

BILTRITE WORKERS CLOSE RANKS AGAINST GOONS

Chelsea, Mass.—Goon attacks against rank-and-file activists and *Call* sellers at Biltrite escalated over the last two weeks in an attempt to drive communists out of the plant and silence the growing workers' rebellion.

Biltrite bosses and United Rubber Workers (URW) bureaucrats

encouraged a crew of reactionaries in the plant to attack rank-and-file worker John Hagedorn on Jan. 12 and again on Jan. 14. In addition, threats and violence were used against *Call* sellers, one of whom was knocked unconscious by a goon who jumped him from behind.

But the red-baiting and gangland tactics backfired. Instead of driving communists out of the plant or scaring the rank and file, workers closed ranks to defend those who were under attack. On Jan. 21, after Biltrite's goon squad called for a showdown, *Call* sellers turned out in force, un-

challenged.

"It's a victory for the workers at Biltrite," Hagedorn told *The Call*. "We're isolating the reactionaries and winning great numbers of workers to fight for a class struggle union."

"A core of workers," he stressed, "have taken up the study

of Marxism and are fighting to build a new party of the working class."

The battle at Biltrite and inside the URW Local 209 has been heating up for some time. Workers in the shop have raised sharp struggle

(PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 10)

PEOPLE OF
THE WORLD
UNITE TO
DEFEAT
IMPERIALISM

THE CALL

POLITICAL
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OF THE
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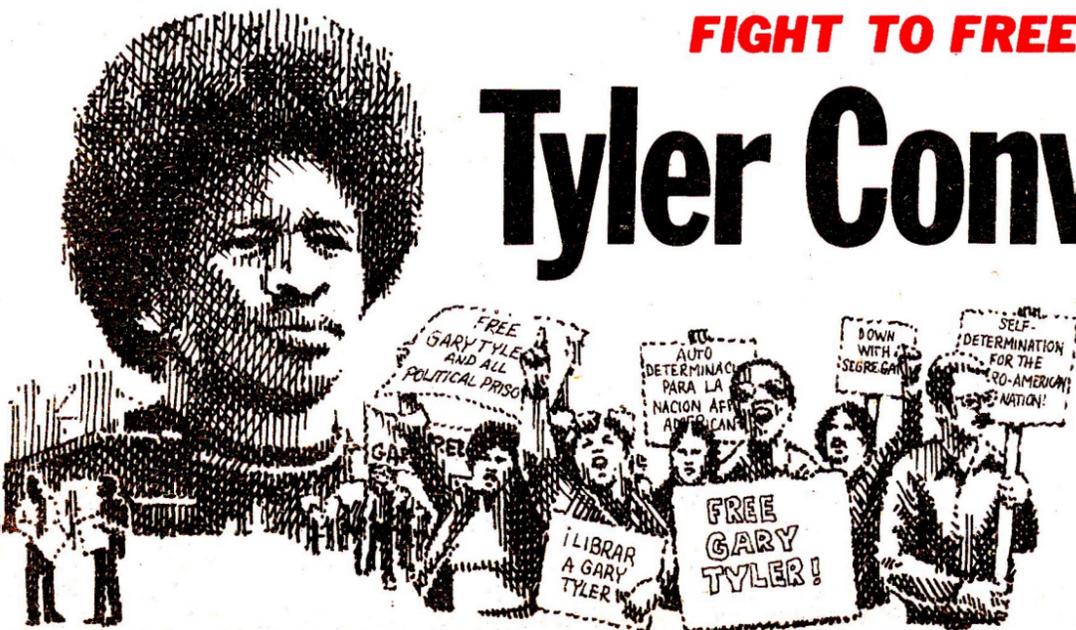
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JANUARY 31, 1977

FIGHT TO FREE GARY TYLER CONTINUES

Tyler Conviction Upheld



As we go to press, the Louisiana State Supreme Court has unanimously upheld the frame-up conviction of Gary Tyler, an 18-year-old Black youth charged with murder.

The original death sentence was lifted in the case as a result of some provisions in last year's U.S. Supreme Court decision on the death penalty. But the state showed its desire to put Tyler away forever by sentencing him to life in prison at hard labor and stipulating that he would not be eligible for parole for 20 years.

In New Orleans, the People's Defense Coalition announced plans to initiate more mass actions demanding Tyler's freedom.

Already, over 100,000 people have signed petitions supporting Tyler, and demonstrations have been held in 30 U.S. cities and around the world. Last July, New Orleans was the scene of a mass demonstration of over 2,000 people who marched under banners linking Tyler's struggle to the fight for Afro-American self-determination, against the death penalty and against Klan terror.

Tyler's attorney, Jack Peebles, told the press in New Orleans that he would immediately take steps to appeal the decision to the U.S. Supreme Court. Mrs. Juanita Tyler said that her son was "not surprised" by the decision and that his freedom struggle would intensify.

The pretext for the Jan. 24 court ruling was as flimsy as the frame-up charges in the first place. Two years ago, Tyler was charged with murder after a white youth died in the midst of a racist attack on a bus of Black schoolchildren in Destrehan, Louisiana.

In an atmosphere of racist hysteria, whipped up by local authorities and the Ku Klux Klan, Tyler was singled out as a rebellious youth and charged with the murder. He was tried as an adult and sentenced to die.

Since that time, the prosecution's main witness, Natalie Blanks, has recanted the testimony she was forced to give under pressure from the state.

But the State Supreme Court, in its lengthy Jan. 24 opinion, tried

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CARTER'S AMNESTY IS A FRAUD

Jimmy Carter was not in the White House one full day when he gave a vivid example of his brand of liberalism in action. His executive order pardoning those who violated the Selective Service Act during the Vietnam War is a slick maneuver. It is designed to white-wash the crimes of U.S. imperialism in Indochina, while doing practically nothing to restore the rights of those war resisters and soldiers who have been persecuted for their just stand.

The pardon covers only those who resisted the draft. It does nothing for the hundreds of thousands of GI's who deserted or received less-than-honorable discharges because of their opposition to the war of aggression against the peoples of Indochina.

The pardon also shows contempt for Black, Puerto Rican, Chicano and other minorities who died in numbers disproportionate to their size in the population while also standing in the front ranks of the movement against the war.

One civil liberties lawyer estimated that "military offenders and veterans with less-than-honorable discharges are more numerous than draft violators by a factor of 100-to-one."

A representative for Amex-Canada, a magazine for American war resisters now living in Canada, called Carter's plan a "sham" and "sinister." He charged that the exclusion of army deserters discriminates against "the poor, the disadvantaged and members of minorities who make up a large majority of the exiles. The Carter pardon also does not restore U.S. citizenship to resisters who took Canadian or other foreign citizenship.

Even more importantly, Carter's liberal scheme is an attempt to cover over the terrible conditions of veterans who have returned to the U.S. only to find long unemployment lines and inhuman treatment at veterans' hospitals. Veterans as a whole have been shafted and ignored after being used as cannon fodder for U.S. imperialism.

It is estimated by the government that there are more than 10,000 Vietnam-era deserters who have not been discharged from active service. Amex estimates another 637,000 who received less-than-honorable discharges for desertion, AWOL or for general resistance within the mili-

(PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 10)

7,000 fight I-Hotel evictions

San Francisco, Calif.—Over 7,000 angry demonstrators rallied recently to prevent the eviction of immigrant Chinese and Filipino workers living in the International Hotel near this city's downtown financial district.

Some 2,500 people staged a block-long picket line against the evictions on January 12, and 5,000 more protesters joined the struggle in a similar action on January 16. These powerful actions have forced the courts to temporarily cease the evictions until March.

The demonstrations were the high point of a struggle which has been going on for over eight years to keep the International Hotel open and to defend the rights of Asian-Americans. Located on the edge of Chinatown and in the remains of San Fran-

cisco's Filipino community, the I-Hotel is part of a big capitalist redevelopment plan.

The hotel encompasses an entire block and includes shops, restaurants and offices of community organizations as well as

housing for many retired immigrant workers forced to live on meager pensions. Most of the hotel's residents came to the U.S. in the earlier part of this

(PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 10)



DEMONSTRATORS stop evictions by surrounding I-Hotel. (Call photo)

Report from Belgium

Chairman of Belgian party speaks on factors for war and revolution

p.7

Opportunists back Sadlowski

The Guardian plunges into defense of bourgeois trade unionism

p.8

SECCION EN ESPAÑOL



EDITORIALS

SUPPORT AZANIA'S P.A.C.

The mass struggle for freedom in South Africa (Azania) is shattering white supremacy and apartheid and the schemes of the two superpowers. With the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) playing the leading role in the revolutionary struggle, the various maneuvers of the Vorster racist regime and of the U.S. and Soviet social-imperialists are being exposed.

Last year, negotiations were initiated by Henry Kissinger to disarm the masses and promote a pro-U.S. puppet regime in place of the tottering Rhodesian and South African ruling cliques. But now these talks appear to be in shambles.

Under these circumstances, the Soviet Union is stepping up its propaganda for a "multi-national" force to "liberate" southern African and create a situation similar to that in Angola. The social-imperialists' aim is to foment divisions in the ranks of the African liberation movements and slip in through the back door as the old colonial powers are being kicked out through the front.

The masses are learning through their experiences that they must rely on their own revolutionary struggle and not the superpowers or their frontmen.

Since its founding in 1959, PAC has been in the forefront of the Azanian people's struggle, taking up arms against the Vorster regime and exposing both superpowers as well as the South African revisionist communist party for its line of "peaceful transition."

PAC representative Gqobose, in a recent speech to supporters in Germany, said: "Let us unite the struggle of the peoples of West Europe, North American and the third world against racism and both superpowers, the USA and the USSR, and this alliance will lead to victory."

In coming months, the October League will sponsor a national speaking tour by a leading PAC

representative.

Now is the time for us to redouble our efforts to build support for the PAC and for the heroic struggle of the people of Azania.

DOWN WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN RACIST REGIME! SUPERPOWERS OUT OF AFRICA! SUPPORT THE PAN AFRICANIST CONGRESS!



AZANIAN STRUGGLE has reached new heights since last year's uprising in Soweto.

BUILD FOR WOMEN'S DAY MARCH 5

Work is now actively underway to build mass demonstrations on March 5 in celebration of International Women's Day (IWD).

The demonstrations, to take place in New York, Chicago, Atlanta and San Francisco, will militantly oppose imperialism and its attacks on women. They will target the two imperialist superpowers as the main enemies of women internationally and voice solidarity with the heroic struggles of the third world.

Women's Day is a time to unite men and women workers of all nationalities in common struggle against the system which is responsible for women's oppression. As the capitalist crisis has deepened, women have been forced to bear the brunt

of high unemployment, low wages, welfare and daycare cutbacks, and attacks on the family, such as forced sterilizations and deportations.

These types of attacks show that the masses of women are not "winning liberation" as various reformists, feminists, revisionists and bourgeois politicians try to claim. In fact, women are suffering even greater hardships. The IWD demand of "Full Equality for Women!" has never had greater urgency.

As a working-class holiday, IWD has been historically connected with the struggles of working and oppressed peoples all over the world. This year's IWD actions will also demand: "End Superpower War Preparations!" as well as "Support the Just Struggles of the Third World Peoples!" These slogans reflect the main friends and enemies of the women's struggle and the struggle of the whole working class internationally.

The demonstrations in the four cities are being built on a regional basis with people from the East, Midwest, South and West being mobilized to participate in the city closest to them. Regional and local planning committees have already been initiated and coalitions are being organized to unite all those who oppose imperialism and support the women's struggle for liberation.

We encourage all our readers to join in the work of building these demonstrations and to participate in the March 5 actions themselves. More information can be obtained by writing to The Call.

SUB DRIVE A SUCCESS

As we go to press, reports have begun to come in on last week's subscription drive, indicating that hundreds of new subscribers have been signed up.

We urge all our readers who have not already done so to subscribe now. This will be the last issue to take advantage of our special subscription drive offer: New full-year subs are still only \$10.00 and all new full-year subscribers may get a free copy of either the special memorial issue of Class Struggle journal devoted to Mao Tsetung (in English) or Chairman Mao's Five Philosophical Essays (in Spanish). Details are in the sub blank on page 3.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

National

- Tyler Conviction Upheld—1
- Carter's Amnesty Plan—1
- International Hotel—1
- Bilrite—1
- NFBO Regional Conferences—3
- Yvonne Wanrow—3
- Hoston Murder—3
- Davis Pleating—4
- ERA Victory in Indiana—4
- Dr. King's Birthday Celebrated—4
- Branson Frame-Up—5
- Monroe, La., Union Drive—5
- Guardian and Sadlowski Campaign—8
- First Draft of Party Program Prepared—9

International

- Chou En-lai's Death Mourned—7
- Cuba: Trojan Horse—7

Features

- Editorials and Letters—2
- Page from History:
 - Guadalupe Hidalgo Treaty—4
- International Briefs—4
- World Press—4
- Report from Europe: Part 7—
 - Belgium—6
- CYO Convention Speech:
 - Mary Smith—8
- Repression and Resistance—10

Dear Call,

I am a mother of three children (girls), and I would like to tell you about the cruel unjust treatment that I received about a year ago.

My baby became very ill at the age of two months. I am a welfare mother and could only take my daughter to Grady Hospital in Atlanta for treatments. My baby was constantly running a high temperature and had a very bad cough which made her throw up everything she ate or drank. Every month for ten months, I took my baby to Grady.

They kept telling me she had a cold, but as long as she was coughing, it was alright. She was given cough medicine for a time. After that, they just didn't give her anything.

They took x-rays and said she did not have a cold, yet the symptoms remained, and they did nothing. My baby soon after became dehydrated. Grady prescribed oral dextrose treatments at home. She was so dehydrated that when the doctor pinched up her skin, it stayed folded up. She had lost so much weight that, at six months, she was still wearing newborn pampers.

Time lapsed, but I couldn't afford to go to a private doctor. She was then 10 months. About a month later, a friend from the Atlanta Workers Committee to Fight Back paid for my baby to go to a pediatrician. She asked if the baby had a cold, and I told her what Grady said about the coughing. She said if there was a cough, something had to be causing it. She examined the baby thoroughly and found my baby's ears and throat were badly infected. She said she couldn't be sure without taking x-rays, but her immediate examination showed indications of the baby having a bridge in her throat

Letters



The Call, P.O. 5597, Chicago, Ill. 60680

connecting the windpipe and the esophagus.

She asked if the baby was allergic to penicillin, and I told her I didn't know because Grady never gave her any. Then the doctor said Grady does not give children penicillin because it costs the state too much money. She gave my baby a penicillin shot, ear drops and cough medicine.

After about three days, my baby had shown fantastic improvement. She started gaining weight and hasn't been sick since. She is now one year old and as soon as I am able, I will have the x-rays taken and her throat taken care of.

This kind of treatment that I received is only one of the many kinds of injustices that poor Black people and other minorities receive. I now see the real reason for revolution in this country. I see now that this capitalist system is heartless, cruel and, above all, just doesn't give a damn. This is not the kind of system I want my children to grow up under. It's time we took a stand—every woman and every man—because we the people have got to be free. If we don't stop this corrupt system, we (poor people) are not going to have any children. What's it to the state if my baby had

died, just another poor person gone, only a Black child.

P.B.,
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Comrades,

The Call is the only newspaper in the country that I have read which has covered the recent developments in China from a Marxist-Leninist viewpoint. You have reprinted the most important documents published by the Chinese Communist Party, and this is a great service to all. You have covered the news of the struggle and also tried to focus on the burning political questions such as the relationship between revolution and production and China's stand towards the third world and the superpowers.

Some people say that *The Call* just "dogmatically repeats whatever official Chinese sources say." To this, I would say, first of all, there is nothing wrong with repeating some of the most profound lessons that have ever been learned in the history of mankind. If you had to rely on the RCP's newspaper *Revolution* to learn about the struggle against the "gang of four," you would be forever in the dark.

Secondly, I think you have not "dogmatically" repeated, but correctly addressed the questions of greatest significance to readers, especially workers in the U.S. Meanwhile, the RCP, *Guardian* and *Daily World* all go on "dogmatically" regurgitating the views of imperialism and social-imperialism.

Please continue your excellent coverage of China.

A reader in
San Francisco

FIGHTBACK MEETINGS SUM-UP YEAR'S WORK

The National Fight Back Organization (NFBO) is holding regional conferences to sum up a year of work and consolidate the many new fighters who have come forward in the battle against the crisis and the capitalist system.

More than 125 activists gathered for the first regional meeting in Baltimore, Jan. 15.

This militant gathering took place as Jimmy Carter's inauguration spectacle was getting underway in the capital. The Conference made it clear that Carter's liberal talk and his new cabinet offer no basic changes for the working class. High unemployment, more attacks on the living standards of the working people and intensified war preparations will continue under the new administration.

October League member Larry Miller, representing the NFBO's Steering Committee, pointed out how Fightback activists had seen from their own experiences what the promises of the liberals and reformists are all about. Their aim is to divert workers from the path of mass action and revolutionary struggle.

In the many battles to win unemployment benefits and jobs over the past year, the NFBO distinguished its program clearly from dead-end, fake "solutions" like

the Humphrey-Hawkins bill. This bill, praised by the labor bureaucrats, the revisionists of the Communist Party (CPUSA) and the liberals, calls for a "reduction in unemployment" without providing for a single new job.

Baltimore Fight Back Committee members spoke out at the meeting about their own experiences with the liberals and reformists. They told of organizing demonstrations against the City Council to protest the allotment of \$15 million to a luxury aquarium when no city funds were being put into jobs programs.

Several city councilmen stepped forward to stop the militant actions with promises of jobs. One councilman even tried to bribe Fightback leaders by offering them jobs individually. But these tactics failed, and the fight in Baltimore is going forward to win "Jobs or Income Now!"

Larry Miller's speech also stressed the importance of uniting the struggles of the employed and unemployed, especially in the



BALTIMORE FIGHTBACK meeting took firm stand in support of Afro-American self-determination along with summing-up the strengths and weaknesses of the work in 1976. (Call photo)

fight for jobs. He emphasized unity against the trade union bureaucrats, who act as capitalism's agents inside the workers' movement and have liquidated the fight for jobs.

Miller called on the NFBO to join the October League-initiated demonstration planned for May outside the United Auto Workers convention in Los Angeles. Support for this demonstration, he added, would be a concrete step in exposing the labor misleaders.

In another major presentation to the Conference, North Carolina labor organizer Daisy Crawford spoke out against both the reformists and the revisionists for their attacks on the workers' struggles. She characterized their bankrupt strategy as "Don't demonstrate, listen to the lawyers, rely on the

judge."

Speaking about the fight to free frame-up victim Ronnie Long and organize the thousands of textile workers in North Carolina, Crawford stressed the need to build unity between white and Black workers and rely on the masses of people. "We need a fighting alliance," she explained, "between the workers' movement and the Black liberation struggle as the best weapon to smash all capitalist oppressors."

The regional conference struck a great blow for this type of working-class unity when participants unanimously adopted a resolution calling for self-determination for the Afro-American nation.

Fight Back committees around the country have been building actively to free Gary Tyler. They

took up a special study campaign two months ago to deepen their understanding of the history and development of the Afro-American people. The resolution on self-determination was a product of study and mass struggle against national oppression.

The Conference also included a workshop on deportations, and the entire meeting was translated into Spanish, providing further examples of the NFBO's struggle against all forms of national oppression.

MIDWEST REGIONAL
FIGHT BACK CONFERENCE
(Milwaukee, Gary, Chicago,
Detroit)
Saturday, January 29 9:00 A.M.
Faith Community Church
3456 W. Flournoy, Chicago, Ill.

JUSTICE DEMANDED FOR CURTIS HOSTON

Washington, D.C.—A broad movement is being built to demand justice after the brutal murder of Curtis Hoston, a young Black man who was beaten to death by U.S. marshalls last October 27 while in Superior Court.

This movement has already witnessed a demonstration outside the D.C. Superior Court building Dec. 14, organized by the D.C. Unite to Fight Back, the October League, the Black United Front, and GUARD (Government Employees Against Racial Discrimination).

In addition, the D.C. Unite to Fight Back has called for a march and rally Feb. 19.

Curtis Hoston died because the U.S. marshalls beat him so severely that his heart was crushed against his spine.

On the morning of the murder, two cops came to the Hoston home, claiming to have a warrant for his arrest. Because Hoston stood up for his rights, reinforcements were called.

CHARGED WITH ASSAULT

In the end, the police beat Hoston and his younger brother, and roughed up his mother. Curtis Hoston and his brother were charged with "assault" on a police officer.

While in the courtroom later that afternoon, the Hostons watched U.S. marshalls try to subdue three other prisoners who were protesting outrageously high bonds. During the struggle, one of the marshalls drew his gun and fired it.

Like everyone else, Hoston tried to avoid the ricocheting bullet and ran for cover. But two marshalls grabbed him and began to kick and hit him.

Mrs. Hoston, who was in the courtroom, told *The Call* what happened: "They had Curtis down on the floor with his hands handcuffed behind him and were whipping him," she said. "Then they put Curtis on the elevator, still beating him, and dragged him



CURTIS HOSTON

down a set of steps and threw him in the hole. They killed him in the elevator."

After the coroner ruled the death a homicide, the courts tried to cover up the murder. In response to the people's anger, however, a Grand Jury was convened. But they did not call any of the prisoners from the cellblock who witnessed the beating, and they ignored Mrs. Hoston's testimony. The Grand Jury refused to indict the U.S. marshalls.

Fearing the growing struggle of the people, the District Attorney convened a second Grand Jury. Fifteen new witnesses testified, among them many prisoners who saw the beating of Hoston. But on Jan. 14, the Grand Jury decided not to indict the marshalls responsible.

"This," said Mrs. Hoston, "is how the capitalist system of justice works."

The D.C. Unite to Fight Back has been playing a major role in the campaign. Working with the family and other groups, the Fightback committee is taking the case to the people and building broad mass support.

Yvonne Wanrow's crime: defending her children

Yvonne Wanrow, a Native American woman convicted of second degree murder and sentenced to 25 years in prison, won a new trial January 7, after a militant 3 year campaign.

Wanrow had been convicted for defending herself and her children from a man who forced his way into the house where she was staying in Spokane, Washington.

The defense efforts that have been mobilized around Wanrow reflect the growing struggle of the Native American people, especially Native American women, against the genocidal attacks of imperialism. Recent exposures have revealed massive government-backed efforts to break up Indian families. These attacks include thousands of women being forcibly sterilized on the reservations and the placing of hundreds of Indian children in "foster" homes against the wishes of their parents.

An active defense committee has been formed to support Wanrow, and speaking tours for her

have been organized around the country. In several European countries, support is also being organized.

Through this work, the defense committee has clearly exposed the facts of the case. The incident began on August 10, 1972, when a man named William Wesler attempted to molest Wanrow's children outside the house of a friend, Shirley Hooper.

Hooper called Wanrow, who rushed to the house. They then called the police. But when the police arrived, they said the incident was "not serious" and would be investigated at a later date.

At 5 A.M. the next morning, Wesler barged into Hooper's home and approached one of the children. Wanrow demanded that he leave, but he refused. Wanrow then defended the children by shooting Wesler.

Wanrow was put on trial the week after the siege of Wounded Knee ended. During this time, the government heightened its propa-

ganda against Native Americans.

The sentencing of Wanrow, itself a part of this campaign, followed statements from the prosecution such as "Indians are prone to violence."

But the prosecution had illegally used a recording of Wanrow's call to the police as evidence, in order to substantiate their claim that her voice was "too calm" to have shot in self-defense.

As a result of this illegal taping, the Washington State Supreme Court overturned the conviction in its January 7 decision in a close 5-4 vote. But the Court also ruled that Wanrow must stand trial again at a later date.

Wanrow is facing a legal lynching for her "crime" of standing up to attacks against her children. Like Joan Little, Inez Garcia, Cheryl Todd, Desi X Woods and other minority women fighters who have defended themselves against sexual abuse, Wanrow's case has developed broad solidarity and support.



SPECIAL OFFER

Subscribe to The Call Receive free copy of Class Struggle

As an added incentive to new Call subscribers, we are offering a free copy of the new Class Struggle issue with every one-year Call sub received by Jan. 31. Or, you can receive instead the pamphlet "Cinco Tesis Filosóficas" by Mao Tsetung in Spanish. You also save money by subscribing now before the increased subscription rates go into effect Feb. 1. A one-year Call sub is still only \$10. Write to The Call, P.O. Box 5597, Chicago, Illinois 60680.

With my subscription, please send me: _____
() Class Struggle () "Cinco Tesis" in Spanish
Name _____
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COMPANY TRICKS SPARK NEW STRUGGLE AT DAVIS PLEATING

The fight against the bosses and the bureaucrats at the Davis Pleating sweatshop in Los Angeles is growing sharper. Even after the company and International Ladies' Garment Workers Union (ILGWU) misleaders collaborated in a massive deportation raid earlier this month, Davis workers have refused to be intimidated.

The company hoped that the deportation raids would drive a wedge between undocumented Mexican workers in the plant and those who are U.S. citizens or legal residents. They also hoped that the club of deportations could be used to beat down the Davis workers' struggle for better wages and working conditions and an end to discrimination.

But just the opposite has happened. Many of the deported workers have returned and are fighting to get their jobs back. Those who remained on the job, forced into long overtime hours, subject to constant harassment,

and seeing the work force being filled by non-union new hires, have been drawn more firmly into the struggle.

At a January 10 meeting of the ILGWU local, Davis workers denounced the bureaucrats for their role in allowing the deportation raids to be carried out. They further denounced the company's witch-hunt to get information about the October League through interrogation and harassment of workers on the job.

At the same union meeting, workers demanded the right to add democratically-elected members to the hand-picked negotia-

ting committee for the contract battle. One of the most militant workers, an activist in the anti-deportation struggle, was overwhelmingly elected despite the frantic opposition of the top union bureaucrats.

Following this election, the company and the union provided a typical example of their collaboration to defend their common interests.

A second union meeting was suddenly called to elect yet another negotiating committee. The bosses closed the plant down early, and company supervisors drove workers to the union meeting.

While the bosses and bureaucrats railroaded through a puppet negotiating committee, many of the most active union members refused to participate in this

fraud. Some walked out of the meeting, while others turned in blank ballots as a sign of protest.

The Workers In Struggle Caucus has been organized at Davis to continue strengthening the unity of Mexicanos, Chicanos and workers of other nationalities. Caucus literature, as well as October League leaflets, have exposed the top ILGWU bureaucrats as tools of the capitalists for suppressing the working-class struggle.

One leaflet showed how Sol Chaiken, International President of the union, has been holding seminars teaching garment bosses how to cut costs by speeding up workers and cutting down on production costs. It was also pointed

out that the union's utter abandonment of the fight of Mexicano, Chicano and other minority workers should come as no surprise, since the union has been waging a chauvinist multi-million dollar "Be American, Buy American" campaign for years.

As we go to press, the fight at Davis continues to build. Workers In Struggle is expanding its work to other unionized garment shops in the L.A. area, as well as building support among the thousands of sweatshop workers whom the ILGWU has refused to lift a finger to organize. More than 70% of the garment workers in L.A. are non-unionized, including many undocumented and women workers.

The struggle going on today at Davis is an inspiration to workers throughout the garment district in L.A. who face the same situation and the same enemies.

A PAGE FROM HISTORY

Guadalupe Hidalgo Treaty

This week marks the 129th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, and with it the birth of the Chicano national minority in the United States.

On February 2, 1848, two years after U.S. military incursions into Mexico provoked war between the two countries, the U.S. forced Mexico to sign over approximately 50% of her territory. Rich in gold, silver and other natural resources, the area that now includes Texas, Arizona, California, New Mexico, Utah, Nevada and parts of Colorado was annexed by the U.S. for only \$15 million.

Because of the redrawn borders, about 100,000 Mexican people found themselves living outside the boundaries of their own country. All but a few thousand of them chose not to move south across the new border and, over a time, became Mexican-Americans, the first Chicanos in the U.S.

In formulating the Treaty of

Guadalupe Hidalgo, the Mexican government took special care to include provisions which guaranteed the protection of the rights of its citizens who chose to stay in U.S. territory. Article IX guaranteed that they would enjoy "all rights of citizenship" and be "protected in the free enjoyment of their liberty and property, and secure in the free exercise of their religion without restriction."

In addition, the U.S. government agreed that lands previously granted by the Mexican government to its citizens in the ceded territory would be protected and would "preserve the legal value which they may possess."

It was the blatant violation of these guarantees, as well as the continued domination of Mexico itself by expanding U.S. capitalism, which laid the conditions for the development of the Mexican-American people into an oppressed national minority. Growing to a population of about 9 million today, Chicanos have never become

integrated into American society on the basis of equality.

On the contrary, the entire history of the Chicano people has been one of constant resistance to systematic national oppression. The U.S. capitalist class built their empire in the Southwest largely with the labor of the Chicano people. They reaped huge profits from discrimination—robbing the people of their land, forcing them into the lowest-paid jobs and the worst housing, denying them education and the right to their own language and culture.

From the day the treaty was signed, the ancestral land grants, like those of the Native American people, were violated through trickery and outright theft by the large Anglo land-grabbers and capitalist courts.

Although the great majority of Chicanos today are propertyless workers whose families immigrated to the U.S. after 1910, this land struggle continues to be a major front in the overall fight for demo-



STOLEN MEXICAN LAND shown by map includes Mexican Cession, Texas and Gadsden Purchase.

cratic rights. Seizures of the stolen lands, like those in the late 1960s led by Reyes Tijerina and others in New Mexico, contributed to an unprecedented upsurge in the Chicano people's movement.

The struggle to honor the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo must be linked to the demand for the broadest form of democratic rights—the right of the Chicano people to regional autonomy in the Southwest.

Fighting for this right in the areas of greatest Chicano concentration is essential for realizing the goal of full equality. The right to land, to equality in jobs, education, housing, language and culture can be won only by implementing such a system of Chicano political power.

At the same time, the right to regional autonomy can be guaranteed only under socialism—by a government in the hands of the

multi-national working class. This is why the fight for Chicano liberation must aim at overthrowing imperialism itself.

The alliance between the Chicano people and the whole working class is a powerful force which can bring about this goal of complete emancipation from capitalist rule. In order to build this alliance, "Honor the Treaty!" "Full democratic rights!" and "Regional autonomy for the Chicano people!" must be demands of the whole working class.

A community meeting at Unidos Bookstore in East Los Angeles this week will commemorate the anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo and discuss the need to build a movement against the mass deportations of Mexican workers. The meeting will be held on Feb. 5 at 7:30, 918 S. McBride, Los Angeles.

VICTORY FOR ERA IN INDIANA

The fight to pass the Equal Rights Amendment took a step forward last week with its passage in Indiana. Ratification by only three more states will amend the U.S. constitution to include this provision calling for "legal equality" for women.

The Indiana legislature's vote came after a series of mass actions had been organized in support of the measure. Some 10,000 people demonstrated for the ERA's passage in Illinois last year, and close to 1,000 joined a similar action in Indianapolis just prior to the Indiana vote.

Although the ERA suffered defeat in several states recently, the prospects for passage now appear very good. Upcoming votes in Florida, Nevada and North Carolina are all expected to support the bill.

Even if the ERA is passed, however, it cannot qualitatively alter the oppression, exploitation and degradation women face under capitalism. No piece of legislation can change capitalism's continuing attacks on women workers, its use of women as a reserve army of labor and as unpaid domestic laborers in the home. These conditions are the source of male supremacist ideology and inequality for women.

Passage of the ERA can help push forward the women's struggle, especially by improving the conditions for demanding equality in job opportunities, pay scale, seniority, etc. The real road to women's emancipation, however, lies not with such partial reforms, but with overthrowing the system which is responsible for women's oppression.



(Call photo)

THOUSANDS REMEMBER DR. KING

The birthday of assassinated civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was commemorated last week by marches, rallies and meetings across the South.

In Atlanta (above), the October League, SCEF, and the Atlanta Workers Committee to Fight Back, led a militant rally which demanded "Self-Determination for Afro-Americans!" and "Jobs or Income Now!" The demonstrators also marched into a large Democratic Party-led parade, doing leafleting and other agitation to expose these liberals and reformists, whose only answer

to Black people's oppression is reliance on Jimmy Carter. Carter, who was supposed to be the grand marshal of the Atlanta parade, didn't show up, but a host of other Democratic Party liberals took his place.

In Louisville, SCEF organized a contingent inside a march called by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and a rally later that evening. The SCEF-sponsored actions linked the fight for the freedom of Gary Tyler, Robert Arnold and other political prisoners to the overall struggle for Black liberation.

Communist activist Jim Branson faces a second kangaroo court trial February 1 in eastern Kentucky on trumped-up charges of carrying a concealed weapon.

The frame-up, dating back to July 1975, was engineered by the local authorities in an effort to end the revolutionary activity of the October League and the Mountain Workers Unity Organization (MWUO) in the area. Branson, a well-known distributor of *The Call*, had been involved in the organizing drives at the Brookside, High Splint and Martin County mines, as well as in many other workers' struggles.

During early 1975, Branson was arrested four different times. In one incident, three policemen dragged him off a picket line, choked him on the ground, and then charged him with "assault."

Then, in July 1975, Branson was arrested for a fifth time, as he attempted to drive to safety a member of the MWUO who had been pistol whipped by a company thug. Since the thug was still in the vicinity and had threatened to murder the MWUO member, Branson carried a gun to protect the people in the car.

In Kentucky, it is legal to carry a gun as long as it is visibly displayed. At no time was Branson's gun hidden from sight. Yet when sheriff's deputies arrived, they re-

Anti-communist frame-up continues in Kentucky

fused to arrest the thug, holding Branson instead "for his own protection." Later, they trumped up the charge that Branson's weapon had been concealed.

The charges were originally dismissed for lack of evidence, and then after some doctoring of court records, brought up again. Over the next year, the Floyd County Court repeatedly scheduled and then postponed the trial, trying to catch the defense unprepared. Finally, on Sept. 29, 1976, in a desperate move to fulfill their vow to "make Branson an example," the court convicted Branson in his absence, after failing to notify him of the trial. He was given the maximum sentence of 1 year in jail and \$500 fine.

When it became obvious that Branson had no intention of turning himself over to their "justice"

and that workers' support was growing, the court decided to grant a new trial. First scheduled for January 11, it has already been postponed to February 1. The court knows the main defense witnesses are now scattered out of state, and this latest postponement is another step in the frame-up.

This kind of harassment is not new in coal mining areas. The government, courts and police have always been used as weapons against the workers by the big capitalists who own the mines and the judges as well. For over 50 years, the coal monopolies have been ruthless in their efforts to drive out union organizers, militants and communists.

Branson explained to *The Call* that he had been fingered because he spoke out openly against the capitalist system, and exposed its



JIM BRANSON (Call photo)

agents in the workers' movement, the misleaders at the head of the unions.

In eastern Kentucky, where Branson stands trial, heavy repression by the powerful Coal Operators Association and the collaboration of UMW officials have resulted in the lowest level of unionization of any established UMW district.

While thousands of coal miners have been intensifying their fight for job safety, union rights, and an end to court injunctions, UMW president Arnold Miller has led efforts to stifle the rank-and-file movement. He has provided the courts with names of dissident miners, expelled rank-and-file members from the union, and imposed fines against miners who oppose his collaborationist leadership.

Threatened by rank-and-file insurgency in the union, Miller, Mike

Trbovich, Henry Patrick, Lee Roy Patterson and the whole top circle of bureaucrats have resorted to anti-communism to divert attention from their own bankrupt policies.

Despite their cut-throat squabbling over the UMW presidency in the upcoming union elections, all these bureaucrats are united in their red-baiting attacks and fear of the revolutionary potential of the miners' struggles.

In an interview with *The Call*, Branson explained that "every candidate out there scrambling for the presidency is pledging 'labor peace' to the bosses. The UMW has the highest strike rate of any union," he added, "and with the contract expiring, the capitalists are afraid."

"My case," he pointed out, "is part of their efforts to isolate communists and blame 'agitators' and 'radicals' for the 'trouble' in the union. But the influence of communists is growing. It is class collaboration that will get exposed and isolated."

The defense of Branson is part of the struggle to make the UMW a class struggle union, to organize the unorganized miners, and to prepare the rank and file for the contract battle coming up at the end of the year.

A protest is scheduled for Feb. 1 at the Floyd County Courthouse in Prestonsburg, Kentucky.

UNION VICTORY MONROE, LA.

DEFEAT FOR GM'S 'SOUTHERN STRATEGY'

Monroe, La.—Workers at the Guide Headlamp plant won union representation last Dec. 21, striking a blow against General Motors' "southern strategy" for exploiting labor in the Black Belt South. This was the first successful union drive in any of GM's southern runaway plants. Three previous attempts were defeated at other plants.

Organizing the unorganized in the Black Belt is an important part of the fight to build class struggle unions and defend the living standards of all workers against capitalist attacks.

Long centuries of national oppression in the South have held down living conditions and produced extreme poverty, high unemployment, and a large unorganized work force. The capitalists have taken advantage of this poverty and the weakness of the South's labor movement to drive down wages and conditions nationwide, using runaway shops and threats of runaways to defeat struggles and break unions.

GM has been shifting its operations from the industrial regions of the North, where union organization is relatively high, to areas in the Black Belt and Southwest as well as overseas to Africa and

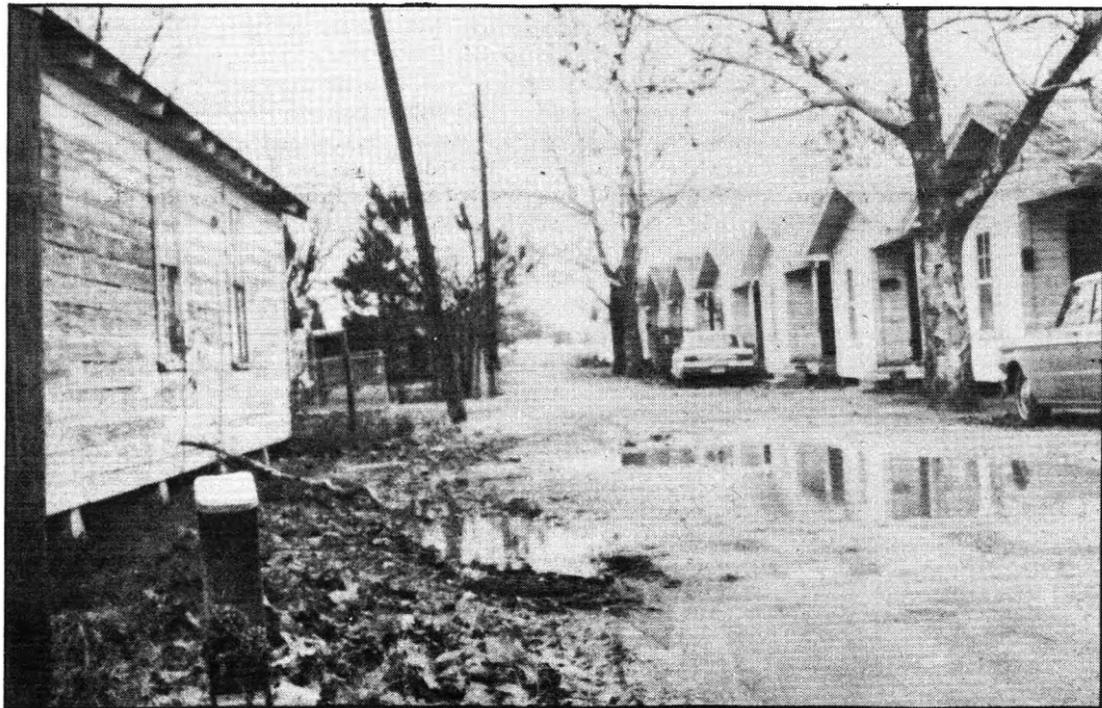
Latin America. Seven plants are now operating in the Black Belt in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Louisiana. These states have right-to-work laws, low unionization, and the lowest wage levels and living standards in the country.

None of the new GM parts plants are in the larger industrialized centers of the South. Instead they are buried in the old rural plantation lands, the areas with highest unemployment and most miserable conditions.

The Guide plant is the first factory in a new industrial park carved out of the cottonfields east of Monroe. It is located about a half mile from a cotton gin, in the midst of little clusters of shacks. Here the agricultural workers are kept in near bondage by plantation owners, many of whom are directly descended from the 60 or so families who have controlled Ouachita Parish (county) since slave times.

Monroe developed as an important town in the cotton trade for the surrounding area, known as the "Egypt of the Confederacy" for the quality of the cotton grown there. In those times, Ouachita Parish was two-thirds Black.

Today, the parish is about one-



MONROE, LOUISIANA: Conditions of Black community help show why GM is bringing its runaway shops to the Black Belt. (Call photo)

third Black. Klan terror and the mechanization of agriculture have forced thousands of Black people to the cities of the North and West. High unemployment and low wages (well below even Louisiana's average income) for all workers in the area fall doubly hard on the masses of Black people, especially those on the plantations. There, seasonal unemployment leaves them in perpetual debt to the landowners.

These are the incentives which attracted GM to the Monroe area. The auto monopolists hope to take advantage of the depressed conditions to force workers to accept 30 percent higher productivity and \$2-an-hour less than workers in their northern headlight plant in Indiana.

At the same time, GM pursues a vicious anti-union policy, hoping to win the more backward workers to their side. GM even recruited a core of such workers in the plant to oppose the drive.

The union organizing committee, made up of strong class fight-

ers, mainly Blacks and women, stood firm against the company attacks. They succeeded in uniting a majority of Black and white workers in the campaign to bring in the United Auto Workers (UAW). But, as many workers have learned in the past, bringing in a union is just the first step in building working-class organization and fighting the bosses.

One leading organizer in the drive told *The Call* that, since the victory, GM hasn't changed its anti-union tactics at all. Active workers have been downgraded to low-paying jobs, and the anti-union forces have been encouraged by GM and the Chamber of Commerce to run for office in the upcoming union elections.

In order to fight the stepped-up attacks, the Monroe workers will have to strengthen their unity against the company and its agents. The Monroe workers are beginning to get first-hand experience with the most important of these agents, the top UAW bureaucrats.

Trying to hide their chauvinist neglect in organizing the unorganized, UAW misleaders are patting themselves on the backs for the Monroe victory. Irving Bluestone, head of GM affairs for the UAW, even flew into Monroe to take credit for the organizing work done by rank-and-file workers.

While Bluestone claims the credit, the fact of the matter is that the UAW has dropped organizing drives in several key Black Belt plants. The misleaders of the UAW and other big unions have spread the lie that "Southern workers don't want unions" as their excuse for abandoning this work.

Despite this treachery, the rank and file are getting organized across the South and demanding union representation. It is only through building multi-national unity, fighting the chauvinist betrayal of the bureaucrats and developing the leadership and class consciousness of this powerful rank-and-file upsurge that the tens of millions of unorganized workers in the U.S. can be unionized.

NORTHERN UNIONS vs. MISSISSIPPI WORKING FOLK

This election on Nov. 13 will not be just an ordinary union election. For the unions, a Victory means they have helped STOP JOBS COMING TO MISSISSIPPI!

For many years the UAW and the IUE have been fighting against the creation of jobs in the south and in Mississippi.

As far as they're concerned they would just as soon that we were still working in the fields or doing domestic work.

As far as they are concerned they would just as soon that we were unemployed.

ANTI-UNION PROPAGANDA was widely distributed by GM bosses.



This week's article in our series on the Marxist-Leninist movement in Europe focuses on Belgium.

"There is no detente in Europe today. There is only imperialist rivalry which inevitably leads to war." These words were spoken by comrade Fernand Lefebvre, Chairman of the Communist Party of Belgium (Marxist-Leninist) (CPBML), during a recent discussion with *The Call*, focusing mainly on the international situation.

The question of war and revolution are critical matters for Belgium. The 11 million Belgian people have already seen their country become a field of battle during two previous imperialist world wars. Although a small country, Belgium is highly industrialized and therefore has been the scene of sharp contention between imperialist powers in past wars.

At the same time, Belgium is itself an imperialist country and once held major colonies in Africa. Today, Belgium is part of the second world, standing between the third world countries and the two imperialist superpowers, the U.S. and the USSR.

"The U.S. and the USSR are the two principal enemies of the world's peoples," stated Lefebvre. However, he explained, the relationship between the two is not one of equilibrium. The intensified rivalry between them, he noted, arises from the fact

REPORT FROM EUROPE - PART 7

Belgian Party on war and revolution

that "The U.S. imperialists are on the decline while the Soviet social-imperialists are on the rise."

What are the consequences of this development for the countries of Western Europe? "We are the main strategic focus of their contention," said comrade Lefebvre, "and it also means the Russians are more aggressive than the Americans. The USSR is the more dangerous superpower in Europe. It already dominates Eastern Europe while, at the same time, it is preparing for war against Western Europe."

"The principal contradiction in Belgium at this time," Lefebvre explained, "is between the working class and the monopoly bourgeoisie." For the CPBML, this means that its task is the revolutionary struggle for socialism, for the strategic objective of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

However, the socialist revolution in Belgium is not isolated, but is a component part of the world revolution, the Chairman of the CPBML pointed out. "Since the two superpowers are the main obstacles to world revolution, their rivalry and development must inevitably have an effect on the development of the principal contradiction in our country."

CONTRADICTION COULD CHANGE

"It is possible," he continued, "that the principal contradiction in Belgium could change in the event of war. There are historical precedents for this. For instance, when the Nazis occupied Belgium in World War II, the principal contradiction became one between the whole people and the Nazi occupiers."

"But even in these circumstances," Lefebvre stressed, "the class contradiction persists and the class struggle continues nonetheless. Due to their class nature, the monopolists split into three camps during the last war. One group went with the Nazis, one with Anglo-American imperialism, and the other vacillated between these two."

The lesson drawn by the CPBML from this experience is that the bourgeoisie cannot be relied upon to stand up to the superpowers and struggle against the danger of a new war.

"It is true in Belgium today," Lefebvre added, "that there is a certain part of the bourgeoisie that wants to fight the superpowers. If they do so, then we can give them some support within the united front. But here our policy must be one of both unity and struggle."

"Some measures this group could take against the superpowers would only be in their own narrow class interests. This we would oppose. We would only give support if their stand, while motivated by their class interest, also coincided with the interests of the entire people."

"There is no unity without struggle," Lefebvre summed up on this point. "We support everything that helps Europe to stand up to the two superpowers, but we denounce everything that is against the working class."

"We are for a nonaligned Belgium,"

stated Lefebvre. "Our country should participate in neither of the superpower blocs, NATO nor the Warsaw Pact, and it should develop within the context of an independent Europe. Moreover, there must be unity between Europe and the third world against superpower hegemonism, with the third world countries as the main and motive force."

"But here again," he pointed out, "there are contradictions and thus both unity and struggle. Take the case of the European Economic Community (EEC). It has two aspects. On the one hand, the EEC represents the Europe of monopoly capitalism and the contradictions it sows among the various countries. It strengthens the dictates of the monopolists and their extraction of profits. This is a bad thing for the working class."

tion as important for developing the political conditions for forming a popular defense."

As for work within the bourgeois army, the CPBML is opposed to pacifist and simple anti-militarist propaganda. "Today this line leads to a mercenary army," stated Lefebvre. "It strengthens the fascist trend within the Belgian bourgeoisie and, what is more, such an army cannot wage a genuine resistance. Such a line only profits the Soviet social-imperialists."

"This is a lesson of World War II. It is very important, for instance, that the leadership of the military resistance to the Nazis was in the hands of the Communist Party. Due to the wavering and collaborationist role of the bourgeoisie, it was incapable of organizing a real defense against foreign aggression."



CLARTE ET L'EXPLOITE, the newspaper of the CPBML, is the voice of the Belgian workers' struggle.

"On the other hand," he continued, "the EEC is a great economic force. It is nearly equal in size to each of the superpowers and stands in some opposition to them. And to the extent that the superpowers run into this opposition, this is a good thing. To get even stronger, the EEC is obliged to grow and to link up with the third world."

"But here is another contradiction," said Lefebvre. "There is neo-colonialism in the EEC's relation to the third world. This we must oppose. On the other hand, there can be a positive relation on the basis of equality. The recent Lomé Convention was a move in this direction." (This meeting agreed to new economic relations between Europe and the third world—ed.)

The CPBML's opposition to both NATO and the Warsaw Pact raised the question of the party's line on military affairs and national defense.

"The only genuine defense must be a popular defense, relying on the masses of people. Our basic line is for the development of a people's army, led by the working class. In this sense, a popular defense depends on the growth of the party. Only the party is able to put a people's army on its feet," the CPBML leader emphasized.

"At the same time," he explained, "we also call for an autonomous European defense, for the European countries to move outside of the superpower military blocs. We see propaganda around this ques-

The CPBML also stressed that it was very important not to fall into idealism, especially on these military matters, and to pay great attention to concrete conditions.

"Take our tactical line on NATO in the immediate situation. This is a delicate and complicated situation, and it is one in which we are still doing deeper study. Our basic line is clear. We are for the people's army and a popular defense. But we must be realistic in regard to the immediate situation. Our party is not yet strong enough to put a people's army on its feet."

NATO VS. WARSAW

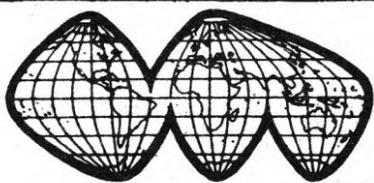
"It is also clear that Belgium's membership in NATO goes against its national independence. But today, when there is neither a people's army nor an autonomous European defense force, what would it mean to weaken NATO while the Warsaw Pact stood in place or expanded? Would this not serve the aims and interests of Soviet social-imperialism? This is not a simple question."

"As for the line that we should form a united front with U.S. imperialism in order to fight Soviet social-imperialism," said Lefebvre, "this is totally incorrect." This view has been advanced by the opportunist AMADA group in Belgium, he explained.

"Inevitably combined with this opportunism is the view that the struggle against the bourgeoisie and for proletarian revolution should come to a halt. To argue that the Russians, and not the Belgian bourgeoisie, is the principal enemy within Belgium today, is ridiculous. It assumes the Russians are already here and are now occupying us. It is nothing but right-wing national chauvinism," Lefebvre added.

On the other hand, he noted there is a tendency to underestimate the Soviet social-imperialists. He pointed out that a sharp two-line struggle took place in the CPBML in 1974-75. Some people argued, similar to the Guardian and other centrists in the U.S., that the Soviets were the main enemy only in Eastern Europe. Everywhere else, supposedly, U.S. imperialism alone was the principal enemy. This line was defeated, and a small group was expelled from the party.

"People who think like this," said Lefebvre, "simply don't understand revisionism. They will end up in the revisionist camp."



... in brief...

KAMPUCHEA CELEBRATES:

The ninth anniversary of the founding of the Kampuchean (Cambodian) Revolutionary Army was held in the capital city of Phnom Penh last week.

People's Congress Chairman Nuon Chea pointed out that, from the first guerrilla-led attack near Battambang City in 1968, through the difficult years of the liberation war against U.S. imperialism and the Lon Nol puppets, the Cambodian people persevered in armed struggle to win victory.

SOVIET RESISTANCE:

Hunger strikes and work stoppages have taken place over the last two years in Soviet prison camps, according to Kronid Lyubarsky, an astrophysicist who was recently released after five years in prison. He said that October 30 had become a central day for action against the prison camp authorities over the last two years.

STRIKES IN ISRAEL:

Over 10,000 workers staged strikes in the last week to protest the worsening economic crisis in the Zionist state. Some 3,000 Jewish fruit and vegetable merchants struck for one week, protesting rising taxes. At the same time, thousands of tax collectors and other government functionaries also went out on strike. Another devaluation of the Israeli currency was the spark that set off these struggles.

BLACK ARTS FESTIVAL:

The Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture opened in Lagos, Nigeria, last week, stressing the theme of "Black Civilization and Education." Thousands of cultural workers and performers from all over Africa as well as Black artists from the U.S., Caribbean countries and elsewhere are participating.

From the World Press MAJI MAJI

An increasing number of people have come to see that "the Soviet Union is no longer the bulwark of peace—of socialism, but it is a new imperialist power," says an editorial of the Tanzanian magazine *Maji Maji* in a recent, special issue on Soviet social-imperialism.

The editorial points out that "With the restoration of capitalism in the USSR, a new bourgeoisie—an imperialist ruling class is now in command, exploiting and oppressing the toiling masses both in the USSR and those in other countries."

It states, "One cannot tell whether the Soviet Union is socialist or imperialist simply by looking at the surface features of its economic system or by the sweet words and phrases of the Soviet authorities. It is imperative that one goes beyond these words and phrases (appearances) so as to lay bare the substance—the relations of production."

"Capitalism has been restored in the Soviet Union and hence it is the blind law of value that governs the Soviet economy and which is a motive force that drives the new Soviet bourgeoisie to invest in those countries that yield maximum profit," the editorial says.

PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI REMEMBERED AS GREAT COMMUNIST FIGHTER

The first anniversary of the death of the great communist leader Chou En-lai, January 8, was commemorated by millions of Chinese people and friends of revolutionary China throughout the world. It was also a central part of the important struggle against the "gang of four" and the continuing struggle in defense of socialism in China.

In memorial meetings, mass rallies, cultural presentations, and articles in the international press, China's late Premier was remembered for his outstanding contributions to the socialist revolution in China and to the cause of Marxism-Leninism.

In China, the huge commemorations took on special significance in the context of the struggle against the counter-revolutionary "gang of four," as the people condemned the "gang's" slanders and attacks against Premier Chou.

In speeches, articles and poems, the people remembered Chou En-lai first and foremost as the close comrade-in-arms of Mao Tsetung. They recalled his tireless spirit in upholding and fighting for Chairman Mao's revolutionary line through all the twists and turns of the Chinese Revolution from the Long March to the storms of the Cultural Revolution.

In Yenan, revolutionary base area of the Red Army before liberation in 1949, veteran soldiers remembered Premier Chou's role in uniting with Chairman Mao to defeat the ultra-"left" line of Wang Ming after the Long March. Former students and Red Guards in Peking recalled his active participation in the great storms of the Cultural Revolution. Because of Chou En-lai's guidance in carrying out Chairman Mao's policies, they pointed out, the Cultural Revolution "has caused new socialist things to flower throughout the country."

Premier Chou's contributions to China's revolutionary foreign policy, especially his



PREMIER CHOU is welcomed back to Peking after his tour of Africa in 1964. (Hsinhua photo)

role in building the unity of the third world countries and the united struggle against the two imperialist superpowers, were reflected in the large number of international tributes.

As head of state for over 25 years, Chou En-lai had the major responsibility for carrying out Chairman Mao's revolutionary line on foreign affairs. He carried out his tasks with boundless energy, showing his great dedication to serving not only the working people of China, but also working-class and oppressed peoples everywhere.

According to an article in the Chinese People's Daily, Chou "initiated and fostered a proletarian style of diplomacy for New China." The article praises Chou's staunch support for Chairman Mao's scientific thesis on the division of the three worlds

and points out the great significance of his formulation of "The Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence" as a revolutionary guide to relations between countries.

The article also underlines the important role played by Chou En-lai at the 1955 Bandung Conference, one of the earliest efforts of the powerful movement of the third world to develop their countries through mutual self-help and anti-imperialist unity.

Premier Chou's firm commitment to reunite mainland China with her occupied territory of Taiwan was an important theme at commemorative ceremonies among thousands of overseas Chinese.

At one of the largest of these gatherings, more than 1,200 overseas Chinese, Taiwanese compatriots and members of the U.S.-China People's Friendship Association

rallied on January 10 in New York. In a speech to the gathering, a Taiwanese woman said: "Chou constantly bore in mind the great cause of the liberation of Taiwan and the unification of our motherland."

Speakers at the New York gathering also expressed their satisfaction with recent events in China. One man who had just returned from a visit there reported to the audience on the "two happy events" he personally witnessed—the fall of the "gang" and the election of Chairman Hua Kuo-feng as Chairman of the Communist Party. "Chairman Hua," he reported, "is supported by the whole Chinese people."

Contrary to the masses' great love and respect for Chou En-lai, the "gang of four" vilified him as "the greatest conservative" and the "arch capitalist-roader." The "gang" correctly considered Premier Chou to be one of the biggest roadblocks in their plot to seize party and state power and restore capitalism in China.

Threatened by Chou En-lai's tremendous influence among the masses even after his death, the "gang" tried to downplay the mass outpouring of grief during the period of mourning for Chou last year. They used their positions of influence in the major news and cultural media to suppress reports from many of the country's memorial gatherings and to prevent the release of a film on the life of Chou. The film, which, because of the hard work of the film crew, was finished only three weeks after Chou's death, was finally shown at this year's memorials throughout China.

In mourning their beloved leader, the people of China and the whole world also have great cause for celebration. China is continuing down the road which was lighted so brilliantly by Chairman Mao and his trusted comrade Chou En-lai, the road of continuing the class struggle and building socialism.

CUBA - TROJAN HORSE IN THIRD WORLD

When the Soviet social-imperialists wanted to invade Angola, they arranged for thousands of Cuban mercenary troops to do their bloody work for them.

Now as the social-imperialists step up their ideological offensive against the third world, they make regular use of Cuba to say and do the things they themselves dare not do, in order to divide the third world countries.

Insidiously playing on the revolutionary history of the Cuban people, the new tsars in the USSR try to promote Cuba as a "model" for other third world countries, especially in Latin America. But the "model" Cuba really provides is a negative example—a "model" of a country which has thrown off U.S. imperialism only to come under the domination of Soviet social-imperialism.

As a neo-colony of the USSR, Cuba is now forced to send its best youth to die in Angola, which is being robbed and plundered of its rich natural resources, and to parrot the revisionist line of the Soviet chieftains inside the third world movement.

In his speech to the National Assembly of People's Power at the end of last year, Cuban leader Fidel Castro devoted virtually all his remarks to defending the international role of social-imperialism. He sang the praises of the Soviet Union, while he attacked the efforts of the third world to unite and safeguard its resources against superpower hegemonism.

Taking his cue from the Soviet revisionist formula of dividing the third world into "progressive" and "reactionary" camps, Castro attacked the oil-producing countries as "reactionary."

He denounced OPEC and other organizations of raw material producers, saying that "the excessive and abusive overvaluation of a raw material in world trade,

through the monopolistic and unilateral action of a few," causes the economic difficulties in the third world.

Going still further, Castro asserted that the oil-producing countries are "grinding the other underdeveloped countries on a millstone," and that the interests of the oil producers are the same as the interests of "the imperialist monopolies."

This barrage of invective against the oil-producers sounds very much like the speeches of Ford, Carter and other U.S. imperialist spokesmen. For years, they have tried to cover up imperialism's responsibility for economic crises by blaming the third world countries and especially OPEC.

The Soviet social-imperialists would also like to obscure the fact that imperialism is to blame for poverty and hunger in the world. They too would like to conceal their own criminal role in the plunder of the third world countries. Most of all, Brezhnev and company would like to weaken and disarm the organized force of third world unity that OPEC has spearheaded.

But to put all this forward openly would be harmful to Soviet attempts to pose as the "natural ally" of the third world movement. So instead, they act through Cuba, itself a third world country, to promote these revisionist views in the hope of undermining third world unity.

To the social-imperialists, the oil-producing countries are not only of great significance economically, but they also form a flank of Europe, which is the focus of Soviet-U.S. rivalry. The Soviet Union has moved great quantities of arms onto Iran's borders, dispatched huge warships to the Persian Gulf, and often interfered in the affairs of Mideast countries and attempted to subvert them.

Faced with this situation, many Mideast



CUBAN SOLDIERS did most of the fighting in USSR's Angolan invasion.

countries have begun to arm themselves against the aggressive designs of both superpowers. In response, the social-imperialists have frantically preached reliance on "détente" and the Soviet Union as the "best course" for the third world.

Castro repeated these revisionist theories in his speech and attacked all efforts by the third world to arm itself as "a waste of tens of thousands of millions of dollars." He claimed that there is no need for national defense because the Soviet Union is guaranteeing "peace."

As a further cover-up for the Soviet Union, Castro tried to hide the realities of Angola, where the Soviet Union has become the new colonial master. Boasting about "internationalism," Castro explained how Angola had offered its vast coffee wealth to Cuba, but Cuba had turned it down, not wanting to "rob" the war-ravaged country.

The fact of the matter is that the Soviet Union has taken over control of the Angolan coffee industry, buying coffee at 33%

of the world market price. On the coffee plantations formerly run by the Portuguese colonialists, Cuban technicians are now in charge of carrying out Soviet-dictated policy.

Cuba's subservience to the Soviet Union's interests was reflected throughout Castro's speech, echoing all the revisionists' standard attacks on China and the international Marxist-Leninist movement. He even indulged in the wishful thinking that the new Chinese Party leadership will alter China's revolutionary stand and take the capitalist road.

The thrust of the entire speech was to lure the third world from its militant course of opposition to both superpowers. But the third world movement has rejected Cuba's neo-colonial fate and is fighting to insure its independence from both superpowers. It is uniting closely to safeguard its resources and arm itself for defense against imperialist aggression.

CENTRISTS JUMP ON SADLOWSKI BANDWAGON

GUARDIAN TAILS LIBERAL TRADE

The Guardian newspaper, which generally echoes the revisionist line of the Communist Party USA, has gone even further than the revisionist party in its acclaim for the campaign of liberal Ed Sadlowski for president of the United Steel Workers of America.

Putting aside their usual disdain for events directly facing workers in the steel mills, the Guardian has plunged into the Sadlowski campaign with fervor, suddenly finding an issue before the workers that the Guardian can fully and comfortably support. In doing so, the editors of the Guardian have put forward a clear defense of bourgeois trade union politics, coupled with denunciations of those struggling to revolutionize the trade unions as "ultra-leftists" and "dogmatists."

The Guardian centrists have also found increasing unity on the pro-Sadlowski bandwagon with the economist Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP), which is also preaching that the workers should rely on Sadlowski to bring about "real change" in the union.

"In a few weeks," say the Guardian editors in a Jan. 19 editorial, "rank-and-file steel workers will have their first opportunity in many years to dramatically reform their union." The Guardian claims that this "dramatic reform" can be achieved through the election of a liberal union president like Sadlowski.

Covering up Sadlowski's role as a class collaborator who stood by silently while the burden of the present economic crisis was thrown onto the shoulders of the steel workers in his own District 31, the Guardian characterizes him as having "taken a strong stand and progressive position" in the fight against the steel monopolies. They say that the capitalists and the I.W. Abel clique, which now heads the USW are "petrified of Sadlowski."

But how can the ruling class and its labor lieutenants, who have for so long used the weapons of reformism and liberalism against the workers, be petrified of another union reformer? Wasn't Abel himself cut out of the same mold? Didn't he run against former USW president David McDonald on a program of anti-"Tuxedo Unionism" in 1965?

The Guardian apologists heap praise on Sadlowski's vague, liberal program as being "one worth fighting for." Their reason? "Even in the areas where the Sadlowski program is weak," they say, "on the fight against discrimination, and on other aspects of fighting the companies—he is at least committed to the view that things cannot continue as they have in the past." Here it seems that the Guardian has such little confidence in the working-class struggle and in the future that they are willing to accept even empty phrases about "opposing the status-quo."

To say that Sadlowski's program on racial discrimination is "weak" must be the understatement of the year. It is well known that he has openly sided with Abel and the companies in pushing the racist Consent Decree, which forces minority and women workers to waive their rights in exchange for a few hundred dollars. Sadlowski's racist stand is aimed at pulling the rug out from under the growing leadership of minority and women workers in the real struggle against discrimination in the mills.

"Some advise us," admit the Guardian centrists, "that Sadlowski is nothing but a tool of the bourgeoisie, which hopes to use him to 'turn rank-and-file anger away from its developing revolutionary direction.'" But this correct warning falls on the deaf ears of these opportunists who completely dismiss any talk of building the revolutionary movement in the steel mills. They retort: "Sadlowski, a few years from now, may try

to do just that if elected. But that is not the issue at hand."

To the opportunists, the liberal and reformist trade union leaders are not the enemy of the workers today, but may become so later on. Therefore, as they see it, the struggle against the reformists and their ideology has little, if any, importance at the present time. As a result, the Guardian

right-opportunism. This is precisely the time when the genuine Marxist-Leninist forces are concentrating their efforts on getting the party of the proletariat on its feet and breaking the grip of the labor opportunists on the class-conscious workers.

These workers do not need to be "propelled" into struggle. They already are in struggle. This is why the reformists are being



SELLING THE CALL in steel mills, communists have propagandized for class struggle trade unions and a fighting program in steel. (Call photo)

apologists never take up the fight against opportunism because they see the movement for reforms as everything, while never looking after the future of the working class.

"The issue for communists," says the Guardian, "especially in this period when their influence in the unions and the working class is small, is how to create and contribute to conditions that further politicize and propel the working class into struggle."

This call to back Sadlowski simply because our movement has relatively small influence in the unions is the height of

promoted by a section of the capitalists—to keep this struggle chained to the capitalist system, especially during the present crisis when the strike movement of the workers is at a high point. Instead of liberal "propellers," the working-class movement needs revolutionary leadership, ideology and organization, which neither the Guardian nor any of the other opportunists is able to provide.

The Guardian editorial ends with an ironic quote from Lenin, pointing out the necessity for communists to fight for democracy in order to prepare for the victory of the proletarian revolution. It is ironic because the quote comes from Lenin's writings on "The Right of Nations to Self-Determination." It seems as though the Guardian centrists, long the loudest opponents of Afro-American self-determi-

FORMER SHARECROPPER SPEAKS TO CYO

'You have time to change system'

Mary Smith, an active member of the National Fight Back Organization, delivered the following speech as a solidarity message to the recently-held Second National Convention of the Communist Youth Organization. Her speech reflected the unity of the Afro-American people's struggle with the general working-class struggle and the close bonds that must be built between older and younger workers, and was received with a prolonged standing ovation by the CYO members.

A lot of you know me. But a lot of you I have not met. To those who are not living in the city, I'd like to extend a welcome to you, and I would like to tell you myself I am proud to know we have so many brothers and sisters who I have never met. This really is a surprise to me!

As you know, I am only one year old in the Fight Back Organization. And I have learned many things. Today, you are teaching me more than I have learned, and in the future, I mean to put what I have learned from you to use.



MARY SMITH (Call photo)

I want to begin to try to bring to you a message of my own summing up—from what I have learned.

I was born in the Black Belt of Mississippi. The capitalist system had taken all my parents' possession—the land, the livestock, even down to the chickens in the yard—and made sharecroppers out of me and my parents. That's how I grew up—as a sharecropper. Many of you understand the word "sharecropper" and many of you don't, because you've never had the opportunity to work as a sharecropper.

This means that I started to work in the cotton fields at eight years old. I've learned everything there is to farming except plowing. And I would have learned plowing, but my father wouldn't trust me with the plow because I would plow up everything in sight! I had to stop school in the ninth grade because of the death of my parents. This left me with two young children which I had to raise up myself. This is why I can understand the oppression of young people today.

The imperialist system drove me from my homeland in the Black Belt of the South. I had to come north to Chicago to learn what my answer was. I had been asking myself why did my parents lose their land and all their possessions? Did we owe that much? No. I have learned it was the doing of the capitalist system, which my father did not understand. So now I will have to say they stole it from me.

And here I am—your former sharecropper. I worked in the factories and hospitals in Chicago for almost thirty years. What do I have to show for it—nothing but bad eyesight, high blood pressure, and a welfare check that's too small for me to live on.

But everything hasn't been bad. I met the Fight Back Organization on the unemployment lines. Now I have the Fightback and *The Call* newspaper, which have answered many of my questions.

To the young people, I'm proud of you today because you didn't have to wait until you were 60 years old to understand what the capitalist system was doing to you also. You have learned to become strong fighters against this system. And you have time during your aging to change this system and not let it do the same thing to you that it has done to me.

I have found out the only answer to put an end to the capitalist system is socialism. Because of the Fightback, and *The Call* newspaper, I know now that the imperialist system is the cause of the oppression of Black people and of all working-class people. I also know that socialism and self-determination for the Afro-American nation is the answer—the ending to oppression.

As Odys Hyde has said: "Every class that ever ruled in the history of mankind had a political party. The working class is no different." We need a revolutionary communist party to lead us to victory. The Communist Youth Organization, under the leadership of the new party, will insure that new blood and new fresh ideas and the enthusiasm of young people will be continually brought into the party.

I say—"On with the Party! Build the CYO!"



Statement from the Standing Committee of the O.C.—

After many months of work, the first drafts of the program and constitution of the new party are ready for study and discussion by all the organizations participating in the Organizing Committee for a Marxist-Leninist Party (OC). The completion of these drafts is an important event because it means that we are on the verge of the actual formation of our new party.

The draft program will be the immediate focus of discussion and struggle within the OC. Members of the OC organizations will carefully study and criticize the first draft to insure that it correctly expresses the final aims, basic views, and immediate political tasks of our party.

The program we adopt at our first party congress will be a militant document which will rally and unite the most resolute, advanced, and fighting elements of the working class and guide the struggle for socialism. It will provide a basis for uniting Marxist-Leninists into a single, unified party, putting an end to the period of small circles and primitiveness.

It has taken us more time to complete our first program draft than we had originally anticipated. However, the few months extra time was utilized to build firmer unity and deepen our understanding of the Marxist-Leninist line.

Combining the science of Marxism-Leninism with analyses of concrete condi-

UNIONISTS

nation, have suddenly discovered Lenin's teachings on this crucial question, only to try and use them to attack Leninism with reformism.

The question in the upcoming election, however, is not whether or not to support the struggle for union democracy. There is a significant movement within the rank and file of the USW for union democracy; against the Abel reactionary clique and its Experimental Negotiating Agreement (ENA), which is being used to take away the right to strike; against racial discrimination in the coke ovens and throughout the industry; and against the growing layoffs. It is precisely on the question of how to build this movement that the struggle between Marxism-Leninism and revisionism is being waged.

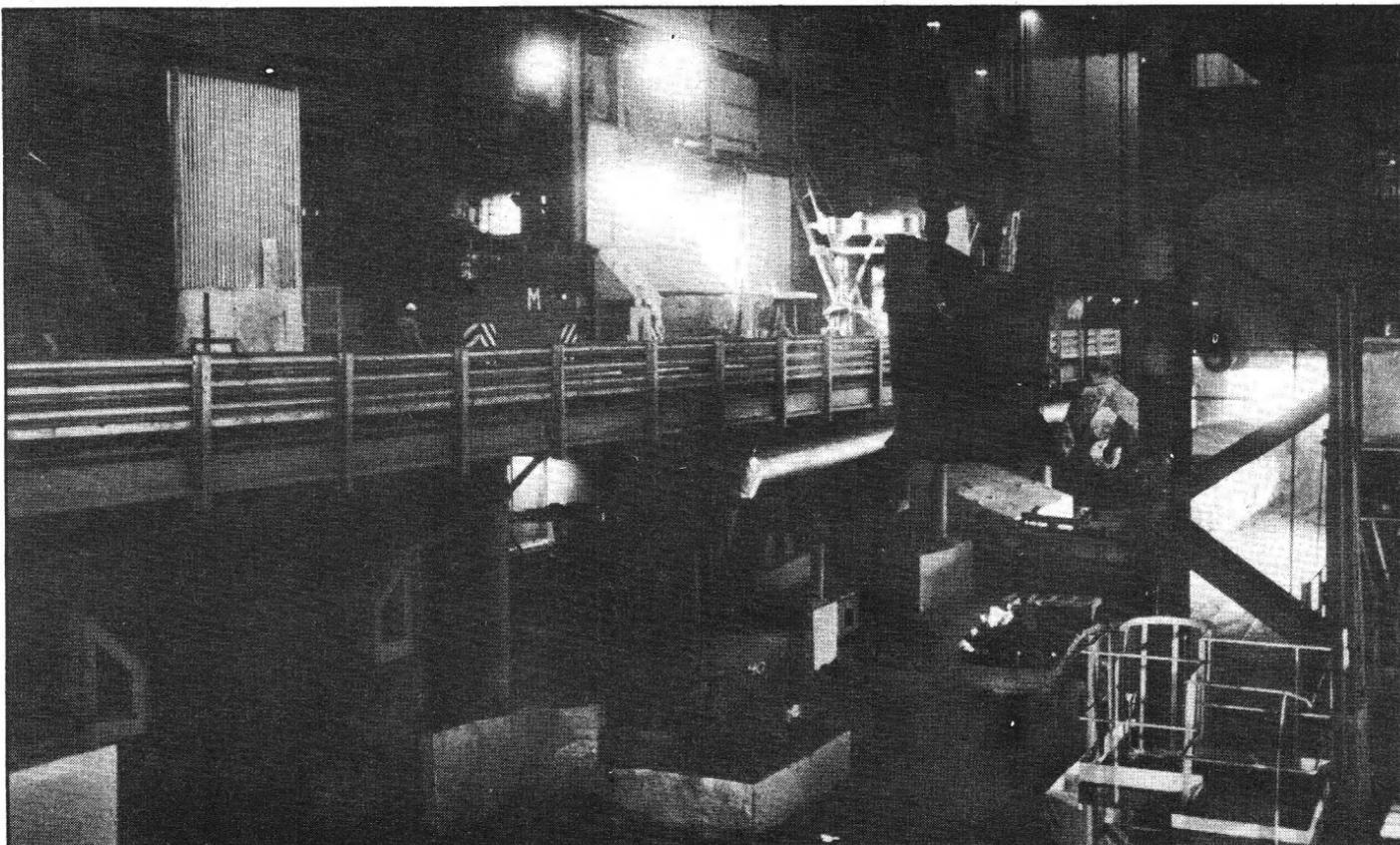
It is because of such a movement among the rank and file that individuals like Sadlowski, who even calls himself a "democratic socialist," Arnold Miller of the UMW and Douglas Fraser of the UAW are being dragged out by the capitalists. They are there to channel the workers' struggle into liberalism and reformism and undermine the efforts to give such struggles revolutionary consciousness and direction.

But the revisionists and the Guardian, as well as the RCP, all have jumped at the liberals' bait and joined hands with Sadlowski.

The CPUSA is using the Sadlowski campaign mainly to ride the coattails of the liberals into power within the labor bureaucracy, while at the same time promoting Sadlowski's pro-"detente" stand on foreign affairs.

Sadlowski has a clearly developed line on this question, reflecting the views of his financial backers among the imperialist appeasers of Soviet social-imperialism. Despite his "oil-can Eddie" image and populist style, Sadlowski is well-schooled in foreign affairs and a bourgeois-liberal politician in his own right. His calls for defense cuts, isolationism, and "reordering priorities" coincide generally with the schemes of the imperialist and revisionist peddlers of "detente."

This pro-"detente" stand is also right



THOUSANDS OF LAYOFFS have hit this U.S. Steel mill in Gary, but Sadlowski, the union's district director, has done nothing in response to the demand for jobs. (Call photo)

up the alley of the Guardian centrists. They praise Sadlowski's "advocacy of a cut in the defense budget" and his "anti-interventionist views on foreign policy," which they claim has "got the hard-line sections of the ruling class upset."

Like the revisionist CPUSA, the Guardian singles out these "hardliners" as the enemy, while viewing the "detentists" and other apologizers for the Soviet Union as allies. But this whole gang is busily covering up the imperialist war preparations and the aggressive role of the Soviet social-imperialists. There is nothing positive in Sadlowski's stand on international affairs, any more than there is in Abel's. They are two sides of the same imperialist coin.

The Guardian's call to struggle for "democracy" in the abstract is designed to make it appear that communists like the October League are failing to support real union democracy. In fact, it is the Guardian which has always shown its disdain for the day-to-day struggles of the steel workers, struggles in which the genuine communists have been active for years.

The Guardian also tries to paint a picture

of the OL as opponents of participation in union elections and of any and all alliances with the labor union misleaders. Of course, this is not the case. Such tactics can be used at times to expose these leaders before the masses and to sever them from their base.

But such alliances must be carried out only under certain conditions. In the first place, our right to criticize and expose these leaders must be guaranteed, and we can never prettify them as the Guardian has done. Secondly, our trade union work must be carried out in such a way as to correspond with our overall tasks in the working-class movement.

To call for support for the liberal union politicians in general, as the Guardian does, with no program for organizing the workers on a revolutionary basis is a crime. It turns the class-conscious workers into errand boys for the labor misleaders without any way to express their own independence and initiative.

Aside from their lack of struggle against Sadlowski's social-democratic views and, in fact, their outright praise for the Sadlowski

of today ("He is a reformer and that's all he claims to be," says the Guardian), the opportunists ignore the very conditions necessary for severing the misleaders from their base—the building of a communist party and the winning of the advanced workers to Marxism-Leninism and the party. This is no small oversight, but rather a continuation of the anti-party stand of the Guardian centrists.

Communists must carry on the work of winning the best elements of the working class, as well as the masses of workers, away from the influences of the reformist and revisionist union leaders. They must turn around the bosses' ploy of promoting this new flock of liberals and reformists by waging a campaign of struggle and education to expose the entire labor bureaucracy. They must show that the liberals offer no real alternative, no class struggle program—but rather only class collaborationism under some fancy rhetoric.

The Guardian's promotion of the reformists and revisionists to leadership in the union serves to reveal their bankruptcy as a newspaper serving the bourgeoisie.

STATEMENT BY THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

FIRST DRAFT OF PARTY PROGRAM PREPARED

tions in the U.S. and the world, the program is written to meet the needs of the working-class movement during this period of history. It is concise and scientific, yet written in a popular style that can be taken to the masses of working and oppressed people. In many respects, it differs in form from the programs of the earlier parties in other countries, written under different conditions.

The conditions in this country today, particularly the character of the present struggle against modern revisionism, have necessitated a more extensive and detailed program than the programs of many earlier parties. Many years ago, the modern revisionists of the CPUSA abandoned the struggle for the revolutionary overthrow of the capitalist system and the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat, leaving the working class without communist leadership. The revolutionary struggle in the U.S. cannot succeed without the exposure and defeat of modern revisionism.

Our program targets the revisionists and draws a line of demarcation on each of the important questions facing our movement. It attacks the CPUSA as a direct agent of imperialism and social-imperialism within the workers' movement. Our program exposes the CP's racist betrayal of the right of self-determination for the oppressed nations and its substitution of electoral struggle and "peaceful transition" for the revolutionary struggles of the working

class and its allies for socialism and the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Through the course of the struggle against modern revisionism, several trends have emerged in our movement, all calling themselves Marxist-Leninist. Our draft program draws clear lines of demarcation and distinguishes our future party from the opportunist trends in the Marxist-Leninist movement on every burning question.

In writing the first draft of our program, we have learned from the negative example of the program of the Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP). While our program targets and thoroughly exposes the revisionists on every question, the RCP program belittles the fight against revisionism.

Our program states that one of our aims is to "turn the trade unions into revolutionary class struggle organizations which fight for socialism under communist leadership." The RCP's program hands the trade unions over to the trade union bureaucrats.

While the RCP's chauvinist program does not raise the right of self-determination of oppressed nations as a main demand in the fight against national oppression, and generally reflects a white-chauvinist stand, our program makes the upholding of that right one of the main objectives of our party on the national question. The program also staunchly defends the liberation struggles of the oppressed nations and nationalities. The RCP program is not a fighting document, but rather an unscien-

tific, opportunist program to confuse and mislead the people.

The finalizing of the first draft of the program is a great step forward for the work of the OC. But achieving unity on program alone, although essential, is not sufficient unless that unity is raised to a higher organizational form. The constitution of our party will define the organizational structure, membership requirements, and duties and rights of party members, and generally govern the internal life of our party.

The first draft of the constitution requires that party members accept the program and constitution of the party, work actively in an organizational unit of the party, observe party discipline, carry out party decisions, and financially support the party.

Our party will be a Bolshevik-type organization, based on the organizational principle of democratic centralism to ensure iron discipline, unity of will and action along with the fullest discussion and struggle within the party. Its members will build the closest ties with the masses, practice bold criticism and self-criticism, be aboveboard, struggle for unity, and engage in relentless struggle against opportunism and revisionism in the ranks of our party.

As opposed to the revisionist traitors of the CPUSA, who in their constitution make advocating the violent overthrow of the government grounds for expulsion, the first draft of our constitution requires that party

members accept the principal of the complete overthrow of the bourgeoisie through armed struggle, the replacement of the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie by the dictatorship of the proletariat, and the victory of socialism over capitalism.

Last July, the OC took the lead in putting forward clear principles of unity, enabling Marxist-Leninists to come together to struggle for political unity and the organization of the party. The writing of the first program draft and the struggle to reach agreement on a final draft is raising our ideological level and greatly deepening the unity within the ranks of the OC.

We are currently making plans for a Second Unity Conference. The main purpose of this conference will be to achieve political unity over the line of the draft program among the OC organizations. The conference will also provide an opportunity for new organizations that agree with our principles of unity to unite with us. Shortly after the unity conference, the draft program will be printed publicly for open discussion and debate during the period leading up to the founding congress of the party itself.

The time for the actual formation of our party is near! With a revolutionary program to guide our work and a united, disciplined organizational form, our party will be founded on the firmest and strongest basis.



REPRESSION and RESISTANCE

Support for Black Marines

San Diego, Calif.—Over 150 people rallied here Jan. 14 in support of 14 Black marines who face court martials for their militant self-defense actions against the Ku Klux Klan at nearby Camp Pendleton.

The 14 marines were arrested after they broke up a Klan meeting in the base barracks. They are currently being tried for "assault," and two have already been convicted and imprisoned for three months with loss of pay and rank.

The rally was sponsored by the People United to Fight Oppression (PUFO). Speeches were heard from the October League, the League for Marxist-Leninist Unity, the Marxist-Leninist Fighting Union, and other member groups of PUFO.

It has recently been revealed that as many as 100 white marines at the 92,000-man base belong to the KKK, receiving the support of commanding officers in covering up their attacks and firebombings against Black marines. Despite this evidence, the military court has refused to take any action against the Klan, instead blaming the Black marines for "racial tensions" on the base.

The Jan. 14 rally was the second large demonstration of support for the Black marines by people in the San Diego area. At a Dec. 11 demonstration, 200 people—including many Black and white marines—heard speakers denounce the Klan as a tool of imperialism for oppressing Afro-Americans.

Black poet freed

Delbert Tibbs, a 37-year-old Black poet and author, was released from prison Jan. 7 to the cheers of a waiting crowd of supporters in Ft. Myers, Fla. He had spent nearly three years on death row for a crime he didn't commit.

Tibbs was convicted by an all-white jury in Ft. Myers for a frame-up rape and murder charge in 1974 and sentenced to the electric chair. But because of mass outrage over the racist trial, the Florida Supreme Court was forced to overturn the conviction last July and order a new trial. Pre-trial motions in the state's second frame-up attempt begin Jan. 25.

Baby taken from couple

Los Angeles, Calif.—A young Mexican couple received a sample of "justice" in Municipal Court here Jan. 14.

Hector Santos de Leon and his wife Lourdes were in court that day on a petty theft charge with their two-month-old baby. As they stood in front of court commissioner Harold N. Crowder, he ordered them sent to jail immediately pending arraignment. The couple was forced to leave their baby behind in court as marshalls led them away.

That was where the baby remained throughout the day. When commissioner Crowder finished his day's work of sending poor workers and minorities to jail, he simply walked out of the courtroom, ignoring the child. Finally, the police took the baby to a foster home.

News reports on the incident pointed out how the commissioner refused to let a mere baby "intimidate" him from carrying out his duties for capitalism.

Resistance Notes

JURY SELECTION in the trial of Black revolutionary Assata Shakur (Joanne Chesimard) began in New Brunswick, N.J., on Jan. 17, nearly four years after she was falsely accused of murdering a N.J. state trooper. Shakur is a former member of the Black Panther Party. She also spent the last four years in prison, the last year of that in solitary confinement.

ATTACKS ON PRISONERS continue at the Connecticut State Prison at Somers, nearly four months after an outbreak of struggle rocked the Prison. Recently, three prisoners were brutally beaten by guards. In addition, prison officials are still holding 16 members of the Somers Multinational Prisoners Collective in segregation in an attempt to isolate them and prevent any further organizing among the prison population. Also, inmate Robert Calovine was punished by officials after attempting to speak up about repression at Somers during a court hearing in New Haven, Conn. Despite these reprisals, prisoners at Somers are continuing to fight back.

"DOWN WITH RACIST MILITARY JUSTICE!" was the demand of a Jan. 22 demonstration at Naval District Headquarters in San Diego. The demonstration was called to protest the frame-up of Eric Young, a Black sailor on the U.S.S. Racine. Young is charged with attempting to destroy the ship's auxiliary engine. Harassment against the enlisted ranks, especially against Black and other minority sailors, has been increasing lately in an attempt to stop growing resistance to the U.S. imperialist war machine. The Center for Servicemen's Rights and the San Diego Fight Back are urging support for Young.

BILTRITE WORKERS . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

over many burning issues, from dangerous machines to the fight against national oppression, supporting the equality of languages and opposing the racist segregationist movement and the deportation attacks against foreign-born workers.

Over 50% of the workers at Biltrite are minorities, many Latinos and Portuguese.

Up until a few years ago, the company had its own bed-partners, the Leone family, in complete control of Local 209. For 20 years, they ran the union like a personal kingdom.

One Leone brother is secretary of the union and another works in the front office. A third is general foreman and runs the numbers racket in the plant, tied directly to the underworld. The fourth brother was president of the local until 6 years ago when a reformist-led coalition with broad rank-and-file support dumped Leone from office and elected the current president, Nelson.

The Leones' base of support in the plant is a group of white mechanics, organized in the segregated Boilermakers Union. It was these labor aristocrats who were prodded on to assault Hagedorn and the Call sellers following

union secretary Leone's fight with Hagedorn on Jan. 12. But with the growing gang-like activities of Leone, even this base of support has begun to crumble.

The recent series of confrontations grew out of heightened rank-and-file struggle on the shop floor and at union meetings over the past months.

The union misleaders, including both Leone and Nelson, followed the lead of International president Peter Bommarito by trying to stamp out opposition through expulsion of leading activists.

In September, John Hagedorn was thrown out of a union meeting and banned for a month from union activities for his role in mobilizing workers against deportation raids at Biltrite and in the fight for translating contracts.

The December meeting turned into open battle when workers discovered that the misleaders had spent \$1,000 of the union's funds to pay a lawyer to find a "legal" way of throwing communists out of the URW. Yet workers had been told by the bureaucrats that it was "too expensive" to translate the contract.

Police were called into the union meeting to pull rank-and-file leaders out. But when they saw the enormous unity and militancy

of the workers, they backed down, mumbling that it was "internal union affairs."

The January meeting was just the same—more exposure of the bureaucrats and sharp class struggle against them.

The events at Biltrite have demonstrated the growing unity of workers of all nationalities in the fight against oppression. It has also laid bare the rotten alliance and unity among the reactionary forces, not only the company and union misleaders but also the opportunist Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP).

The RCP has opposed every struggle against national oppression, insisting that it would "divide" the workers. Instead, they have gone among the workers, inciting chauvinism and anti-communism. When right-wing goons attacked Hagedorn and other rank-and-file workers, RCP said, "They got what they deserved," and then they ran away.

Attempts to squash the struggle at Biltrite have just fanned the fires and awakened political consciousness among larger numbers of workers. "If they throw the OL out," one worker said, "they'll try to throw us all out next." Another added, "Their anti-communist attacks backfired. The struggle is growing."

TYLER CONVICTION . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to ignore the truth Blanks told about how her testimony was pre-written by the prosecuting attorneys. The court ruled that Blanks was "pressured by forces in the community sympathetic to Tyler," and thus could not accept the fact that she had recanted.

The court also dismissed out of hand the argument in Tyler's appeal which called for dropping the charges on the grounds that he was tried as an adult when he was only 17 years old.

Sherman Miller, Chairman of the October League's Afro-American Commission, made the following statement on learning of the court decision:

"The Louisiana authorities, in league with their capitalist masters, are hoping that this racist decision will extinguish the flames of struggle ignited by Gary's case. They are mistaken. Their action only reveals further the nature of the capitalist system and the need for mass struggle to eliminate it.

"The October League calls for

turning the 100,000 signatures on Tyler petitions into 1 million. The Tyler defense committees must double and triple their size, working for larger and more powerful demonstrations against this legal lynching.

"Gary's struggle is symbolic of the Afro-American people's 300-year struggle for the right to self-determination and the struggle of all working people against capitalism. We must demand louder, more forcefully, and with more determination than ever **FREE GARY TYLER!**"

I-HOTEL EVICTION . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

century to work in the fields, factories and fisheries of the West Coast, providing capitalism with a vast source of cheap labor.

The Four Seas Corporation, an investment group, is now hoping to tear down the hotel and build a parking lot as part of an overall plan to expand San Francisco's financial and tourist centers.

Other minority communities in San Francisco have also been targets of "redevelopment" plans in the last few years. The city has already torn down much of the Japanese community in order to build a huge trade center. Work is continuing on the Yerba Buena

center, which is being constructed after driving thousands of Latinos out of their homes.

Recognizing the scope of the community struggle against the evictions, a number of city officials have tried to bring an end to the militant actions with liberal promises. Mayor Moscone at one point offered to buy the hotel with city money, but the city supervisors quickly appropriated the funds for "police protection" in the area.

But tenants and supporters have not been deceived by such "solutions." They maintain a 24-hour watch on the hotel to prevent evictions and a phone tree to mobilize demonstrations on short

notice. Intensive work is being done throughout Chinatown to build support for the struggle.

What is happening in San Francisco's Asian communities today is not just a struggle for better housing, but an effort to get organized and resist the oppression which Asian immigrants have faced in the U.S. for the last century.

In targeting the big investment and real estate companies as well as the city officials, the International Hotel struggle is striking a blow at the parasitic capitalist class which is responsible for the intense national oppression faced by Asian-Americans.

AMNESTY FRAUD . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tary. This figure does not count the thousands of others who received bad discharges because they were victims of racism or one of the 50,000 or more soldiers known to have become addicted to heroine while in Vietnam.

The pardon also fails to cover those who violently resisted imperialist aggression or oppression within the military, such as the thousands who took part in armed rebellions at the time of the invasion of Cambodia or the many

cases of "fragging" commanding officers.

Finally, the use of the pardon, rather than a universal, unconditional amnesty, turns justice on its head. While Carter is busily appointing the main architects of the criminal invasion of Vietnam, such as Cyrus Vance, to his cabinet, those who justifiably resisted are still branded as "criminals" to be pardoned by the real criminals. This selective pardon is also designed to create divisions between those workers and minorities who did not have the means or know-

ledge to resist and those who did.

The National Council for Universal Unconditional Amnesty has called a meeting to plan a unified, mass response to the Carter pardon. This meeting will be held January 29-30 at the Lord Simcoe Hotel in Toronto, Canada. Amex-Canada will host the meeting, which will include exiles living in Sweden, France and Canada, as well as veterans who have received less-than-honorable discharges and their families and supporters.