



# SPARTACIST

CANADA

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## Iran/Contragate: The "Canada Connection"

# Merchants of Death

For years U.S. president Ronald Reagan has been getting away with murder, backed and alibied by his junior imperialist partners in Ottawa. From the 269 passengers sent to their death aboard the KAL 007 spy plane to 241 dead Marines in Lebanon to the rape of Grenada to Qadaffi's infant daughter murdered in the terror bombing of Libya, the course is strewn with bodies sacrificed on the altar of the anti-Soviet war drive. But with the Iran/Contragate scandal—the bizarre operation shipping arms to the Iranian mullahs

the "investigation" from the Israeli embassy! External affairs minister Joe Clark sent off a protest letter to the U.S. State Department registering his "deep concern for the lack of information on any Canadian connection." Up to this point the only expressed concern of the Canadian government over Iran/Contragate was to worry that if this was

### **The Main Enemy Is at Home!**

to entice them into the anti-Soviet alliance, the profits laundered through Swiss bank accounts for use by the Nicaraguan contras—the Reagan "hands-off presidency" is in total crisis. In the midst of all the president's men throwing deleted expletives at each other, lying, bailing out and above all stonewalling, on December 10, CIA director William Casey threw in the "Canada connection." Going through what he didn't know and when he didn't know it Casey testified that he had been informed in October that Canadian "business" partners of notorious merchant of death Adnan Khashoggi, Donald Fraser and Ernie Miller were getting ready to blow the whistle on the Iranian arms deal. They had bankrolled it to the tune of \$40 million and complained they were getting stiffed.

There was a minor flap on Parliament Hill as the Liberals and NDP demanded an immediate investigation. The ruling Tories obliged by putting the Mounties on the job and asking for assistance in



No Credit

LeMoine/Newsweek

**Carpet bombing of Vietnam, Nicaraguan contra cutthroats. Canadian jackal imperialists profit from U.S. dirty wars.**

bedtime for Bonzo ditto for their "free trade" deal (after all they can't leave it to Deaver anymore). The only thing that rivals the venality of the Canadian rulers is their unbridled hypocrisy.

Detailing the RCMP's hitmen to get to the bottom of things, i.e. bury it, Clark has already come out with the verdict declaring that there is no proof

*(continued on page 8)*

## Drug/Sex Witchhunt

# Rampant Reaction

Canada is a nasty, bigoted country. The "nice, clean, democratic" facade so beloved of the reformists, liberals and social democrats is utterly ripped away by the ugly reality of Cold War reaction. The Canadian rulers are out to enforce good, clean conformity for "god and country," as the domestic front line in the battle against "atheistic Communism." If you're black, Asian, Jewish, working-class, female, gay, old, sick or if you are in any way perceived as a political opponent, the reactionaries with state power have you lined up in their sights. Union-busting, attacks on abortion rights, racist cop terror, the whole dirty and hypocritical sex/drug/porn witchhunt—it's all aimed at rooting out "deviancy" and forcibly creating a docile and intimidated population, the better to mobilize for war against the Soviet Union.

The Canadian imperialists are the loyal junior partners in Reagan's counterrevolution abroad, from Afghanistan to Nicaragua; and at home their campaign to "clean up Canada" at every step mirrors Reagan's social counterrevolution in the U.S. The only difference is that unlike Reagan and his sinister attorney general Edwin Meese, the Canadian rulers

don't have to worry about such technicalities as constitutional rights, because there aren't any in the land of United Empire Loyalists. There's no need to blackmail stores into removing sex magazines like Meese's porn commission did. If the Mounties don't get "offending" *Penthouse* and *Playboy* magazines at the border, the cops are sent in to raid shops and arrest the owners under the "obscenity" laws. And where the long arm of the law doesn't reach, there are the fascist terrorists and Moral Majority crusaders.

The vicious persecution and terror campaign against Dr. Henry Morgentaler, which runs from a 13-year-long state vendetta to crazed anti-abortionists in the streets, is an index of the rampant social reaction that flourishes in Canada. Last September, Morgentaler was arrested once again, together with his associates Doctors Robert Scott and Nikki Colodny. This was gratuitously vindictive: Morgentaler is *still* facing charges from a previous arrest. In four trials the government has yet to find a jury that will convict Morgentaler! For now the latest charges are on hold while the prosecutors

(continued on page 10)

## Support the Partisan Defense Committee!

We urge readers of SC to support the Partisan Defense Committee, the class-struggle, anti-sectarian legal defense organization in accordance with the political views of the Spartacist League/U.S., sister section of the Trotskyist League of Canada. From the "Aid to Striking British Miners' Families" fundraising campaign in support of the heroic British coal miners' bitter 1985 strike, to supporting striking Soweto hospital workers and the largely Hispanic Watsonville cannery workers, international working-class solidarity is the cornerstone of the PDC. Recently the PDC has begun publishing its own newsletter, *Class-Struggle Defense Notes*, which details its ongoing work. This includes sending monthly stipends to class-war prisoners, including those jailed for standing up to racist capitalist oppression, such as Geronimo Pratt, a former Black Panther leader who has been in jail for 16 years for a crime he did not commit, and Ramona Africa, sentenced to seven years in jail for the "crime" of being the only



Sturrock/Network

**British miners battle cops, 1985. Defend class-war prisoners!**

survivor of the hideous massacre of the black Philadelphia MOVE commune. To contribute, to become a regular sustainer, and to receive the PDC's newsletter, please write to: Partisan Defense Committee, P.O. Box 99, Canal Street Station, New York, NY 10013.

# Anti-Spartacists for Hire

# BT Provocation Fizzles

We reprint below, in slightly abridged form, an article from the 5 December 1986 issue of *Workers Vanguard* (No. 417) detailing the aborted plans of the self-styled "Bolshevik Tendency" to provoke and disrupt a public meeting of our comrades of the Spartacist League/U.S. in Oakland, California. The BT's planned provocation follows their violent and carefully orchestrated attack on an SL forum at the University of California at Berkeley last September 19. Given the existence in Toronto of this highly dubious and unsavory outfit, many trade-union friends and supporters of the Trotskyist League came out to our forum "Defend Tamil Rights! Fight Cold War Racism!" held the following night at the U of T to ensure that the meeting proceeded in an orderly fashion without disruption and provocation. As we said in a letter widely distributed among the left and labor movement together with the *WV* article "ET/BT: A Calculated Provocation" (No. 412, 26 September 1986): "The importance of this was underlined by the issue at hand—the defense of desperate Tamil refugees who have been targeted by a vicious racist backlash. . . . Intervention by the racist Toronto cops, like the Berkeley cops who came barreling into the lobby immediately on the heels of the despicable BT attack on our comrades in Oakland, could have desperately imperiled all in attendance."

Of course the BT couldn't care less. During the discussion these renegades said nothing in defense of Tamil refugees against racist terror. Rather, one of their speakers used his time to retail the BT's cop-baiting smear against MOVE supporter LaVerne Sims, their only "response" to date to the hideous racist massacre of the Philadelphia MOVE commune in 1985! Frankly the BT doesn't give a damn that black babies were incinerated or about Tamils and other minorities lined up in the crosshairs of racist terror. The only thing that this group of embittered ex-members—who individually quit our organization

in fear of revolutionary struggle against Reagan reaction—has shown any commitment to is to get, damage and destroy our organization any way they can.

On November 21, the Spartacist League was compelled to take the very unusual step of changing at the last minute the location of its public meeting from Dwinelle Hall on the University of California



Workers Vanguard

**Oakland, Nov. 21, 1986: Spartacist forum "Fight Reagan Reaction with Class Struggle!"**

Berkeley campus to a site in nearby north Oakland. The move was taken to head off plans by the Bolshevik Tendency (BT, formerly External Tendency) to organize on a larger scale a repeat of its premeditated and violent provocation against the September 19 SL forum held on the UC Berkeley campus.

Earlier in the week the SL learned from several sources that the BT was planning to stage some kind of disruption of the talk by comrade George Crawford titled, "Fight Reagan Reaction with Class Struggle!" Our decision to move the forum off campus, motivated by concern for the safety of those attending it, was strikingly confirmed by events on campus the night of November 20. UC Berkeley cops, clad in riot gear, brutally ambushed students protesting a closed-door student conduct hearing aimed at disciplining anti-apartheid activists. A number of students were savagely beaten. One of them, protest leader John Winters, was slammed into a glass display case by the rampaging cops and later booked on frame-up charges of resisting arrest and assault on a police officer.

Some months ago following an SL forum held at Dwinelle Hall a comrade of ours was foolish enough  
*(continued on page 6)*

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# Harbor Cops Seize Class-Struggle Press

On October 3 Jane Kirby, a leading member of the Trotskyist League of Canada, was arrested by Montreal harbor police. Held for over three hours, subjected to repeated inquisition as to her political views and threatened with being thrown behind bars for the weekend or until she could appear in court, Kirby was only finally released after posting \$500 bond! Her "crime"—distributing a special *Workers Vanguard* supplement headlined "Let's Win This One!" which was addressed to the powerful strike by 30,000 longshoremen then raging on the East Coast of the U.S.

Montreal dockers were grabbing up the supplements when the harbor cops came to haul Kirby away. For most it was the first they had even heard of the strike by their American union brothers of the International Longshoremen's Association (ILA). This strike by a key battalion of the union movement, with strong picket-line traditions and a substantial militant black component, was shaping up to be a major labor confrontation that could have turned the tide on the racist union-busters across North America. Millions were prepared to rally behind the longshoremen, as was testified to by the enthusiastic reception the *WV* supplement got. In three days a quarter of a million were distributed to longshoremen from the Gulf Coast to Vancouver, from the Tidewater region of Virginia to the San Francisco Bay Area as well as to steel workers, machinists and transit workers and throughout black communities. In Canada it was handed out together with a *Spartacist Canada* supplement in defense of Tamil refugees.

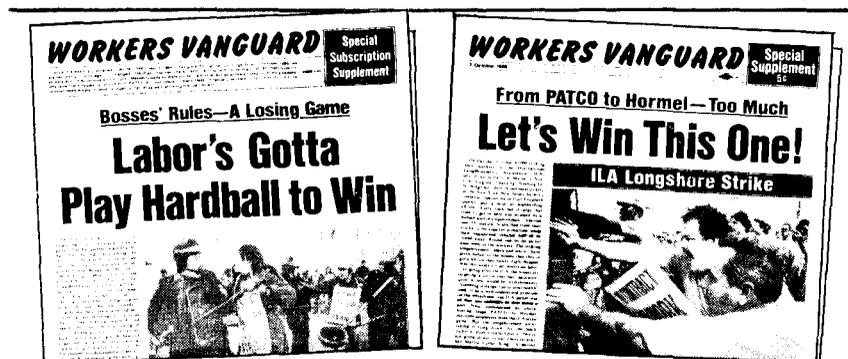
Here was a paper with the program to bust the union-busters, to smash racist terror, to defeat the war on minorities and labor with sharp class struggle. And that's what the Canadian government and their shotgun-toting port police didn't want Montreal longshoremen reading. At the same time the ILA hit the bricks in the U.S., grain shipments in Canada, a major export, were at a virtual standstill. In Thunder Bay, the world's largest grain port, 1,200 grainhandlers had been out in a strike/lockout for over a month. In Vancouver, the 3,700 members of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union had voted 94 percent in favor of strike action.

The Canadian government was hysterical, threatening back-to-work legislation against the grainhandlers, and loading up railway cars to bypass Thunder Bay and carry the wheat directly from Saskatchewan to the Montreal

port. So when the Montreal harbor cops caught sight of Kirby distributing the *WV* supplement calling on longshoremen to shut down *all* North American ports they landed on her like a ton of bricks. The government and its federal gendarmes, who police the port like it was a labor camp, well knew that it could only take a spark to ignite some class struggle on the Montreal docks, where longshoremen are bearing the brunt of massive job cuts...and that would spell the end of their scab grain shipments. Nor had they forgotten that it was the militant walkout by the ILA in Montreal, Trois Rivières and Quebec City which sparked the near-insurrectionary 1972 general strike in Quebec. Desperate to make sure that no other dockers got wind of the ILA strike, the harbor cops confiscated thousands of *WV* supplements as "evidence"!

It's open season on labor and the season opened when the Canadian rulers' big brother Ronald Reagan smashed the air traffic controllers strike in 1980. One strike after another has been lost because the cowardly union leaders have been playing by the bosses' rules. Despite an overwhelming strike vote and management attempts to destroy the union's containerization clause, the ILWU longshoremen never struck in Vancouver—they were locked out. And the scabby union bureaucrats offered to move the grain that was about to rot due to the grainhandlers' strike! Now the ILWU is saddled with a government-imposed contract which union president Don Garcia said had to be accepted to avoid facing heavy fines. "We'll have to dumbly wait like lambs going to the slaughter" Garcia submitted. The Gainers strike was defeated as local bureaucrats bowed to court injunctions outlawing mass picketing and relied on a useless consumer boycott. In Quebec Liberal premier Robert Bourassa, the man who provoked the 1972 general strike by jailing the leaders of all three major Quebec union

(continued on page 15)



**Workers Vanguard supplements: organizing tools for labor victory.**

# Trotskyists Picket Labor Traitor Kinnock

In the mining villages of England, Scotland and Wales they call him "Judas" Kinnock. This scabherder, red-baiter and class traitor worked overtime to break the heroic British coal miners strike of 1984-85. When the British Labour Party leader came to America in December to show the U.S. ruling class that his "no nuke" schemes are no threat to NATO and American imperialism he was met by spirited pickets organized by the Spartacist League/U.S. The protests, held at Harvard's Kennedy School and the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., were widely covered by the British press. BBC and ITV television both showed footage of the December 2 Harvard demonstration, focusing on the Spartacist placards, "Kinnock Stabbed British Miners--Salutes Anti-Soviet Warmongers!" "Kinnock is Bloody Thatcher's Poodle--Remember the *Belgrano!*" and "Bury the Stinking Corpse of Social Democracy!"

Kinnock's trip was a flop: the American rulers, Democrats no less than Reagan's Republicans, weren't buying his calls for a "nuclear-free" Britain. So when he returned to London to unveil the Labour Party "defense" policy statement, Kinnock vowed a Labour government would accept NATO strategy, according to the *Guardian*

(11 December 1986) "including...potential first use of nuclear weapons." The statement tried to outdo Margaret Thatcher in Union Jack chauvinism, deploring "a serious decline in the strength of all our armed forces. Had the invasion of the Falklands by the Argentine junta come even six months later than it did, it is doubtful that we could have regained the islands."

Cold Warriors and class traitors--there's an integral connection: when miners' leader Arthur Scargill correctly denounced Polish Solidarność as anti-socialist, the Labourite tops (instigated by Gerry Healy's political bandits) witchhunted him on the eve of the miners' strike. Then they strangled the urgently needed industrial solidarity which could have brought down the hated Tory bitch. This treachery was matched on this side of the Atlantic by Canada's Cold War social democrats and trade-union tops. Former Canadian Labour Congress president Dennis McDermott tried to spike any international labor solidarity by pointing to Scargill's "denunciation of the Polish Solidarity movement." (McDermott was rewarded with the post of Canada's

ambassador to the Republic of Ireland for his loyal service to imperialism).

The pro-NATO, anti-Soviet social democrats of the NDP are cut of the same yellow cloth as Kinnock. They also share the ever-so-righteous, hypocritical moralism and fealty to "Her Majesty." The British media was particularly intrigued by our Spartacist placard calling for the abolition of



Washington, D.C.: SL/U.S. pickets protest British Labour Party scab leader Neil Kinnock.

the monarchy, House of Lords, established church and licensing hours: Labour as well as Tories are opposed to these elementary democratic demands. In Washington, the "Rt Hon Neil Kinnock PC MP" (as he bills himself) declared that one expenditure he wouldn't cut is the millions lavished on the queen.

Kinnock was probably surprised to discover some genuine American Trotskyists who don't stomach class traitors as opposed to Ted Grant's wimpy "Militant" group in England. Our comrades of the Spartacist League/Britain rushed out a special *Workers Hammer* supplement covering the protests against Kinnock's tour and the explosive student struggles in France. The international Spartacist tendency fights tooth and nail to expose social-democratic betrayals on both sides of the Atlantic. Not Broadbent, Kinnock or Noske, but Lenin, Liebknecht and Trotsky!■

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## BT Provocation...

continued from page 3

to get into loud argument with a BTer. He was very quickly confronted by four campus cops, who said they heard there was a fight. At the September 19 forum, two minutes after the BT started a fight rather than leave the hall as requested at the conclusion of the meeting, at least ten UC Berkeley cops in four prowl cars arrived on the scene, nightsticks ready, asking where was the fight. As reported in the 24 September *Berkeleyan*, a weekly paper printed by the University administration for faculty and staff, the police blotter said, "An altercation erupted between two factions of the Communist Party in Dwinelle Hall." It sure seems that COINTELPRO is alive and well at UC Berkeley!

The "two-minute response time" of ten cops in four prowl cars indicates a prearranged ambush. The BT blandly assert in their lying account of the September 19 events that police just showed up. We are not naïve. Given the strong yet so far mysterious gravitational attraction between BT provocations and UC Berkeley cops "looking for a fight," we thought it prudent to move the forum out of this particular gravitational field.

The evening of November 21 a sign was posted on the door of the room in Dwinelle Hall where the forum was to be held announcing the new location. Several comrades were present to direct those wishing to attend to waiting vans which would transport them to the new site and return them to UC Berkeley at the conclusion of the meeting.

At 7:30 p.m., the time at which the forum was scheduled to begin, the BT and its assorted allies from the anti-Soviet sewer, some 25 people in all, arrived on the scene en masse. Included in this motley crew was the Left Trotskyist Tendency (LTT, a recent split from the Internationalist Workers Party, followers of Argentine political bandit Nahuel Moreno), at least one member of the Revolutionary Workers League (associates of British scab Alan Thornett), and what appeared to be sundry seedy Berkeley "street people."

Marching two abreast the BT contingent entered Dwinelle Hall so rapidly that when they came to the closed door with the sign announcing the change of site, the head of the column led by the obviously myopic Howard Keylor came to such an abrupt halt that elements further back collided with each other. Clearly the intent was to simply barge into the meeting, which in any case was open to them. Disoriented by the change in location, the BT declined repeated offers to transport them to the new meeting site. After a brief caucus outside Dwinelle Hall the bulk of their erstwhile allies departed for places unknown.

Some 20 minutes later eight or nine BTers and supporters showed up at the meeting hall, located in the basement of a church in north Oakland. A large workers defense guard, including trade-union friends of the SL, greeted them and explained they were welcome to come into the meeting after

submitting to a search for weapons. One BT supporter did enter the meeting, only to be called back out by his friends some ten minutes later. The rest of the BT decided to not submit to a search.

We're not surprised. One of the BT's friends there that night was Earl Gilman, a former Morenoite and best described as a walking culture medium for every deviation known to Marxism. To the best of our knowledge Gilman is a white-collar clerk, yet he arrived with what in the most charitable



**UC Berkeley cops club anti-apartheid protesters. BT provocations play into hands of these racist thugs.**

interpretation looked like a kit of carpenter's tools! Apparently unwilling to divest themselves of various implements, the BT walking hardware emporium argued heatedly among themselves and trudged off clanking into the night.

Had the BT decided to come in, on terms guaranteed to protect the meeting from provocation or assault, they would have been given their full democratic rights. Once inside had they attempted to disrupt the meeting or refused to abide by the rules of the meeting they would have been escorted out. It is our obligation to protect ourselves and to protect those who come to our public meetings to hear our views, whatever their political opinion of the SL. In the event, we held a successful forum, attended by a number of UC Berkeley students.

The BT's antics certainly raise some questions. According to the current December issue of *Working Class Opposition*, newspaper of the Morenoite IWP:

"On November 21 the Spartacists are holding another event in Berkeley. The BT is planning to form a bloc of different groups to 'teach the Spartacists a lesson' at that forum (including the LTT, which curiously enough has made this kind of confrontation their *only* political activity since they appeared)."

Well, the Morenoites ought to know! Why? Because the BT and LTT invited them to be part of their bloc on November 21! We hear through the grapevine that the BT describes their bloc as one for "workers democracy." Yet the BT and LTT invite

into this bloc the IWP, which on November 2 physically excluded both these groups from a public debate called by the Morenoite-infested Peace and Freedom Party petty-bourgeois swamp! Further, the Morenoites are notorious for their potentially lethal 1982 hammer attack against members of the Spartacist League in Los Angeles. "Workers democracy" coming from the mouths of the BT has about the same credibility as the words "trust me" coming from the mouths of Ronnie Reagan and his National Security Council.

Reports reaching us indicate that the BT held at least three meetings to plan their November 21 action. The question that poses itself is why did a simple change of location of the meeting and a search for weapons stop them from attending? Further, why did no one from this bloc attend the subsequent meeting, held as scheduled the next night in San Francisco? To our knowledge the LTT exists only in San Francisco and a number of BTers and BT supporters live there. In his capacity as chairman of the November 21 meeting, comrade Al Nelson commented on the absence of the BT: "I would offer an opinion that they miss their friends on the Berkeley campus, the ones in tan uniforms, who perhaps they feel a little safer with, as a shield."

The early, defining act of the BT was a COINTELPRO-style campaign aimed at smearing the SL as "violent." BT princeling Bob Mandel got into a loud argument with two SLers on a picket line, then falsely claimed he was physically assaulted. The BT launched an international petition campaign accusing the SL of attacking Mandel. Months later Mandel, attempting to defend the BT slanders in a public meeting, admitted he was not physically assaulted but claimed he had feared he *might* be (!) assaulted because the altercation was so "intense." In other words, the BT campaign was a lie! Yet the BT has now revived its false accusation. Mandel meanwhile has reportedly departed the BT and a new group with new initials is supposed to emerge, but the BT (which is so fond of announcing fictitious "splits" in the SL) has said not one word about the split with Mandel, like the earlier split of the former Cleveland ET.

The BT's early provocation led us to adopt the policy of requesting them to leave the room at the conclusion of our public events. For some years they abided by this requirement, while protesting their "democratic right" to "mingle" with SLers after our meetings—i.e., to seek to create incidents for new campaigns of slander and libel. Unable to do so, the BTs have escalated to a new, more sinister level of provocation.

The BT have offered themselves up as anti-Spartacists for hire. And lately they have had plenty of takers. For starters there are the inhabitants of the fake-Trotskyist, third-camp social-democratic swamp in which the BT has so deeply ensconced itself. That the dyed-in-the-wool third campists of Sy Landy's LRP, for example, embrace sight unseen the BT's anti-Spartacist provocations is indicative of the LRP's anti-communist spinal reflex to the

SL's defense of the Soviet Union against imperialism. The BT, which sometimes ventures "left" criticisms of the Spartacist League, lives in comfortable symbiosis with all these Russia-hating "third camp" Democratic Party hangers-on; the perfect unity they have on opposing the communists of the SL is undercut only by the penchant of one or another component to beat each other up from time to time.

More serious, there are the forces of bourgeois reaction. The BT's whole lying campaign against "Spartacist violence" dovetails so neatly with the central ploy of the government's "Cold War II"—to equate Marxist political opposition to the regime with "terrorism" and "crime." Right now at UC Berkeley, the cops, following the lead of Reagan and Meese, are waging a campaign of terror against the campus left. Hundreds upon hundreds of students have been savagely beaten, arrested and framed up for protesting against the policies of U.S. imperialism.

Spartacus Youth League member and UC Berkeley student Guillermo Bermúdez was an early victim of this vicious police terror campaign. While leading a militant protest against the presence of Marine Corps recruiters on campus Bermúdez was grabbed in a choke hold by a campus cop, had his arm broken and was then framed up on the same phony charges the UC cops have now filed against John Winters.

The SL and SYL mobilized wide support in defense of Guillermo Bermúdez, including in the labor movement, among prominent civil libertarians and from thousands of students. As a result the frame-up charges were dismissed and the brutal terror campaign of the campus cops was widely exposed. Vindictively the UC administration, defeated in the courts, suspended Bermúdez from school. And the administration's cops have been thirsting to revenge their defeat.

Enter the BT, whose extremely mild interest in the Bermúdez defense campaign was intended solely to better deflect students who supported the case away from the SL. In both the Bermúdez defense campaign and more generally on the campus the BT has failed (but not from lack of effort) to isolate the SL and poison the campus against revolutionary Trotskyism. Their recent efforts at provocation are a frenzied recognition of this failure, and a confirmation of the strength of the Marxist program of the SL.

Commenting upon the BT in 1985 in "ET: New Name, Same Game?" (WV No. 388, 4 October 1985) we observed:

"Those who are guided by intense subjective malice as a political program are just asking to be someone's tool, witting or unwitting (sometimes both).... But applying the criterion *cui bono* (who benefits) to the ET/BT suggests answers ranging from the merely unsavory to the downright sinister."

We concluded: "And a word to those seeking anti-Spartacists for hire: *caveat emptor*—let the buyer beware!" Amen! ■

## Merchants of Death...

(continued from page 1)

that any Canadian laws were broken. Of course not. Fraser and Miller were simply dealing in death, Canada's stock-in-trade. During the Vietnam war Canada's merchants of death supplied the U.S. war machine with \$1 million a day in arms shipments. The U.S. did the killing, Canada reaped the profits and the government declared its hand were clean. It is the memory of their humiliating defeat at the hands of the heroic Vietnamese people which Ronald Reagan and his fellow imperialist warmakers have been desperate to erase in the drive to "roll back Communism" from Nicaragua to the Soviet Union. And once again the Canadian jackal imperialists have served and made a bundle in the process.

The "Canada connection" didn't start with Fraser and Miller. For years it's been the code-word in Washington for using the Canadian "back door" to get out weapons that they are otherwise prohibited from selling abroad (at least openly). Canada is the only country in the world that is exempt from U.S. weapons and technology export restrictions. It is also exempt from such things as a freedom of information act. As the *Toronto Star* headlined, "Canada's arms sales worth \$5 billion but buyers remain a well-kept secret."

The *Star* also commented: "Mostly, Canada's arms-makers sell invisible 'bits and pieces' of military hardware... not weapons systems that go bang" (13 December 1986). No, they just sell the components that make the weapons "go bang" and not-so-invisible things such as military cargo planes which are put to use by some of the world's most notorious butchers. According to the *Globe and Mail* editorialists, "The old policy banned sales to regimes 'wholly repugnant to Canadian values,' and, as Mr. Clark notes, few regimes were" (18 September 1986). That hasn't changed.

The Pinochet military dictatorship in Chile has Canadian-made Buffalo military transport planes; Pratt and Whitney in Montreal makes the airplane engines that are sold to Israel which puts them in military patrol and transport aircraft before selling them to the blood-drenched Salvadoran junta. Other clients of Canada's merchants of death include South Korea, Taiwan.... And then there's the contra connection. First, made-in-Canada ammunition was found at the camps of these mercenary terrorists; then after the Sandinistas shot down a CIA plane running guns to the contras and captured CIA operative Eugene Hasenfus it came to light that made-in-Canada cargo planes were used in the CIA-contras supply runs (the RCMP is "investigating" that one too). It doesn't stop here.

As it happens Fraser and Miller are also the financial advisers to the Sultan of Brunei who gave millions in aid to contras upon the urging of the U.S. State Department. Another of their "business associates" is John Gamble who sits with them as a director of Vertex Investments Ltd. A former Tory MP, Gamble is the chairman of the North American

region of the World Anti-Communist League (WACL). Founded in 1966 as a propaganda outlet for two of the world's most savage police states, South Korea and Chiang Kai-shek's Kuomintang regime in Taiwan, the WACL is at the center of a sinister array of shadowy organizations running a network of "private" aid to international counter-revolution. Headed by retired U.S. Army Major General John Singlaub, the major "unofficial" fundraiser for the contras, the WACL has reportedly funneled \$10 million to these *somocista* butchers. Crawling with violent fascist torturers and killers, the WACL is known in Latin America as Death Squad International.

### Contra Godfathers

While the Iran/Contragate scandal was rocking the Reagan administration in Washington, on November 21-23 in Toronto Tory MPs were gladhanding counterrevolutionary terrorists and leftover Nazis at the conference of the Anti-Bolshevik Bloc of Nations, the East European wing of the WACL. Secretary of State and Minister of Multiculturalism David Crombie was there rubbing shoulders with the likes of Ivan Docheff, who by his own admission is a war criminal sentenced to death three times in Bulgaria. Refused entry to the U.S. in 1950 Docheff found safe haven in Canada where he said that officials were much "more accomodating"—but that's what "multiculturalism" is all about in this rich, racist white-man's country.

Toronto mayor Art Eggleton was an "official patron" of the conference which included among its "observers" Chirila Ciuntu, a former member of the fascist Romanian Iron Guard who participated in the notorious January 1941 destruction of the Jewish ghetto of Bucharest in which 800 were slaughtered with axes, knives and meat hooks and many burned to death. Greetings were read from Mulrone and Reagan and some \$2,000 was raised for the Afghan mullahs. These "freedom fighters," who skin school teachers alive for teaching young girls to read and write, were also the biggest recipients (\$400-500 million a year) from the billion-dollar "Reagan Doctrine Superfund," where profits from Iranian arms sales, contributions from Brunei sultans, kickbacks from Israeli merchants of death and Saudi matching funds were put together to

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finance the anti-Soviet wars which U.S. Congress wouldn't buy (openly). And who knows what the "Canadian connection" contributed.

The big star of the Toronto "Anti-Bolshevik" conference was contra bagman Mario Calero, brother of contra leader Adolfo Calero, in town for a "public relations" and fundraising blitz for his mercenary, cutthroat brothers in Nicaragua. These losers, who cut and run in the face of every battle with the Sandinista regime and are only good for torturing and murdering unarmed civilians, were the first casualty of the Iran/Contragate affair. Almost as soon as the scandal broke, these intrepid "freedom fighters" were ready to throw in the towel: "We're served up and eaten," said contra leader Arturo Cruz. Meanwhile the Honduran vice president complained that contra chief "Calero lives better than I do"--i.e., the CIA has been stingy with payoffs for its frontmen. Honduras has demanded that the contras move into Nicaragua by April, El Salvador (embarrassed over the Hasenfus shootdown) cut off contra supply flights and Costa Rica has shut down contra operations in Nicaragua's southern flank.

As the contras go down the tubes the Reaganites are starkly faced with the alternative of a U.S. invasion or seeing their crusade to "roll back Communism" in Central America come to naught. Just as the Irangate revelations broke it was announced that the 82nd Airborne Division had held large-scale field maneuvers, involving 14,000 paratroops, to train for invading "hostile territory" in Central America. While numerous reports of U.S. invasion plans circulated, Reagan authorized U.S. Army helicopters to ferry troops to the Honduran border. According to one U.S. government official, Secretary of State George Shultz urged Reagan to do so as a way of demonstrating that the Irangate scandal "had not paralyzed" the administration. The Reaganites' usual response when they get into a jam is to stage an anti-Soviet provocation, like the Grenada invasion, Tripoli bombing, etc. But now even their half-hearted attempt to spark a Honduras-Nicaragua border war fizzled. And their biggest problem is not the contra losers but the home front. Even before Iran/Contragate two-thirds of the American population were opposed to Reagan's war moves in Central America and now he has a major "credibility gap" as 87 percent of the American public thinks the president is lying.

### **Bloody Imperialist "Peacekeepers"**

The U.S. imperialists can always look to the "Canada connection" to bail them out. It's not just a reliable "back door" for arms shipments to and bank-rolling of dirty anti-Soviet wars around the globe. Canada's facade as the "brave neutral mediator," so righteously upheld by the Stalinists and the rest of the fake-left to amnesty the imperialist jackals who run this country, is a useful cover for the counterrevolutionary war aims of its senior partners in the White House. When they get into trouble they can always call in Canadian "peacekeeping troops" to police the imperialist status quo like they do

from Cyprus to the Sinai peninsula. Canadian prime minister Lester Pearson won a Nobel Peace Prize for sending troops to the Suez in 1956. Today the Canadian government has made repeated offers to send its "peacekeepers" to Central America to draw the line against Communism as part of the Contadora initiative. And, in response to Iran/Contragate the Communist Party of Canada has demanded that the Canadian rulers do just that. Under the headline "Mulroney should tell Reagan: Hands Off Nicaragua," the *Canadian Tribune* (15 December 1986) prints a CP Central Committee statement calling for the government to reaffirm "Canada's support of the Contadora group's plan for a peaceful settlement of the conflicts in that region." The "*Contra*"dora group's plan is to strangle Nicaragua and stop the spread of revolution throughout Central America. But no matter for the CP which relentlessly dogs the Canadian bourgeoisie to be the imperialist "nice guys." An editorial in the December 8 issue of the *Tribune* proclaims:

"As we watch the investigations in Washington uncover more of the illegal, dirty and immoral activities of the Reagan White House, appreciation of what a truly independent foreign policy for Canada could accomplish will grow."

Lies, terror, murder and war aren't just manufactured from the White House basement. They're made right here in Canada. Maybe the "Put Canada First" nationalists of the CP don't mind because they're made at home. For our part we stand with Liebknecht and Lenin in saying: The Main Enemy Is at Home! The Canadian imperialists have supported Reagan's counterrevolutionary rollback abroad. At home they have matched the "Reagan years" with union-busting and strikebreaking, racist attacks and fascist terror, the hysteria over "terrorism" and the domestic redhunt.

The so-called "Reagan revolution" looks like it is self-destructing. Contrary to the CP and the rest of the Canadian nationalists in the fake-left, America never was "Reagan country." Reagan has never had a majority of the population with him on decisive issues--particularly the drive to war against Nicaragua. Black people in the U.S. have always known Reagan was poison. White unionists who voted for Reagan were soon disabused by the hatchet job he did to break the PATCO air controllers union. It is increasingly difficult for leading proponents of Reagan's foreign policy to set foot on major U.S. campuses without evoking a storm of protest. Similarly in Canada, blacks, minorities, poor and working people who have been the domestic targets of Reagan's junior partners in Ottawa don't buy the lie that the Canadian rulers are the imperialist "nice guys." The decaying capitalist system that spawned the nest of terrorists in the White House and the merchants of death in Canada must be swept away by the working class and its allies among the oppressed. We in the Trotskyist League are dedicated to building the party to lead the struggle for the North American socialist revolution that is so desperately needed. ■

## Rampant Reaction...

(continued from page 2)

await a Supreme Court decision on the overturn by the Ontario Court of Appeals of his November 1984 acquittal. As the Trotskyist League said in a letter sent together with a contribution to Morgentaler's defense:

"The defense of Drs. Morgentaler, Scott and Colodny, together with the other doctors, nurses and staff at the clinics is a touchstone for the defense of the most basic democratic rights and elementary human decency. With courage and determination they have stood up against the most vicious and vindictive persecution by the government, its cops and courts—from Ontario Tories and Liberals to the NDP rulers in Manitoba....

"Defend Dr. Morgentaler, the clinics, doctors and staff! Free abortion on demand! Stop Moral Majority terror!"

Filthy anti-Semitism against Morgentaler, a survivor of Hitler's concentration camps, is the rallying cry of the government's Moral Majority shock troops who daily surround the Toronto clinic forcing patients to walk a gauntlet of abuse, harassment and terror. Similarly the Mulroney government's anti-drug witchhunt is laced with racism. Echoing Reagan, Mulroney has called for an all-out war on the drug "epidemic." While this supposed epidemic is widely ridiculed as a product of Mulroney's fevered imagination (or perhaps the influence of wife Mila, who was part of Nancy Reagan's "first ladies" crusade against drugs) the drug witchhunt has the support of NDP leader Ed Broadbent who only worried, "I hope it's more than a public relations move." From stopping the sale of strong drink (i.e. beer, and the putrid product of Canadian grapes) in Ontario grocery stores to defending the sanctity of the "Lord's Day" these right-wing social democrats are dedicated to the job of keeping the working class in line, of keeping them clean, moral, hard-working and disciplined in the name of temperance, god, the queen and above all the Cold War.

Far from a "public relations move," the anti-drug crackdown is a cover for police terror against black youth in the Jane/Finch and Lawrence Heights neighborhoods of Toronto. In recent months there has been a wave of mass, random arrests as cops arbitrarily search blacks on the streets and bust into homes, often in pre-dawn raids, with no arrest warrants, to haul black teenagers into the jail house. The cops responded to angry protests from the black community by arresting Joan Farrell, wife of prominent black spokesman Lennox Farrell, on trumped-up theft charges. Mrs. Farrell was accosted in the Jane-Finch Mall by a security guard and a cop who claimed that she "resembled" someone they suspected of shoplifting in another shopping center! When she protested, the cops threatened to charge her with assaulting a police officer!

It's apartheid-style terror against blacks on the streets and in their homes. In the courts it's the

laws of apartheid that are applied to drive home the message that lawyers had better serve the purpose of the state's Cold War witchhunt or else. Last October, Toronto lawyer Harry Kopyto was convicted of "scandalizing the court," an ancient relic of British common law which in the past 100 years has only been used in South Africa! Kopyto's "crime" was the statement that "the courts in this country are warped in favor of protecting the police." A pretty tame assessment of capitalist "justice," especially considering it was made at the end of eight years of the courts throwing out Kopyto's case, on behalf of his client Ross Dowson, against RCMP provocation and disruption of the now-defunct League for Socialist Action. Just how warped the courts are was brought home by the trial judge, who ruled that the truth of Kopyto's statement was no defense! Found guilty, Kopyto was barred from practising law in Ontario courts until he apologized. This outrageous sentence has been stayed pending an appeal. Meanwhile, recent revelations show that an RCMP informant had infiltrated Kopyto's law office!

What's needed to strike a mighty blow in defense of all the victims of this degenerate capitalist system is some old-fashioned class struggle. It's not that the working people and oppressed lack the will or the appetite to fight back against this all-sided offensive. But they're being strangled by the gutless trade-union bureaucracy who play by the bosses' laws for the bosses' rule. It's going to take a revolutionary leadership acting, in Lenin's words, as a "tribune of the oppressed" to put this system of poverty, war and reaction out of business forever through socialist revolution. ■

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# Tamil Rights...

(continued from page 16)

War Racism!" This is the elementary duty of socialists, of the labor movement, of all minorities, of all fighters for social justice and human decency. The racist backlash and racist terror which they have met is a cutting edge of imperialist reaction. We are all targets of that, from the union-busting to the regimentation of the population for war to racist terror, like the fascist night-riders who crawled out of their holes to demonstrate against the Tamil refugees here in Toronto on August 25. We say: "Defend Tamil rights! Full political asylum! Full citizenship rights for all foreign-born workers!"

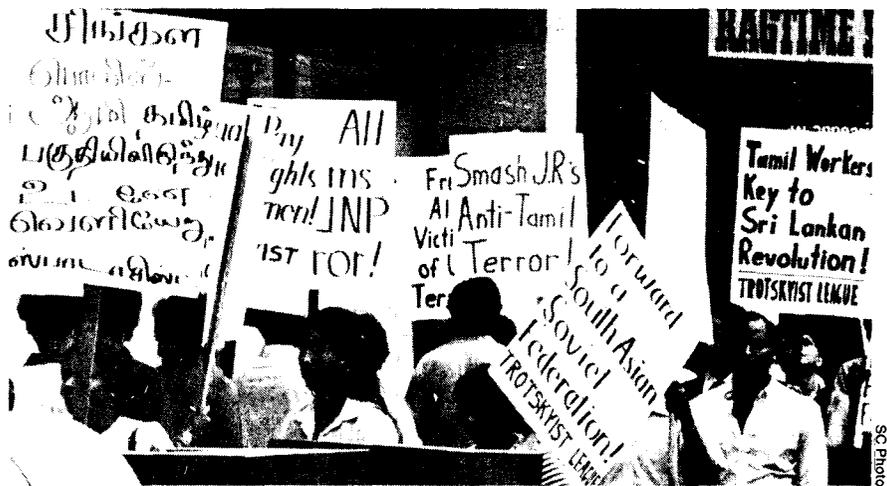
Originally the 155 Tamil refugees fled the murderous state terror and anti-Tamil pogroms in Sri Lanka. They are among 300,000 Tamils who have escaped that island (formerly Ceylon) since 1983, when hundreds of Tamils were burned and hacked to death by the racist mobs and troops organized by the Jayewardene government. And today, the Tamil people of Sri Lanka continue to face bloody repression at the hands of the Sinhala-chauvinist regime which has escalated communal bloodletting of devastating scope and savagery.

Like many others fleeing for their lives, these Tamil refugees took one of the only means of escape that exists on the island—a Soviet Aeroflot flight to East Berlin and then travelling by subway across the open frontier to West Berlin. But after passing through this "gateway to the free world," the Tamils, like thousands of other dark-skinned refugees from Ghana, Turkey and Iran, faced contemptuous and barbarous treatment at the hands of the West German state. The successor state to Hitler's Third Reich, its treatment of these refugees proves it has forgotten little of its Nazi past. Thrown into virtual concentration camps after their arrival, the refugees are effectively imprisoned behind heavily guarded entrances. Here they are left to languish in filthy conditions, not allowed to work or leave the city (or in most cases village) limits where the camps are located. They are offered no chance to learn the language, nor are they provided with any translation when the immigration police come in with statements to be signed, agreeing to deportation, a method which has become one of the more favored of the West German state recently. In desperation many have taken their own lives. Others have been killed, like the six young detainees, three of whom were Tamils, who were burned to death in the notorious Augustaplatz prison, a deportation jail in West Germany, on New Year's Eve 1983.

With little hope of ever getting asylum in West Germany, the Tamil refugees paid \$340,000 to West German captain Wolfgang Bindel to bring them to

Canada. Like the mercenary slave traders, Bindel kept these human beings like animals in the cargo hold of his ship. They were fed rotten, moldy food, got little if any fresh drinking water, slept on the floors. After 16 days in these hideous conditions, the Tamil refugees were crammed into two lifeboats and basically left to die in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Newfoundland.

Even after being rescued the nightmare was not over. When they reached the shores of Canada the



TL-initiated demonstration: "Stop Anti-Tamil Terror!" Toronto, 1983.

desperate Tamils once again found themselves the target of a vicious racist backlash fomented by the media in headlines reading "Send them back," "Close the doors to phony refugees," "Canada's a sucker for illegals," and "Tamils admit they lied." Although they were granted one year asylum, the Canadian government immediately set to work whipping up a racist terror scare threatening to deport any of the refugees found to be a "terrorist" and promising to tighten the screws on its racist immigration policies.

What obscene hypocrisy to hear Tory prime minister Brian Mulroney spout off on the "humanitarian" traditions of this country, saying that Canada has always opened its doors to those seeking freedom. This is a monstrous lie. Why did these 155 Tamils have to risk their lives to get into this country? Because they had little prospect of getting in any other way. In the summer of 1983, at the height of the reign of terror and murder which cost the lives of hundreds of Tamils in Sri Lanka, the Canadian government introduced a new mandatory visa requirement for anyone from Sri Lanka. The aim was to keep desperate Tamil refugees out. In August 1983, 19 Tamils were denied admittance to Canada, hauled off their Paris to Montreal flight in Boston and thrown into a detention center. And it's not just in West Germany or the United States that refugees face concentration camp conditions. Canada has its own filthy detention centers where so-called "illegal immigrants" are penned up in small rooms under constant guard and subjected to inquisition by the immigration officials who continue to make

(continued on page 12)

## Tamil Rights...

(continued from page 11)

them relive the horror that they faced at the hands of the "free world" butchers, the allies of imperialism.

We say: "The Main Enemy Is at Home!" Tamil refugees, minorities, working people have no friend in this racist government. Canada was founded by the counterrevolutionaries from the American Revolution as an outpost of British colonialism. Since that time the Canadian rulers have seen it as their duty to stem the tide of the "brown-skinned hordes" into this country.

The fight against racist immigration policies must necessarily be a fight against the capitalist system which they are designed to protect. The key is the mobilization of the organized labor movement to defend their class brothers and sisters, in a struggle for full citizenship rights for all foreign-born workers, in defense of Tamil rights and of other refugees seeking asylum from right-wing terror. This means a direct struggle against the present leadership of the unions whose only answer to increasing unemployment is the racist poison of protectionism which echoes government calls to clamp down on immigration. The right-wing social democrats of the NDP push "white Canada" racism with their calls for Canadian jobs for Canadian workers (read: white Canadian workers). Scandalously, Ed Broadbent, federal leader of the NDP responded to the arrival of the Tamil refugees with the obscene demand that the government have "a tougher look at all our immigration procedures" to prevent "abuse" by "quick-buck artists."

### Imperialist War Means Racist Terror

It's Cold War II, and the imperialists are gearing up for war against the Soviet workers state. They want to reconquer the Soviet Union for capitalist exploitation and to that end they are trying to unite the worldwide forces of anti-Communism—from Jayewardene to the death squads in El Salvador to the sadistic contras in Nicaragua. The doors are open to these butchers and to all manner of counterrevolutionaries like the thousands of Nazi war criminals who found safe haven in Canada. But for the desperate refugees fleeing the terror of these butchers, the doors are shut.

The government tried to brand the Tamil refugees as "terrorists," lining them up in the sights of Cold War racism. This was the code-word behind the bombing of the MOVE commune in Philadelphia. These black people who never attacked anyone were branded as "terrorists." Eleven of them were incinerated, including five children. It was the signature in blood and in fire of the Reagan years. In Canada last year the government whipped up a racist war cry against Sikh "terrorism." The RCMP staged gestapo-style raids against the Sikh community in Vancouver, breaking into homes, businesses and temples while the government issued deportation notices against 2,800 Sikhs.

The imperialist terror scare fuels the genuine ter-

rorism of the fascists. On August 25 a mobilization against Tamil refugees, called by Paul Fromm, a former member of the white-supremacist paramilitary Western Guard, was held in Toronto with race-hating placards reading "Deport Tamils" and "Send them back." The fascist terrorists have each and every one of us lined up in their sights. They can and must be stopped. The program and strategy for doing that was demonstrated on November 27, 1982 in Washington, D.C. The Ku Klux Klan proclaimed they were going to march and at the top of their hit list were immigrant workers. But the Klan didn't march that day, they didn't even put on their robes. They were driven from the streets, like rats into the sewers, by the 5,000-strong Labor/Black Mobilization initiated by our comrades of the Spartacist League/U.S. What this successful mobilization of mainly blacks and unionists demonstrated is that an integrated multiracial revolutionary workers party, seeking to unite the entire working class and the oppressed against the racist terrorists, can deal a blow to imperialist reaction.

### For Revolutionary Internationalism!

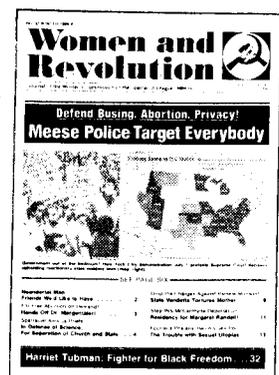
As Lenin said in "What Is to Be Done?" a revolutionary socialist party has to be a tribune of the people that fights every manifestation of tyranny and oppression no matter where it occurs. It must be a proletarian *internationalist* party and that is underlined by the plight of the 155 Tamil refugees, fleeing the bloody reign of capital from Sri Lanka to West Germany to Canada.

Since the 1948 independence of Ceylon from British imperialism, Tamils have increasingly been the target of a drive toward an ethnically, religiously "pure" state. In 1948 the so-called "Indian Tamils," brought over after 1850 by the British to be plantation workers, were declared stateless, stripped of all citizenship rights. This reactionary, retrograde narrowing of the concept of a nation came to include Ceylon Tamils—a process which has gone through the enshrinement of the Buddhist religion (religion of the majority Sinhalese), the "Sinhala Only" language measures in 1956 which codified anti-Tamil communalism as official state policy and

### Women and Revolution

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unleashed a bloody wave of anti-Tamil terror, through the increasingly brutal, years-long military occupation of the Jaffna peninsula to the 1983 pogroms where bloodthirsty mobs organized by the J.R. government went on a rampage in the capital city of Colombo, ransacking and burning Tamil homes and businesses.

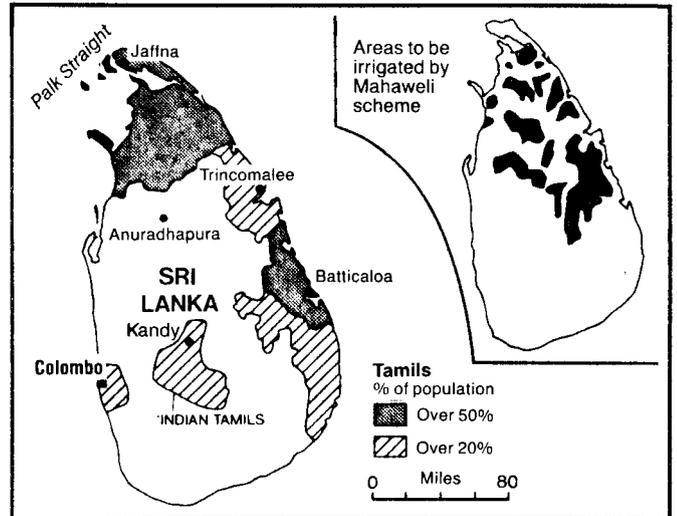
To escape this bloody terror hundreds of thousands of Tamils fled to the Northern and Eastern provinces of Sri Lanka. The result was a de facto partition of the island. Since that time the government has accelerated this brutal policy of forced population transfers by resettling Sinhalese colonists into formerly Tamil areas, notably around Trincomalee. The battle for Trincomalee is not just a matter of national justice against murderous oppression but is integrally linked to the war aims of U.S. imperialism which wants the strategic deep water port as a key link in the military chain that runs from Simonstown, near Cape Town, South Africa through Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean to the CIA spy post of Alice Springs, Australia and the U.S. war bases in the Phillipines. It's all part of imperialism's crusade against the Soviet Union and against social revolution around the globe.

During Cold War I, then-Canadian prime minister John Diefenbaker argued for millions of dollars in aid to Sri Lanka under the "Colombo Plan," declaring: "50 million dollars is cheap insurance to stop communism." Today Canada remains one of the major financial backers of the J.R. government, money that is used in the bloody suppression of Tamils and for the implementation of the Jayewardene government's Zionist-style colonization of Tamil areas. The Canadian government has invested heavily in the Mahaweli dam project. In the areas brought under irrigation by this project Tamils have been driven out through forced population transfers and systematic state terror. And the Canadian government stands by its butchers, welcoming as Sri Lankan High Commissioner to Canada General Weeratunga, the "Butcher of Jaffna," responsible for the murder and torture of Tamils (see page 14).

**For a Socialist Federation of South Asia!**

We of the international Spartacist tendency have consistently upheld the Tamils' right to self-determination. Before July 1983, however, we argued against the exercise of that right in favor of united working-class struggle to redress Tamil oppression in the context of the struggle for socialist revolution within the existing unitary state. But with the events of July 1983, the historic balance of forces was shifted as Tamils were driven from the South and compacted in the Jaffna peninsula and in the East. Massive murderous repression of the Jaffna Tamils and government-instigated violence against Tamils has brought to the forefront and fueled the struggle for Tamil Eelam, a separate Tamil state.

Now we put our socialist perspective of a struggle for a Ceylon workers state in the slogan calling for a federated workers republic of Eelam and Lanka. But at the same time we recognize, unlike the vari-



Economist

ous Tamil nationalist forces who place their hopes on pressure or intervention from capitalist India, that the only real hope for the Tamil minority to wrest anything from the Lankan regime proceeds through spreading to the south of resistance to the rapacious government. The Sri Lankan government and the Sinhalese ruling class find whipping up communalist terror very useful, both to the suppression of the Tamils, and also to divert the Sinhalese masses from going after their own exploiters. And believe me, they have plenty of reason to rise up against the Jayewardene government which is squeezing them in the interests of the bourgeoisie, in favor of the dictates of the International Monetary Fund, in favor of the dictates of international imperialism.

In the "Free Trade Zone" and factories scattered around Colombo, foreign investors are offered rich pickings in the superexploitation of young Sinhalese women textile workers. These women have, in the past two years, waged very hard-fought strikes to improve their conditions and pay. And the same police who butcher Tamils charged the picket lines of these workers. The Lankan working class, Sinhalese and Tamil alike, have shown a willingness to resist—from the courageous strikes of these largely female textile workers, to the hideously oppressed Tamil plantation workers of the upland tea estates. The Tamil plantation workers, most of whom are women, are the backbone of the Sri Lankan economy—a powerful force capable of providing the key to a progressive solution to the spiraling communal terrorism that engulfs Sri Lanka.

What is desperately needed to weld these forces together in a struggle against the bloody capitalist regime of Jayewardene is a revolutionary party. This is the perspective of our comrades of the Spartacist League/Lanka, who despite their small forces have earned a reputation among the Sinhalese as the only consistent defenders of Tamil national rights. And they have also won recognition for their militant support for the struggles of Sinhalese women textile workers.

The Spartacist League/Lanka was born out of the  
(continued on page 15)

# Expel "The Butcher" to Jaffna!

In Sri Lanka General Tissa Weeratunga earned the name "Butcher of Jaffna" for his unspeakable crimes, for the torture and murder of Tamils. In Canada this sadistic war criminal bears the honorific title of Sri Lankan High Commissioner! For the bloody Sri Lankan rulers Weeratunga's appointment was not only a chance to honor one of their own but to have their trusted butcher in place for murderously dirty work against the more than 10,000 Tamils who have fled to Canada in an attempt to escape the terror and racist pogroms of the J. R. Jayewardene government. For the Canadian imperialists it was business as usual—welcoming murderers, torturers and war criminals is their business. And in the case of Weeratunga they could even dispense with the covert operations used to bring hundreds of Hitler's Nazi butchers to Canada—the general is a fitting representative of the Canadian rulers' most favored "free world" ally.

But for the Tamil people, who have seen the dead bodies of their friends and families with faces blown off by blasts of gunfire and many of whose own bodies bear the scars of Weeratunga's torture, the recognition of the "Butcher of Jaffna" as Canada's honored diplomatic guest is a gut-wrenching outrage and horror. In 1979, as head of the Sri Lankan armed forces, he carried out the savage six-month anti-Tamil campaign of state terror decreed by his uncle, "Yankee Dickie" Jayewardene under the draconian "Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act." J. R. gave the following marching orders to Weeratunga: "It will be your duty to eliminate in accordance with the laws of the land the menace of terrorism in all its forms from the island, and especially from the Jaffna district." And acting accordingly, Weeratunga's military/police forces made their terrorism the law of the land in the Jaffna District. Within days the mutilated bodies of Tamil youths dragged from their homes by police started turning up by the side of public roads; others simply disappeared without a trace.

The Canadian government subjected the 155 desperate Tamil refugees, who risked their lives to get into this country, to the most intensive "security" checks, insidiously alleging that they were drug dealers, criminals and terrorists. Guidelines were different for certified state-terrorist Weeratunga whom the Canadian rulers are out to protect, obscenely demanding that the Tamil community come up with "proof" of Weeratunga's well-documented crimes. In response one of Weeratunga's surviving victims, Umapathisivan Pararajasegaran, coura-

geously came forward in Paris with a sworn affidavit directly accusing Weeratunga of torture and presenting his own wounds as evidence. When Pararajasegaran traveled to Canada to accuse Weeratunga in person, the Sri Lankan government reacted furiously to Ottawa's "supremely insulting" handling of their protégé, denouncing Pararajasegaran as a wanted "terrorist" and demanding his immediate extradition! "Grave consequences" and reprisals against Canadian diplomats in Sri Lanka were



**Jaffna 1981: Tamil murdered by Sri Lankan army.**

Spartacist

threatened if Ottawa did not move to muzzle the press and drop its own pro forma "inquiry." Adding her voice, Canada's incoming high commissioner to Sri Lanka, Carolyn Mairi McAskie, vouched for Weeratunga: "He's a fully rounded personality. He's not a one-dimensional monster" (*Toronto Star*, 16 October 1986)! Yeah, and Adolf Hitler reputedly loved small children and dogs.

Canada has always welcomed imperialism's bloody executioners, officially and "otherwise." Last year the government was on the verge of accrediting "Baby Doc" Duvalier's hated minister of police, Jean-Marie Chanoine, as a new ambassador when the Haitian dictator's removal resolved the question independently. Ottawa's only "problem" with Weeratunga is how to preserve their carefully manicured "clean-handed, democratic" imperialist hypocrisy without offending their anti-Soviet allies in Colombo.

The Tamil exile community has demanded that Weeratunga be sent back to Sri Lanka. The most elementary justice demands that Weeratunga be expelled direct to Jaffna to have his fate decided by a tribunal of his surviving Tamil victims. But even this would hardly be a down payment for the crimes of the rapacious Sri Lankan rulers and their imperialist sponsors. Final justice for all the imperialist war criminals will come when international socialist revolution ends the bloody rule of capital from Canada to Sri Lanka. ■

## Tamil Rights...

(continued from page 13)

only wing of the Ceylonese left which courageously stood up to the popular-front betrayal that paved the way for J.R.'s dictatorial regime. The traditional leftist parties in Sri Lanka have bequeathed a very ugly legacy of class collaboration and Sinhalese chauvinism in their accomodation to the communalist Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP). As partners in Mrs. Bandaranaike's SLFP government their hands were bloodied as well with the violent suppression of the 1971 youth uprising of the JVP in Sri Lanka.

Ominously, in the past year, the petty-bourgeois Tamil nationalist organizations have come to mirror the worst Sinhala chauvinism of the traditional Ceylonese leftist parties with their own murderous logic of racialism and nationalist communalism. Whereas previously they prided themselves in scrupulously avoiding Sinhalese civilian targets and struck only at the occupying military and police forces, there are now repeated incidents of senseless massacres of innocent Sinhalese villagers, of fishermen, of women and children. As Marxist revolutionaries who base ourselves on the morality of internationalist class struggle, we abhor racialism in all its forms, and find deeply repugnant the terror methods and gangsterism of those who claim to fight in the name of social justice.

At the same time, almost without exception, the Tamil organizations sow illusions in the Indian bourgeoisie. Looking first to Indira Gandhi who was blown away by avenging Sikhs and now to her heir Rajiv Gandhi, to intervene on behalf of the Tamils in Sri Lanka. The capitalist rulers of India are the enemies of liberation. The treatment of India's own national and ethnic minorities certainly bodes ill for those who place their confidence in Gandhi's supposed concern for the rights of the oppressed Tamils in Lanka.

The plight of the Tamil masses, confronted with government-spearheaded communalist onslaughts can only be aggravated by Tamil guerrillas going over to indefensible, retaliatory strikes and anti-Sinhalese communalism. Nor will national and social justice be won through the intervention of India. It is only armed with an internationalist perspective that the Lankan working class, Tamil and Sinhalese, and the multinational working class of Ceylon's giant neighbor, India, can be mobilized to defend the Tamil people by revolutionary struggle against reaction and capitalist oppression. This demands the forging of a Leninist vanguard party which can unite the Tamil estate workers, the Sinhalese workers, the Jaffna students and the Muslim villagers into a common revolutionary movement based on the methods of class struggle and the program of permanent revolution. A party like the Bolsheviks which led the Russian working class to power in 1917. Under Lenin and Trotsky, Red Russia established as one of its first acts of legislation in 1918 the principle of extending citizenship rights to all foreign workers in the land of the October Revolution and to all refugees from rightist persecution.

Unlike the Stalinist usurpers, guided by the reactionary logic of "socialism in one country," which is brought home in deals like the agreement of the bureaucratic rulers of the East German workers state to prevent Tamils without valid visas from entering West Berlin in exchange for interest-free credit from West Germany, we of the international Spartacist tendency carry forward the revolutionary internationalist program of the Bolsheviks. We have a long and proud history of defense of Tamil rights. In 1983 we launched an emergency campaign to stop the anti-Tamil massacre in Sri Lanka, sponsoring demonstrations in six countries on three continents, including here in Toronto, New York, Paris, London, Berlin and Melbourne. As one of our comrades of the Trotskyist League of France concluded his address to the over 400 Tamils who had come out to join us in protest in Paris:

"Comrades and friends, we want to end the demonstration with the singing of the Internationale. Tsarist Russia was another country which suffered bloody pogroms. What put an end once and for all to the tsarist pogroms was when the Russian working class, led by Lenin and Trotsky's Bolshevik Party, took power. This is the same perspective we want to bring you today. For the socialist revolution, for the socialist federation of South Asia!"

Defend Tamil rights! Fight Cold War racism! ■

## Harbor Cops...

(continued from page 4)

federations, has slapped down a savage strikebreaking bill against "illegal" strikes by hospital workers.

But it doesn't stop with busted unions and broken strikes. Unionist Gaston Harvey is dead--killed by Quebec police after being arrested on a union demonstration in support of fired hotel workers. Frederick March, president of the Newfoundland Association of Public Employees, and Peter Fenwick, leader of the Newfoundland NDP were thrown in jail for defying court injunctions against a strike by 5,000 provincial government workers last March and October.

As the WV supplement said: "Labor's gotta play hardball to win!" For trying to get this powerful supplement into the hands of Montreal ILAers Kirby faces charges of trespassing and distributing circulars which carry \$1,000 in fines. These outrageous charges are part of the escalating attacks on everything from freedom of speech to labor's right to organize, aimed at regimenting the population for war against the Soviet Union.

Kirby is to stand trial in Montreal February 2. Beating these charges is a matter of defending the rights of all working people against the racist labor-haters who not only want to outlaw class struggle but to make it a crime for unionists to even read about it. Letters of solidarity and financial contributions (earmarked "Jane Kirby Defense") can be sent to: Trotskyist League of Canada, Box 7198, Station A, Toronto, Ontario M5W 1X8. ■

## From Sri Lanka to Germany to Canada: **Defend Tamil Rights!** **Fight Cold War Racism!**

On September 20 last year *Spartacist Canada* editor Jane Clancy addressed an audience of over 50 people at the Trotskyist League's forum in defense of Tamil rights held at the University of Toronto. The forum was held as part of our campaign against the vicious and ominous racist hysteria targeting the 155 Tamil refugees who arrived in Canada, terrorized and starving, last August. We issued a special *Spartacist Canada* supplement demanding "Stop the Racist Backlash! Political Asylum for All Tamil Refugees!" Thousands were distributed to unionists at Labor Day marches in Toronto and Hamilton, at plant gates and in working-class and minority neighborhoods. In her summary remarks comrade Clancy underlined the importance of mobilizing the muscle of organized labor to stop racist terror, pointing to the powerful example of the 5,000-strong Labor/Black Mobilization, initiated by our comrades of the Spartacist League/U.S., that stopped the KKK from marching in Washington, D.C.: "What was given on November 27, 1982 was a taste of working-class power, of what it would look like, of reds, of blacks, of minorities united together under a revolutionary leadership in the struggle for North American socialist revolution." We print below comrade Clancy's presentation, edited and condensed for publication.

On August 11, 155 desperate Tamil refugees, men, women and children, were rescued from the icy waters of the North Atlantic where they had been left to drift in two perilously overcrowded lifeboats. The plight of these refugees has come to symbolize



**Desperate Tamil refugees rescued off Newfoundland, August 1986. Full political asylum!**

the plight of hundreds of thousands of dark-skinned refugees from the Third World who increasingly find the doors of the imperialist "democracies" shut in their face. Or, if they do make it across the borders, find themselves the victims of virulent chauvinism and racist hysteria like that which met the arrival of these Tamil refugees in Canada. In the nightmare voyage of these refugees, which took them from the island of Sri Lanka to West Germany to Canada, we see exposed the naked racist face of the imperialist rulers and their "free world" allies, like the murderous strongman government of J. R. Jayewardene in Sri Lanka. And, the plight of these refugees has come to dramatically underscore the intersection of Cold War anti-Sovietism and racist terror.

The title of this forum is: "From Sri Lanka to Germany to Canada: Defend Tamil Rights! Fight Cold  
(continued on page 11)