



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Public Library

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CONTACT: Lynn Whitehouse
(619) 236-5821

FILM SCREENING RECALLS RELIGIOUSLY INSPIRED ANTIWAR ACTION THAT LED TO ONE OF THE GREAT TRIALS OF THE 20TH CENTURY

“Camden 28” Tells Riveting Vietnam Era Story of Protest, Conspiracy and Double-Dealings

San Diego, CA... San Diego Public Library and Activist San Diego invite you to a film screening of Anthony Giacchino’s documentary *The Camden 28*. In the film the interviewees take stock of their motives, fears and the costs of their activism — and its relevance to America today. The screening takes place at 6:30 p.m. on September 24, in the auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E Street in downtown San Diego. This event is free and open to the public.

How far would you go to stop a war? "The Camden 28" recalls a 1971 raid on a Camden, New Jersey draft board office by “Catholic Left” activists protesting the Vietnam War and its effects on urban America. Arrested on site in a clearly planned sting, the protesters included four Catholic priests, a Lutheran minister and 23 others. "The Camden 28" reveals the story behind the arrests — a provocative tale of government intrigue and personal betrayal — and the ensuing legal battle, which Supreme Court Justice William Brennan called “one of the great trials of the 20th century

Directed by Anthony Giacchino, “The Camden 28” combines archival footage and current interviews with former FBI agents involved in the case and scholars, such as Howard Zinn. The reflective remembrances by some of the surviving participants yield an unexpectedly timely picture, given the erosion of civil rights today in the wake of the Patriot Act. Edited in a fashion to recreate the mounting tension which undoubtedly permeated the courtroom over the course of the two-month trial, this gripping documentary might be best thought of as a reminder that peace is as every bit as patriotic an option as is war.

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The Camden 28, a production of ECC Media, LLC, won the Philadelphia Film Festival's Jury Prize and Audience Award for Best Documentary in April 2006 and was screened at the 2006 Human Rights Watch International Film Festival.

Activist San Diego is a social justice organization that promotes and facilitates the development of an active, inter-related, progressive community in San Diego through networking, culture and electronic technology. Find Activist San Diego online at www.activistsandiego.org.

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 34 branches, find links to numerous reference resources, or search for books, media and documents held in the Library's collection at www.sandiegolibrary.org .

Since 1988, PBS' "POV" series has brought the best of independent point-of-view documentaries to a national audience, featuring the work of America's most innovative documentary filmmakers to build new communities in conversation about today's most pressing social issues

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