth solid streams of red tracers. . . .As I watched it circle overhead last night, . . . I could vividly visualize. . . .
43. Woman with wounded child "the scene below. Men, women, children and animals, caught like rats in a flood. No place to hide, no way to plead their case of innocence to the machine in the sky. . . .
44. Bullets ". . . the cold, mechanical, **compassionless** way that monster circled around and around and around, ruthlessly pursuing an unseen 'enemy,'
45. Close-up of same bullets "stabbing viciously earthward again and again, probing, searching, killing and maiming all in its path. . . .
46. Child on hospital bed "We have survived,. . . but a lot of Quang Ngai people didn't make it. And a lot more who are now clinging to life over at the hospital will not make it until morning." Unquote. (Hold slide.)
47. "A7 makes. . . nightmare" But aircraft manufacturers are not heavy hearted about creating such nightmares. For American business, the automated battle-field provides an endless market. Every part of it from the planes to computers to bombs can always be "improved." For example, many of today's aircraft have one military drawback--they require pilots.
48. RPV - man at screen Industry's solution is to take the pilot out of the aircraft, to set up the cockpit in a secure computer center.
49. Red drone A telemetry link transmits the sensor inputs to the pilot so he can guide the vehicle by remote control.
50. Electronic warfare drone Unmanned aircraft are already used in the electronic war to relay signals from sensors to the computer center, and for photo reconnaissance over North Vietnam.
51. Drone bombing And tests are being conducted to have unmanned drones take over the bombing missions.
52. TV-guided bomb and engineers Another improvement in the equipment for automated air war is the bomb delivery systems. This one uses a self-contained TV camera to follow fleeing targets.

53. Bombs awaiting laser guidance units The bombs shown here are waiting in Thailand to have their laser guidance systems attached for pinpoint bombing of targets in Laos. They are called "smart" bombs.
54. Laser guidance unit Laser guided bombs can deliver their package of munitions into a shelter or cave entrance with an accuracy of 6 feet when dropped from an altitude of 4 miles.
55. Antipersonnel bomblets on table The last part of the automated air war is the bombs themselves. Many of these are ANTIPERSONNEL--designed to kill or maim people in ways most of us would never have imagined.
56. Pineapple and guava bomblets Originally, most of the antipersonnel bombs dropped on Indochina were pineapples, like the one on the left. Each pineapple has 250 steel pellets which shoot out horizontally when the bomb hits the ground. But people hid in trenches and holes. . .
57. BLU-26/B . . . so the pineapple was replaced by the guava, illustrated in the Electronic Battlefield Hearings. The pellets of the guava go diagonally into the holes, and a time delay fuze can be used to catch people when they leave their hiding places.
58. CBU-24 bomb casing Several cluster bombs are dropped from an aircraft.
59. SUU-30B dispensing sequence Each tumbles through the air, scattering hundreds of its bomblets over an area the size of ten football fields. The bomblets saturate the area with tiny steel pellets that cannot penetrate cement or steel.
60. Child with guava Pellet bombs are used in "protective reaction strikes" on North Vietnam. The pellets cannot destroy a bridge, a factory, or a train. Two or three inches of sandbags will stop them.
61. Children with straw vests Even these thick straw vests that school children wear in North Vietnam will stop them. Their target is unprotected human flesh.
62. Refugee drawing of child's hand being maimed A Laotian refugee who drew this picture describes some of the other bombs, quote, "There were the bombs of napalm which would burn houses and people as well. . . and there was a kind of leaf, the paper which would blow in the wind. If anyone should pick it up they would be like the person in this picture." Unquote. Unbelievable?
63. Gravel mine from hearings But here is the leaf mine, with its inner parts, illustrated in the Electronic Battlefield Hearings.

64. Gravel mine dispenser
When the computer calls for it, tremendous numbers are released from this dispenser, made by Honeywell. The GI who loads these on the plane supplied this photo.
65. Gravel and Dragontooth
Here, the North Vietnamese display a leaf mine with what they call a butterfly bomb.
66. Dragontooth on palm
The military calls it, less touchingly, a Dragontooth. The Gravel and the Dragontooth are mines. They don't explode unless they are stepped on, or jostled. Discussing these weapons in the hearings, Senator Goldwater asked, "How much damage can it do?"

Major Anderson: "How much damage, sir?"

Sen. Goldwater: "Yes"

Major Anderson: "It is purely antipersonnel."
67. Boy (face)
"If a person steps on it, . . .
68. Boy with maimed foot
"it could blow his foot off. If a truck rolls over it, it won't blow the tire."
69. Boy in white shirt with bandaged foot
Article 23 of the Hague Convention -- the international rules of war -- states: "It is especially forbidden . . . to employ arms, projectiles, or material calculated to cause unnecessary suffering." The U.S. is a party to this convention, it is constitutionally binding on the U.S. Then why are the corporations and the military designing weapons purposely made to maim people? The answer is that the military believes such maiming of the opposition serves two important functions.
70. Hospital in North Vietnam
First, it means that instead of a single person dead and withdrawn from military activity, six to ten people must care for the victim, as shown in this picture of a hospital in North Vietnam.
Second, the military calculates that the suffering of the living has a greater demoralizing effect than the memory of the dead. As Aviation Week puts it, antipersonnel weapons have a "separate and distinguishable psychological impact... apart from the actual destruction which they cause."
71. Woman with pineapple bomb
Here a refugee who was driven from the Plain of Jars in Laos by the bombing holds up one of these "psychological impact" weapons. It is a pineapple antipersonnel bomb which they made into a wick lamp. Her homeland, the Plain of Jars, is an example of what the automated air war can mean.

72. Map of Laos Bombing of the Plain of Jars in northern Laos, which began in 1964 and reached a peak during Nixon's first year in office, was not officially acknowledged until March of 1970. The American public was told that the bombing of Laos was aimed at truck interdiction on the Ho Chi Minh trail, which is in southern Laos, far from the Plain of Jars.
73. Stilt houses Before the bombing began, the Plain of Jars was a thriving farmland of some 50,000 people. A 21 year-old former nurse now a refugee, wrote: "All that I saw and knew were a dozen or so houses in the middle of a forest.
74. Farmer "Around that village of mine were, . . . land and fields my neighbors have sweated over and labored on since the time of my ancestors.
75. Children fishing "Our happiness was full and over-flowing because we were content with our lives, even though we lived in the wilderness.
76. Hut and corn "...I was at one with the earth, . . . continuing the farmer's life which had been the profession of our ancestors."
77. Johnson Then came November 1968, the month President Johnson finally announced a "bombing halt" of North Vietnam. At the time this was considered a major victory for those who favored peace.
78. Man wiring bombs However, an Air Force sergeant, Bob Clarke, shown here wiring bombs in Thailand, testified at the Second Winter Soldier Investigation held by Vietnam Veterans Against the War that he expected a vacation when the bombing halt was announced. But instead, the workload was doubled, because "they were carrying on missions over the Ho Chi Minh Trail and the Plain of Jars."
79. Bombers In 1969, Richard Nixon's first year in office, planes bombed the Plain of Jars night and day. As one old man put it, "the planes came like the birds and the bombs fell like the rain."
80. Destroyed village Every village on the plain was levelled.
81. Boy with scarred head 1/3 of the people of Laos, according to U.S. Senate figures, have been killed, wounded or made refugees by the bombing --
82. Refugees: woman and boys -- one-third of the entire population.

83. Woman with photo This is one of those statistics. She is holding forward a wedding photo of Sao Doumma, /Sa-oh Dou-mah/. . .
84. Photo of couple her youngest daughter, who was killed in a bombing raid while nursing her 3 month old baby.
85. Refugee children A few people in the Laotian refugee camps were asked to draw pictures describing what they had seen.
86. Drawing: house burning (Pause. . .) While all this was going on, the American public did not even know the air war in Laos existed.
87. Drawing: palm trees (Pause. . .) Reporters still aren't allowed to go on missions over Laos or question pilots. Since they are allowed to go on similar missions over Vietnam, it is clear that the secrecy is for the American public, not the enemy.
88. Xieng Khouang, destroyed Air Force Attache Robert Tyrrell testified under oath about U.S. bombing policy: quote "I recall talking to refugees from Xieng Khouangville /See-eng Khoo-ahng-ville/ and they told me that they knew of no civilian casualties during that operation. . . villages, even in a freedrop zone, would be restricted from bombing." unquote. This is Xieng Khouangville.
89. Drawing: houses bombed Ambassador Godley stated in July, 1971, that the Air Force had "done everything possible to avoid any bombing of inhabited villages or even isolated dwellings in Laos."
90. Khang Khay, destroyed Godley's statement was made three months after Congressman McCloskey returned from Laos with an official U.S. Information Services report that numerous villages had been bombed. This is Khang Khay.
91. Children in cave The Senate Subcommittee on Refugees said that the bombing is aimed at destroying "the physical and social infrastructure of Pathet Lao areas."
92. Target over people How can the Pentagon insist that it is hitting only military targets when press reports, Senate committees, a United Nations advisor and even the U.S.I.S. survey show that the whole population was targeted?
The answer can perhaps be found in the military's definition of a military target. An Air Force Manual defines a military target, and I quote, as . . .

93. Man and woman "Any person . . .
94. Pagoda "thing . . .
95. Map, Vietnam "idea . . .
96. Children, bombed building "entity . . .
97. Mountain landscape "or location . . .
98. Bomb blast "selected for destruction, inactivation, or rendering non-usable with weapons which will reduce or destroy the will or ability of the enemy to resist." Unquote. The Air Force Manual says that attacks on such threats are designed to "dispel the people's belief in the invincibility of their forces, to create unrest, to reduce the output of the labor force, to cause . . . fear, panic, hunger, and passive resistance to the government..."
99. Woman, goats on hill To do this you bomb any person, thing, idea, entity or location.
This beautiful land, the Plain of Jars, was entirely destroyed from the air --
100. Bomb craters a society of 50,000 people wiped off the face of the earth by automated bombing. This is the real nature of today's automated air war. Most of the victims have never seen an American face.
101. Pilot leaves home This pilot, who lives in an air-conditioned house on the Khorat Air Force Base in Thailand, has just completed a bombing mission in Laos . . .
102. Computer center (color) . . . directed from this ground control station. He never sees his enemy.
103. Man at screen Neither does this weapons controller who radios the target's coordinates to the pilot's on-board computer.
104. GI on ground Unlike the ground warrior of yesterday, . . .
105. Pilots at party they spend their evening relaxing at one of the three clubs on base. Protected by pushbuttons and computers, they have as little connection with the suffering their work causes as . . .

106. Honeywell worker
this Honeywell worker who makes antipersonnel weapons in the U.S. One follows the military orders of Commander-in-Chief Nixon, the other fills business orders for Honeywell President Binger. Neither has a say over how their work is applied -- in fact they may not even know the effects of their work. This Honeywell worker, for example, may not know that his plant is producing the WAAPM,
107. WAAPM
or Wide Area Anti-Personnel Mine. The worker may not know that the spring his machine inserts in this ball will one day pop out on impact, carrying fine connecting wires several feet from the mine. He may not know the terror of trying to live in an area seeded with hundreds of these "spider mines," where to touch one of the wire tentacles triggers death. (Pause) He wasn't one of the experts who calculated that such a weapon could be produced for what the military terms "area denial" purposes.
108. Bombed fields
Bombing of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia has forced millions of people out of their homes and into refugee camps or cities. A State Department advisor named this strategy "forced urbanization", and praised it for separating the "fish" from the "sea"; that is, the guerilla fighters from the supporting population.
109. Saigon street
Forced urbanization has quadrupled Saigon's population, but politically the plan has backfired.
110. Saigon demo.
Far from tolerating the Saigon government, people are uniting against it: Vietnamese students, veterans, legislators, women's groups, workers, and refugees are demanding an end to the war, the military dictatorship, and the American domination. Saigon newspapers reported that an average of two American cars are burned every day, and Americans must wear peace signs to avoid being attacked on the street.
111. People in cave under cliff
In Laos, the strategy of "area denial" has not succeeded in forcing everyone to abandon the countryside. Because of the constant air attacks, many Laotians now carry on their family life, schools, and government under the ground, in caves.
112. School in cave
Armed Forces Journal explains that automated warfare in Laos, quote, "...was designed for fighting a war in hostile territory, offering the enemy absolute control of their surface territory while maintaining air superiority above it. The system does not require U.S. ground troops to assure success." end quote.

113. Man at screen,
plane There's no more talk of winning hearts and minds. There's no more talk of the U.S. winning politically, only of automated detection and bombing of the whole population from high in the sky.
114. Nixon and
Johnson The automated air war is an admission that despite the efforts of more than two administrations the U.S. cannot win the war. It is also an assertion that it does not intend to lose it.
115. Draftboard,
tombstone By lowering draft calls and reducing American casualties, Nixon hopes to lull the American people into silent consent to the ongoing slaughter of Asians.
116. Sir Robert
Thompson President Nixon's personal consultant on Vietnam, Sir Robert Thompson, has named this strategy "stable war". With its automated air war the U.S. could carry on the destruction for ten or twenty years. Why such persistence?
117. Che Former Secretary of State Dean Rusk explained that it is to prove to guerilla movements around the world that "the war of liberation is . . . costly, dangerous, and doomed to failure."
118. Honeywell
Globe And in case they don't learn the lesson, the military is making plans to apply the automated battlefield around the world. Honeywell has a contract to develop part of the World-Wide Military Command and Control System --
119. Computer
control room a computer to police the world -- and Westmoreland announced that the Army's Project MASSTER is "taking the latest advances in technology proved in Vietnam -- sensors, night vision devices, surveillance radars, communications and automatic data processing -- and adapting them for use as a unified system elsewhere in the world."
120. Police
helicopter This technology is also being adapted for use by police departments in the U.S. -- not only night vision helicopters, but sensors, computers, and devices to see through walls. Joseph Meyer, a Pentagon official, proposed another adaptation to the electronics industry.
121. Transponder
chart People released from prison or out on bail would be required to wear transponders, little radio transmitters first developed to allow automated battlefield computers to keep track of the location of their own troops.

122. Police computers
Meyer suggested that police computers and transponders could be used to monitor 25 million Americans. As sensor strings monitor movement in Vietnam, so transponder receivers could monitor a typical community such as Harlem, according to this Pentagon official. In addition to the domestic market, Meyer said there might be a carefully controlled export market for transponders, to be used by other "democratic" nations "to monitor aliens or political or ethnic subpopulations."
123. ITT ad
American corporations are always on the lookout for new government-supplied markets, to apply their technological developments anywhere in the world. Here ITT advertises their automated equipment to guide bombers.
124. Morton Food
ITT also owns Morton frozen foods, Hartford Fire Insurance Company,
125. Wonder Bread
. . . Wonder Bread, Hostess cupcakes, and the Sheraton Hotel chain.
126. Alcoa ad
"Change for the Better With Alcoa Aluminum."
127. G.E. ad
"Progress Is Our Most Important Product."
128. Westinghouse ad
"You Can Be Sure . . .
129. child with burned face
. . . If It's Westinghouse"
130. Honeywell Eagle
The automated battlefield is being used right now. It was created by American corporations and the American government. A movement is already under way to stop it.
131. Honeywell demo.
Minneapolis residents are demanding an end to Honeywell's production of antipersonnel bombs.
132. Atlas demo.
Californians are opposing napalm production.
133. Hanscom demo.
In Massachusetts, 230 people were arrested for challenging the Electronic Systems Command at Hanscom Air Force Base.

134. Engineers' demo. Even engineers in the plants are beginning to organize. The American people have succeeded in forcing the government to bring most of the troops home. But until we end the automated air war as well, there will be no peace in Indochina.
135. Plane
136. Woman with binoculars
137. Anti-aircraft Gun
138. Planes being shot down
139. Woman's eyes (Hold)
140. End slide

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IMPORTANT: Sources for each picture and full documentation of the text is available in the 48 page "Automated Air War Documentation" by NARMIC.

"The Automated Air War" is available in two forms:

Slide set: 140 35-mm slides, script, footnotes, background material including 12 articles on the air war. Running time about 30 minutes. \$55.00 from NARMIC.

Filmstrip: 140-frame filmstrip, script, footnotes and recording of script (indicate either record or tape cassette). \$10 from Herman Will, Board of Christian Social Concerns, The United Methodist Church, 100 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002 (202) 546-1000.

Available from NARMIC:

Extra copies of the script and footnotes (48 pages of documentation), \$1.00.

Background literature on the automated air war. Write for literature list, or send \$1.50 for packet containing all articles.

"Air War: The Third Indochina War", by Project Air War and the Indochina Resource Center is an excellent handbook for anti-war activists. It contains hundreds of revealing statistics, quotes, descriptions and camera-ready cartoons, drawings, and photographs arranged in an easily usable form. Invaluable for leaflets, articles, speeches. Send \$1.50 to Indochina Resource Center, 1322 18th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

