

Imagine a thief breaks into your house and binds and gags you at gunpoint. He steals everything you have and then tells you have a choice: buy back your own property for an exorbitant price, or he'll come back later and burn your house down.

This slightly exaggerated scenario is a good analogy for the so-called "noble experiment" the Pacifica Board and Mr. Fineman, their PR advisor, have proposed to KPFA. Its real purpose: to buy time to make a getaway and leave the KPFA community holding the bag. To silence the protesters and split the democracy forces. Its a fine piece of high-priced spin control, paid for with your money - lots of it.

Here's the facts:

- In spite of record fundraising at KPFA and all other Pacifica stations, there is "only enough money to pay the staff "for two more weeks" according to Board Member Pete Bramson - having spent all the listeners' money, now Pacifica wants the KPFA staff to "run it."
- Where has the money gone? To pay armed goon squads, union-busting law firms and Fineman and Associates, \$250/hr spin control consultants.
- Why did they hire these guys? To keep their plans to steal Pacifica's assets under wraps. And they haven't given up. In six months, they say in their proposal, the community can buy KPFA for an exorbitant amount, or it will be sold to a commercial operator for 65 million dollars.

This is a victory? We don't think so.

The local, national and international press have all carried quotes by Pacifica Chair Berry and Pacifica CEO Chadwick saying there was no plan to sell KPFA. But National Board member Pete Bramson blew the whistle: the Board planned on voting to sell KPFA. Caught red-handed, they came up with this "generous offer":

To reopen the station they had no business shutting down in the first place, AFTER THEY HAVE BANKRUPTED IT. Removing the armed guards that shouldn't have been there in the first place, AFTER THEY SPENT OUR DONATIONS ON THEIR SALARIES. Lifting the gag rule whose only purpose was to prevent exposure of their malfeasance and criminality. And here's the kicker - they'll sell us back our own station that we built and supported for 50 years, for 65 million dollars! AND IF WE DON'T PAY, THEY'LL SELL IT TO SOMEONE ELSE.

NO DEAL!

KPFA is not for sale! Berry, Chadwick and their cronies must go!

MARCH FOR DEMOCRATIC, FREE SPEECH RADIO

July 31st, 1999

Assemble at 11 am in UC Berkeley's Sproul Plaza -
Mass Rally 1:30 p.m. at Martin Luther King Jr. Park in Berkeley