

THE PEOPLE IN STRUGGLE



VIETNAMESE STUDENTS PARTY-BUILDING THEME CONTINUE STRUGGLE

Los Angeles, Calif.—Seven Vietnamese students in Southern California who have actively voiced their opposition to the Thieu regime and its anti-democratic policies are now faced with deportation. Hearings were started by the U.S. Immigration Service in Los Angeles after the Vietnamese students requested political asylum from the State Department. Their request was denied.

Although the Paris Peace Agreement has been signed for 18 months, the students point out that with massive U.S. military aid, Thieu continues his repression. Recently mass protests were staged in south Vietnam protesting the jailings of intellectuals, students, religious leaders and others for advocating peace, national reconciliation and the full implementation of the Peace Agreement. More than 200,000 political prisoners are in the "Tiger Cage" prisons, well-known for their inhuman conditions.

The lives of these brave students will be in great danger, should they be deported to south Vietnam while Thieu is in power. They have requested asylum in the U.S. until the Peace Agreements are enforced, safeguarding the democratic rights of the people.

The students have asked for and received support from the American people. Picket lines during the deportations hearings demanded: "Stop Deportation of the Seven Vietnamese Students," "Cut Aid to Thieu," and "Release All Political Prisoners in South Vietnam." In addition, the students and their supporters are asking individuals and organizations to write letters to Secretary of State Kissinger and Attorney General William Saxbe urging them to withhold deportation and grant political asylum. Letters should be sent to William Saxbe c/o Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

NAVAJOS TAKE ON PEABODY COAL CO.

Black Mesa, Ariz.—The American Indian Movement (AIM) has organized a campaign directed against the racist policies of the Peabody Coal Co. whose strip-mining operations are destroying the reservation land while driving Indian families from their homes.

The focus of the AIM-organized demonstrations has been the operations at Kayenta Mine located north of Black Mesa. AIM members, led by national treasurer, Larry Anderson, took up posts in front of the company's 10-story, \$11 million drag line, which removes the coal through the dirt loosened by explosions. Since the demonstrations began October 12, the drag line has not been in operation.

In a statement, Anderson said that the demonstrations were being held on behalf of Cecil Yazzie and his family who were forced to move from their homes last September in order that their land be strip-mined.

While AIM has led the demonstrations on behalf of the Yazzie family, the Navajo Tribal Chairman, Peter MacDonald, has been carrying on negotiations with Peabody Coal and siding with the company. MacDonald has also called in the Tribal Police to make sure that the company is protected. The company is now preparing to bring workers to break the demonstration.

In recent weeks AIM has also attacked Peabody's lease with the Navajos under which the tribe receives only 20 cents a ton in royalties. This is simply another example of the plunder of Indian lands by the giant mining interests without any concern for the lives of the people to whom the land belongs. While living on the richest lands in the country, the Navajos exist in poverty while companies like Peabody completely control their lives.

VERMONTERS PROTEST FORD VISIT

Burlington, Vt.—Gerald Ford faced an angry crowd of 2,000 Vermonters here on Oct. 7 who exposed his policies as the same as Nixon's. The White House Press Corps termed it, "the largest, most hostile demonstration the President has faced." One in every 250 people in Vermont turned out for the demonstration as Ford attended a GOP fundraiser.

Demands raised at the demonstration revolved around Ford's pardon of Nixon, and the continued cover-up of Watergate. A speaker from VVAW/WSO called for universal and unconditional amnesty for all war resisters, including veterans with less-than-honorable discharges. The crowd demanded that Ford honor the Vietnam Peace Agreement and end all aid to Thieu and Lon Nol.

Tampa, Fla.—On October 6, a Florida-wide conference was held on "Party Building and the National Question." The conference, attended by communists and revolutionaries from several cities, was sponsored by the Revolutionary Student Brigade in Gainesville, the Tallahassee Socialist Group, and the October League. It was also attended by the African People's Socialist Party. A presentation by Lyn Wells, a member of the Central Committee of the October League was part of the OL's national speaking tour.

Sets of workshops were held on the national question; communist work in the movements of workers; students; women; and support of the UFW. Participants in the conference included activists from all these movements.

Special attention was paid to the struggle for democratic rights and self-determination for the Afro-American people and the fight against white chauvinism in the ranks of the communist movement and in the mass movement. The Revolutionary Union was criticized for their stand on the Boston busing issue in which they supported the white boycott, siding with white chauvinism and national oppression.

The participants in the conference discussed the theoretical questions facing the movement, as well as how to integrate that with their practice.

HARVARD STUDENTS STOP RACIST FILM

Cambridge, Mass.—The Organization for the Solidarity of Third World Students (OSTWS) at Harvard University stopped the racist film, "Birth of a Nation" from showing on campus in September. The film slanders the heroic role of Black people during the Reconstruction period following the Civil War and glorifies the terrorism of the KKK in suppressing the struggle of Black people. The Harvard Film Society which sponsored the film attempted to justify the showing because of its so-called "artistic and historical merits." When film society members put the reels on the projector, 75 militant students in the audience chanted: "Art is Politics!"

When the film society members attempted a second showing, they were met by over fifty students chanting "Racism No! The Film Must Go!" and "Stop Harvard Racism. Stop This Film!" A woman speaking for the OSTWS pointed to conditions in nearby Boston, and criticized the film for glorifying the role of the KKK. They are still active today, and anything glorifying them is nothing but outright racism.

The administration at Harvard University is attempting to destroy the Afro-American Studies Department as part of a series of racist attacks on the rights of minority students. The struggle to stop the showing of the white chauvinist film "Birth of a Nation" is one part of the struggle at Harvard to combat attacks upon the democratic rights of national minorities there.

SPOKESMAN FOR A RACIST SYSTEM

Denver, Colo.—Arguing that the U.S. should pull out of the United Nations, Senator Peter Dominick (R-Col.) reasoned in a recent election campaign debate, "After all, you have people like the Ugandans in there...and Ugandans would rather eat each other than eat food." Over the last year, the Ugandan delegation has joined in the struggle within the U.N. against U.S. imperialism, especially in the Middle East and Africa.

The incident met widespread outrage in the Denver area, where Dominick and the imperialist ideology he spouts, were taken on at a press conference called the following day by the local African Liberation Support Committee (ALSC). Joining in the press conference were the Colorado Workers Unity Organization, Crusade for Justice, National Lawyers Guild, and the October League as well as individual community activists.

Ugandan professor Akbarali Thobhani stated that no person of any nationality should ever have to bear the insult to which he and his people were subjected to by Dominick.

The October League representative, Kent Tobiska, pointed out that Dominick's remark came not from an individual, but from a spokesman for the imperialist system, and reflected the true attitude of the U.S. imperialists towards the people of the Third World. Tobiska pointed out that the immediate and wide reaction to Dominick's statement was ample indication that the people will not put up with Dominick or the class for which he speaks.

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FOUR CONVICTED IN WOUNDED KNEE CASE

Lincoln, Neb.—Despite perjury by federal officers, purposefully lost evidence, and other strong indications of governmental misconduct, four Wounded Knee defendants were convicted on October 17 of conspiracy to interfere with federal officers.

Mark Fleury, Colin Wesaw, Reginald Dodge and Larry Johns are the first four to be convicted in the most massive and unjust prosecution arising from a single incident in the history of the United States. More than 130 people were charged with crimes in connection with the 1973 liberation of Wounded Knee.

Mark Fleury said: "I believe it is quite enlightening that such a conviction is handed down in a case where Indian men are on trial; men who believe in defending the rights of their Indian people. These are the men this racist government would rather murder—like at Wounded Knee—or put in jail."

Although more than 30 people have been acquitted or had their charges dismissed, the U.S. government has spared no expense in its efforts to gain a conviction to justify its huge para-military action to stop Wounded Knee.

Although this is the first conviction in a case arising from Wounded Knee, there will be many more unless the American people demand an end to imprisonment of Indians fighting for their rights and their land.

THE VOICE OF PEOPLE IN STRUGGLE

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Enclosed is: \$5 for a one-year subscription, \$3 for a six-month subscription, or \$1 for a G.I. or prisoner subscription.

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Another Blow at Workers

FORD'S WIN PROGRAM IS A LOSER

President Ford has put forth an economic program designed to save the giant monopolies from the shock-waves of their worst economic crisis in 40 years. This program can be summed up simply as: 1) calling on the working class to "tighten its belt", and 2) giving the big corporations more breaks.

In his October speech to a joint session of Congress, Ford came close to admitting the depths of the present crisis. Ford said in his speech that "19 out of the 25 years I served in this chamber of the federal government ended up with deficits." He added, "Today, our capital markets are in disarray. The United States unfortunately, is suffering the longest and most severe housing recession since the end of World War II. Unemployment in the construction trades," he added, "is twice the national average."

For political reasons, though, he still refuses to call the present situation a "recession." But facts are facts. The Labor Department has announced that the unemployment rate for September jumped from 5.4 per cent to 5.8 per cent. More than 5 million workers are out of work by government figures. To them, the name of the crisis is not important. Recession or not, they are suffering greatly. This is especially true in urban centers like Newark and Pittsburgh where unemployment is reaching upwards of 25 per cent. It is even higher among minority workers.

SPECTRE OF FASCISM

Ford raised the spectre of fascism saying that the present inflationary period "threatens the freedom and democratic rights of every American." He asked the people to make sacrifices through "voluntary self-restraint and self-discipline." For example, through his so-called WIN program ("Whip Inflation Now") he called on people to drive less and use less fuel for heating. Every housewife, according to Ford should cut her food budget by 5 per cent. He also demanded that the American people save gasoline so that oil imports could be cut by one million barrels a day by the end of 1975.

While calling these measures "voluntary" he made it clear that he was laying the groundwork for controls in the near future. The speech was a not-so-subtle threat at the working class to "toe the line" or else. But the heaviest blow struck at the people was the 5 per cent surtax Ford has suggested for families making \$15,000 or more a year and on individuals making over \$7,500. While the surtax is supposedly directed at companies as well as individuals,

it is well known that the big corporations pay little if any taxes at all, because of tax-loopholes and tax-free bond investments. Therefore the tax must be seen as simply another weight on the living conditions of especially the unionized workers and the small business owners.

Other measures put forth in Ford's program include:

*Investment tax credits for businesses to "increase production."

*Dropping the minimal curbs on environmental control to boost oil production domestically.

*Suggestions for a new government work project aimed at cutting unemployment.

Ford had prepared to place an additional tax of 30 cents a gallon on gasoline but backed off at the last minute because of the massive opposition and threatened revolt on the part of the people already paying over 60 cents a gallon for gas in many places.

Ford's speech was also designed to strengthen his faltering support among significant sections of finance capital. The Dow Jones industrial average has plunged some 200 points in the eight weeks since Ford took office, a period that has been marked by massive business failures and more recently, the worst bank failure in history at the Franklin National Bank of New York.

The Ford program, with all its fancy buttons and backing from the country's economic "experts," demonstrates the futility of monopoly capitalism's fight to save itself from its own internal contradictions. All the "voluntary" belt-tightening and increased taxes on the working class will only raise peanuts compared to the increased government spending on things like military goods which is the largest single cause of inflationary spiral in recent years.

HUGE MILITARY SPENDING

The very nature of the imperialist system and competition with the Soviet Union and other imperialists produces aggression against other countries and a giant military budget. Last month the Pentagon reported that the original cost estimates on 42 major weapons systems under development, and especially on the B-1 bomber and the Trident submarine-missile system have increased by \$37 billion, and by \$16 billion in the past three months alone. In face of this, Ford's talk of cutting the family budget amounts to a bad joke.

The new economic program cannot beat inflation or solve the basic problems of the capitalist economy. Even



FARMERS PROTEST—Members of the National Farmers Organization kill calves to demonstrate that they are caught between the feed and meat monopolies.

capitalism's most loyal friends are now admitting that. What Ford and the giants of industry hope is that these measures will slow down inflation at the expense of the working and middle-class people. They hope that people will accept these measures in "the national interest." This is the purpose of the WIN program.

Ford's speech raises new storm warnings for the working class that their living standards and democratic rights are once more under attack. It is either organize and fight back or place ourselves at the mercy of the monopolists.

LARGEST BANK FAILURE IN U.S. HISTORY

The depth of the crisis in capitalism has been exposed by the recent bankruptcy and collapse of some of the biggest financial houses in the world. As a rule, banks do not fail except in periods of extreme crisis when capital is over-extended, and inflation has destroyed the value of investments. The big banks are over-extending themselves in order to avoid being swallowed up by even bigger ones.

The Franklin National Bank collapsed October 8, becoming the largest bank ever to fail in the United States,

even larger than any of the dozens of banks which failed during the Depression of the 1930's. The Franklin Bank failure came on the heels of the collapse of Germany's huge Herstatt Bank, and followed within a few short months the demise of the United States National Bank, owned by Nixon's financial backer, C. Arnholt Smith.

When big banks fail, it is a sign that the economy is in very deep trouble. Theoretically the banks are supposed to be the most stable of all economic institutions, but because

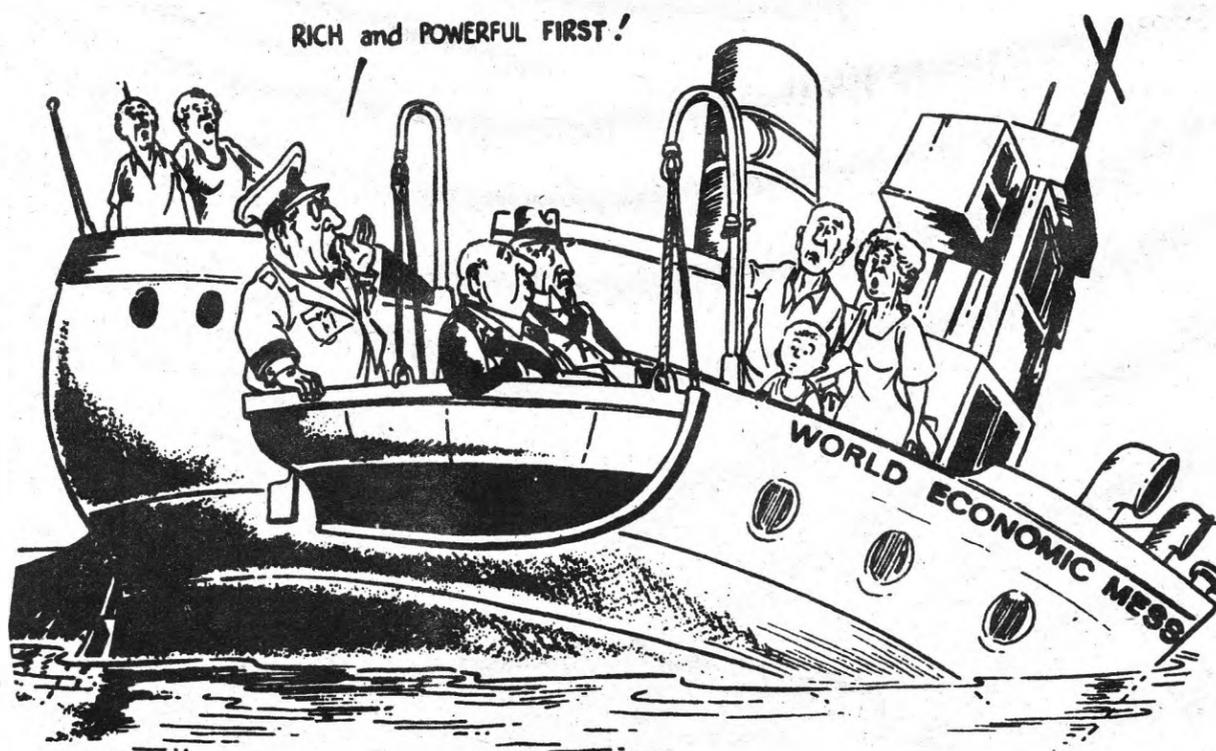
largest in the country, inflated its investments more rapidly than customers were putting money on deposit. In effect, Franklin took the money that people deposited and then invested it in highly speculative currency deals in Europe. When the people came to get their money, Franklin didn't have anything to give them, and had to borrow from the Federal Reserve to meet their obligations.

The collapse of Franklin Bank made many people very nervous, as they realized that money deposited in a bank can be squandered by the banks and disappear when it's needed by the customer. The big banking officials tried to squelch this kind of thinking because in the 1930's, a mass run on the banks took place, proving that almost all the banks were financially unsound without the money to return to their depositors. Arthur Burns, chairman of the Federal Reserve, tried to use the fact that government insurance protected the depositors at Franklin, to show that what happened in the 30's could never happen again.

CAPITALIST INSTABILITY

Looking behind the officials' statement, however, the facts show that nothing has changed in the instability of the capitalist system since the 30's. The government had to bail out Franklin Bank to the tune of \$1.7 billion. Had another bank of Franklin's magnitude been in a similar situation at the same time, there wouldn't have been enough government money to go around, and all the "insurance" in the world couldn't have protected the depositors. In the current crisis, it is not a question of another bank being in a similar situation. Dozens, and possibly hundreds of banks are financially overextended. Burns himself has admitted that 180 banks are in one kind of trouble or another. The only reason they can stay in business is that some people still have enough income not to have to withdraw all their savings to meet the crisis. But as people start to withdraw, these banks will collapse too. At best, the government will only protect the certificate and bond holders, who under banking regulations receive priority over the common depositor in the event of a bank failure.

There is one other significant lesson of Franklin Bank's failure. The Franklin bankers took people's money, invested it in Europe, and lost most of it. This amounts to nothing more than outright robbery. But under the capitalist system, no one's going to jail; no one is even being held accountable for their actions. The big capitalists don't think there's anything wrong with what happened at Franklin. In fact, the government tried since May to keep Franklin Bank alive, using a lot of taxpayers' money from the Treasury's organizations to prop up these robber barons.



Vadillo, Siempre (Mexico)

Puerto Rican Solidarity Day Packs Garden



A SOLIDARITY DAY MARCH in Los Angeles drew support from more than 600 people. (Call Photo)

New York, N.Y.—The National Day of Solidarity with Puerto Rico was a great success. The main rally, held at Madison Square Garden drew close to 20,000 people and showed the important role that the struggle of nations for their liberation plays in the world today.

The Garden crowd included several hundred people from Puerto Rico who joined with thousands of U.S. citizens in demanding that the U.S. relinquish its colonial domination of that country. Marches and rallies in solidarity with the New York affair drew thousands of people in cities across the country.

The Madison Square Garden rally heard a program of militant speeches and cultural performances. Entertainers included Ray Baretto and Mabel Hillary. Among the speakers were Russell Means of the American Indian Movement; Owusu Sadaukai of the African Liberation Support Committee; Le Anh Thu, a Vietnamese woman; Irwin Silber of the Guardian; Corky Gonzalez from the Crusade for Justice; and Angela Davis from the CPUSA.

THIRD WORLD SUPPORT

Messages of support were received from several delegations to the United Nations, including the Republic of the Congo, Venezuela, and the Organization of African Unity. The Cuban ambassador R. Alarcon, who spoke out for Puerto Rico in last year's struggle at the U.N. over the status of the island country, was present at the Garden and received a warm ovation from the crowd.

The militancy and spirit of unity that filled the Garden could not be broken even by the disruptive actions of the Garden owners who tried for weeks to cancel the event. Nor could it be stopped by the imperialist-controlled press which was used to intimidate and frighten people from coming. On Saturday preceding the event, five bombings occurred at several banks in Manhattan. The group claiming responsibility was reported to be a Puerto Rican nationalist group. The press went wild over the story, seeking to divide the Puerto Rican forces and also to scare away those who had already bought tickets. The giant turn-out on Sunday, showed the bankruptcy of such tactics.

One of the main political lessons of the Day was that the independence of Puerto Rico is an integral part of the world-wide struggle against imperialism. This struggle pits the people of the world against both imperialist superpowers in their fight for independence, liberation and revolution.

Irwin Silber's speech went directly to this issue when he said, "The struggle for national liberation in the world is the struggle against all imperialism."

Another lesson was that iron unity is needed between the national liberation movements around the world and the working class struggle within the U.S. itself. This was the theme of Owusu Sadaukai's speech. He said: "The People's Republic of China states that 'Countries want independence; nations want liberation and people want revolution.' This sums up why we are here today. Those of us who work daily against national and class oppression see the need for revolutionary initiative. Today is a concrete expression of the will to break down barriers that have been used to divide us.

"SEALED IN BLOOD"

"Our solidarity for the Puerto Rican struggle is sealed with our blood. We place the slain Attica brothers and the brothers and sisters slain at Kent State alongside the five nationalist prisoners. We support the demand for the unconditional independence of Puerto Rico and its people."

The main speaker of the afternoon was Juan Mari Bras, Sec. Gen. of Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP). He summed up both the world-wide importance of the Puerto Rican struggle and also the importance of the U.S. left and progressive forces taking a clear stand towards the independence question. He said: "The Puerto Rican people are in these very moments, rapidly organizing to return our inalienable right to national independence, which has been recognized by the international community. We view ourselves as an integral part of the people's struggle for the total elimination of imperialism throughout the world. Placed by both geography and history in the situation of being the frontier between the center of the imperialist world and the Third World, these Puerto Ricans will fully meet their responsibility on the agenda of today's world.

"The progressive and anti-imperialist forces in the U.S. are fundamental factors in this struggle for independence just as the conquest of the independence of Puerto Rico will be a decisive factor for the advancement of the struggle for revolutionary change in this country. Therein lies a dialectical relationship between both struggles."

The National Day of Solidarity with Puerto Rico was a great step forward for the Puerto Rican independence movement and for the American working class as well. Our task however has only begun and the Day of Solidarity should be viewed as a first step in a struggle that will surely win.

INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO!
WORKERS AND OPPRESSED NATIONS UNITE!
DOWN WITH THE TWO SUPERPOWERS!

CALL VISITS A FARMWORKERS' STRUGGLE

Last month a UFW boycott organizer and a reporter from THE CALL, both active in farm worker support in the cities of Southern California, visited the farmworkers outside the city. They traveled to Oxnard and Santa Paula, California, where strikes of lemon workers have just ended in victory. This account of their day in the fields shows that the "strike wave" currently involving workers in the factories of cities across the country, reaches also into the fields and orchards of rural America. Especially in the Southwest, where Chicano and Mexicano workers have never been organized by the big labor unions, these strikes are having a tremendous impact on both the labor movement, and the fight against discrimination.

Saticoy, Calif.—¡Paro! (work stoppage) ¡Huelga! (strike) With these shouts, lemon pickers in Saticoy, Calif., began the first strike at S&F growers that anyone can remember.

"We are not asking for much. Only a few things, only what is fair," explains Luis Magdeleno, newly-elected president of the strike committee. They list things such as recognition of their committee as the bargaining agent for the workers; free work gloves; \$2 per hour pay for "wet time" (morning hours when the dew is so heavy it is impossible to pick); and seniority rights.

"The prices are so high now!" says one striker. "The price of food is so high, that it is almost impossible to feed your family," others exclaim. "A family with four or five kids has to get food stamps, even if the husband is working!" says Magdeleno.

WAGES ONLY ONE PROBLEM

Low wages are only one of the problems. The pickers live in company housing, a labor camp called "Villa Cabrillo," where they pay 50 cents a day for a one-bedroom house, no matter what size the family. The houses have a bathroom with a bathtub, but no sink. For cooking there is an old gas heated metal plate, but no oven. The workers complain that since the company will not allow mail service on its property, they must rent mail boxes in Santa Paula, about four miles away.

"You want to see the soccer field?" asks one of the men. "It's nothing but rocks!"

Like their parents, most of the children speak only Spanish. The local school teaches only in English so many drop out to work in the fields as soon as they can. The children hardly have a chance to get an education.

The fields can be dangerous. It is easy to fall off the ladders when picking lemons. If someone is hurt in the fields, the company pays for only 75 per cent of the costs. But there is no health insurance for the rest of the family, or for sickness outside of the fields.

It is also dangerous to make any complaints. One worker tells of what happens to someone who complains, "You don't like it here," the boss will say, "you have 72 hours to move out."

These are the conditions of the permanent workers who pick year round at S&F. Despite these bad conditions, they say that it is better here than at other groves in the area. For the 150 additional workers who migrate for the few months of the big harvest it is worse. They live in barracks of 72 people and must leave family members behind. If they complain, they are ordered to clear out within 24 hours. The pay is 42 cents a box, and the rate has not changed for more than 10 years.

MISERY OF THE IMMIGRANT

But the story of strikes in the fields of California does not start here. It starts when an immigrant arrives from Mexico. Some come with papers, many without, seeking a way to feed their families. It costs the "illegal" \$200 to \$500 to be brought across by a "coyote" (a labor contractor soliciting in Mexico) and another \$200 to \$500 to stay here legally. The immigrant worker usually comes without his wife or family. While here he has to hide from immigration, living any way he can—in ditches, under trees, and in cardboard houses. He gets paid what the grower gives him, sometimes nothing at all after money is taken out for food and housing. If he is lucky the boss won't call immigration officials to deport him before check day.

Eventually, if everything goes well, he may get his papers and find a more permanent farm to work on. He can bring his family to this country and begin to live a somewhat more stable life. The strikers at S&F are immigrant workers. A few have worked here for over 10 years.

On the day we visited the S&F groves, the grower drove up and the 50 workers surrounded his big car. The week before, their work gang (one of four such crews) presented him with seven demands. He refused to consider them and the workers walked out.

Then they decided to call the United Farmworkers Union to help them negotiate. They explain to us that they know about the UFW from reading the union paper, El Malcriado. They are firm in their opposition to the Teamsters union attempts to organize in the fields. There is no doubt in the workers' minds that the Teamsters are not interested in fighting for the rights of farmworkers, but are really

siding with the growers to break the strength of the UFW. The UFW sent Jose Rodriguez, an experienced farmworker and union member to talk with the workers at Saticoy.

Rodriguez, representing the UFW, Magdeleno, representing the pickers' committee, and the grower enter the office and begin negotiations. It is raining like hell, the first rain of the season. A tremendous cloud burst suddenly pounds the roof of the bus shed where everybody is waiting.

Some strikers say that they visited the strike lines in Santa Paula a few weeks ago, just to see what was going on. Most of them agree that the strike wave that has hit the fields throughout the Southwest is a good thing. "We have to organize," they say. "Prices are just too high. The way we're treated, we have to get together to change things."

Rodriguez and Magdeleno leave the office after about an hour of negotiation. Everybody huddles around as Rodriguez explains the position of the boss. The boss says that he doesn't see what the fuss is about. If the workers have any problems, they should come to him one by one. There is no need for a committee.

At first, there seems to be confusion. "He didn't accept our committee?" people are asking. "He said there's no problem?" "He read the petition?" "What does this mean?"

"WE HAVE TO STRIKE!"

Then it becomes very clear. "It's the same as it was before." "He reads the petition, says he'll take care of it, then he throws it in the trash," a striker is shouting. "He thinks we're that stupid, well, 'chale!' (Go to hell!)"

The men are talking all at once. "We're staying out." "The 'paro' continues until we get what we want." "He'll accept our petition and give us pay for the time we lost during the strike!" "It's the same as before; we have to strike!"

The boss starts to drive away, but the workers run over and catch him before he can get through the gate. They tell him that he has to accept the proposal or suffer the consequences. They are confident, but he only wants to get away.

The workers return to the shed for the final business of the day. "We will decide things democratically," says Rodriguez. "How many vote to continue with the 'paro'?" Hands shoot up with shouts of excitement.

"Then we must elect our committee." Nominees come forward, elected by enthusiastic fellow workers.

Tomorrow the rain will stop and the picket lines will go up. The spirit and unity of these workers have been an inspiring reminder that the masses are indeed making history.

Sharply drawn battle lines have emerged in the face of the November 12 deadline on contract negotiations between the United Mine Workers (UMW) and the Bituminous Coal Operators Association (BCOA).

For the first time in many years, the rank and file of the miners' union has been organized to stand up and fight for safer working conditions, better pay, and guarantees against company harassment. On the other side, the BCOA represents one of the most monopolized sections of all U.S. capitalists—the barons of energy who own the coal companies as subsidiaries of giant oil monopolies like Exxon or steel monopolies like Bethlehem.

Standing behind the BCOA is the government, whose laws, judges, and even troops have been made available by Gerald Ford to the mine owners in case they are needed to destroy a mine workers' strike. In his October speech on the economy, Ford announced that he would invoke the National Security Act if "energy supplies are threatened." And energy supplies certainly will be threatened if the coal miners strike during the cold of November, and efforts to boycott the importation of South African coal are successful.

The struggle in the mines takes on a special significance for the whole labor movement because the militant demands of this year's contract battle are the result of rank-and-file victories won in ousting the corrupt Tony Boyle leadership two years ago. Since the election of Arnold Miller as UMW president, there has been increased democracy within the union for the first time in decades. The miners are realizing their own strength and the need to rely on themselves.

TEST FOR LABOR MOVEMENT

But the battle with the BCOA is also a testing ground for the labor movement as a whole. Can the rank and file maintain a strong voice to keep those they have elected from selling-out and collaborating with the bosses and the government? This is one question which will certainly be answered by the events of the coming weeks. It is a question on the mind not only of miners, but of hundreds of thousands of workers who are participating in the rank-and-file upsurges around the country.

To the mine workers, the contract is a life-and death struggle. They are fighting for provisions which would

UNITE TO SUPPORT THE COAL MINERS



TESTING GROUND—The upcoming battle between the miners and the energy monopolies will test the unity and strength of the entire labor movement.

help eliminate conditions causing hundreds of deaths annually in the mines themselves, and 3,000 a year from the Black Lung disease. The coal companies historically have adopted the attitude that safety "costs too much" and "cuts down on productivity." So far in the negotiations, the UMW has accused them of "refusing to deal with the non-economic issues of the contract seriously." This year alone, 90 miners have died in mine "accidents." The workers have responded to these deaths with many forms of protest, including wildcat strikes when the international union insisted on working through the courts instead of shutting down operations.

A recent letter to *THE CALL* from a miner in Harlan County, Ky. described the UMW's demands around the question of safety: "The individual miner has the right to refuse work in an unreasonably hazardous area until the hazard is corrected. He may refuse this work without loss

of pay or penalty. The local union safety committee must have the right to withdraw men from any working area judged to be an imminent danger. The judgement of the committee is not open to arbitration. The safety committee has the right to inspect any area of the mine and be present during all state and federal inspections. . . . Mine workers are determined to gain these demands. We are tired of the lights of this country burning at our expense while the corporations make bloody-handed profits and raise their rates to consumers out of sight. Coal will be mined safely or not at all . . ."

In local situations, the key to enforcing any safety regulations which are adopted, as well as the way to protect worker's jobs, is the right to strike. Historically, mine workers have used the right to strike as their main weapon against company harassment and hired guns. In the history of Appalachia, it is not uncommon to hear of twenty mines being struck in order to win back the job of one militant worker who was fired on some trumped up charge. The experience of the last few years has also shown that the only way to force the companies to deal at all with unsafe conditions is to walk out of the mines. But the bosses have used their power, money and connections to gradually strip the mine workers of their rights including the right to strike.

Therefore, the rank and file of the UMW is demanding firmly-worded defense of the right to strike to appear in this year's contract. This demand too has widespread implications for the rest of the labor movement which is fighting against the strike-breaking policies of the Nixons and Fords, as well as the corruption of union misleaders like I.W. Abel who abandoned steelworkers' right to strike in the interests of "labor peace."

WORKERS MUST DECIDE

As of this writing, the negotiations have had their ups and downs. While the most recent issue of the *United Mine Workers Journal* reports that a strike appears "inevitable", Miller has said that significant compromises were reached in mid-October over some of the issues. No matter what the UMW leadership does, the rank and file has the final vote for the first time ever. But the BCOA has proven its ruthless character by attempting to make agreements conditional on union promises to suppress wildcat strikes, fight "absenteeism," and help promote productivity by allowing the mines to be run on a round-the-clock schedule.

Rank-and-file miners generally feel that a militant strike, showing the coal bosses the strength of working class unity is the only way to win their demands. They have opposed the company's attempts to divide them such as using a wage-differential scale aimed at bribing the upper section of their ranks. They have gone on record in local meetings as refusing to allow any infringements on the right to strike to come about as a result of the contract. Some of the most class-conscious mine workers have also pressured the UMW leadership to take a firmer stand on concrete anti-discrimination measures to strengthen the unity of Blacks and whites, men and women.

The unity of the working people of this country is a question that goes far beyond the minefields. In Britain, for example, when coal miners went on strike last winter, the monopolists did everything possible to turn worker against worker, saying that it was the strike that was keeping the lights and heaters from burning, and that it was the coal miners demand for a decent pay which was causing other workers to be laid-off.

This kind of thinking can only be defeated by organized, broad defense for the mine workers' struggle throughout the labor movement. The mine workers are battling for all working people, by taking on some of the largest imperialist corporations, and raising demands like the right to a safe workplace and the right to strike.

For more information on the mine workers' fight and how to build support for it in your union or community, please contact *THE CALL*, P.O. Box 2278, Bell Gardens, Calif. 90201.

Thousands Poisoned by Vinyl Chloride

CAPITALISM / SYSTEM OF DEATH FOR THE WORKERS

Today, facts reveal the possibility of an epidemic of an industrial disease among the working class. Angiosarcoma is a rare and fatal cancer which attacks the liver. Previously, statistics showed one out of every 900,000 persons would contract this disease. This is not a tragedy that had to happen, it was not inevitable. Ignorance cannot be pleaded. Many so-called "intelligent" people knew long before the first deaths occurred, of their probability. With outrage heaped upon injustice, this is no rare case. In an overall view, it is part of the design of the capitalists to reap profits by skimping where it concerns them least—the lives of people.

In 1972 it was confirmed: exposure to 250 parts per million of vinyl chloride will cause rats to develop tumors in three parts of the body, the ear canals, the kidneys and the liver.

If you are working in a plastics factory, a rubber industry or other related plant, your life may be in great danger, depending on your job's exposure to either the chemical gas vinyl chloride (VC) or the resin polyvinyl chloride (PVC). The danger doesn't stop with angiosarcoma either. Plastics workers have been tested and found to have a five per cent higher rate of brain cancer and double the average rate of lung cancer. If you have been exposed to a high level of VC (more than 50 parts per million, or 50 molecules of vinyl chloride in every one million molecules of air) you may also have acroosteolysis; a disease with open sores on the skin, and changes in the blood vessels, leading to degeneration at the tips of the fingers and toes.

POISONED AIR

The peril extends outside of the factory gates. The residue of VC on workers clothing and on their breath has an as yet undetermined effect on their wives and families. People who live within a three mile radius of one of these plants are vulnerable. An elderly couple in Bridgeport, Connecticut died of angiosarcoma. Their home was two miles from a factory that dumped 50 million pounds of PVC in the air every workday.

Since 1961, 16 deaths of vinyl chloride workers have been reported in the U.S. But the deadly attacks of the capitalist system extend far beyond the U.S. There have been 10 deaths of VC workers reported in the European countries. In fact, the Belgian chemical firm, Solvay & Cie., and the huge Italian chemical company Montedison S.P.A. found VC to be a cancer producing agent and reported it at the international cancer congress in Houston, Texas in 1970. However in 1972, they entered into a pact with

Manufacturing Chemists Association (USA) to keep secret all research and information on the deadly subject. Not until July 17, 1973 was the ban lifted. The Labor Department then met with the Manufacturers Association to pass on the information. Still nothing was done to change the situation.

Louisville, Kentucky is the site of the B.F. Goodrich Co. plant where four men have died from angiosarcoma since 1968. The union was aware of the complaints and sickness of many of the members, yet there was nothing done. A local doctor, Dr. Creech, had been following the medical history of his patients who worked for Goodrich, and his concern was the main force in bringing the evidence to the company.

GOVERNMENT FEARS SCANDAL

Four men dead and the realization of the possible scandal of 350,000 workers affected and totally unprotected—only this moved the Labor Department's agencies, the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) and its research branch, the U.S. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to restrict the companies to 50 parts per million, even though this amount was outrageously high. This rule was issued in April, 1974, to give the plants a break to prepare for the January 1, 1975 law of one part per million parts of air, averaged over an eight hour time span. This means that for fifteen minutes the actual level could go to five parts per million, and the "average" would still be met.

B.F. Goodrich Co. first invented VC in 1937. It was tested for use as an anesthetic and rejected because it caused heart irritation in laboratory mice. The immense danger to humans was documented over the next 33 years. These studies were all kept from the people. They were ignored by those specializing in cancer research; the Labor department, whose specialty is supposed to be working people, and the multi-million dollar corporations who even now, are suing to remove the meager health restrictions placed on them.

As long as the system of profits from exploitation of workers exists, people will be maimed and killed. Lives will never be safeguarded, there's no profit in it. Capitalism is the system of death for the workers. We demand the end to the use of vinyl chloride, and the enforcement of no detectable limit of VC put forth by the labor unions and health agencies as the only immediate solution.

RANK & FILE CHARTS COURSE IN STEEL

What road for the trade unions? This was a main question raised by demonstrators at the Steelworkers' Convention, held in Atlantic City last month.

Some other important questions were raised by these events. What is the role of communists working in the trade unions? What are the necessary conditions for winning the majority, middle forces, away from the bureaucrats and to revolutionary leadership?

On the Convention floor, Steelworker President I.W. Abel was in control. There was opposition on the floor to his policies of no-strike and of collaboration with the companies and the government in order to discriminate and rob minorities and women of their rights (through use of the so-called "Consent Decree"). Some of the minority caucuses and the Canadian delegates were most strongly opposed to these policies but were silenced on every issue by the Abel gang. On a dues increase and raising Abel's pay, where opposition was broadest, he prevented a roll call vote in true bureaucrat style.

Outside, on the first day of the convention, two demonstrations took place. The first represented a fairly broad grouping of opposition forces, including District 31 Committee to Defend the Right to Strike, Ad Hoc Committee of Concerned Steelworkers, Rank and File Team (RAFT), and members of caucuses and locals from a number of cities including Baltimore, Youngstown, Chicago-Gary, St. Louis, Atlanta, and Tampa. The October League played an important role in organizing this demonstration. The demonstration was a serious effort to come to grips with the issues that confront our union. The demonstrators sought unity with the delegates and held a rally at lunchtime which attracted several hundred. The rally was addressed by Jim Davis, leader of the Ad Hoc Committee, Dennis Peskin of the District 31 Committee and the OL, and a Black member of the UFW from Florida. The speeches pointed out the wrecking role that Abel is playing in the union, the need for unity around the rights of minorities and women, and the need to defend the right to strike.

Ed Mann, a Local President and a leader of RAFT, was about to address the rally when it was disrupted by the second group of demonstrators. They arrived chanting, "Take your \$150 and go to hell! The right to strike is not for sale." This was the march organized by the Revolutionary Union. It was made up of mostly students and numbered about 125. Through its disruption of the steelworkers' rally and its taunts and attacks towards the delegates going in and out of the convention; through the leaflet it handed out which essentially opposed the delegates to the demonstrators, the RU made clear that it had no intentions of uniting with anyone.

The main effect of the RU demonstration was to discredit the serious efforts of the first group, based on extensive work (that the RU had consistently opposed) over the last year or so, to unite the rank-and-file movement in opposition to the no-strike pact and the Consent Decree. This was a "left" version of the Communist Party's opportunist line, which was to oppose the organizing outside the convention and focus the main opposition inside on the dues increase. The revisionist CP joined Abel in denouncing the "outside agitators" at the convention. In the September 26 issue of Daily World, the CP referred to the demonstrators as "ultra-left Maoists" lumping together everyone from RAFT and the Ad Hoc Committee to the United Farm Workers and communists who took part in the rally as "provocateurs." Taking the heat off Abel, the CP revisionists put the blame on "Maoists" for the retention of the anti-communist clause in the USWA constitution.

In this fashion, the CP continues to be the loyal opposition to the fascist laborites, trying to make themselves look respectable to union bureaucrats.

Abel didn't hesitate to take advantage of this. He spread the idea that there had been only one demonstration and that it was attacking the union.

The coalition of rank-and-file groupings which began to develop around the Steelworkers' Convention is becoming an important insurgent force within the USWA. It is a combination of minorities and whites, of women and men, of young and old, of rank and file and elected officers, and of revolutionaries, communists and militant trade unionists. These forces must continue to unite all who can be united against Abel's fascist front and to persevere in struggle. We must redouble our efforts to arouse the steelworkers, a million-and-a-half strong, in opposition to the fascist Abel gang and in support of revolutionary leadership.

Within the coalition, a critical discussion is getting under way, in the aftermath of the convention, about how this can best be done. The main task now is to strengthen local work and to build more firmly the multinational anti-imperialist core of advanced workers and to strengthen its leadership over the work.

ON THE LINE!

A SUMMARY OF WORKERS STRUGGLES FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY



Drivers Forced to Settle in L.A.

Los Angeles—Three thousands drivers and 728 mechanics struck the Rapid Transit District (RTD) on August 12. After a 10-week strike they were forced to accept an unsatisfactory contract after being threatened with National Guard intervention to get the busses rolling.

The RTD is the fourth largest bus company in the U.S., but the drivers are the 18th lowest paid. The RTD was fortified with federal, state and county subsidies during the strike, so profits continued to roll in. A striker told *THE CALL* that RTD was busy buying up Greyhound and other smaller bus lines before and during the strike. The RTD, while claiming to be too poor to grant a raise, ran full-page ads costing \$8000 a day in local papers, blaming the strikers for inconvenience to commuters caused by the stoppage.

THE CALL interviewed strikers who spoke of the situation: "Well, people always hear that it's our fault, that we are unreasonable. You never hear about what RTD is doing. They don't want to talk with us. Every two years, when the contract expires, the RTD never settles without a strike. Why don't they report that the cost of living has gone up 15%, and the only offer we're getting is 7.5%. With this kind of money we can't feed our families. Every time it comes to inflation or any crisis, it seems like they always want to cut back on working people. I say let them sacrifice into their fortune and give a working man a living wage."

"The government has been trying to classify us as service workers so that way we might lose our right to strike, and in labor the only strength you have is to strike. Then Mayor Bradley wanted to send in National Guards to scab. Governor Reagan tells us, accept or else. So it's obvious which side they're on."

Represented by the United Transport Workers Union and the Amalgamated Transit Union, the drivers were forced back under threat of losing their strike rights and with a widespread sentiment that the strike was sold out. A vote of 1000 against and 1700 for the contract met with boos and catcalls by many militant drivers who wanted to keep on pushing. They saw the union leaders putting them in a position of having to accept an offer they had earlier rejected.

Militant Strike Ends at Boron

Boron, Calif.—The militant, 4-month strike by U.S. Borax mine and mill workers, ended October 24. The strikers, members of Longshore Local 30 (ILWU) had defended themselves during the difficult strike in the Mojave Desert, as company-run fascist terror swept this town of 2,500 people.

U.S. Borax holds a virtual monopoly on the world borax market, and owns the local police and courts. Armed helicopters with searchlights and heavily armed company guards were used to protect scab labor.

The strikers were not intimidated. They took up arms to fight these attacks and to defend against scabs. On the first night when the company tried to bring in scabs, the company offices burned to the ground. Despite court injunctions banning mass picketing, militant picket lines turned back the strikebreakers.

Arrests numbered over a hundred. But other unions crossed the picket lines, and ILWU President Harry Bridges refused to institute any action in support of the Borax workers, such as refusing to load U.S. Borax products. Over 80% of the company's goods are shipped overseas, so closing the docks to them would have crippled the monopoly.

Facing injunctions and heavily armed company protection of scab labor, the strikers voted to return to work but were stuck with a 3-year contract instead of the annually renewable contract they had fought for. In addition their cost-of-living increase was not won, and wage increases for the next three years fell far below the workers' goals.

Due both to physical isolation, located far from the industrial center of Los Angeles, and also due to the lack of ties between the Boron strikers and the labor movement in L.A., support was slow in developing. But the strikers did build some ties with other strikers in the region and learn about the importance of these relations in winning.

Although the strike is over, Local 30 has appealed for aid. Its treasury is depleted and \$12,000 in legal and bail fees remain unpaid. Donations can be sent to—Local 30, P.O. Box 292, Boron, Calif. 93516.

GM Cuts Loose 6,000 More Workers

Recent weeks have shown growing evidence this country is moving rapidly towards a major depression. The present deepening crisis of overproduction has been most recently felt by thousands of workers in this country's basic industry, auto.

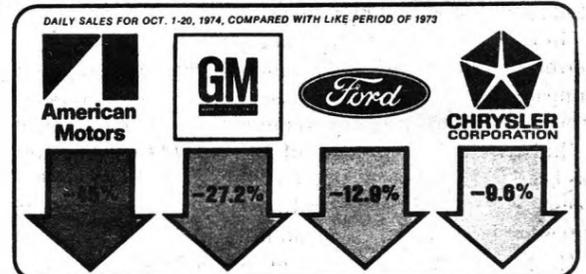
General Motors, the world's largest corporation, announced that due to enormous slashes in production of their 1975 cars, more than 6,000 workers will be laid-off and "an undetermined number" at parts plants will also wind up on the street. This will bring to more than 36,000 GM workers on indefinite layoff.

GM spokesmen announced that the company will layoff the second shift at its Leeds, Mo., Tarrytown, N.Y., and Van Nuys, Calif. facilities. It is also cutting line speed at one plant, and one scheduled to add a second shift will remain on a single shift.

The GM workers aren't the only auto workers being hit by the capitalist crisis. GM's announcements came on the heels of similar cuts in production by Ford and Chrysler. Chrysler is planning on closing one of its plants permanently while Ford has already indicated a severe chop in its budget next year.

GM's excuse for the layoffs was "low car sales." They claim that sales will reach only 9.5 million in 1975 model-year, 5% lower than the 10 million it had predicted and even below the 9.7 million cars delivered in the 1974 model year.

The fuel crisis, which the capitalists hoped would drive up the sales and prices of compact cars has failed to achieve that end. It is precisely in the small-car producing plants where the layoffs are taking place. These compacts are among the poorest sellers. The reason—because the working people cannot afford them. The reason for that—unemployment due to layoffs is reaching record numbers.



LOW SALES—Show deepening crisis of over-production.

Students Join Workers, Demand Minority Jobs

New York City—Over 300 construction workers, students and community people shut down a construction site at New York City's College in Manhattan on Oct. 3. They demanded that Black and Latin workers be hired to work at the site—at the time of the demonstration there were less than a handful of national minority workers who had been hired.

The shutdown came after a year of meetings between a community organization, the Manhattan North Coalition for Employment, Business, and Housing and state government officials. The community had been repeatedly told that their goals were "unrealizable." But the demands of the community are that 50% of the jobs at the site go to the community residents and that 25% of the jobs be filled by national minority workers. With no hope of reaching agreement with the state officials or the construction industry, the community turned for support from the student body and the community in the area. Over 500 students joined the action in support of the workers.

One of the organizations in the Manhattan North Coalition is Fight Back. It is an organization of Black and Latin construction workers and supporters who have led fight after fight in NYC for equal hiring and training for national minority workers in the construction industry. Their spokesman at the demonstration, Jim Haughton, told *THE CALL*: "This demonstration is being enacted in a situation of deep depression coupled with inflation. Nothing is being done by the government. The burden is being placed on the backs of those people who can least afford to carry them. We see this action as the beginning of a massive effort of Blacks and other national minorities, and poor people for jobs and the improvement of economic conditions in their communities."

NATIONAL DAY OF RESISTANCE ...

WILL DEMAND END TO RACIST POLICE TERROR

(Cont. from page 1)

that they resort more and more to open terror and threaten fascism if the people resist.

Fascism is open terroristic dictatorship over the people on the part of the most reactionary, imperialistic and chauvinist sections of finance capital. It is precisely these reactionary elements who rule the U.S. today. However, because of the relative strength which this country has long enjoyed as compared with other capitalist countries, these reactionaries have been able to combine their usual violence, war and repression of the people with the form of "democracy." They prefer to rule with democratic forms (elections, courts, etc. . . .) and resort to fascist rule (open terror) only as a last desperate measure, when they have been severely weakened and can no longer rule in the old way.

FASCISM HAS NOT WON ITS VICTORY

While fascism has not won its victory here in the U.S. yet, it is beginning to rear its ugly head. The forms it is taking varies from widespread police murder to the mobilization of fascist gangs backed and supported by the government. The increased acts of fascist terror have been directed primarily at the oppressed minorities as well as the working class in general. It is being carried out with the aid of the reactionary trade union leaders and other phony reformist leaders of the people.

The December Days of Resistance to Repression will focus primarily on the recent wave of police murders and shootings in the minority communities, from Newark where thousands of Puerto Rican people stood up to racist brutality; to Boston where the Black community is defending itself from attacks by racist gangs; to Oakland where thousands have taken to the streets to demand justice for Tyrone Guyton, a 14-year-old Black youth who was shot in the back by police.

*In Long Beach, Calif., a coalition has been formed to bring the murderers of Tony Wilkins to justice. Wilkins, a young Black man, was killed as he was trying to break up a scuffle between an usher and a few of the 200 kids he was escorting to a concert as part of a summer youth program. He was hit by a bullet fired into the crowd by an off-duty policeman.

*In Georgia, the Atlanta Anti-Repression Coalition has grown in its militant opposition to the murders of dozens of Black people at the hands of the Chief Inman-led police. One of the most recent examples was the case of Brandon Gibson who was murdered by a gunshot, fired through his head as two cops held him down.

*In Union City, Calif., the police murder of Alberto Terrones, an unemployed Chicano, touched off a massive campaign demanding more control by the community over the police. Terrones was murdered for stealing a ham.

*In New York, the murder of 10-year-old Clifford Glover has been followed by the police killing of young Claude Reese. Rallies and demonstrations by people of all nationalities are being held to demand justice.

The list of terror killings could go on and on. The important thing is that there has been a qualitative increase in their numbers and that they have been met with increased resistance by the people in those communities. Now they must be linked up in a nationwide campaign.

Some important victories have already been won. The state of California dropped its third attempt to convict Black activist Larry Zurebu Gardner on frame-up murder charges while his comrade Gary Lawton still awaits a third round of trials. In St. Paul, Minn., two leaders of the American Indian Movement (AIM), Russell Means and Dennis Banks have been acquitted on major charges stemming from the Wounded Knee takeover. However, this victory was followed by the conviction of four other AIM members and dozens more are awaiting trial.

The prisons of this country are filled with political prisoners who have been framed up and put away because of their beliefs and actions on behalf of the people.

Among those we can mention only a few examples. Martin Sostre; Lolita Lebron and other Puerto Rican freedom fighters; Ruchell Magee; Rubin "Hurricane" Carter; the Attica Brothers; the Leavenworth Brothers; the Charlotte Three; the Angola Four; the leadership of the Republic of New Africa; Ricardo Chavez-Ortiz; Thomas Wansley; and the thousands who have joined the resistance movement within the prison walls themselves.

The National Days of Resistance to Repression represent only one step in the march against the fascist tide. Fascism is neither inevitable nor invincible. A united struggle of the people can smash this tide and put an end to police terror. On this anniversary of the death of Fred Hampton, we call on all groups and individuals who will stand up to these attacks to unite together and speak out. In each city we will link up the major cases and examples, and support each other

SUPPORT NATIONAL DAYS OF RESISTANCE TO
REPRESSION!! DECEMBER 7th & 8th
END POLICE TERROR! STOP THE FASCIST TIDE!
SMASH RACIAL DISCRIMINATION!
SELF-DETERMINATION FOR
THE AFRO-AMERICAN PEOPLE!
FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS!!



"HURRICANE" CARTER FRAME-UP EXPOSED

Former middle-weight contender set up

Paterson, N.J.—Rubin "Hurricane" Carter and John Artis, two Black men, have been in a New Jersey jail for eight years for a slaying they did not commit. They were framed in 1966 by the prosecutors and detectives, who pressured two white men into lying that Carter and Artis did it. The two white men last month finally woke up to how they had been used and came out and told the truth.

Rubin Carter back in 1966 was a leading contender for the middleweight boxing championship. He was also a man who fought for the rights of Black people. In the newspapers and on the TV he exposed the New York and New Jersey cops for brutality toward Black people. He said in public that Black people in Harlem had a right to protect and defend themselves.

In the early morning of June 17, 1966, Carter and his friend John Artis happened to be driving in Paterson, their home town, in a white-colored car. A few minutes earlier a neighborhood bar was hit by two gunmen, both described as Black, who killed the bartender and two of the three customers. The customer who survived said the men drove away in a white car. Rumors were spread that the killings had been part of an initiation into a Black "terrorist group."

That was about all the Paterson police department wanted to know. They stopped Carter and Artis' car, forced them to drive to the scene of the crime, and from there took them away in a paddywagon. They grilled the two Black men for 17 hours, and two weeks later brought them before the grand jury.

NOT INDICTED

But the grand jury didn't indict. The customer who survived testified they were not the same men who did the killings. Another customer, who lay in a hospital before dying, also gave a description that did not fit Carter and Artis. Carter and Artis were set free.

But the mayor of Paterson put heat on the cops to find somebody. He put a third of the police force on the case and promised three-month vacations and a promotion to the officers who solved the crime. A reward of \$10,500 was put up, while the mayor made law-and-order speeches.

Meanwhile the cops had a lucky break. Two blocks away from the bar, while the killing was happening, two white men were breaking into a sheet metal factory. The two, Arthur Bradley and Alfred Bello, were both white, 22 years old and each had a prison record.

Bradley was working at the factory door with a crowbar and Bello was the lookout when the killing happened. Bello later testified at the trial of Carter and Artis that he heard shots, walked over to the bar to check it out and saw two Black men, one carrying a shotgun, the other with a pistol, get into a white car and drive off.

At the trial, Bello also pointed the finger at Carter and Artis and swore they were the two men he had seen leaving the bar. Bradley backed him up, claiming he saw Carter. That was the only testimony at the trial that linked Carter and Artis to the crime. It was enough for the jury. They deliberated four hours over whether to send Carter and Artis to the electric chair or only to life imprisonment. They finally settled for life. The jury was all white. The only Black juror was an alternate who couldn't vote. He later said it was clear to him Carter and Artis were innocent.

Now, seven years after their testimony sent Carter and Artis to jail, the two white men, Bello and Bradley, have admitted that it was a lie. The New Jersey Public Defender,

a Black man, got interested in Carter and Artis' case and went to a New York Times reporter to see if the reporter would help do some digging. Together they located Bello and Bradley. The two witnesses, separately and unknown to the other, confessed what they had done and signed sworn statements telling the truth of what actually happened. They since went before the press and TV and repeated the truth for all to hear.

What happened is this: The Paterson cops and the county prosecutor checked Bello's record. He had six convictions for robbery, burglary and theft and was on parole at the time. As for Bradley, he was wanted on four separate burglary charges at the time and stood to get 80 years in jail. The prosecutor and the cops offered Bradley and Bello an easy out if they would finger Carter and Artis.

"I tried to tell it right but they wouldn't listen," Bello last month told a news conference. They (the cops) would "go over the story and kept saying, these (Carter and Artis) are the guys."

The detectives, Bello said, referred to the Black men as "niggers, Muslims, animals and murderers." "All the cops were convinced Carter and Artis did it and they wanted me to believe it. I conceived in my mind that it could be them. I didn't know that without me there was no case. I didn't realize I was the pivotal guy."

THREATENED WITH ARREST

Bello and Bradley were also threatened with being arrested for the murder if they didn't incriminate the two Black men. On top of that they were offered the \$10,000 reward if they did. After the trial in 1967, Bradley was allowed to plead to lesser charges and served only three years. Bello was let go but got arrested not long after for another burglary. He is in jail now for that. Neither of them ever saw any of the \$10,000.

Why, after seven years, did they come out and finally tell the truth? Bradley says his conscience bothered him and wouldn't quit. "I knew sooner or later the truth would come out."

Bello said his conscience bothered him too. Both said that they were afraid of what the police would do to them if they told. But finally, Bello said, what got to him is that he realized after a while that "the cops are out to get me anyway, and there's no reason for me to protect them anymore."

As for Rubin Carter, he and his friend John Artis are still in jail. They are going to court to try to get a new trial. But the same judge who sent Carter and Artis to jail back in 1967 is in charge of their case now. Carter has studied law in prison and says, "Once they get you in jail in New Jersey they won't let you go."

Carter says he feels "no animosity" toward Bradley and Bello. "I know they are just part and parcel of what these prison institutions push out. They've been abused and misused and it was the police who are most to blame."

Rubin "Hurricane" Carter's boxing days are over. Bad medical facilities in prison caused him to lose sight and an eye. But he remains a fighter. He has refused to wear prison clothes or do prison work. "If I did I'd be acknowledging my guilt," he said. "I refuse to give up the independence of my mind or spirit and be warehoused into a uniform and prison life." He has helped countless prisoners with legal problems and with straightening out their heads. His picture hangs in many a cell as a hero.

"The U.S. must answer to world opinion"

INTERVIEW WITH P.R.G.

In August, correspondents for THE CALL visited the Paris Permanent Mission of the Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG) of south Vietnam. The following article is based on that discussion. Except where quotation marks are used, the comments are a summation of the points made by the PRG representative, and not direct quotes.

THE CURRENT SITUATION IN VIETNAM

In spite of the campaign in the Western press to propagandize about a major "Offensive" from north Vietnam, or from the PRG in south Vietnam, no such offensive is planned or is taking place. The Thieu puppet government in Saigon, facing tremendous internal contradictions, as well as sharp economic crisis and mass defections from its armies, is responsible for the talk of a "communist offensive." This is because Thieu cannot get sufficient funds from the U.S. Congress, which has placed a ceiling on aid to Thieu, unless he whips up hysteria about communist attack.

An example of the way Thieu operates can be seen in his sabotage of the negotiations with the PRG. The Paris Peace Accords stipulated that all U.S. military bases in south Vietnam should be dismantled. But rather than taking them apart, the U.S. Army handed them over to the puppet army. PRG forces encircled some of these bases and demanded that the Peace Agreement be enforced, that the Saigon troops evacuate the bases. In order to "prove" that there was an offensive taking place against him, Thieu, with the advice of the U.S. ambassador in Saigon, evacuated the troops from one such base. When the PRG forces entered it, for the purpose of dismantling it as specified by the Peace Agreement, Thieu claimed that this was evidence that the PRG was launching armed attacks against Saigon-controlled areas. He used this as a pretext to break off talks with the PRG. Why was it so necessary to break off the talks? Because, according to the PRG representative, "The six-point declaration of March 22nd, the concrete peace proposal of the PRG was a logical, realistic, and reasonable plan. For Saigon to oppose it, would be to openly oppose democratization."

CONTINUED U.S. PRESENCE IN VIETNAM

The January, 1973 Peace Agreement was a great victory against U.S. imperialism. The Peace Agreement recognized the three essential aspects of the PRG's program: independence; sovereignty; and the national integrity of Vietnam. The accords also outlawed direct U.S. military presence, and formally recognized the PRG as the organized form of the people's struggle. The main demand of the PRG today nearly two years later, is for the strictest implementation of the Paris accords.

Prior to the signing of the Peace Agreement, Nixon tried to force the Vietnamese to agree to U.S. terms, by launching the massive bombing raids. But the effect was reversed, and it was Nixon who was forced to agree to the terms of the Vietnamese people. Therefore, it became necessary for the U.S., in order to protect its interests in Vietnam, to violate the Peace Agreement on every point.

The economic aid to Thieu from the U.S. government is still 3.5 billion dollars. Money also comes through other sources such as the "Food for Peace" program. It is this economic aid which continues to prop up the collapsing Saigon government, and pays for Saigon's military attacks on the liberated zones.

In addition, there are currently 25,000 U.S. advisors in south Vietnam, organized into four detachments, which in essence act as military commands. This is what "Vietnamization" of the war has meant in practice. The U.S. has armed Saigon with an aggressive military capacity twenty times greater than the PRG, and has recently sent aircraft even more modern than the F-5's which were used during the Christmas bombings in 1972. The U.S. has also constructed munitions factories in Saigon since the signing of the Peace Agreement.

In the main, U.S. aid to Saigon has taken there "indirect" forms. But it has also had a very direct influence—for example, from August 5-10, U.S. pilots participated in bombing raids over Loc Ninh province (a PRG-held liberated zone). Ranger missile attacks also took place in August in Binh Dinh province. Needless to say, these attacks are in total violation of the Peace Agreements. The U.S. is forced to aid Thieu in this way, because the policy of Vietnamization is not succeeding; they are not able to get the Vietnamese people to fight the war of the U.S. imperialists. Today, Thieu still has at his disposal 1.1 million soldiers, and 300,000 police officers, paid for through economic aid.

from the U.S. The role played by this armed apparatus is two-fold: first, to carry out attacks on the Liberated Zones, and attempt to retake them; and second, to carry out the "pacification" program, which was designed by U.S. officials as a way of turning Saigon-held sections of the countryside into concentration camps from which the masses of people could not escape.

But this military strength, and its ambitious plans for crushing the people's struggle, is not the main trend. In fact, according to the PRG representative, "The Thieu regime is more isolated and crisis-plagued than ever before. Thieu has been forced to purge even his closest advisers. Saigon is no longer able to control its own armies, and there have been 200,000 incidents of mutiny and desertion in the last six months within their ranks."

THE STATUS OF THE THIEU REGIME

The instability of Thieu was shown by the panic that spread through his offices when Nixon's resignation appeared imminent. He immediately demanded assurances from the U.S. Embassy and from Washington that Ford would continue to back him, because he knows all too well that, without support from the U.S., his administration would fall apart in a day.

The economic crisis in the Saigon-held areas has reached disastrous proportions, with the masses of people literally living under famine conditions. This is due to Saigon's inability to organize production, and the mass refusal among the people to work for the Saigon government. But perhaps more than anything else it is due to the out-and-out corruption of the Thieu clique, which pockets over half of all aid received from the U.S. The distribution of this contraband income has provoked some of the sharpest contradictions within Thieu's ruling circle.

It can be said with certainty that the policies of the Saigon government have thrown it into direct opposition with the whole of the Vietnamese people. This is best evidenced by the question of the political prisoners, of which there are over 200,000 confined in the most miserable and inhumane conditions. The "crime" of most of these people is that at one time or another, they spoke up for peace, and participated in the fight for peace. It is not only the PRG forces who are political prisoners, it is many democratic and progressive people. In Saigon, it is a crime to speak of peace.



Newspapers burned in symbolic protest of Saigon censorship.

In sharp contrast to the brutality, torture, misery, and economic hardship of Saigon and the areas under its control, is the life in the PRG-held Liberated Zones. According to the PRG representative, "The main task in the Liberated Zones has been to carry out reconstruction of the economy and countryside destroyed by U.S. attack, and to raise the living standards of the people."

In the sphere of reconstruction, the main project is agriculture. The filling-in of bomb craters is being carried out successfully, and the centralized distribution of food has insured that no people in the Liberated Zones are going hungry. Hospital or health facilities now exist for the first time in every district, while the educational system that has been established is aimed not only at the children, but at the older uneducated people as well. Political discussion and education is part of the everyday life of the masses. Of course, the PRG is working under very difficult conditions in carrying out this work. In general the living standards are still fairly low, but there is a decent life for everyone.

The success of the work in the Liberated Zones can be measured by the thousands of Vietnamese who seek shelter there from the Thieu regime every week. Thieu has attempted to destroy the Liberated Zones through "nibbling" operations and bombing raids, but the PRG-led forces have continually repelled these attacks and turned them into crushing defeats with the support of the armed people.

THE POSSIBILITIES FOR REAL PEACE IN VIETNAM

Since the signing of the Peace Agreement, the process of continually building up the Liberated Zones, and simultaneously isolating the Thieu regime politically has taken place steadily. This does not mean that a quick victory is likely, but it does mean that the tide is clearly turned to the side of the people, and that no offensive by Thieu, by the U.S. Army, or by the CIA is capable of wiping out the PRG or turning the masses away from their commitment to go on fighting until there is a genuine peace and a democratic Vietnam.

The Six Points of March 22nd remain the political program for peace which the PRG fights for. Thieu's only proposal for peace is to hold an election in which the candidates would be hand-picked, and the masses would not be allowed to vote.

It is becoming more difficult for the U.S. to continue to intervene in Vietnam. Forty-two governments have officially recognized the PRG as the legitimate government of Vietnam, while six others have semi-official relations. At the Algiers Conference of Non-Aligned Countries, the PRG was recognized by 83 countries as the representatives of the Vietnamese people. It has been a difficult struggle to win this recognition, but now, according to the PRG representative we spoke with, "The U.S. must answer to world opinion for its actions which have continually undermined all attempts for a genuine peace."

Throughout Indochina, the "Nixon Doctrine" is being utilized, but it is failing. Despite the intervention of the CIA in Laos and Cambodia, the peoples of those countries have continued to consolidate their victories against U.S. imperialism. Despite the refusal of the U.S. to pay reparations to north Vietnam as called for in the Peace Agreement, the north Vietnamese are moving ahead rapidly with the reconstruction of their country. U.S. imperialism has been exposed by the Indochinese peoples, and other peoples of the Third World as a paper tiger, which can no longer dictate its wishes to the people. This means that the chances for a total victory in the people's struggle in Vietnam are good, but such a victory requires the most vigilant struggle against imperialism.

We asked the PRG representative what, in his opinion, could be the contribution of the American people in supporting the struggle of the Vietnamese. He pointed out that the movement of the American people in the past, against U.S. military presence and intervention in Vietnam, had been a very significant development, and that this same movement must continue, even though the U.S. presence in Vietnam has taken a different form.

The PRG representative emphasized that throughout the anti-imperialist struggle in Vietnam, it was U.S. imperialism which the people fought, and not the American masses. He told us, "The American people have a long history of struggle, including their own fight for independence from British colonialism. We have great respect for the progressive U.S. organizations which have fought against the war and for implementation of the Peace Agreement. We hope that the October League will continue to work with other organizations to participate in this movement against U.S. imperialism."

NEW WAVE OF ANTI-THIEU PROTESTS

The shouts of "Down with Thieu!" and "Down with U.S. Interference!" have echoed with new strength and urgency throughout the urban areas of south Vietnam. In a wave of strikes, demonstrations, and protests which have spread to every urban center in the south, people of different religious persuasions and political tendencies have joined in demanding an end to the corrupt and tyrannical rule of the Thieu regime.

Dockworkers in Da Nang put a firm clamp on shipping traffic in that city when they went out on strike Oct. 2-3 demanding that the Thieu clique either step down or give them food and decent wages.

The National Social Committee of the Chamber of Deputies in Saigon demanded Thieu's impeachment and a full-scale investigation of his corruption and crimes against the people.

Buddhists and other members of the National Reconciliation Forces have issued documents pointing out that unification of Vietnam is the demand of the people, but that it is impossible to achieve as long as Thieu remains in power.

Demonstrations in over a hundred cities have seen the south Vietnamese police helpless in their attempts to silence the crowds. Leaflets opposing the Thieu government and its U.S. backers have been circulated in unprecedented quantity detailing the miserable conditions of the masses, and calling for uprising. Among the charges hurled at Thieu by the people have been starvation conditions, black marketing of basic food items, forced conscription in the army, censorship of the press, police brutality and torture, imprisonment in concentration camps of hundreds of thousands of patriots, refusal to implement the Paris Peace Agreement, aggression against the liberated areas, and consistent sabotage of every effort for national unity and peace.

The Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG) has pointed out that none of Thieu's crimes would be possible without the daily aid in cash, personnel, and military backup from U.S. imperialism. The PRG has called on the Vietnamese masses to rise up, including the puppet troops and police under Thieu's control. A significant number of these forces are in fact coming over to the side of popular struggle, emphasizing once again the utter isolation of the Thieu clique, and its inability to solve the crisis of starvation and war caused at the instigation of its imperialist masters.

(From the Hsinhua News Agency)

Cairo—Egypt, like other Arab countries, has gone through a road of setback to victory in her struggle against Zionist aggression. She suffered a serious setback in the June 5 war of 1967 because of the betrayal by the Soviet revisionists. In the October war of last year, she won a brilliant victory in her struggle against aggression by breaking through the trammels of the superpowers. The two wars and the two roads have had completely different results.

Seven years have elapsed since the June 5 war, but the Egyptian people will never forget that lesson of blood. After that bitter lesson, many people pondered over the question, "Why the setback?" An answer to the question had long been made and was proved further by the October war of last year.

Before the outbreak of the June 5 war, the Soviet revisionists insisted that the Arab people should "restrain" themselves and wait for Soviet mediation. A few days before the war, the Soviet ambassador told President Nasser of Egypt that the Soviet Union urged Egypt not to attack Israel on the ground that whoever fired the first shot would be in an unfavorable political position. The Soviet revisionists told Egypt that they had a guarantee from the United States that Israel would not attack. In this way, the Soviet revisionists disarmed the Arab people politically and ideologically and numbed their vigilance.

Under these circumstances, when Israel launched a surprise attack, Egypt and Syria were caught off their guard and suffered heavy losses. Meanwhile the Soviet revisionists looked on with folded arms and let the aggressors have a free hand. When the Israeli aggressors had basically achieved their planned aims, the Soviet revisionist clique, in collaboration with the U.S. imperialists, imposed the U.N. resolution of "immediate ceasefire" on the Arab countries. This bound the hands of the Arab people in their struggle against aggression, and preserved the fait accompli of the aggressors, creating a stalemate of "no war, no peace" in the Middle East. At that time, many Arabs, with tears in their eyes, went into the streets shouting: "We have been betrayed by the Soviet Union!"

HISTORY WILL NOT REPEAT ITSELF

However, history will not repeat itself. The Egyptian people have in practice gradually seen the real nature of the Soviet social-imperialists as renegades. They have also realized that the weapons supplied by the Soviet revisionists are nothing but a tool for obtaining privileges, interfering in Egypt's internal affairs and impairing her sovereignty. Therefore the Egyptian people, after suffering from the sham aid and real control, sham support and real betrayal of the Soviet revisionists, drove out the Soviet experts in July, 1972. At that time, the Soviet revisionists and their echoers asserted that without the Soviet military personnel it would be "more difficult" and "totally impossible" for Egypt to fight Israel alone.

However, this assertion was shattered by the iron facts. On October 6, 1973, the heroic troops and people of Egypt,

TWO WARS TWO RESULTS



VICTORIOUS EGYPTIAN TROOPS celebrate a victory in the Sinai against the Zionist aggressors in October 1973. This victory came through self-reliance rather than relying on the Soviet revisionists.

Syria and Palestine, with the support and coordination of other Arab countries, dealt a heavy blow to the arrogance of the Israeli aggressors. Egyptian armed forces victoriously crossed the Suez Canal and destroyed the Bar-Lev line. The national flag of Egypt once again flies over part of the territory on the East bank of the Suez which had been occupied by Israel for six years. Meanwhile Syrian armed forces and Palestinian guerrillas also marched victoriously on the Golan Heights. A Western newspaper stated: "The world is watching with astonishment the Egyptian and Syrian forces which have changed the military balance in the Middle East."

VICTORY AGAINST SOVIET REVISIONISTS

The important victory of the Egyptian people in their war against aggression is also an important victory in their struggle against Soviet revisionist control and interference. Before the war, out of their quest for hegemony in the Middle East the Soviet revisionists and the U.S. imperialists tried to impose the situation of "no war, no peace." This facilitated their infiltration and expansion in that region. The Soviet revisionists in particular, repeatedly tried to force Egypt to forsake the road of recovering the lost land through armed struggle. This was rejected by the Egyptian government and the Egyptian people. The Soviet revisionists then sought to

coerce them into submission and make them incapable of carrying on the war against aggression by stopping the supply of arms, ammunition and spare parts.

During the October war, when the Egyptian troops were winning one victory after another, the Soviet revisionists again spread fabrications in an attempt to force the Egyptians to accept a "ceasefire." But the Egyptian government immediately exposed it as a plot to undermine the Arab people's war against aggression. The Soviet revisionists, having once again betrayed the Egyptian people's cause, resorted to their last trick—pressing for repayment of loans. The Egyptian people stood up to the tremendous pressure of the Soviet revisionists, broke through their various obstacles and, advancing triumphantly, finally won the important victory of the October war.

The October war left a glorious page in the history of the Arab people's struggle against aggression. It demonstrates to the world that once breaking through the trammels of the superpowers and taking their destiny in their own hands, and by carrying on the fight in unity, the Arab people will certainly be able to enter a new phase in their cause against aggression, and win tremendous victories in their war against Israeli aggression.

OPEC FIGHTS FOR OIL POWER

Countries Want Independence! Nations Want Liberation! People Want Revolution! This has become an irresistible trend of world history. The struggle of the countries of the Third World for independence against the two superpowers is moving world history rapidly forward.

The countries of the Third World have taken many actions in recent years, to defend their raw materials and economic life from plunder by the two superpowers, the U.S. and the Soviet Union. The third world oil-producing countries have banded together in the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) as one arm of this defense.

In 1960, the Western oil cartels suddenly announced to the world that they were going to slash the price of oil paid to the Mideast countries by ten cents per barrel. At the same time, the price of badly needed heavy machinery sold to the third world countries was dramatically raised. The result was to reduce the revenues that the oil exporting countries received from their own oil reserves.

Furthermore, from 1953 until 1960, the Western monopolies fleeced these countries for over 5 billion dollars in "theoretical freight rates." These "freight rates" were simply a way of passing the costs of shipping the oil onto the plundered countries.

After lodging repeated protests which fell on deaf ears, the countries of Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela met in late 1960 to form the OPEC. Its stated goals were to promote their collective and individual interests by unifying their oil policies in the face of imperialist plunder.

The formation of OPEC went almost unnoticed in the press in the U.S. and in fact the oil barons adopted an official policy of "ignoring" OPEC. The giant monopolies and the big powers had for decades taken for granted their right to exploit and strip the Third World of its resources. Standard Oil, Texaco and the rest arrogantly dictated what price the Saudi Arabians could sell the petroleum reserves in that country. The oil-rich countries of the Third World have long been kept in poverty by the domination of the imperialists. The formation of OPEC was a major step forward in creating the basis for an end to all foreign domination.

In 1970, Algeria (now an OPEC member) nationalized the holdings of French, Dutch, German, Italian and U.S.

oil companies. In 1973, Saudi Arabia nationalized 25 per cent of U.S. interests. At the same time, Iraq nationalized 30 per cent of all foreign oil interests while Nigeria took 35 per cent of the Western holdings. In 1973 Libya completely nationalized the holdings of Texaco, Standard and ARCO. Venezuela took a share of the imperialists interests in 1974 and Saudi Arabia increased its holdings from 25 to 60 percent. Along with the nationalizations, OPEC countries have raised the per barrel price to a more reasonable price which will protect them against the inflationary crisis in the imperialist countries. They have also banded together to use their oil as a weapon against Israeli Zionism during the October 1973 war.

At that time the most sudden rise in price came when the U.S. devalued the dollar, in effect deflating the value of the money paid to the oil countries. The devaluation prompted OPEC to demand an 8.5 per cent increase in oil prices. Finally, the OPEC raised the taxes on oil flowing out of their borders. In 1970 Iran demanded over a billion dollars from the Western monopolies. This was greater than the combined revenue of all the Middle East countries from oil in 1955.

VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT

In an open letter from Venezuelan President Perez to President Ford on Sept. 19, Perez defended the right of developing countries to seek fair prices for their raw materials as "they have been impoverished by the practice of buying cheap and selling dear on the part of the industrialized big powers. Every year we must sell more coffee, meat, tin, iron, copper and oil to buy the same heavy machinery and imported goods."

On October 22, President Luis Echeverria of Mexico told Ford that Mexico would not allow itself to be used against the other third world countries on the oil question.

Failing to divide these countries, the U.S. government has tried to use the insurgent third world countries, especially OPEC as a blanket scapegoat for its own economic difficulties such as unemployment, inflations and so on. Ford, for example, warned in late September, that the world economy would collapse if oil prices were not rolled back. OPEC Secretary General Aberahman replied to Ford, "Inflation did not begin with the increase in oil prices. It is rather because of inflation that oil prices

have had to be adjusted." He said further that OPEC raised oil prices "only because we tried to detain windfall profits made by international oil companies -- mostly American companies--and records show that however high the crude oil prices are, they account at present for no more than one or two per cent of worldwide inflation."

LONG BEFORE OPEC

Finally, Aberahman pointed to the tripling of the prices of U.S. grain and many other commodities, especially those made from petroleum, long before OPEC began raising prices. OPEC raised prices, but only as a defense against efforts by imperialism to push the burden of the inflationary crisis on the backs of the Third World. The primary source of inflation has been the superprofits of the giant monopolies which last year rose by as much as 500 per cent.

The Ford administration has blasted OPEC with threats of military action. At a press conference on Sept. 23, Kissinger told reporters, "What has gone up (oil prices) by political decision can be reduced by political decision." Unless anyone should miss the meaning of this thinly veiled threat, Ford told reporters, "the final ante is not commercial, it is military." A recent issue of Newsweek magazine reported that top government and Pentagon officials were drawing up plans to invade Saudi Arabia in the wake of an international oil "crisis." Newsweek quoted one top government official as saying, "If the oil producing nations drive the world into depression in their greed, the West might be forced into a desperate military adventure."

War and aggression has historically been the imperialist way out of the crisis. The preparations are now being made and political opinion is being shaped within this country for just such an eventuality.

But this sabre-rattling will not turn the OPEC countries from their path of independence. Imperialism can no longer dictate to the third world countries as it has done for so long. The small and medium-sized countries are strengthening their unity and using every weapon at their disposal to resist the encroachments of the big powers. This is a just struggle which has helped the cause of revolution in the world and which is weakening imperialism with each passing day.

The first two parts of this series consisted of a response to attacks against the October League and the communist movement in the August issue of Revolution, newspaper of the Revolutionary Union. These two articles dealt at length with the questions of: 1) work in the trade unions, and 2) the international united front. On both these questions we have exposed the opportunist line of the RU, which under the cloak of super-revolutionary rhetoric, is in essence rightist and counter-revolutionary. This final part of our response to the RU will deal with some aspects of the national question, particularly as it applies to the Afro-American question within the U.S.

"People Must Unite to Smash Boston Busing Plan." This headline could have easily come from the newspapers of the racist States Rights Party, the reactionary American Independent Party or the paper of the KKK. But it didn't. Rather it appears on the front page of the October issue of Revolution.

While it took some months of ideological struggle before this clear expression of RU's racist line was forced out in the open, it has nevertheless appeared clear as day. The RU in recent weeks has openly taken the side of the die-hard racists in opposing the desegregation of Boston-area schools and in actually encouraging the bus-stoning mobs who are trying to "unite to smash busing."

But what is it that has brought this organization, which calls itself "revolutionary," to openly side with the reactionaries on a whole number of questions affecting the oppressed nations and peoples in their fight against imperialism? The majority of the RU rank-and-file are honestly committed to revolution and serving the people. But this is not enough. In this organization, an opportunist line has consolidated itself within the ranks of the leadership, a line which in effect places the interests of the oppressor nation ahead of the interests of the oppressed people. It is a line which is not based upon the scientific teachings of Marxism-Leninism, but which has revised the basic tenets of this body of theory and substituted instead, idealism and metaphysics. It is a line which is disguised in revolutionary trimmings, which is "left" in form, complete with sloganeering and cries of "fight for socialism." But in the final analysis it can only lead people to terrible setbacks.



People Must Unite To Smash Boston Busing Plan

How to unite the people to oppose the ruling class attempt to divide them is the current issue for the most recent in Boston around the issue of busing. Thousands of angry parents and students sent a boycott of schools in some areas, especially in the South Boston neighborhood, in order to force the school board to order busing that would force busing 15,000 children, supposedly to achieve "racial balance" and "desegregation."

Several members of the Boston School Committee, including Chairman John Krings and South Boston lawyer Louise Dan Hicks, sponsored an anti-busing rally of over 5,000 people on Sep. 9, the weekend before the busing plan. At this rally, they pointed to Blacks as attacking white working people's education, and Massachusetts Senator Ted Kennedy as the leader of these attacks. Kennedy attempted to speak at this rally and was shouted down.

Fighting between Black and white students broke out in a number of schools, and many parents, both Black and white, have withdrawn their children out of the schools for a variety of reasons. Some were afraid for their children's safety. Some were simply opposed to the busing plan. And some white parents had been influenced by the racist arguments of Hicks and other bourgeois politicians who are trying to promote disunity and discord between workers of different nationalities.

The busing plan and serious neighborhoods and nationalities against one another and creates no real movement at all in the schools. The plan does not distribute funds and resources more equitably, nor does it deal with the fact that there are not enough resources for all the schools in Boston.

The Boston school system is bad and getting worse in both the white and Black working class communities, with the majority of schools getting the worst. And the busing plan being promoted is a perfect example of an issue which heightens the contradictions of people of different nationalities, with the goal on the part of the ruling class of getting people to fight each other for educational purposes.

To deal with this, it is necessary to unite the people

Black and white against the common enemy—the ruling class and its local agents such as Krings and Hicks and to fight for a better education, better school facilities, etc. for all the children. And within this general struggle, it is essential for parents to fight against the oppression and discrimination of Black people and other oppressed nationalities. Opponents are arguing that schools are predominantly Black areas are generally the worst and focusing on desegregation is discriminatory housing regulations, plans and patterns that create and further divide the ghettoes and barrios.

use local funds as a cover, federal funding of education has been cut back significantly, including programs for "educational enrichment," remedial math and reading, in-school education, physical education, libraries, construction, etc.

The results are easy to see in the Boston schools, at elementary, middle and secondary levels. The Boston Teachers' Union in 1970, only then had a full-time nurse, only nine had a gym, only five had full-time remedial reading teachers. Two hundred thirty-one teachers reported inadequate hours, 268 reported inadequate testing, 296 said they had to teach without textbooks, and 397 taught in classes with numbers of students larger than the contract limit.

In many schools, classes are still held in corridors, cloak rooms, basements and outdoors. One elementary school has "temporary" location on the grounds of Boston State Mental Hospital. The worst conditions as mentioned, are in the Black and Latin schools. At predominantly Black Jeremiah Burke High School, for example, shops are so bad that there are three coats hanging on the walls for 1,000 kids. Black and other minority students also get the worst of a tracking system, beginning back in elementary school, which fails to adequately prepare them for high school and college. Entrance into a number of better high schools is not given the preparation to pass.

You could go on forever describing the sordid conditions in the Boston school system, which basically aren't any different than education conditions in the U.S. today. And that is why working class and oppressed people have to unite and in many cases have united to fight these attacks on the education of our children. It is in this context that the bourgeoisie has out for

COMMUNISTS MUST DEFEND AFRO-AMERICAN SELF-DETERMINATION

ing Black people from their cars and beating them.

The RU claims that these demands are counter-revolutionary. They write in the Oct. issue of Revolution: "We've heard this straight-up counter-revolutionary line before, from counter-revolutionary organizations, like the so-called 'Communist League' as well as from various bourgeois nationalist and Bundist organizations."

They claim that by defending the rights of Black people these groups are attacking the white workers and "dividing the working class." This is the same lie the government pushes and could not be farther from the truth. We stand on the side of the Black community in the face of racist attacks on the basis of internationalism. In taking this action, we point out that it is fully in the interests of all workers to do the same.

This is part of our fight in defense of the right of self-determination of the Afro-American people, a fight which is revolutionary in character. Lenin said that the right of self-determination meant a "consistent expression of struggle against all national oppression." (Coll. Wks. Vol. 22, p. 146).

How can we say that we uphold the right of self-determination (as RU claims it does) and at the same time oppose in practice the efforts of an oppressed people to exercise even a most basic democratic right, the right to equal education. If Black people are not allowed to exercise this democratic right, how are they going to be able to exercise the highest form of democratic rights, the right of self-determination, which comes from the historic development of Black people as an oppressed nation within the borders of the U.S. and includes the right to secede and form a separate state if so desired by a majority of Black people.

The RU's answer to this is that "self-determination is not at the heart of the struggle" and that "self-determination is a negative demand." (Red Papers 5). By claiming that Afro-American people are a "nation of a new type" and a "proletarian nation" the RU in fact is liquidating the just struggle of the Black masses for their just national rights. "A nation of a new type" means that the principles of Marxism-Leninism are thrown out the window. The RU claims in RP 5 that Black people are not a nation in the sense of being formed historically as a stable community of people, as laid out by Lenin and Stalin, on the basis of common language, territory, economic life and psychological make-up manifested in a common culture.

They claim that the teachings of Lenin and Stalin don't apply any longer in this country. Why? In their chauvinist attack on Black nationalism called, "Marxism vs. Bundism," RU claims that in the U.S., the national question has reached a "new stage" in which the Afro-American struggle can no longer be viewed as part of the world-wide movement of the oppressed nations against imperialism and colonialism. The reason, claims the RU, is because the Afro-American people are "not peasants but workers."

SIMPLY AN INTERNAL QUESTION?

They claim that the national question has reverted back to simply "an internal" question as it was in the pre-imperialist days in feudal Russia, with the exception that the people are workers and not capitalists or peasants. This is their excuse for inventing their "nation of a new type" theory.

This theory of a "new type" robs the Afro-American question of its revolutionary guts and separates it from the general united front against imperialism. They fail to see the revolutionary, anti-imperialist content of the question and the positive role it has historically played in pushing forward the working class movement in this country and around the world. As Mao Tsetung wrote, "The Afro-American struggle is not only a struggle waged by the exploited and oppressed Black people for freedom and emancipation, it is also a new clarion call to all the exploited and oppressed people of the United States to fight against the barbarous rule of the monopoly capitalist class. It is a tremendous inspiration to the struggle of the people throughout the world against U.S. imperialism." He adds, "Racial discrimination in the United States is a product of the colonialist and imperialist system."

This brilliant statement demonstrates the origins of the Afro-American national question as well as its anti-imperialist, anti-colonialist character. Why does the RU try so desperately to deny this character by reducing the question simply to an internal matter?

Secondly, there is no "third period" on the national

question except in the minds of the RU leadership. Lenin wrote, "Developing capitalism knows two historical tendencies in the national question. First: the awakening of national life and the national movements, struggle against all national oppression, creation of national states. Second: development and acceleration of all kinds of intercourse between nations, breakdown of national barriers, creation of the international unity of capital, of economic life in general, of politics, science, etc."

Lenin concludes, "Both tendencies are a world-wide law of capitalism. The first predominates at the beginning of its development, the second characterizes mature capitalism that is moving towards its transformation into socialist society (C.W. Vol. 17, pp. 139-40)

PERFECT DESCRIPTION OF U.S.

The last sentence of the above quote is a perfect description of the U.S. today ("mature capitalism moving toward transformation into socialist society."). Why then does RU need to revise these basic teachings and invent some new third period?

There is a method to this madness. Like the CPUSA revisionists before them, the RU is trying to make a break with Lenin and Stalin's revolutionary teachings on the national question in order to impose a great-nation chauvinist line on the U.S. working class. The new theories teach the people that because of the "new type" of national question, it is no longer necessary to uphold in practice the right of self-determination, which they claim is impossible to achieve under capitalism and not necessary under socialism. They also attempt to liquidate the national question in the sense of it being a broad movement of many classes within the oppressed nation. Instead they claim it is a "proletarian question" and a "proletarian nation." This "left" and "proletarian" rhetoric actually proves devastating in practice to the Black united front and the broad character of the democratic struggle for rights, like the one presently going on in Boston and other cities.

By turning their back on the broad national character of the Black liberation struggle, which includes the many classes of Black people, not just the proletariat, the RU opens its main guns on Black nationalism and the Black civil rights activists and reformers whom it labels in its

ON OUR SECOND ANNIVERSARY

Comrades,

Best wishes on your second anniversary. I hope that this third year will bring continued development of your analysis and the O.L.'s practice. *THE CALL* can indeed serve many important purposes, and I hope that you, along with others, can continue to struggle honestly and openly to form a new communist party. The paper continues to improve with each issue—the last few months have been the best. Keep vigilant against sectarianism—unity must come from principled struggle. It would be unfortunate if the various communist organizations can only compete and advance their own interpretations as "true Marxism." The positions of R.U., for instance, are too static—not closely examined, non-dialectical.

I hope you begin to devote more space to theoretical articles and news and analysis about women. You present a strong stand on white chauvinism; there seems to be less concern about male chauvinism. You do present quite a bit about working women—keep that up. The oppression of women is not merely a class question as the oppression of people of color is not merely a class question. Here again, R.U. teaches by negative example with if not downright reactionary views, then very conservative views on the women's movement and women's oppression.

I'd like to agree with your position on the deportation of aliens. It takes very well thought out analysis to criticize in a comradely manner as you did. The United Farm Workers Union is indeed threatened and fighting for its life, but that does not justify cooperation with the Immigration officials who only serve this government.

In summary, the paper overall is excellent; analysis is becoming clearer. Your development is very important to my own political development.

H.A., Pacific Grove, Calif.

This headline could have well come from right-wing paper.

The opportunist line of the RU has not developed without struggle. Many honest forces in recent months have broken from the line and from the organization, and the RU is being broadly criticized by many forces within the working class movement. It is largely in struggle to understand and oppose this line that the ideological foundations for a new communist party are being laid. Political line has become decisive in the development of such a party. Up until now, the debates over the national question have been largely confined to the realm of theory and restating the basic principles of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought. But practice and class struggle are the crucibles within which any political line can be tested. It is in the heat of mass struggle that a party must be forged, and the Boston events have provided such a test.

Under these conditions, the RU, rather than standing in solid defense of the rights of the masses of Black people and in the interests of all working people, has claimed that the stone-throwing mobs in the streets actually represent the interests of the white working class. They put forth, shockingly enough, that Black people should unite with the mobs in the streets.

Spouting the same weary racist excuses as the reactionaries (i.e. "The busing plan, then disrupts the lives of lots of children and their parents...") the RU refuses to defend in practice the national democratic rights of the Afro-American people, including the right to integrate, free from violent attacks. In their newspaper, they go so far as to attack the October League, Struggle (a Black anti-imperialist newspaper) and many other groups for calling for an end to the racist white boycott. They further attack the demand to "break up the fascist gangs" who have been pulling

PART 3 RESPONSE TO THE REVOLUTIONARY UNION

own racist fashion as "Black bootlickers." This racist view objectively splits the Black struggle and undermines the united front.

The historic national oppression of Black people, who developed as a nation of people within the former slave areas of the South over a 300-year period, led to the development of Black nationalism. A Marxist understanding of this nationalism was clearly put forth by Lenin who wrote, "The bourgeois nationalism of any oppressed nation has a general democratic content that is directed against oppression, and it is this content that we unconditionally support."

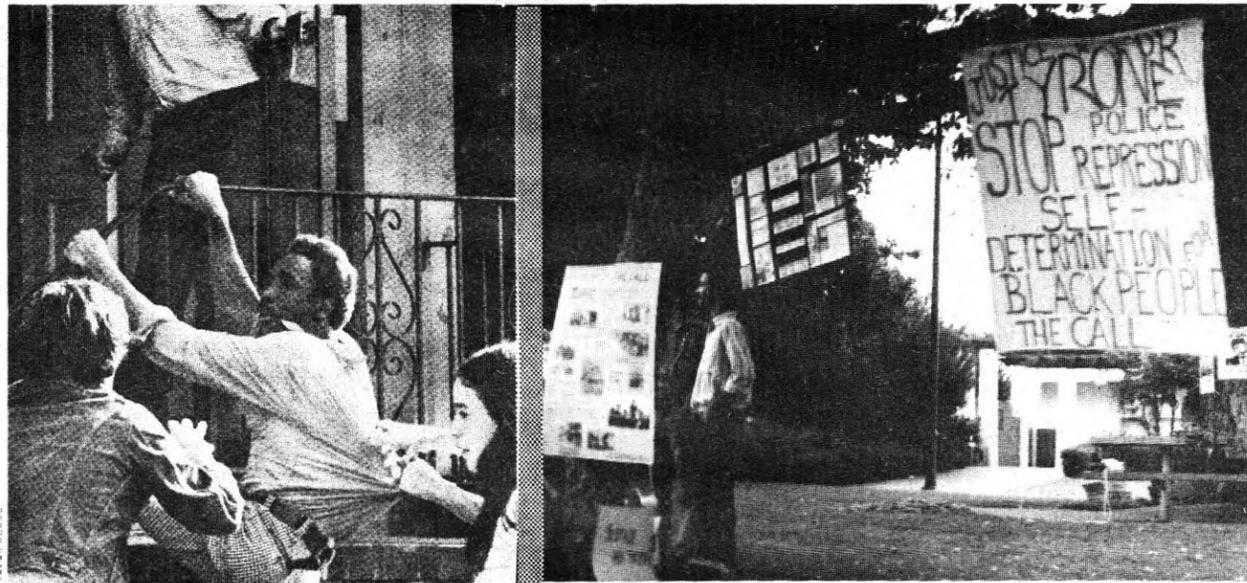
In other words, while nationalism is a bourgeois ideology quite different from Marxism-Leninism, the fact that the outlook of a section of the oppressed national bourgeoisie of the oppressed nations objectively unites with the proletarian struggle against imperialism, and the fact that its nationalism is taken up as a rallying cry by millions of proletarians gives this outlook a progressive character.

But the RU refuses to unite with this "general democratic content" and instead repeats the worn chauvinist phrases of their forerunners in Progressive Labor Party who attacked "all nationalism" and refused to distinguish between the two types of nationalism—that of the oppressing nation and that of the oppressor nation.

Recently the RU has gone so far as to state that "Black nationalism is 'the main danger in the communist movement,'" and has launched the most racist campaign against the so-called "Bundists" who have recently left the leadership of the RU on the grounds that they could no longer put up with the racist and degrading treatment they received in the RU. For RU's part, they claim to have largely solved the problem of white chauvinism in their ranks.

But RU's own example demonstrates the fact that it is great-nation or white chauvinism which has always been the main weak point of the communist movement within the imperialist countries.

The August issue of Revolution directs its main attack on the OL around the question of the Black United Front, which is our strategic approach to the question of Black liberation. The United Front unites all those that can be united in the fight for Black liberation and self-determina-



A RACIST MOB, inspired by the fascist anti-busing movement in Boston, launches a cowardly attack on a Black worker (left). In Oakland, communists raise support for right of self determination (right) and justice for Tyrone Guyton.

(Call Photo)

tion. Within the united front there is the struggle for working class leadership, based on the fact that the workers are the strongest class within the Black nation and the most consistently revolutionary class. In unity with the general workers' movement, the Black United Front is directed at imperialism and its racist policies. It is a component part of the United Front Against Imperialism and along with the general multi-national workers movement makes up the core of that front.

The RU claims that this strategy "pushes forward certain 'progressive' petty bourgeois and bourgeois elements in the Black and third world movement. . . ." and later in their article ". . . it turns out they mean unity with the imperialists and united front behind the 'liberals' in the ruling class, 'with the labor fat cats and Black bootlickers as the front men.'" (August Revolution, p.18).

The truth of the matter, however, is that RU's racist line and attacks on the united front in fact leave the masses under the thumb of these petty bourgeois forces. This is the same approach, in essence, that they take towards the trade unions and the international struggle of the third world countries, which is to drive the middle forces into the arms of the enemy and leave the working class to go it alone, without allies.

ERRORS IN OUR WORK

While making many errors in the past in our work, the OL has tried to raise a consistent struggle against the petty bourgeois nationalism and reformism of various opportunists within the Black United Front. This has been carried out in the course of struggle against racism and white chauvinism of all sorts.

Examples of this can be seen in our work during the 1972 Mead wildcat strike and other battles in Atlanta, where we combatted the pacifist line of certain forces and struggled against the view that we should rely on the good graces of the liberal Black politicians. However in combatting the sectarian line of the likes of RU and others who would smash Black unity if they could, and liquidate the national question, our comrades did at times fall into certain rightist errors during the Atlanta anti-repression campaigns. There were times when we failed to expose the likes of these reformists, when in fact we should have.

But these errors came through our active involvement in the struggle for self-determination and in defense of the basic national rights of Black people. They came through lack of study and failure to make a concrete analysis of the complicated situation. They also came through lack of experience.

The RU, however, which is totally absent from the struggles of the Black masses for their rights, and which has in fact increasingly sided with the rock-throwing racist mobs against the Black masses, are in no danger of making mistakes of this type.

We will continue to learn from our errors and openly criticize them. But the main blow must not be directed at "tailing nationalism." Narrow nationalism is an outgrowth of white chauvinism and national oppression. It can only be defeated among the people in the course of the main struggle against all national oppression.

In summary then, it is our view that the recent attacks on the OL and other revolutionary organizations in the paper, Revolution, serve to reveal the opportunism of the RU.

Faced with internal dissension and splits and growing isolation from the struggles of the workers and oppressed people, the RU leadership has engaged in these vicious attacks on other sections of the revolutionary movement in order to take the heat off of themselves and pacify their own rank and file.

The common thread running through their actions, has been a kind of petty bourgeois, anti-Marxist opportunism which takes on the form of white chauvinism and liquidation of the national question, and the struggles for democratic rights of minorities and women. The RU has violated the principles of the anti-imperialist united front; has engaged in splitting and wrecking activities within the movement; and has abandoned all communist work within the trade unions.

This represents a line which is "super revolutionary" and ultra-"leftist" in form, but is rightist in essence and, as it has done in the Boston events, places them objectively on the side of the reactionaries.

A new communist party can be built only in militant opposition to both modern revisionism and the CPUSA and the petty bourgeois "leftism" of groups like the RU.

LETTERS TO THE CALL



FROM THE FABCO FOUR

Dear Call,

We are writing this letter to tell you about our brief experience with "equality in hiring." We are four women who, within the space of two weeks, were hired and fired by FABCO (division of Kelsey-Hayes) in Oakland. All of us wanted skilled trades so that we could avoid the unemployment lines. When we were hired in this machine shop, each of us was assured of permanent jobs and the necessary training to become skilled machinists.

Since we were the first women hired at FABCO since WWII, we were a bit unsure of our reception from the men. As it turned out, the men were the only thing we didn't need to worry about! For instance, of the four women hired, two were white and two were Black. The two white women were given the more skilled jobs, and the two Black women were immediately sent to the hardest and least skilled jobs in the plant. In talking to some of the workers, we found out that this kind of discrimination has always taken place at FABCO.

The men employed by FABCO were preparing for their 3rd strike vote. After the company discovered that we were behind the workers 100 per cent in their effort to better working conditions, we were terminated on the pretense that they had to call back 10 lay-offs. Since we were fired, however, several men have been hired off the street to replace us.

The four of us decided we had to stick together and

fight back! We got an attorney and filed charges of sex and race discrimination with the EEOC and the FEPC. We've received unanimous support from the many equal rights and women's organizations in the area, such as CLUW. A rank-and-file newspaper in our union (Local 1546, IAM) has printed our story and sponsored a picnic where workers from several different shops came to show their support for our struggle.

Cases of discrimination and all kinds of attacks on workers are not uncommon in this company or anywhere in this society! We feel the only way to end this exploitation is to band together. United we can turn the company's policies around. Women and men, minorities and whites, young and old—all of us have something to gain by sticking together! We will continue to have informational picket lines at the plant until we're working side-by-side with our brothers at FABCO again!

The FABCO Four, Oakland, Calif.

PUERTO RICO ERROR

Dear Call,

I find your paper to be excellent and the clearest and most concise publication in the communist movement. Your October issue was very good, especially the attention you paid to the Puerto Rican struggle and Albizu Campos. However, I would like to make one criticism. On page 12 the articles on Puerto Rico had contradictory information. The first credited the founding of the Nationalist Par-

ty to Albizu Campos in 1928. The second said the Party was formed in 1922 and that Campos joined in 1924 and was elected vice president in 1925. It is important that the facts in your paper be correct in order to show that people can have confidence in your ideas.

I point this out only so you can correct the error and continue to excel in bringing the people the kind of propaganda and agitational material so necessary in building a new party and a revolution.

In Struggle,
J.S., Chicago

The Call answers: Thanks for pointing out our error. The Nationalist Party was in fact founded in 1922. Albizu Campos joined in 1924 and became president in 1930.

ON THE PARDON

Dear Call,

If you had been in Denver last week you would have seen how a young Airman, Daniel Hodge, in solitary confinement for over 90 days straight was harrassed and persecuted by the Air Force to the point of emotional strain. Evidently he hadn't suffered enough because he was given a Bad Conduct Discharge and a prison term for minor "crimes" which look like nothing compared to what Nixon and the bosses of this country did and continue to do to us and people all over the world! Tell us that all these people should go to jail because they haven't suffered enough!

We see through the mask of piousness and see that this pardon is nothing more than an act of privilege for someone who got caught trying to strengthen that system of privilege and profit for a few at the expense of us, most of the working people of this country.

Robert Anyon for
Denver Chapter, Vietnam Veterans Against
the War/Winter Soldier Organization

Hyde Park and South Boston. Black kids being bused to these communities without any protection, have been injured by rock-throwing mobs, whipped into a frenzy by the media of the ruling class and the fascist agitators. Black busdrivers have also been attacked. Police called in to control the situation have instead served to inflame it. The role of the cops has been mainly to suppress the efforts of the Black community to defend itself and to occupy the community while nothing is done to protect it.

From within the Black community has come the demand for federal protection as mobs of hundreds of racists have surrounded and attacked school buses of small Black children and nightriders have fired guns on Columbia Point hous-

built small and without modern large-scale facilities to accommodate only those students from the surrounding neighborhoods. Thus Boston's segregated housing patterns guaranteed segregated schools. Because of these practices, the government refused funding and all Boston schools were hurt.

Throughout their political careers, Hicks and Kerrigan have shown that they were the racist representatives of Boston's real estate interests and the biggest banks who have financed their elections. Their demagogic slogans of "quality education and neighborhood schools" are nothing but false promises aimed at pitting Black against white. The Hicks forces went so far as to proclaim "freedom first, education second" at a recent anti-busing rally, show-

lords, politicians, and petty bureaucrats to the small shop owners and professional people, constitute the fascist front. Sections of misled working class youth and their angry parents have been brought into the front. Bridging the gap between the politicians and the working class are the trade union bureaucrats, especially in the most backward, racist unions--ie. the building trades, fireman, etc...

Working and middle class homeowners are victims of rising taxes and rising fuel bills, while real wages are going down. Ordinary city services, like street cleaning and repairs are being reduced in Mayor White's austerity program in this bankrupt city. The youth see no future, no jobs, no chance for college and are the victims of abuse by the police. Even patronage opportunities are fewer as Boston's

Continued from
page one

DEFEND BOSTON BLACK CO

ing project.

But while supporting such demands for federal protection, the people are also beginning to realize that in the final analysis, they must rely on themselves. The lack of federal protection has only served to expose the government and especially the liberals, who have refused to send in help. This stand goes back a long way in the Kennedy family to when then Attorney General Robert Kennedy refused to send troops into Selma, Ala. in the early 60's to protect civil rights marchers.

Without their own armed self-defense committees, the people of Boston's Black community will be subject to racist attacks at any time. This is the lesson of history.

Playing on the racist fears of the people, the Hicks gang, calling itself ROAR (Restore Our Alienated Rights) has been effective in keeping white kids out of the schools in Southie, Hyde Park and Roxbury High Schools where Black students are being bused. (Roxbury High in the Black community was to receive white students). The openly racist white boycott is also being organized by the KKK which has arrived in town and is openly organizing in the streets of South Boston.

The demonstration in Southie on National Boycott Day, Oct. 4, was the largest in the country. Eight thousand people marched under fascist leadership.

Steeled by the civil rights struggles of the 60's, the Black community showed great restraint and unity. However, after continued abuse and one particularly brutal attack by the racists, anger exploded in Roxbury. Black youths from English High pelted police with rocks and hit other vehicles as well. The community demanded and was refused protection by Mayor White who said he would not support any more court orders without federal help.

The history leading up to this present chain of events goes back a ways. In response to the demands of the Black community for an end to the hoax of "separate but equal education"; the Massachusetts Legislature passed the Racial Imbalance Act of 1965. The Boston School Committee, led by Hicks and Kerrigan, deliberately ignored the Act. These demagogues began to organize the white communities into an anti-busing front, block by block.

In the minority communities, schools were left to languish without needed repairs and upkeep. Only when white students were to be bused in, were these schools given any of the much needed improvements. New schools were

ing clearly that their real concern was never decent education for the youth, but the "freedom" to keep Boston's schools segregated and the minority students in the lousiest part of that school system.

The liberals like Senator Kennedy and Judge Garrity have shown themselves to be little different than the open fascists. They have continually added fuel to the racist fire by saying that only by rubbing elbows with white kids can Black and other minority kids learn. Their whole integrationist scheme is based upon white supremacist assumptions about education. The liberals have also used integration to build liberal electoral support while using the inflamed anti-busing sentiments to make Black children their political cannon fodder.

It is no accident that all the present furor over busing and "quality education" has been dragged out at this time by liberals and conservatives alike. The depths of the present economic crisis has thrown workers, Black and white, into fierce and militant struggles in defense of their living standards. A strike wave has swept the country, the likes of which hasn't been seen in 40 years.

Historically, whenever such a movement has developed, the ruling class has come to rely on their favorite weapon, white racism, to split the ranks of the working people and get them fighting each other. The real meaning of the anti-busing movement is continued and intensified national oppression of Black people and further robbing them of the right of self-determination.

This understanding is needed to expose the real anti-working class character of this movement, despite its demagogic appeals to the white workers. The real issue for the likes of Kerrigan, Hicks and Kennedy has never been "quality education" or the use of school buses, but has always been the need to break the back of the working class. This remains true today.

Today, the pivotal question is whether the rising fascist tide will be able to engulf the whole country or whether the peoples' forces will awaken to this real danger and be able to lead the working class and its allies to victory. Routing the fascists in Boston is an essential task, both in the immediate sense and also in terms of building the united front against imperialism with revolutionary leadership.

Where does the fascist danger come from? An alliance ranging from the biggest banks and monopolies, the land-

Brahmins (the traditional ruling class) squeeze out the once-dominant local Irish politicians.

Many people are misled through demagogic appeals to their most narrow and immediate needs, such as lower taxes; better schools; and safety, which the fascists never intend to meet. But in the absence of a well-developed working-class movement with revolutionary leadership, it is the reactionaries who have been speaking to the most urgent needs and demands of a section of the masses.

One leaflet complains about "poor MBTA (Boston's transit system) service during rush hour at below-zero temperatures." Another says, "We are denied a new middle school" while another says, "Children here need good medical and dental attention." It can be no comfort that these are raised cynically and that, in fact, it is the leaders of the fascist front who are responsible for the deterioration of the schools.

"It is not racism that's the issue" claims a leaflet which then goes on to put forth the most inflammatory racist tract "Up until recently the town has been largely white..." and "take note that when it was a Jewish-Irish community there was no welfare office."

On October 7, Jean-Louis Andre Yvon, a Black worker from Haiti, going to pick up his working wife, traveling by a route he has always travelled, was dragged from his car and beaten in front of national television news, by a gang of racists. This and many other incidents are the results of overt appeals to the prejudices, which are deeply ingrained in the masses. Contrary to the mealy-mouthed denials and guarded public statements, the appeal in the local meetings is to white chauvinism.

The ideology of the reactionaries is characteristically American populist. Fascism is not a word they like. They were embarrassed when the National Socialist White People's Party (nazis) came to town with their swastikas-- "How UnAmerican!" The KKK is more acceptable. The walls of South Boston are scribbled over with "Southie is KKK country" and "Nigger Go Home." The racists also appeal to the people largely on the basis of being against the liberals, trying to cover over the fact that they, along with Kennedy, represent the interests of the big businesses.

The recent events in Boston have served to once again expose the role of the revisionist Communist Party, who has worked in Boston for decades riding on the liberal

Reprinted from *Struggle Newspaper*

White Reactionaries in Revolutionary Trimmings

The recent events have revealed many things. One thing that has been revealed with crystal clarity is the deep rooted racism, national chauvinism, of large sections of the white working class. And out of this has been revealed the tremendous task of white revolutionaries, in particular, to take this racism head on, and win the majority of white workers out of the hands of the racist system and into the tide of revolutionary struggle against this system; the enemy of all people.

But also it has been revealed that many white so-called revolutionaries are backing away from this task. Some are retreating so far and so fast that they have left the bourgeois liberals like Kennedy and Mayor White in the dust. Some have retreated damn near to the camp of Hicks and Kerrigan.

This is seen in the position taken by certain "revolutionary" organizations calling for an end to the Boston school desegregation plan as the principal slogan of this entire struggle. This slogan takes many forms; "Black and white unite to smash the Boston busing plan" or "Busing: Imperialist plot to divide the working class." Whatever its form it is the same slogan raised by Hicks, Kerrigan and other arch-racists. When explaining why they raise this slogan, the "revolutionaries" respond that busing is not the issue--quality education is. The response from Hicks and Kerrigan is the same.

To mask this essentially racist, reactionary line, they, the so-called "revolutionaries" will have as a demand,

"equal, quality education for all, community control of schools for Black and Latin people." But they do not also raise the democratic right of oppressed nationality children to go to any school that they wish, that they not be attacked and that the government foot the bill, that is, provide transportation. This, essentially reduces that demand to a call for "separate but equal" education for Black and other third world children.

Another aspect of this position is that it blames busing for the attacks on Black children and not the deeply rooted racism instilled in white workers by the capitalist system. It does not see the deep pitted flame of racism being fanned by fascist elements to incite attacks on Black and other third world people as a real thing. As far as these so-called "revolutionaries" are concerned it's all a matter of forced busing. So the way they will fight white racism is to call for an end to forced busing. Louise Hicks couldn't have done it better herself. These reactionaries in revolutionary trimmings go so far as to say that the basis of unity between white and Black people is opposition to the busing plan. Following this logic, Black people should march out to South Boston tomorrow and join arms with the white mobs to oppose busing (even though we'd be stoned to death trying).

An important and good thing is that Black people have been educated and steeled in a long, arduous struggle against the forces of racism, segregation, and discrimination of all sorts, so this reactionary line put forward by so-



without modern large-scale facilities to accommodate those students from the surrounding neighborhood. Boston's segregated housing patterns guaranteed segregated schools. Because of these practices, the refused funding and all Boston schools were at their political careers, Hicks and Kerrigan that they were the racist representatives of estate interests and the biggest banks who their elections. Their demagogic slogans of "education and neighborhood schools" are nothing but promises aimed at pitting Black against white. Forces went so far as to proclaim "freedom of choice second" at a recent anti-busing rally, show-

lords, politicians, and petty bureaucrats to the small shop owners and professional people, constitute the fascist front. Sections of misled working class youth and their angry parents have been brought into the front. Bridging the gap between the politicians and the working class are the trade union bureaucrats, especially in the most backward, racist unions—ie. the building trades, fireman, etc...

Working and middle class homeowners are victims of rising taxes and rising fuel bills, while real wages are going down. Ordinary city services, like street cleaning and repairs are being reduced in Mayor White's austerity program in this bankrupt city. The youth see no future, no jobs, no chance for college and are the victims of abuse by the police. Even patronage opportunities are fewer as Boston's

coat tails of the Kennedys. The abandonment of the struggle for Afro-American self-determination on the grounds that "Black people have already opted for integration" disarmed the working class and the Black masses in their fight against national oppression. The CP began to echo the same integrationist line as the preachers and the liberals. This line robbed the Black liberation struggle of its revolutionary guts and tried to turn it into simply a reform movement under capitalism. At the same time, the work of winning the white workers to support this revolutionary struggle was dropped.

The busing solution as proposed by the liberals and backed by the CP is reformist in the sense that it poses no real solution to the problems of the people. While the rights

END BOSTON BLACK COMMUNITY....

that their real concern was never decent education for the youth, but the "freedom" to keep Boston segregated and the minority students in part of that school system.

Like Senator Kennedy and Judge Garrity, they pretend to be little different than the rest. They have continually added fuel to the fire by saying that only by rubbing elbows with the Black and other minority kids learn. Their integrationist scheme is based upon white supremacism about education. The liberals have also tried to build liberal electoral support while blaming anti-busing sentiments to make Black people political cannon fodder.

It is evident that all the present furor over busing and "freedom of education" has been dragged out at this time and conservatives alike. The depths of the present crisis has thrown workers, Black and white, and militant struggles in defense of their living standards. The strike wave has swept the country, the likes of which hasn't been seen in 40 years.

Whenever such a movement has developed, the masses have come to rely on their favorite weapon, the union, to split the ranks of the working people and to unite each other. The real meaning of the anti-busing movement is continued and intensified national oppression of Black people and further robbing them of their self-determination.

Understanding is needed to expose the real anti-Black character of this movement, despite its appeals to the white workers. The real issue is not "freedom of education" or the use of school buses, but the need to break the back of the working class remains true today.

The pivotal question is whether the rising fascist danger is able to engulf the whole country or whether the forces will awaken to this real danger and end the working class and its allies to victory. The fight against fascists in Boston is an essential task, both in the immediate sense and also in terms of building the struggle against imperialism with revolutionary leadership.

Where does the fascist danger come from? An alliance between the biggest banks and monopolies, the land-

Brahmins (the traditional ruling class) squeeze out the once-dominant local Irish politicians.

Many people are misled through demagogic appeals to their most narrow and immediate needs, such as lower taxes; better schools; and safety, which the fascists never intend to meet. But in the absence of a well-developed working-class movement with revolutionary leadership, it is the reactionaries who have been speaking to the most urgent needs and demands of a section of the masses.

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On October 7, Jean-Louis Andre Yvon, a Black worker from Haiti, going to pick up his working wife, traveling by a route he has always travelled, was dragged from his car and beaten in front of national television news, by a gang of racists. This and many other incidents are the results of overt appeals to the prejudices, which are deeply ingrained in the masses. Contrary to the mealy-mouthed denials and guarded public statements, the appeal in the local meetings is to white chauvinism.

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The recent events in Boston have served to once again expose the role of the revisionist Communist Party, who has worked in Boston for decades riding on the liberal

of Black and other minority students to integrate must be protected, the view that integration under capitalism is the solution will only weaken the real struggle for self-determination. Where national oppression exists, national culture and national unity must also be protected. This is the basis upon which many minority communities have opposed forced busing, especially when it is purposely used to smash minority-oriented schools.

When we uphold the right of self-determination in this situation, it means the most consistent fight against all national oppression, including the guaranteed right to integrate, free from fear of racist violence. But it also means the right to protect and develop national culture.

The CP's approach has been to play to the same middle class moralism on integration as the Kennedy liberals. They have turned their back on the working class and left them to be preyed upon by the reactionaries. They have also glorified the question of "quality education" under capitalism, rather than showing how the education question is being used to smash the rising working class struggle.

Along with the CPUSA, the Revolutionary Union (RU) has made a thorough exposure of its white chauvinist and opportunist line by putting forth on the front page of its newspaper, the slogan, "People Must Unite to Smash the Boston Busing Plan" in support of the racist anti-busing movement and white boycott. Mistaking militancy for class consciousness and being frustrated at their lack of any real following in the working class, the RU has responded enthusiastically to the roving bands of white youth fighting police and beating up Blacks.

The RU has failed to distinguish between the opposition to busing from sections of the minority community and the fascist opposition being organized in South Boston. Their call to "unite" on the basis of this opposition has led them to side objectively with the racists. This difference is as fundamental as the difference between oppressed and oppressor nations, the starting point for a correct stand on the national question.

Events in Boston now provide us with one of those proving grounds of history where words alone can no longer carry any group of revolutionaries. Everyone will be judged by the masses on the basis of where they stand in practice. Opportunists of all stripes will face the consequences of their actions.

Struggle Newspaper

Reactionaries in Disguise

education for all, community control of schools, and Latin people." But they do not allow the right of oppressed nationality children to go to school that they wish, that they not be forced to accept government foot the bill, that is, segregation. This, essentially reduces that de-segregated but equal" education for Black children.

In this position is that it blames busing for the lack of children and not the deeply rooted racism of white workers by the capitalist system. The deep pitted flame of racism being fanned by the government to incite attacks on Black and white people as a real thing. As far as these "reactionaries" are concerned it's all a matter of the way they will fight white racism. They are not forced busing. Louise Hicks couldn't do it herself. These reactionaries in revolutionary so far as to say that the basis of unity between Black people is opposition to the busing. In this logic, Black people should not go to Boston tomorrow and join arms with the reactionaries to oppose busing (even though we'd be fighting).

The good thing is that Black people have been forced into a long, arduous struggle against racism, segregation, and discrimination. This reactionary line put forward by so-



called "revolutionaries" will not gain foothold among the Black masses. Our struggle is a struggle for full democratic rights, and in this case, the right to a decent education in the schools in our communities, under community control and anywhere else we wish to go. But the choice must be ours. If we are bused to schools outside of our community that should be our choice and we should not be attacked upon arriving at these schools.

A condition of unity between white and Black people is defense of the democratic rights of minorities. The task of white revolutionaries is not to tail behind the most backward section of the white workers and parrot Hicks and Kerrigan's slogan "end the Boston school desegregation plan," and then tell Black people we should unite with whites on the basis of their racism. This is a stab in the back to white workers as well as to the masses of oppressed nationality peoples. Racism keeps its adherents (in this case the white people of South Boston) ignorant and backward as well as fostering attacks on non-white people.

The task of white revolutionaries is to go into South Boston, yes go into South Boston and meet this racism head on; drive a wedge between the racist and fascist leaders, such as Hicks, and the masses of white working people; win them away from the ideology of racism, to support for the democratic rights of minorities; and, indeed to the point of laying down their lives if need be in defense of these rights; in short white workers must be won from reactionary national chauvinism to proletarian internationalism. This is the task of white revolutionaries. It is a long, extremely difficult task—but it must be met head on in a resolute fashion. Back sliding and retreating must be scorned, and those who practice it exposed for what they are; weak-kneed liberals at best, reactionaries at worst!

COLUMBIA POINT

In the face of fascist police department Columbia Point tenants Black and other tenants

Since the beginning has had to bear the brunt. At least half of the South Boston High School students have been beaten and arrested

Finally when Columbia Point responded understands—they On September 18 to verbally harass 21st, at least six people least 20 shots into of children playing

Some of the shots where the tenants legitimate defense of the In response to the ways to protect the and the Freedom House police car poster Mayor and the police of action and refusal Point residents. Police to come into the pr

As the Point tenants to get the police to will do it ourselves came forward to volunteer. Most who came out guns volunteered community also volunteered against the fascists. Some unit, others through about the situation

Support has come from the community. Many Black people led by the fascist leader Columbia Point tenants to the NAACP, which defended in face of the actions.

The government, ran true to form. The action against the fascist by Hicks and other White had stated presence of sending cops into students. His line of to side with Hicks a



STRUGGLE
American
imperialism
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We see
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coat tails of the Kennedys. The abandonment of the struggle for Afro-American self-determination on the grounds that "Black people have already opted for integration" disarmed the working class and the Black masses in their fight against national oppression. The CP began to echo the same integrationist line as the preachers and the liberals. This line robbed the Black liberation struggle of its revolutionary guts and tried to turn it into simply a reform movement under capitalism. At the same time, the work of winning the white workers to support this revolutionary struggle was dropped.

The busing solution as proposed by the liberals and backed by the CP is reformist in the sense that it poses no real solution to the problems of the people. While the rights

COMMUNITY....

of Black and other minority students to integrate must be protected, the view that integration under capitalism is the solution will only weaken the real struggle for self-determination. Where national oppression exists, national culture and national unity must also be protected. This is the basis upon which many minority communities have opposed forced busing, especially when it is purposely used to smash minority-oriented schools.

When we uphold the right of self-determination in this situation, it means the most consistent fight against all national oppression, including the guaranteed right to integrate, free from fear of racist violence. But it also means the right to protect and develop national culture.

The CP's approach has been to play to the same middle class moralism on integration as the Kennedy liberals. They have turned their back on the working class and left them to be preyed upon by the reactionaries. They have also glorified the question of "quality education" under capitalism, rather than showing how the education question is being used to smash the rising working class struggle.

Along with the CPUSA, the Revolutionary Union (RU) has made a thorough exposure of its white chauvinist and opportunist line by putting forth on the front page of its newspaper, the slogan, "People Must Unite to Smash the Boston Busing Plan" in support of the racist anti-busing movement and white boycott. Mistaking militancy for class consciousness and being frustrated at their lack of any real following in the working class, the RU has responded enthusiastically to the roving bands of white youth fighting police and beating up Blacks.

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COLUMBIA POINT DEFENDS AGAINST KKK / COPS OCCUPY PROJECT

Reprinted from *Struggle Newspaper*

In the face of fascist attacks by the Ku Klux Klan, the police department and other racist anti-busing forces, the Columbia Point tenants have shown that the struggle of Black and other third world people will continue.

Since the beginning of the school year Columbia Point has had to bear the brunt of the attacks in South Boston. At least half of the Black students that have attended South Boston High have been from Columbia Point. These students have been stoned by gangs, verbally attacked, beaten and arrested by cops inside the school.

Finally when shot at by the KKK, the people of Columbia Point responded in the only language that the KKK understands—they began armed self-defense of the project.

On September 18th, the Klan came to Columbia Point to verbally harass the tenants. Later that week, on the 21st, at least six people, dressed in Klan outfits, fired at least 20 shots into the project without regard to the lives of children playing in the area.

Some of the shots hit the day-care center in the project where the tenants had set up a command post to coordinate defense of the area.

In response to the attacks, tenants began to look for ways to protect themselves. They contacted the NAACP and the Freedom House, but the only response was a single police car posted at the entrance of the project. The Mayor and the police department followed their usual line of action and refused to provide any real protection to the Point residents. Police stood by while whites were allowed to come into the project and harass the tenants.

As the Point tenants put it "we did everything we could to get the police to help us. If they won't protect us we will do it ourselves by any means necessary." Tenants came forward to volunteer for work in defending the project. Most who came had guns to use, but even those without guns volunteered. People from other parts of the community also volunteered to participate in the defense against the fascists. Some helped by active duty in a defense unit, others through informing the rest of the community about the situation of the Point.

Support has come from the entire Boston Black community. Many Black parents whose children have been attacked by the fascist led gangs, supported the right of Columbia Point tenants to armed self-defense. Even groups like the NAACP, which opposed the right of the armed self-defense in face of fascist attacks, could not openly oppose the actions.

The government, Mayor White, and the police department ran true to form. They had consistently opposed taking action against the fascist attacks on minorities organized by Hicks and other politicians, as well as the KKK. Kevin White had stated previously that he did not like the idea of sending cops into South Boston to protect minority students. His line of action has been to move to the right to side with Hicks and Kerrigan and whip up support

among the most backwards sections of the white community.

Three days after the Columbia Point tenants organized the defense of the project, Kevin White ordered an invasion to "confiscate illegal weapons and restore order."

The police department moved into the project like storm troopers, attacking tenants and smashing property. 300 police in all occupied the project putting it under a state of martial law. Police in combat boots and riot gear, took up positions on the roofs of buildings with M16s and M1s equipped with marksman scopes. They broke into the Christian Center, (day-care center) the Klan had fired on, which was being used to coordinate the defense of the project, and set up a "command post" which served as an extension of the district police station.

In the course of the attack at least two people were injured enough to demand hospital care. One, a pregnant sister, was taken to the hospital and later released, the second, a brother, was attacked by about 15 cops with night clubs and taken to jail. He was released only when a group of tenants went to the jail and demanded his release.

The national news media quickly spread the lie that the tenants requested the occupation.

The police occupation brought immediate response from the Black community. Community meetings were organized to protest the occupation and map out a strategy to deal with the attacks. The Columbia Point tenants held a press conference demanding an end to the invasion.

Three days later the last of the police were withdrawn from the community center. The place was left in shambles. The church organ was smashed, racist slogans were painted on the walls, names of great Black leaders were defamed, and parts of the building were ripped up to "search for weapons." Due to the quickness of the residents, no weapons were found.

Columbia Point has a long history of struggle against racist oppression. Last year the tenants organized a rent strike to protest the horrible living conditions in the Point. The people of Columbia Point stand determined that no fascist offensive, whether from the Klan or the police, is going to run over them without a fight.

This spirit of struggle stands in the long tradition of all oppressed people who have refused to back down in the face of the brutal attacks of imperialism. There were those who said they could not support the Columbia Point tenants picking up the gun to defend the children, their lives, and their homes. These same people tell us that Black people have been non-violent in the face of racist oppression. It is these people who distort our history. The Deacons for Defense in the South, Nat Turner, The Black Panthers, all were prepared to fight "By any means necessary."

TOWARDS BLACK LIBERATION



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China National Day

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the Chinese Revolution was celebrated around the world this October 1, as a day of salute to the accomplishments of the Chinese people, and as a signal that friendship between the Chinese people and all other peoples of the world is growing firmer.

In the People's Republic of China, the main theme of the National Day celebrations was to sum up the lessons of the movement to criticize Confucius and Lin Biao. This mass criticism over the last year has been a call to the Chinese workers, peasants and soldiers to grasp Marxism more deeply, and continue on the road of revolution and socialist construction.

A joint editorial, written by the Chinese newspapers, "People's Daily," "Red Flag," and "Liberation Army Daily," stated on October 1, "The course we have traversed proves that the socialist system enjoys matchless superiority and immense vitality as compared with the capitalist system, and that, to build up, consolidate and develop the socialist system, it is imperative to unite the people of the whole country and persevere in continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat over a long period of time."

Further, the editorial expressed the significance of ideological development, saying, "Attention should be paid to training Marxist theoretical workers and enlarging their ranks in the course of struggle. In the movement to criticize Lin Biao and Confucius, we must further heighten our consciousness of the struggle between two lines, push for-

ward struggle-criticism-transformation on all fronts and further strengthen our adherence to the socialist orientation."

Chinese Premier Chou En-lai gave a National Day banquet which was attended by many leading members of the Chinese Communist Party as well as friends of China from every continent. Premier Chou told the banquet guests, "We express our sincere thanks to the people of the world and our friends from different countries for the support and assistance they have given us. As always we will work together with the people of the whole world to carry the struggle against imperialism and social-imperialism through to the end." Chou En-lai then proposed a toast "to the great unity of the people of various nationalities of China and to the great unity of the people of all countries."

This year, October 1 events were larger and more widely celebrated than ever. Even in the capitalist world, which for so long tried to isolate and attack China, mass rallies were held with the theme of friendship. In Paris, 10,000 people participated in a rally commemorating the Chinese revolution.

Leaders of third world countries used the occasion of China National Day to convey their solidarity with China in the world-wide struggle against all forms of imperialism and colonialism. Algerian President Houari Boumediene wrote, "Faithful to its principles, the People's Republic of China always fully supports the peoples' struggle for liberation and economic and social emancipation, thus making

most precious contribution to the victory of the ideals of justice, liberty, and peace."

In the United States, China National Day came on the heels of the founding of a national U.S.-China Friendship organization in September. This group, with over forty chapters, helped stage events and celebrations all over the country. The largest single celebration, sponsored by a coalition of groups in the San Francisco Bay Area, drew 2,600 people, including a large number from the Bay Area's Chinese communities. Featured speakers were Felix Greene, author of several books on China, and Owusu Sadaukai, member of the national secretariat of the African Liberation Support Committee. Sadaukai pointed out the example of the Chinese support for the African and Afro-American struggles as examples of the inspirational role China is playing today in the eyes of the oppressed peoples of the world.

Several years ago, China National Day was rarely observed outside of China. The U.S. government through its line of "encircling China," had effectively kept the truth about China from the American people, and the progressive and revolutionary forces were too weak and disorganized to break this blockade. Even in the large Chinese communities of the U.S., the agents of Chiang Kai-shek's reactionary government used gangster tactics to silence the voices which supported People's China. Around the world, U.S. imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism attempted to keep other countries from developing friendly relations with China.

The world has changed very much in the last few years, however. Today, the interest of the American people in China is overwhelming, and even Nixon and Ford are forced to take note of the achievements of the Chinese people in building a society free from poverty, crime and discrimination. Today, it is Chiang Kai-shek's gangsters who can no longer hold pro-Taiwan demonstrations in the Chinese communities, because of the total lack of support from the people. All over the world, the masses of people are looking to China with hope that following the path of the Chinese people, they too can achieve independence, liberation, and construct a socialist society.

On October first, the Central Committee of the October League, sent a message to Mao Tsetung, chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, and to Chou En-lai, the party's vice-chairman, which said in part, "The twenty-fifth anniversary of the People's Republic of China is a great day, not only for the people of China, but for the people of the U.S. and the whole world as well. We are all fighting the same struggle with the same enemies and China shines like a beacon to the oppressed and exploited people throughout the world, encouraging them to make revolution and smash imperialism once and for all."

WE WILL NEVER SWALLOW THE LIES OF THE CHILEAN REVISIONISTS

The people of Chile suffered a terrible set-back in their march towards national independence and to socialism. Following three years of progressive development under the leadership of the Allende government, they fell victim to a counter-revolutionary fascist military coup which overthrew President Allende. The country was dragged back under the heel of fascism and U.S. colonialism.

The Chilean people have a long history of anti-imperialist, anti-fascist struggle. They will certainly continue their resistance and sum up the necessary lessons. While directing the deserved blows at the well-known CIA intervention in Chile, it is important for the people of the whole world to know and understand the treacherous role of revisionism. Without the revisionist influence, U.S. imperialism would never have been able to break down the fighting capacity and unity of the people enough to allow the fascist junta to take power.

As Lenin long ago pointed out, without the most determined fight against opportunism and revisionism, the anti-imperialist struggle becomes "a sham and humbug." The modern revisionists of the U.S.S.R. were more than happy to parade Chile to the world as their showplace of "peaceful transition to socialism." This was their way of disarming both the people of Chile and the people of the world. Tailing slavishly behind the line of the Soviet Union, the revisionist Chilean CP spread the illusions that socialism could come through elections and "without guns" in the hands of the masses.



the Chilean fascists

As always, this "peaceful" path has led to the massacre of countless thousands and the torture and imprisonment of thousands more.

But all the suffering of the people is not enough to make the revisionists change their ways. In the August 1974 issue of the revisionist World Marxist Review, published in Prague, Czechoslovakia, the revisionist spokesman for the Chilean CP, Rene Castillo has an article, "Lessons and Prospects of the Revolution." On the question of these prospects, Castillo puts forth the following:

"Despite the claims of the reactionaries and the representatives of petty-bourgeois revisionism who echo them, non-armed winning of power in certain countries and under certain conditions has not been invalidated by the fascist coup in Chile."

Castillo adds,

"The extensive opportunities for alliances open to the working class, precisely because the country is under fascist rule, create the prerequisites for an alignment of forces in our favor, and the reactionaries will hardly venture to use arms against an offensive by the popular forces."

In other words the Chilean CP openly and blatantly refuses to arm the masses and prepare them for the revolutionary struggle against the fascist junta. They still peddle the idea that with a parliamentary majority by the working class, the fascists and U.S. imperialists will run in fear and abandon their billions in Chilean holdings. Castillo claims that a general strike will stay the junta's violence. He adds:

"A general political strike supported by the vast majority of the population can stay the hand of those who would use reactionary violence."

He then goes on in the article to attack Mao Tsetung's teachings that "Political power grows from the barrel of a gun." Referring to this correct thesis as "dogmatic" the renegade Castillo claims, "If the people are strong, united and prepared for struggle, they will find the means to prevent the enemy from shooting."

Despite all of these ravings about a political majority "preventing violence" the facts remain that imperialism is reaction down the line and has never paid attention to "majorities" except to manipulate people and bring them into their own rotten system of exploitation and domination. Mao Tsetung's thesis, along with the summation of the views of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Sta-

lin are all militant blows to the "peaceful transition" theory of Castillo and his forerunners, Bernstein, Kautsky, Browder, Khrushchev. Every victorious revolution has come about because the masses dared to take up arms against their oppressors. In no country has the ruling class ever failed to use violence and force against the people in the daily life of the capitalist system, and especially in the face of revolutionary struggle.

Castillo tries to use demagoguery by saying that "Violence is part of every path to power by the working class and the people." But with a quick sleight of hand trick, he adds, "Violence need not mean recourse to arms."

On this, the anniversary of the CIA-backed fascist coup, news is already coming out of Chile of armed resistance developing. The struggle of the people cannot be held down for long. The Chilean people will surely forge mass resistance to the junta's fascist terror and develop the leadership needed to arm the people and lead their country to independence and freedom. But to do so, they will have to rid their ranks of traitors and liars like Castillo, and his gang of revisionist collaborators. The same principle applies to our struggle here in the U.S. where we have our own revisionist CPUSA, with its own representatives like Gus Hall and Angela Davis who preach the same lies about an "electoral path to socialism."

If this struggle isn't carried out, we too will become the victims of fascism and left completely at the mercy of the ruthless exploiters.



the Chilean people

Forced Sterilizations Aimed at Minorities

In September 1973 the sterilizations of two young Black teen-agers in Montgomery, Alabama, Minnie and Mary Alice Relf, drew national attention to the role of the Federal government and "poverty programs" in sterilizing poor and minority women. Congressional hearings on the issue brought out shocking cases of doctors forcing women, especially welfare mothers, to submit to sterilization in exchange for other necessary services, such as the delivery of babies. After the initial furor, the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, which oversees public research and development on birth control and public health, promised to draw up "new guidelines" restricting the rights of federally-funded clinics to sterilize patients.

STERILIZATIONS AT L.A. COUNTY

At least 200 women, mainly Chicana and Black, were sterilized in recent months at L.A. County Hospital while undergoing cesarean births of babies. This is the largest number of forced sterilizations by one institution to be exposed so far. This is part of a growing wave of fascist forced sterilizations (usually sponsored by state welfare agencies) being done to minority and poor women in public hospitals. Many of the victims are teenagers.

Dr. Bernard Rosenfeld risked his job to expose some of these atrocities, handing over the lists of sterilized women to a local chapter of the National Lawyers' Guild. Along with the Mexican-American Legal Defense Fund (MALDEF) and activists in the Chicano and women's movements, lawyers interviewed the women on the lists.

The interviews revealed that:

—The women were given consent forms to sign while drugged, in labor, or in the operating room. The forms are in English, but many of the women could neither read or write English.

—Some were told that if they had their "tubes tied," the operation could be undone later if they wanted another baby. This is a lie. The operation is permanent.

—Several women were shocked and angered to learn at the interview that they had been sterilized. Hospital personnel had not told them, after the operation, and some women were using birth control pills or devices, unaware that their right to bear children had been stolen.

—Threats by social workers to cut women from welfare rolls if they had more babies was named as another factor by some victims. Some Mexican-born women working in the U.S. expressed worries about deportation if they dared to press charges against the government for this.

...women who spoke only Spanish were given consent forms in English

The L.A. cases are being acted on by a committee of women, students, Chicano and Black community activists and lawyers, called the Committee to Stop Forced Sterilizations. The Committee considers these to be clear-cut cases of forced sterilizations since they were done without the knowledge or consent of the victims. Community meetings and a demonstration at the hospital are being planned. Also, MALDEF is gathering names of women for a lawsuit against the agencies responsible for the operation. A call has gone out to any women who think this may have been done to them to contact MALDEF at 408 S. Spring St., Los Angeles, or call 627-1764.

The link between national oppression and the oppression of women is revealed nowhere so clearly as in these brutal attacks on the very bodies of national minority women, where their ability to reproduce is systematically destroyed. At the same time, the hypocrisy of the "War On Poverty" being waged by the government is stripped of all its decorations and shown to be nothing but the War On People.

Their rights as women have been trampled. On the one hand, the imperialists find no profit in research on safe, effective birth control pills or devices; and on the other, they deny to women the right to make the most basic decisions about their lives, such as whether or not to have children. This is part of the overall denial of women's rights in capitalist society.

Los Angeles is part of the region that the U.S. stole from Mexico in 1848. Many brutal acts have been carried out in this part of the country against the native peoples—from the theft of land and property to police murders of many. When Mexican laborers are no longer wanted, they are uprooted and deported by the U.S. government. The sterilizations of 200 women in this region is further proof of the total disregard of the imperialist system for the peoples of the Southwest.

WOMEN IN SOCIALIST NEW CHINA

(China Features)

by Hung Ying

"Women carry half of heaven on their shoulders" is a saying becoming increasingly popular among the people of new China.

Over the past 25 years since the founding of the Chinese People's Republic, the masses of Chinese women have played their role alongside the men in transforming a semi-feudal, semi-colonial old China into a socialist country with initial prosperity.

Women make up half of the population of China. A considerable number of outstanding women came to the fore during the various historical periods of the national-democratic and socialist revolutions, in the course of the revolutionary wars and other revolutionary struggles. For example, quite a number of advanced women marched in the ranks of the famous 7,700 mile Long March made by the Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Red Army in 1934-35.

Since the founding of new China, large numbers of women cadres have been brought up by the Communist Party and the people's government. Many women of outstanding abilities are emerging as never before in the socialist revolution and in socialist construction.

Large numbers of advanced women have been admitted into the ranks of the Communist Party. Women made up 20 per cent of the delegates to the Tenth National Congress of the Party held in 1973 and 12 per cent of the members and alternate members of the Tenth Party Central Committee.



Working women suffered grievously in old China. Not only were they, like their menfolk, exploited and oppressed under foreign imperialist and domestic reactionary rule, they also were made to suffer from the 2,000-year-old Confucian ideology that "men are superior to women." They were deprived of the right to take part in political and social activities, even in certain fields of productive work. In the home, dominated by the clan authority and the authority of the husband, they were in a degraded position. Their marriages were arbitrarily arranged by their parents, and they could be bought or sold like commodities.

The oppression of women is primarily class oppression inasmuch as inequality between the sexes stems from class inequality.

With the founding of the Chinese People's Republic in 1949, the working people became the masters of the country. That year, Chairman Mao called on the women of the whole country: "Unite and take part in production and political activity to improve the economic and political status of women." The party and the people's government, in the state constitution, laws and a series of policies, ensure and promote women's equal rights with men in political, economic, cultural, social and family life. For instance, the Marriage Law promulgated in 1950, abolishes the feudal marriage system based on arbitrary and compulsory arrangements and puts into effect a system of freedom of marriage.



The Labor Insurance Regulations made public in 1951 carry special provisions to safeguard the interests of women and children. Again the Decisions on the Development of Agricultural Producers' Cooperatives adopted by the Party Central Committee in 1953 stipulate: "Equal pay

for equal work should be the rule for both men and women, based on the amount and quality of their work. ...However, in the assignment of work, it is necessary to give due consideration to the special physiological difficulties of women." The Electoral Law issued in the same year states: "Women shall have the right to elect and to be elected on equal terms with men."



With the rapid development of the socialist economic and cultural construction, more and more women are taking part in productive labor as well as in political and cultural activities. More and more types of work are open to them. With their collective strength, housewives set up various kinds of neighborhood factories, turning out a host of products, including such advanced things as equipment for the electronics industry, to make a considerable contribution to the socialist construction. While creating material wealth for the society, Chinese women change their economic subordination and mental outlook.

"Times have changed, and today men and women are equal. Whatever men comrades can accomplish, women comrades can too." This teaching of Chairman Mao's has had a profound educational effect on the people of new China and tremendously encouraged Chinese women. Large numbers of women now work in the spheres of industry, agriculture, education, science and health and in all fields, in fact, except for those jobs unsuited for women physically. All services and trades open their doors to women and discrimination against the female sex is impermissible.

Women make up 20 per cent of the workers and staff in the February 7th Rolling Stock Plant in Peking, which had practically no women workers before liberation.



In the Tachai production brigade of Shansi province, women account for half the farm work done there every year. The women played an active role in wrestling last year's good harvest in the teeth of a 17 month-long drought.

On the well-known Red Flag Canal project in Honan province, women as well as men took part in blasting cliffs, driving tunnels and building bridges, hewing out a waterway on the rugged Taihang Mountains.

Women account for one-fifth of the country's medical personnel. In addition, there is a large contingent of women barefoot doctors which have come up since the start of the Cultural Revolution in 1966. Almost all the personnel doing maternity work in villages and factories are women.

To protect women's health and help free them from household drudgery, community dining rooms, nurseries, kindergartens, child care and maternity organizations have been set up in growing numbers in various parts of the country. In family life, men are encouraged to share household work with the women so as to make it easier for the latter to take part in political activities and productive labor.

At present, the millions of working women in China are taking an active part in the campaign to criticize Lin Biao and Confucius, lashing out at their contempt for the female sex and other notions of the ideology of the exploiting classes propagated by them. This is of far-reaching significance to the thorough emancipation of Chinese women.

EUROPE

CONTINENT IN CRISIS

Europe is a continent in crisis, torn by all the contradictions of capitalism which are developing at an ever-increasing rate. Inflation in Italy has gone over the 25 per cent mark per year, and other countries have suffered similar runaway inflation. Even the so-called "social welfare states" of Scandinavia are faced with unemployment, housing crises, and food shortages. These manifestations of economic crisis, have led to unprecedented political crises, in which nearly every Western European government has changed hands over the last year. Yet none of these governments have been able to stem the tide of the magnifying economic chaos.

This inability of the capitalists to continue to rule in the way they are accustomed has led them to rely on fascist measures to suppress the demands of the working class and peasants. At the same time, Europe's biggest monopolists have begun to see that different forms of cooperation or coalition with the revisionist "communist" parties of Europe, may prove to be the best method of suppressing the working class struggle, since these parties already act as the bribed agents of imperialism within the workers' movement.

The political turmoil generated by the rivalry between the U.S. and the USSR has added a new dimension to the instability of the overall situation—the genuine threat of a new world war in Europe. This threat is best exemplified by the Cyprus War and the other maneuvers of the two superpowers in trying to outflank each other in the Mediterranean.

The working class in Europe has responded to these conditions by accelerating its struggle to proportions unknown since WWII. In Germany's Ruhr Valley last year, wildcat strikes swept the big steel mills and auto plants, as workers demanded wage increases to keep pace with the cost of living, as well as an end to the discrimination against workers brought in as cheap labor from Turkey, Yugoslavia, and Italy. Recently, the workers at the Lip watch factory in France sparked a new wave of factory occupations when they took over Lip and ran production themselves to protest the company's plan to close the plant. In England, the miners' strike last winter brought the whole economy to a standstill and demonstrated the overwhelming power of workers' unity. In Italy and Portugal rank-and-file workers have organized militant actions against the companies and the government even when the so-called "socialist" leadership of their trade unions refused to support them.

The strength of this new workers' movement, as well as the mass upsurge among other sections of the population such as the farmers, has helped develop the new Marxist-Leninist parties of Europe in opposition to the revisionism and sell-out character of the old "communist" parties.

The Marxist-Leninist movement has waged struggle on two fronts—first against their own imperialist ruling class,

and secondly, against the opportunism of the revisionist parties, especially since these parties are on the verge of entering a number of European governments, and are already in a coalition in Portugal. The revisionist parties are large in most of West Europe, and have tremendous influence over the trade union movement. With their rhetoric of "anti-monopoly coalitions" and "electing a socialist government," the revisionists have always been the loyal opposition to Europe's social-democratic parties. Under the conditions of the current crisis, many Europeans are taken in by the revisionists' promise to bring "peaceful socialism" to the masses if they are elected.

Entering government is the primary objective of all Europe's revisionist parties, regardless of what other parties they must share power with. In Italy, the line of "historic compromise" is openly peddled by the revisionists. This theory puts forward a "basic unity" between Catholicism and communism, and calls for the working class to unite behind the Christian Democrats, Italy's ruling political party. In France, the special congress of the French revisionist party will meet soon to declare that "socialism is no longer their immediate objective," and that unity with other political parties, especially the Gaullists is of prime importance. In Portugal, the revisionists have agreed to support NATO if it means they can continue in the coalition government, while in Norway, the revisionist party is dissolving itself and merging totally inside an electoral bloc of left-wing social democrats.

ANYTHING FOR A SEAT IN GOVERNMENT

The Soviet Union has not only supported this line of "anything for a seat in government," but has in fact put it forward as a general strategy for the revisionist parties of Europe. This fits in perfectly with the desires of the USSR to gain the upper hand from the U.S. in dominating Europe since the revisionists can provide a "fifth column" of support for Soviet penetration.

In the intensity of the crisis in Europe, it is not just the revisionists and the Marxist-Leninists who have grown. The ruling classes have also attempted to consolidate by stepping up the introduction of fascist measures in France, Italy, and Germany. In the struggle to oppose this increased "fascisization," the differences between Marxism-Leninism and revisionism have emerged clearly. These differences may prove to be a life and death question for the masses of people in West Europe.

The extent of this fascisization is not very well known in the U.S. In Germany, for example, the U.S. press reports favorably on the "economic miracle" performed by Chancellor Schmidt in keeping inflation down and the growth rate up. But there is more to this than meets the eye. Schmidt, a former officer in the Nazi army, came to power after a scandal inside the social democratic party which forced Willy Brandt to resign. There is wide speculation that the scandal was developed intentionally by different fac-



Posters put out by the revisionist PCF call on workers to unite behind Mitterrand for "social progress and peace."

tions of the social democrats in order to bring in someone with a "harder line" than Brandt. At any rate, the policies of both Brandt and Schmidt have been to centralize the police and mobilize it against striking workers; to deport and harass foreign workers; to pass anti-union legislation and within the unions to pass regulations expelling the leftists; and to suspend many of the freedoms generally associated with bourgeois democracy.

A clear example of this is the case of Gunther Routhier, a member of the Communist Party of Germany-Marxist-Leninist (KPD-ML). Routhier, a worker from the Ruhr industrial region, was beaten to death by police during a court trial of a fellow worker. His death immediately became a symbol of the police brutality and increased fascism of the German ruling class. Thousands of workers marched at his funeral, although the police attacked there, too, injuring a number of people severely. In all, a dozen workers have been murdered by the police over the last year during strikes and demonstrations.

When the KPD-ML and other German revolutionaries and progressives attempted to report on these police murders, their newspapers were banned. Anyone caught publishing or distributing material which speaks of "police murder" is subject to arrest. The government has begun a full-scale campaign to seize revolutionary publications, and to destroy printing presses used by revolutionary groups.

STEP UP ANTI-FASCIST WORK

The Marxist-Leninists have used these incidents to step up their anti-fascist work, and to expose the fascisization going on inside the government. The revisionist party, (DKP), however, has taken up a thoroughly reactionary line on fascism. They say that the main danger is not from the Schmidt government, but from the extreme right-wing groups such as von Thadden's Neo-Nazi party. The DKP calls on Germany's working class to unite with the social democrats and Schmidt to oppose the organized Nazi elements, even though these groups are relatively small, and exist only with the backing they receive from the big financial interests which Schmidt represents. It is the social democratic government which has been the main initiators of fascist measures. This is similar to the line of the CPUSA in this country which calls for the people to support Kennedy-type liberals against "reactionaries" like Henry Jackson, even though both represent the main stream of monopoly capital.

In Italy, the revisionist party takes a similar stand towards fascism. At the height of strike waves and mass revolutionary struggles, the Italian revisionists call on the workers to unite with the Christian Democrats in order to "preserve democracy" and "defend the republic" against the terror attacks of some small fascist bands. But it is the Christian Democratic government which is responsible for armed attacks against strikes, for wage freezes and even for proping up the neo-fascist movement.

The Marxist-Leninists in the different European countries while exposing the way the revisionists take the heat off the main fascist elements, have also waged a struggle in their own ranks against an ultra-"left" line that says there is no "fascisization" taking place, and that the current attacks on the workers' movement are simply part and parcel of the imperialist system. While bourgeois democracy still exists in countries like Germany, the experience of the last year has shown that the fascist forces are consolidating, testing the waters with certain measures, and doing everything possible to destroy organized revolutionary movements among the workers. The rise of Hitler and Mussolini in the 30's was possible only because the social democrats of that period pushed a line of compromise with the fascists instead of vigilant struggle against every vestige of fascism when it first reared its ugly head. The European revisionists of today are playing the same role as the social democrats of that period who brought the labor movement to Hitler's feet. It is up to us to organize the people against the fascist threat.

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TAKING UP THE CALL

STRIKES FIGHT ECONOMIC CRISIS, FASCISM

Massive strikes raising political demands are sweeping the world in protest of the worsening economic crisis, and the fascist attacks against the masses of people. Although it is absolutely forbidden for Black workers to strike in Azania (South Africa), recent strikes in gold mines there saw workers hurl rocks and bottles at police. The government was forced to make its first concession in improving the wages of Black miners in several years, although the average pay is still under \$60 a month.

A general strike in India's Bihar province was begun Oct. 3, the third such strike since March. Demands ranged from an end to the famine conditions, to the resignation of the state government whose corruption has caused the overwhelming food shortages there. When police fired on the striking workers, killing seven, the citizens of Bihar responded by marching to a local police station and sacking it.

In Puerto Rico, 3,000 longshoremen went on strike Oct. 3, protesting unemployment and inflation. Thousands of longshoremen have lost jobs as a result of the mechanization of the U.S.-owned shipping industry. Another strike aimed at exposing the effects of inflation on workers' lives took place in Italy as the trade unions organized 10 million workers into a half-day general strike shutting down all production.

In Spain, where strikes are illegal just as they are in South Africa, workers have not ceased their resistance to fascism. In early October, over 30,000 workers struck for several days demanding the right to organize, better pay, and an end to the fascist regime.

SOVIET PLOT EXPOSED IN YUGOSLAVIA

The government in Yugoslavia has uncovered a plot to topple President Tito, which official sources have said was directed by Yugoslav refugees outside the country, and operated under the guise of a "revolutionary party." Western press agencies have offered evidence to the effect that the refugees in question reside in the Soviet Union, and that the "revolutionary" party they set up was aimed at bringing Yugoslavia under the domination of the USSR.

Because of its strategic position on the Mediterranean, Yugoslavia, which in recent years has pursued a course of independence from the two superpowers, has faced attempts at subversion and power politics from both the U.S. and the USSR. According to some reports, large amounts of cash and printed materials were smuggled into Yugoslavia from the USSR in order to back up this so-called "revolutionary" party.

The tactic of setting up phony "parties" and "liberation fronts" has been used by secret agents of both superpowers, especially the Soviet Union, in order to pose as revolutionary leaders of the masses. But this revolutionary rhetoric, as in the case of Yugoslavia, proved to be nothing more than an attempt to undermine Yugoslavia's internal stability, and bring it under the thumb of Soviet social-imperialism.

HOXHA STRESSES CLASS STRUGGLE, CHINA UNITY

Enver Hoxha, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Albanian Party of Labor, delivered an important speech to the October meeting of electors prior to the national People's Assembly elections. Hoxha began by emphasizing the significance of class struggle in advancing the cause of socialism. He said that class struggle is a "powerful weapon which purges us from evil, tempers us and makes us revolutionaries, which safeguards the party, the state, and the whole country from degeneration and the reestablishment of capitalism."

Hoxha dwelt on the importance of the struggle against both imperialist superpowers, and expressed the support of the Albanian people for the movements for liberation and independence which are sweeping the world. In attacking Soviet social-imperialism, Hoxha pointed out, "The Soviet revisionists see with a jaundiced eye our unbreakable friendship with China. They resort to every means to harm it, but they will never attain their goal."

Concerned about the possibility of war between the two superpowers in Europe, Hoxha discussed the need for friendship with Albania's neighbors. He said, "We are friends with the neighboring Greek and Yugoslav peoples. Even if we may not agree with each other in many respects, we have found, and we may find, a common language."

The economic goals set by the last series of five-year plans have been achieved in the main, and Enver Hoxha encouraged the electors to recognize the achievements of the Albanian masses in making their country self-sufficient and advancing socialism.



MEXICO STANDS FIRM ON OIL QUESTION

The discovery of large potential oil deposits in Mexico has already provoked the U.S. imperialists into talk of aggression, even though very little of this oil has even been drilled. Several U.S. senators remarked in Washington that "after all the U.S. has done for Mexico," U.S. oil companies would be entitled to their fair share of Mexican oil. Treasury Secretary Simon talked of how Mexico could help the U.S. break the "blackmail" of the Arab states by selling oil to the U.S. at rates well below the going price, and added that if Mexico were to unite with other countries of the Third World around oil prices, it would not be acting in the best interests of the hemisphere.

Mexico, while taking a cautious approach to the oil itself since the extent of the deposits are not known, has clearly stated that it will not undercut the oil prices of the OPEC countries. Following a meeting with President Ford, Mexico's President, Echeverria, told newsmen that Mexico and Mexico alone would determine its oil policy, and that it would stand with all third world countries in defending its resources against imperialist plunder.

SIKKIM STUDENTS PROTEST ANNEXATION

From the Hsinhua News Agency—Students in Sikkim have continuously held meetings and demonstrations in protest against the Indian government's forcible annexation of Sikkim, according to reports from New Delhi.

The Indian press revealed that on October 9, students in Gantok demonstrated against an Indian measure to turn Sikkim into its "associate state." The students met again in Gantok on October 10 to oppose the Indian government's colonial rule and imposition of an Indian-made "government of Sikkim act" on the Sikkim people.

The Indian government frantically clamped down on the patriotic and just struggle of the Sikkimese students. An order prohibiting meetings, processions and demonstrations was issued by the Indian-controlled police authorities in Sikkim. On October 10, India's central reserve police stationed in Sikkim beat up students at a meeting. Angered by the Indian police brutalities, the students fought back with stones and went on strike in protest.

FROM N.Y. TIMES: NO COMMENT NEEDED

Army Reserve Unit Trains In Governmental Functions

TULSA, Okla. (AP)—While many reserve units were spending their two-week training practicing with weapons, an Oklahoma company was training in governmental functions. The 486th Civil Affairs Company participated in operation "Boomer."

Under this program, unit members received training in various agencies of the executive branch of state government. The operation is designed to prepare the unit to assist in the reestablishment of governmental functions of a country outside The United States in the event of full-scale hostilities.

A GOOD BEGINNING IN CYPRUS

The exchange of several thousand prisoners between the Greek and Turkish Cypriots has shown the ability of the people of Cyprus to settle their own affairs without the intervention of the superpowers, or other foreign interests.

Since September, almost all of the 4,500 prisoners have been exchanged between the two sides, and the procedures have generally followed the timetable set out by joint negotiations.

The ability of the Cypriots to resolve the prisoner question, has helped exposed the opportunist motives of the two superpowers, who say that the Cyprus question can only be resolved with their participation. While the U.S. has contended that the question of Cyprus should be solved inside NATO, the USSR has maintained that only a UN delegation with armed forces and Soviet representation, can bring peace.

The reason the superpowers put forward these "peace plans" is that they want to assure themselves of a hand in determining the way Cyprus is handled, because it is a focal point of the Mediterranean and Mideastern strategies for both superpowers. But these kind of "peace plans" only lead to further war, when one superpower tries to improve its position on the other. The only lasting, peaceful settlement that is possible, is one that is agreed upon by the people of Cyprus themselves.

PLO INVITED TO UNITED NATIONS

The United Nations General Assembly voted overwhelmingly in favor of inviting the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) to represent the Palestinians at this year's UN debate on the Middle East. Only the U.S., Israel, Bolivia, and the Dominican Republic opposed the resolution, while well over a hundred countries supported it. Many of the third world countries spoke out during the debate to show that without the participation of the PLO, no discussion of Palestine carried any meaning.

Yasser Arafat, leader of the PLO, expressed his thanks to the countries which supported the PLO. He noted, however, that, "The UN resolution cannot liberate the fatherland." Arafat emphasized that the question is neither one of frontiers between Israel and the Arab countries, nor merely a "refugee problem" as it has previously been termed by the UN. It is a question of Palestine and the Palestinian people, said Arafat, emphasizing the just struggle of armed liberation which the Palestinians have led.

At the meeting of the Arab League in Rabat, Morocco, unity was reached authorizing the PLO to negotiate exclusively for the Palestinian people in the establishment of a Palestinian state on the West Bank of the Jordan River, which is currently occupied by Israel. Over the last year, the superpowers and the Zionists have capitalized on disunity between the PLO and Jordan's King Hussein in order to stall negotiations on the return of stolen Arab lands.

Hussein and Arafat exchanged pledges of solidarity and loyalty at the conclusion of the October 28 Arab League meeting. The Israeli Zionists, who have arrogantly refused to negotiate with the PLO, are now faced for the first time with the unified position of the Arab countries, and the United Nations as well, that the PLO speaks for the Palestinians.

Although the events on the diplomatic front have led to major victories for the Palestinian liberation movement, the line of the PLO remains to combine negotiations with armed struggle against the enemy. In October, Palestinian commando attacks were reported in Gaza City, at an Israeli tank base east of Acre and at several desert locations as well.



Palestinian liberation fighters have carried out organized armed struggle over the last ten years for the liberation of their homeland. Above, practice exercises are carried out in a base area.

COLONIALISM HIT FROM ALL SIDES

Recent events have demonstrated more than anything else the growing weakness of the fascist and colonialist forces in Portugal.

The first such event was the coming to power of a new government in the former Portuguese colony of Mozambique on Sept. 20. This new government is headed by the Mozambique Liberation Front (FRELIMO), which has led the people in their victorious 10-year armed struggle against Portuguese colonialism.

The second event was the resignation, Sept. 28, of Portuguese President Antonio De Spínola which was the result of a severe governmental crisis. The crisis centered around differences within the Portuguese ruling circles over how best to respond to the growing victories in the African liberation struggles as well as to the increasing militancy of the Portuguese masses. There were reports of an attempted right-wing coup in Lisbon.

LIBERATION NO GIFT

The victory in Mozambique and the establishment of a FRELIMO-led government there did not come easy. The liberation of Mozambique was no gift from Portugal as some people would have us believe and was not given out of the kindness in anyone's heart. The Mozambican people have made great sacrifices in their armed resistance against the colonialists who have brutally occupied their land for nearly 500 years. The beginning of the end for the colonialists came when FRELIMO fired the first shot on Sept. 25, 1964, in what was to be a 10-year war for the freedom of their country.

Starting out with only about 200 fighters pitted against the might of the NATO-supplied Portuguese army, FRELIMO was able to defeat its enemy by relying totally on the masses. The Mozambique Liberation Front has declared: "The war we engage in is a fight of the people, by the people and for the people." Carrying out this principle, the guerilla fighters take it as their primary task to mobilize and organize the masses to fight a *People's War*.

One example of this mobilization of the whole people came in 1967, when the first woman guerilla team was established. It has now developed into an army of 1,000 strong. Apart from performing fighting tasks, the women guerilla fighters also engage themselves in mass work, organizing production and transport, and doing cultural,



PORTUGUESE PEOPLE demand freedom for colonies.

educational and health work.

The mass support from the people has been the key to victory and the armed struggle has grown in size from the 250 fighters to a force of more than 10,000. "We will fight to the end even if the war lasts ten, twenty, or thirty years." This is the firm pledge of the Mozambican people.

The victories achieved by the people of Mozambique and the peoples of the other Portuguese colonies in Africa dealt a blow to the colonialists and caused increasing difficulties for them at home. The huge military expense involved in fighting the colonial wars made life unbearable for the Portuguese masses. This intensified the class contradictions and resulted in the overthrow of the fascist regime in Portugal on April 25, 1974 by the democratic movement led by sections of the military. With the end of nearly 50 years of brutal fascist rule, the Portuguese people began to organize and mobilize themselves to fight for better wages, decent working and living conditions and for their democratic rights.

Since the April 25th coup, however, the Portuguese ruling class has shown an inability to develop the economy and halt the rising inflation. They have likewise been unable to crush the growing movement of the working class. Some forces within the ruling class, notably the revisionist Portuguese Communist Party (PCP), have felt that a "liberalization" in the political life of Portugal would help consolidate their power. The PCP, which is the best-organized party within the government, along with the Armed Forces

Movement have made certain concessions to the working class, but overall have tried to suppress the strike wave that has developed over the last six months. The falling out with Spínola came because the former president did not like the growing influence of the revisionist PCP and refused to make the concessions demanded by the Armed Forces Movement. Spínola's resignation signaled the fact that governmental power now rests firmly in the hands of the Armed Forces Movement and the revisionists.

EXPOSING THEMSELVES

But the PCP is daily exposing themselves as betrayers of the working class they claim to represent. Although supposedly fighting for revolution and socialism, in fact they have suppressed the struggle of the working class movement and have compromised and hesitated over the question of independence for the colonies. They have shown that they are more interested in holding governmental seats than they are in the interests of the masses. In fact, throughout Portugal, they are rapidly becoming known as the "law and order party." Their object is to turn Portugal into the same kind of showcase for "peaceful transition to socialism" that they had hoped for in Chile. Unless a break is made from such leadership, the Portuguese people will face the same results as the Chilean people have.

Portugal continues to be the scene of very rapid political developments, where the masses are taking the initiative into their own hands. On Sept. 25, employees of the Portuguese national airlines went on strike in demand of higher wages and in protest of the military control of the airline. The Armed Forces Movement seized control of the airline at the end of August when the workers held a three-day strike for higher wages. After the military suppressed the strike, thousands of Portuguese citizens demonstrated in the streets of Lisbon in protest of the suppression and in support of the workers.

The victory in Mozambique and the ongoing struggle in Portugal's last colony, Angola continue to intensify the class contradictions in Portugal. Likewise the new government, in spite of its liberal face, will find it impossible to develop the economy and insure their political stability by suppressing the masses. The masses are making history in Africa as well as in Portugal and sooner or later they will sweep away all reactionaries who exploit and oppress them.

COOPERATIVE FARM TURNS BIG BUSINESS

New Communities Incorporated (NCI) near Albany, Ga. in the southwestern part of the state is the largest Black owned farm in the U.S. The farm was originally organized as a co-op in 1969 by former civil rights activists.

While it was initially organized with the idea that the workers would also be part owners of the farm and of the means of production, this has so far proven to be impossible. Instead, clear divisions have developed between the farm and the more-privileged management or staff people. Unfair labor practices have developed, not the least of which is the practice of paying near slave wages. Very few workers currently earn even minimum wage. None earn as much as workers under contract with the United Farm Workers Union (UFW).

New Communities is too big an operation to be run cooperatively under capitalism. While such ventures may be possible on a very small scale, such as family enterprises, this is not the case with NCI which employs as many as 60 or 70 workers and has a very high overhead. In Jan. 1973, the farm's financial backers had to put up \$300,000 for refinancing. Incidentally, these backers include such outstanding do-gooders as Nelson Rockefeller and the

Prudential Insurance Co.

Recently a number of workers have protested against the working conditions on the farm and many were fired in the process. Currently the workers are demanding that they be represented by the UFW and have signed union cards. Though it has been over a month, management has made no response to this demand.

Last July, the workers submitted a list of grievances and demands to the Board of Directors of NCI. This statement was signed by 38 people and charged "oppression, exploitation and incompetent farm management on the part of the staff..." This document further stated that those who protested the injustices on the farm were met with reprisals, "...in the form of loss of pay, mandatory overtime, more difficult or hazardous work, increased workload, no raise and/or the loss of the job itself."

Some of the charges leveled at the management and in particular at farm manager, Charles Sherrod and his assistant Harrison Miller include "improper use of labor-saving devices", "unsuccessful marketing", and "abuse of personnel." Crops have been left to wither on the vine or are often sold in a rotten and wormy condition. Salaries on the farm often resemble slavery or sharecrop-

ping more than anything else.

One worker was paid \$18.67 for 28 hours of work. Another was paid \$2 after a week's work and had to threaten violence to get a check for \$75.

Workers have been ordered to work a field that was just sprayed with dangerous pesticides. This is a practice that UFW contracts specifically forbid. Harrison Miller walked out of the office one day and told the workers who were gathered there to check the box where the time cards were kept. "If your card is not in it," he said, "then don't bother to come back on Monday because we don't need you any more."

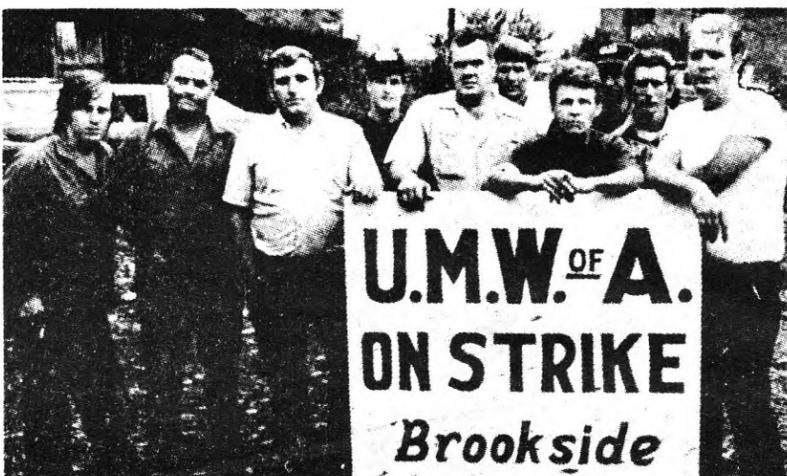
It is this type of personal abuse along with poor working conditions that have pushed the workers to signing union cards with the UFW. While in theory they are part owners of the farm, the actual material conditions show this couldn't be further from the truth.

For as long as monopoly capitalism exists, co-operative arrangements such as New Communities initially tried, can never succeed on the open capitalist market. Agriculture, like everything else in the U.S. is big business.

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