

Socialist Worker

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Bernadette Devlin on Ireland



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By DUNCAN WEST
IBT Local 208

When we punched out at All Trans Express in Los Angeles on Friday, September 2, we were only worried about the heavy Labor Day traffic. The 40 of us—Teamster drivers and dock workers—were thinking about the holidays.

But, on Saturday, one of the dock workers coming home from vacation noticed several company trucks heading for San Francisco on the freeway.

He stopped by the yard on his way home where he saw that all the freight was gone, the doors were up and the dock was swept clean.

Then on Sunday, the employees began receiving telegrams telling them that the company had shut down its operations in LA "due to adverse economic conditions."

"Just like that. It was amazing," said one of the former employees. "It was like being a kid, going to the store, and then coming home and discovering that your parents had moved."

All Trans picks up and delivers freight in the Los Angeles basin for the ACME Fast Freight Company, a major US car loading company.

Both All Trans and ACME are owned by the Thomas Nationwide Transport Company, an Australian holding company which owns freight companies in Australia, New Zealand, Brazil, the US and Canada.

The company kept the move strictly secret. They didn't even inform some of the management until the phones had been switched and the freight was all off the docks.

The reason—they wanted to switch the work to a non-union company, Inter-Modal Container, which uses owner-operators to haul its freight.

THEY STOLE OUR JOBS

They had tried this before, but in 1961 and 1970, they had been stopped by two week strikes. Both times, the workers won the right to work the freight for the new company with seniority and other benefits virtually intact.

Now there are 40 of us out of work. We must look for new jobs, knowing well that the unemployment figures are still high. Some of us will lose our pensions. And it's all perfectly legal.

Why? Why does a company have the right to throw the lives—the hopes and dreams—of people onto the streets. The answer is simple enough. We live in a system based on getting as much profit as possible—no matter what the consequences.

In the trucking industry, and in industry right across this

country, there is a drive to make as much as possible during this so-called recovery. The Thomas Nationwide Company is committing no crime—not according to the rules of capitalism anyway.

The workers, some of us rank and file activists and members of the Teamsters for a Democratic Union, have begun a continuous demonstration at ACME's new location until we can win strike sanction from the Teamsters Union. We are planning to send a delegation to San Francisco to get support from All Trans workers there.

We are all members of the Teamsters union—supposedly the most powerful union in the country. If the company can get away with this, the attacks on weaker unions and non-unionized workers will be even more savage. We ask for your support. □

WOMEN The Attacks Continue

Lower wages, decline in unionization, growing unemployment. This is the picture for more and more workers today. But women, black and Latin workers are now being hit harder and harder.

The U.S. Labor Department has announced shocking new figures that show unemployment for young blacks has risen to a staggering record high of 35%. At the same time, unemployment for young whites went down from 13.5% to 12.6%. Carter promised 2 million jobs for teenagers this summer. Young black women didn't get them. Their unemployment rate is an unbelievable 43%.

DECLINE

George Meany said recently that he is not particularly concerned about the decline in union membership. But for a working woman a union card means \$1500 to \$2000 more each year. The Labor Department recently disclosed that for the first time since 1968 union membership has dropped off. Again, the decline is greatest among working women.

Why? Because employers hire women last. So when there is an economic crunch like the one in 1973-1974, women are the first laid off, and lose their union membership. Garment and electrical firms hire large numbers of Black, Latin,

Chinese and other non-white women. These firms are among those cited by the Labor Department which are closing down; running away to make larger profits abroad or in the non-union South. And, the leaders of the garment and electrical workers' unions do nothing to save the women's jobs and protect their union status.

DOWN

Women's wages continue to go down. Last year the Labor Department revealed that in spite of all the gains of the women's movement, the wage gap between men and women had widened. Women today earn 59% of what men take home. This year there has been an even greater decline.

Worse off were women working in shoe factories, teachers, federal employees and retail clerks.

Women who are not in unions—30 out of the 34 million women in the work force—can't win wage increases with non-existent union contracts. And, the tiny number of women in unions find that the male leadership won't fight for them.

There is a fight back. The demonstrations on Women's Equality Day, August 26 are one step in the struggle for women's liberation. We must continue. □

Russia's Role in Africa



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When the Lights Went Out on Private Property

New York City



A Socialist Analysis

—by Milton Fisk—

The Bankers in Control

The international economic crisis that began in the late sixties hit New York City with double intensity because of its character as a corporate city.

The profit squeeze on corporations dried up the demand for office space. Of the 123,000 construction workers employed in 1961 less than 75,000 are still employed. The rapid increase in office jobs stopped 53,000 public employees losing their jobs. All of this combined to give New York City a 12% unemployment rate in 1970, 50% above the national average.

The tax base had been eroded by the flight of manufacturing over the years, but 12% unemployment eroded even further. The city is very sensitive to a recession, which pushes down revenue from income and sales tax, since on 43% of its revenue comes from property taxes. The banks went on "strike" and would not provide the city with more money. This put the bankers in virtual control of the city.

AGREED

They have agreed to raise money on condition of further reductions in the living standards of the New York City working class. They are moreover, not giving mortgages on real estate within areas they have arbitrarily "redlined" on the map. Felix Rohatyn, banker head of the Municipal Assistance Corporation which sells bonds for the city, advocates massive destruction of slums. The idea is to use the economic crisis as an occasion for clearing the city even further of those in the lower classes who are no longer of use in the new center of capitalism.

The people who have caused the destruction—the big landowners, the bankers, and the footloose corporations—have not suffered. They have created a hell in which the sacredness of capitalist property is now flaunted. Bankers get large returns on MA bonds while unions are denied wage increases.

Things are changing however. The victims are ceasing to blame themselves for their misery, and the light may not have to go out the next time they express their disregard of capitalist property.



Looting during the blackout

Capitalism has moved a long way from the time when the firm was a small affair, located in a single city and owned and operated by the same person. The head offices of the modern corporation moved to the center of a big city, in proximity to the banks, the market, and the offices of other corporations with which it dealt. The steel and glass jungles of the central cities are the result.

New York has become the national center of over a hundred of the top 500 corporations. It is the nerve center of US capitalism.

The predictable effect of all this was a squeezing out of manufacturing. New York City lost close to 300,000 manufacturing jobs in the boom period for the US—1950-1970. This was a thirty percent loss.

It is no surprise then that welfare roles have increased. It is the capitalist's need to have a national nerve center that has cut the jobs. It is the loss of jobs that has eroded the belief in property.

RENT

The amount of rent someone who owns a piece of Manhattan Island, for example, can exact depends pretty much on how much profit the person using

land is making.

The garment makers in midtown Manhattan are not making large profits. So long as lofts built over the land for garment making exist, the landlord can not exact the highest rents. The profits are just not there from which to take the highest rents.

However, the capitalist who builds iron and glass skyscrapers to house the headquarters of big corporations is raking in large amounts of profit. The owner of the land on which such a building is erected can then exact an enormous rent, and can sell the land for an enormous sum, since the price of land is determined by the rent and the going interest rate.

It comes as no surprise then that the New York landowners, the powerful Rockefeller family, for example, would find it in their interest to exclude manufacturing and medium to low rent housing from large sections of New York in order to allow for uses that will yield higher rents and hence higher land values.

The 22 buildings in Rockefeller Center comprise 10 percent of midtown Manhattan office space and yield a gross income for the family of over \$100 million yearly.

Landlords let their properties deteriorate and even burn them to collect the fire insurance. This clears the land for higher profit structures.

To promote high land rents more must be done than to build high rises. A high rise in a desert is a white elephant. There must be a transit system, housing for the office workers, and a highway system.

The expense of these systems grows as the congestion created by the high rises grows. But the bill for them is not footed by the corporations. This becomes a public debt and a burden on the workers and unemployed who pay taxes or tolls.

DEBT

This debt, that subsidizes real estate values, amounts to half of the long-term debt of New York City. Yet when we hear about the City's financial crisis it is the deficits in the expense budget caused by welfare spending and public employees' wages that we are told about. The existence of the capital debt, which subsidizes the transportation and housing needs of Corporate City, shows that it is the capitalists and landowners who are the real welfare chisellers. □

The free enterprise system works only so long as there is respect for the rights of property from which profits are extracted. The whole system of law in the free enterprise system is built up around the protection of this capitalist property.

The looting in July in New York City, when the lights went out for 25 hours, is one example in a long string of events which demonstrates that the cult of property is only skin deep in a country that is the citadel of capitalism.

CONDITIONS

These rebellions against property are not created out of thin air. They are created by conditions within capitalist society itself. As the Communist Manifesto puts it, "What the bourgeoisie, therefore, produces, above all, is its own grave-diggers."

Temporary rebellions against property are not themselves enough to overthrow the well-guarded profit system.

There must also be organization that is consciously directed at the overthrow of the entire property system—not just of the merchants, not just of the factory owners, not just of the banks, not just of the repressive mechanism of the law, but of the whole interlocking system of these forces.

This organization—which is a revolutionary party—can come to life only if there is a strong current of refusal to accept as legitimate the idea of private property for making profit.

That is why rebellions against property like the one in New York are so filled with significance.

REVOLUTIONARY

Those rebellions show that the free enterprise system has, as Marx and Engels claimed, produced a current that rejects the rights of property, and thus a current that is implicitly revolutionary.

The liberals would like us to believe that the looting in New York is a result of mismanagement by both the government of the city and the utility company, Consolidated Edison. If it weren't for Municipal overspending and for Con-Ed's failure to throw the switch fast enough, the fiscal crisis of the city, with the resulting rot in the ghettos, the blackout could have been avoided.

The important thing is that the mood of the people who rushed into the streets during the blackout was created by forces that far outweigh any avoidable acts of mismanagement. And these forces come from the very heart of capitalism. The gravediggers of capitalism are not created by accident.



"King Carter"

The Fortune Was Made by Slaves

One of Britain's leading genealogists has come up with the embarrassing discovery that one of Jimmy Carter's direct ancestors was perhaps the largest owner of black slaves in early America and one of the country's first home grown millionaires. "King Carter" as he was known, owned more than 250,000 acres of the richest tobacco growing land in Virginia in the 17th century.

The Carter family was also deeply involved in the slave trade and owned thousands of both black and white slaves, convicts transported from British prisons and sold off to the highest bidder in the market towns of Virginia and Maryland for up to \$18 a head.

According to Mr. Hugh Pekkett, genealogist to Debrett's Peerage, two brothers, John and Thomas Carter emigrated in 1635 as free settlers to the new colony of Virginia. They came from a prosperous wine merchant family that was established in London.

John Carter became rich buying up land to grow tobacco. His son Robert "King" Carter was, by the time he died in the 1730's, the colony's largest landowner, its richest man and the owner of a vast number of slaves and indentured servants.

King Carter was like Thomas Jefferson and George Washington, one of the great landed gentry of colonial America. At Nomini Hall, Carter's baronial mansion, there were 28 separate fireplaces kept going constantly even during the warmish Virginia winter.

According to historians of the time, Carter had four carts of wood delivered each day.

He boasted the second largest library in America—1500 volumes. One observer noted that this cost him as much as a 300 ton sailing clipper.

Mr. Pekkett added, "Originally they were perfectly ordinary country folk who rose to become yeoman and later called themselves gentlemen. Indeed his family was entitled to a coat of arms."

The International Anti-nuclear Movement

By **BILL REED**

In August demonstrations against the construction of nuclear power stations took place at several locations through the country.

Fifteen hundred demonstrators marched at San Onofre, California. In Rainier, Oregon 85 of 400 demonstrators at the Trojan power site were arrested. Demonstrations and informational meetings were held also in Michigan, Indiana, and Washington.

Last May, 1,000 "anti-nukes" were arrested at the Seabrook, New Hampshire nuclear reactor site, during the Clamshell Alliance demonstrations. These arrests helped make the anti-nuclear advocates' cause a national concern, drawing in thousands of more people to the fight.

At the same time, the U.S. demonstrations are part of a growing international movement against the spread of

nuclear power. In the first two weeks of August large demonstrations took place in Germany, France, Sweden, Japan and Australia.

In France 30,000 demonstrators gathered at a nuclear power construction site and were met with a violent police attack which killed one demonstrator. In Melbourne, Australia, 25,000 demonstrated against a government plan to expand uranium mining. In 1975, demonstrators in Germany occupied a reactor site for nine months to prevent its construction.

There is a growing mood especially among young people, that nuclear power technology today represents a serious threat to human life, not to mention the long term ecological ramifications.

The nuclear reactors being built are fission reactors which split atoms of uranium to prod-

uce energy to drive electrical turbines. The controlled chain reaction produces radio-active waste that remains dangerous to life for thousands of years.

LEAKS

Nuclear waste disposal already is a problem that seems out of control. At Hanford, Washington, the largest waste storage area in the world, sixteen leaks have occurred, with 350,000 gallons of radio-active waste escaping. This seepage could conceivably enter the water table and reach the nearby Columbia River.

Waste disposal is only one of the many problems associated with a move toward fission energy as the chief replacement for coal and oil in the next century. Plant safety for power station workers and nearby residents is a key problem.

Ecological considerations are also important. For example, tons of water must be run

through cooling towers to help cool off the superheated-steam. This warmed water is known to upset plant and animal life in water supplies around nuclear plants.

Yet, with all of these problems, the energy companies and their suppliers still push for more rapid expansion of the fission reactors. Plans on the drawing boards call for a ring of reactors around most major cities in this country by the year 2000.

Recently, the Carter Administration outlined its plan for speeding-up the construction of nuclear plants with the introduction of a Nuclear Regulatory Reform Bill. The idea behind this bill is to eliminate the time-consuming delays caused by environmentalists and anti-nuclear groups.

TECHNOLOGY

Nuclear technology is complicated and costly. With the federal government footing the development costs, power companies are expecting to make big fortunes in the operation of these plants. Construction companies are also cashing-in on the expanded use of nuclear power.

Safer technology is still experimental. Nuclear fusion reactors which would produce no atomic waste are yet to be developed. There are also numerous other clean energy sources that deserve consideration and funding, such as sun, ocean, wind, and natural steam power.

So far, the government hasn't seen fit to fund these projects to the same extent it has fission energy. And energy companies are not willing to gamble with their own money in developing safer alternatives.

So, more nuclear power plants are guaranteed. But so is a movement to oppose them. □



Demonstrators invading nuclear plant site in New Hampshire.

What We Think

Socialist Worker

Nuclear Power Politics

The growing opposition to nuclear power has now become a major international movement. A new generation is being drawn into active confrontation with the state and the authorities over an important social issue—the safe use of technology and the quality of life. There is also the revulsion against all that nuclear technology implies in terms of death and destruction.

As socialists we welcome and support this movement. We believe that the politics of nuclear power are basically the politics of profit and power for the companies and their friends in government. Like everything else in this society, technology is used at the expense of human safety and environmental protection. But it is not the technology which is at fault. Instead it is the greed of the power companies, and the drive for profits.

ALTERNATIVES

The "anti-nuke" forces must begin to raise the economic and social alternatives that go beyond opposition to nuclear technology.

We have to argue that there can be other power alternatives and that these need not cost thousands of jobs. Today environment is constantly counterposed to jobs, and this is especially true for construction workers. But it applies just as strongly to Blacks, Hispanics and other high unemployment groups who are bombarded by power company propaganda that nuclear power will create jobs.

We must take these issues to broaden what is so far a basically middle class movement.

A good example of this can be seen in the uranium mining demonstrations in Australia last month. Dock workers in Melbourne were convinced to join in helping stop uranium exports. The dockers voted to refuse to load any more shipments of uranium—an action that goes far beyond a propaganda demonstration. This action was the result of months of activity and contact between the anti-uranium activists and the dockers.

ACTION

Industrial action, like the Australian dockers took, is decisive and a goal we hope the U.S. movement would work toward. Together with mass demonstrations the issue of unsafe technology can be brought to more people and will help lead to broader questions of how capitalism works. But only if socialists are part of the movement.

The final and most important argument is that there cannot and will not be any humane and safe environment under capitalism. As long as a tiny minority of people control technology, it will continue to be used for death and destruction of both the people and the environment.

That is why the fight against nuclear power cannot be separated from the fight to totally reorganize society, so that human needs, including the need for a safe environment, always come first—not last. That is the fight for socialism. □

The Coors Strikers Must Win

By
MARY DEATON

The Coors brewery is in a valley west of Denver, Colorado. The valley stretches 8 miles long, 2 miles across. It is the empire of Joseph Coors—Coors Brewery, Coors Construction Co., Coors Porcelain Division, Coors Container, Coors Bottle Transload, Coors Sewage Treatment Plant, Railyards and Round House, and Coors Power Plant.

The last time there was a strike in this valley was in 1957. After 119 days on the picketlines, the brewery workers went back in defeat. That was the year management won a contract clause forbidding workers from making "disparaging remarks about the company or the product which would discourage people from drinking Coors beer."

STICK

Joseph Coors made a promise in 1957—"I have the big stick now and I will continue to use it. No union ever again will tell me how to run my business."

In 1958 he drove the union out of Coors Porcelain Division. One by one the other unions fell. Today, only the brewery workers still have a union.

On April 5, 1500 members of Brewery Workers Local 366, AFL-CIO, the only union workers left out of 10,000 employees, struck. They had been working without a contract since December 31.

The issue is not money. "We are making an average of \$7.50 an hour. We weren't that con-

Trident Base Protest

BANGOR, Wash.—On August 14, 2,000 people gathered to protest construction of a Trident nuclear submarine base here. They arrived from all over Washington and British Columbia.

400 people organized to go on to federal property in front of the main gate to risk arrest. Previously, small groups of demonstrators and leafletters had been arrested in front of the gate over the last two years.

The county police refused to arrest anyone because of the size of the demonstration. And when this became clear, several hundred more people entered the restricted area and a celebration began.

Demonstrators considered this a great victory. It was not until the next day that police again arrested a small group of leafletters at the base.

The battle against Trident will be a long one. It will take larger and more militant demonstrations that can actually shut down the base for a time to have real impact. □



JOSEPH COORS

cerned about the money," one striker told Socialist Worker. "The issue is dignity and human rights."

In negotiations, Coors demanded the right to use lie detectors on union employees at any time at the whim of management. They demanded the right to search any employee or his or her possessions at any time. They wanted mandatory physicals at any time. And they insisted on employees being forced to take a blood alcohol test whenever the company requested it.

OPEN SHOP

Most importantly, Coors demanded an open shop despite the fact that 92.6% of the brewery workers voted for a union shop in a state-supervised, secret ballot election held December 21.

Two hours after picketlines went up, Coors was busing in scabs from other Coors owned companies. The strikers were joined by union members from throughout the Denver area. Many community groups came out in support of the strike. But the brewery continued to run.

"We knew the brewery could not be shut down because of the endless supply of scabs Coors has. The boycott, now in progress, was planned a year in advance."

The picketlines are being maintained twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, but the main emphasis of the strikers is now on the boycott.

Although Coors is only distributed in 14 states, the boycott is nation-wide. Strikers have been sent to various cities to set-up boycott committees and organize unions and other organizations to spread the boycott. The AFL-CIO gave the boycott official sanction April 7. The Teamsters Union has also sanctioned it.

The effect of the boycott so far is heartening. According to industry figures, Coors sales are down 19.6% in California, its biggest market. Production has been cut at least 30%, scabs are being laid-off and the brewery has cut back from a seven day work-week to five. □

But Can this Boycott Defeat Joe Coors?

The success of the Coors strike is important for more than simply worker solidarity and protecting democratic rights.

Joseph Coors has appointed himself leader of the union busting movement in this country. In a radio interview Coors stated: "My goal for 1977 will be breaking unions. They have gotten too powerful and it is time they were put in their place. My own, Local 366, is where I'll start."

A victory against Coors would be a major breakthrough in the fight to stop union-busting.

But the truth is that Coors is

extremely powerful and the labor movement is doing very little to support the strikers.

There is no mass picketing so the union is relying on the boycott.

Unfortunately, however, the Coors boycott stands in stark contrast to the recent successful boycotts of the United Farm Workers and the Farah strikers.

There is no regular, mass picketing of beer outlets, as there was of grape sellers and department stores which carried Farah slacks.

The demonstrations are small and quiet. The boycott committees are inactive. They exclude

members of socialist and radical organizations.

Still, the sentiment for strong boycott exists. But the sentiment will have to be organized into open, democratic boycott committees. The committees could plan stop picketing, informational pickets at plants and factories demonstrations at Coors be distributorships and other activities designed to involve rank and file workers.

A strong boycott would also be a real boost to the strike in Colorado and the supporters there, who, if the strike are to win, must eventually shoo Joe Coors down.

MOLLY MAGUIRES

The First to Fight

By BARBARA WINSLOW

The first great confrontation between the coal miners and the coal bosses took place in the anthracite regions of Pennsylvania. It also gave birth to the most famous of American labor legends—the Molly Maguires.

In the years just following the Civil War, in particular between 1869 and 1875, Schuylkill County was the miners' stronghold. It was the center of the drive to organize the coalfields of all of Pennsylvania.

The miners belonged to the 30,000 strong Workingmen's Benevolent Association—85% of whom were anthracite miners.

BITTER

The most bitter and violent confrontation took place in 1874 and 1875, and it is still remembered as "the long strike."

The issues were preservation of the new Miners' National Association and the continuation of the minimum wage.

The "long strike" became a national issue. On the miners' side there was fantastic heroism, sacrifice and solidarity—the same virtues that mark the miners' struggles right down to this day.

There were brutal confrontations with scabs, and the Governor of the state brought in troops to defend the strikebreakers.

Franklin Benjamin Gowen spearheaded the anti-union drive. He was the head of the Reading Railroad and owned over 100,000 acres of coalfields. He believed that the "leaders of the union were foreign agitators, advocates of the [Paris] Commune and emissaries of the [First Socialist] International."

SPIES

Gowen called in Allen Pinkerton, founder of the infamous Pinkerton Detective Agency, which even today supplies spies and scabs for corporations.

In the 1870's and 1880's strike breaking became a very profitable business. During large scale labor conflicts, the Pinkertons provided actual armed battalions of strikebreakers.

Pinkerton was paid \$100,000 to smash the miners. James McParland was the agent who went into the coalfields. Pre-

shoulder to shoulder



Irate wives of miners made life uncomfortable for Pinkerton guards and strikebreakers during the 'long strike.'

tending to be a fugitive from justice, he soon became a member of the secret Ancient Order of Hibernians. It was his perjured testimony that would send 19 men to the gallows.

Franklin Gowen boasted to have spent \$4 million to smash the strike, and in the end the miners were forced back.

The new union was too weak. The opposition was overwhelming. Still, even as they returned, they grimly sang: "When men go back to work—They must be determined—To prepare for struggle in some future day."

After the long strike ended, the miners faced a vicious offensive of blacklisting and wagecuts.

Aided by the Irish fraternal organization, the Ancient Order of the Hibernians, the miners fought back sporadically.

James McParland's two years of espionage finally paid off. As soon as the long strike ended, he gave in the names of 347 "Mollies," 19 of whom he accused of murder.

In a biased trial, 24 miners were convicted of murder. 19 were hanged.

The last two execution were on January 14, 1879 just as a messenger arrived with a reprieve from Pennsylvania's

Governor Hatranft. The messenger was not admitted to the scene of the execution. When he finally delivered the message the men were dead.

Subsequent history has shown that there never was any organization called the Molly Maguires. It was conjured up by Gowen, other coal owners, and the press in order to whip up hysteria against strikers.

These men—falsely accused of terrorism—deserve an important place in our history. They were the first to step out. The first to organize.

Later generations would be more successful in the struggle to organize trade unions and in the struggle for establishing more human conditions in the coalfields. But the "Mollies" were first.

For that, they were victimized. They were singled out and destroyed by the same vicious conspiracy of coal bosses, judges, and politicians that run the coalfields today.

The *Miners Journal*, the operators' magazine, gave away their brutal conspiracy when they wrote a few days after the first men were hanged: "What did they do? Whenever prices of labor did not suit them, they organized and proclaimed a strike." □

The Dayton Firefighters

Why We Struck

A Socialist Worker
INTERVIEW

Last month, the Dayton Firefighters Union struck for two and a half days to win a two year contract. This was three months after the Dayton City Council had refused to bargain seriously at the conclusion of the old contract. This strike received massive media attention. In effect, the Dayton Firefighters were taking on the City Council, the State of Ohio, and the news media barons.

Because this strike had importance beyond Dayton's city limits, the media and government officials were quick to turn it to their own uses. Articles, letters and editorials are still heaping abuse on the Dayton Firefighters.

Socialist Worker reporters Ellis Jacobs and Bill Reed talked to firefighters Dave Grahl and Rick Rounds following the strike to learn more about the issues and to help in a small way to counter the avalanche of negative publicity.

SW: Editorial after editorial has attacked your union. We haven't seen or heard one news report that in any way sympathized with your strike. Were you prepared for the bad press you got? Do you think "public opinion" reported by the media settled the strike?

Dave: I don't think public opinion was against us. Not at first. The newspaper owners, the radio and television owners were against us, but I don't think a majority of the people knew what was really at issue when this thing started.

Rick: One thing for sure hasn't been reported right. We organized lifesaving squads—"phantom squads"—from the beginning. We covered all fires with our own equipment and without insurance. Some property was lost and it was hard on us to see that happen. (I believe most of the fires during the strike were probably insurance fires. A lot of them were in abandoned buildings).

It's the city council that should be held responsible, not the firefighters. We didn't have a contract to work.

Dave: There was one incident that showed the opposite public opinion than reported by the press. City Commissioner Weber tried to get some per-

sonal publicity by attempting to fight a fire. When people watching the fire discovered he was there for the cameras, they went after him for not settling with our union. He had to be escorted away from quite a bunch of angry people.

Rick: I thought we walked out to do away with the city ordinance that would split the union. They city has been trying hard to divide the officers (Lts., Cpts.) from the regular firefighters. That would bust the union. With ordinances they have tried to make it illegal for officers to be in the same bargaining unit. We have been fighting these ordinances in court.

Dave: Unfortunately, our union officers gave up on this in the settlement negotiated. What made our strike work was the near total participation of everyone, including the officers. This really caught the city off-guard. Ninety percent of the membership voted for the strike. The officers make up 30% of the force.

Sure, we were asking for more money and fewer on-duty hours, but the main issue was keeping the union together and trying to get a long over-due contract. The interesting thing is that the city made a money settlement they now say will

not hurt the budget. This thing could have been settled last spring. They were intent on busting the union, not in preventing fires.

SW: What do you think you won besides a little more money and shorter hours? And could you have won more by striking longer?

Rick: We should have gotten more. Another day would have done it. But our union officers got worn down. We should have had a double-team approach to the negotiations. Going without sleep softened up the officers for a weak settlement.

I think we lost because we still have the union busting ordinance to fight. The city has the time and money to win in court. The bargaining unit is worn out.

Dave: We had little or no experience before going on strike. The guys did a hell of a job. We didn't get much help from the international union. They got us all excited and then pushed us back to work.

The pressure of the negative publicity after two days was tremendous and that was a consideration in the settlement vote. We stuck together, but we still didn't win our security. That's why many of us feel we lost the strike.



Firefighters during the August strike in Dayton, Ohio. The top picture shows a lifesaving squad in action.

SW: Don't you think that the simple fact that you did go on strike is an important victory?

Dave: There probably is something to that. We have received a lot of inquiries from other firefighter unions around the

country. We also had good cooperation from the other firefighters in the area. Perhaps others can go beyond us. This union busting is a national trend and others will have to fight it too. There needs to be more communication between the different local unions.

Rick: The only way to win a strike like this is for all city employees to strike. The city is trying to divide us in all kinds of ways. We all have to strike together. But it's hard when all you hear or see is the city council's story. □



On August 20, over 1000 students and supporters rallied at Kent State. The demonstrators were protesting the attempt by KSU trustees to build a gym where four students had been shot by National Guardsmen on May 4, 1970. The site is symbolic of the massive militant opposition to American imperialism in Vietnam. The issue of the gym still remains in the courts, but Kent State students are determined to continue the struggle.

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Signed articles do not necessarily represent the opinion of Socialist Worker.

Snooper Supes at UPS

by Anne Mackie

When the rank and file paper UPSurge got started in 1975, United Parcel's Loss Prevention Department's budget must have soared. This department is a corps of "secutiry" men and women whose jobs go far beyond the prevention of lost packages.

Just recently "secret agent" Welles, manager of Dayton, Ohio's UPS Loss Prevention, did a little snooping into the recent International Socialist Organization's summer conference held at Camp Miami. Welles visited the camp 2 days prior to the conference to investigate the ISO, the purpose of the meeting, UPSurge's

involvement and to inquire about a longer list of UPS employees who he thought were meeting secretly to organize a strike at UPS.

Besides being a little nutty, Welles' actions were illegal. He had violated National Labor Relations laws which protect the rights of UPS employees to

attend any conference without it being checked out by Loss Prevention first.

A woman undercover narcotics agent posing as a clerk

in the Kansas City, Kansas UPS terminal set-up four clerk one was fired and the other were forced to quit for the alleged involvement in drug No criminal charges were ev made, and nowhere in the di missal did it mention that tl woman narc had initiated tl illegal activities or that the re reason UPS wanted the clerks out was their involv ment in UPSurge.

During the 1976 UPS Centr States strike UPS must hav spent a fortune in came equipment and film to i timidate and identify loc organizers and activists fro UPSurge.

PINKERTONS

These Loss Prevention cop should not be confused with tl Pinkerton guard who sits at tl gate checking employee I.D. badges as they rush in and ou Although the Pinkertons we once one of the most notorio anti-union, strike breaking d tective agencies in the Unite States their responsibilities UPS today are minimal.

During the 1930's union o ganizing drives, detective age cies like the Pinkertons we hired to infiltrate the factori and disrupt efforts to unioniz \$80,000,000 was spent in o year by employers to pay f the services of agencies like t Corporations Auxiliary Co., t Pinkerton Agency, and the Ra way Audit and Inspection C

By 1937 the Pinkertons we not only trying to bust up tl unions from within the fa tories, but 47 of their age had obtained official union pos tions!

"BIG BROTHER"

Today at UPS it's the "Lo Prevention" crew which e gages in illegal surveillance, i filtrates rank and file orgar zations, sets people up to i busted and sees itself as tl guardian of law and order, tl Big Brown Machine way.

At UPS "Big Brother" undercover narcs, ex-F agents, off-duty police ar surveillance technology.

Theft at UPS is not ju counted in dollars and cent UPS also has a crime known "stealing time." Nationwi the company suspends ei ployees for "stealing time. In New Hampshire a delive driver was suspended f "stealing time" when he spe too much time in the bathroo making his pick-up and sortir out his stops to go back for. TV UPS snoopers sat cla destiny in a nearby car timir his actions with their st watches.

RAT PATROL

The "sneak and peek" gan is popular in Ohio, too. Inte state 71 between Columbus ar Cleveland is a busy feeder-ru Here, waiting alongside tl road near a truck stop is t famous "Rat Patrol:" two three junior snoops waiting catch someone taking mo than their allotted 10 minu coffee break. The driver is e pected to make a complete ti check, use the bathroom, dri a hot cup of coffee, and tu the engine on before the minutes are up.

If "droids" were availabl UPS would be first in line to g our replacements.



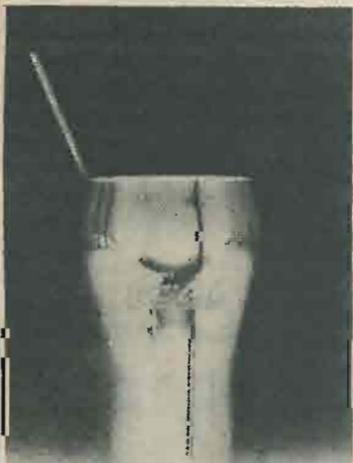
Ford's Got Another Dumb Idea

Ford Motor Company is spending \$2,500,000 on what it calls the Rouge Beautification Program for the Rouge Factory complex in Dearborn, Michigan. It might be pretty in the pictures, but obviously none of the designers had even been to the Rouge.

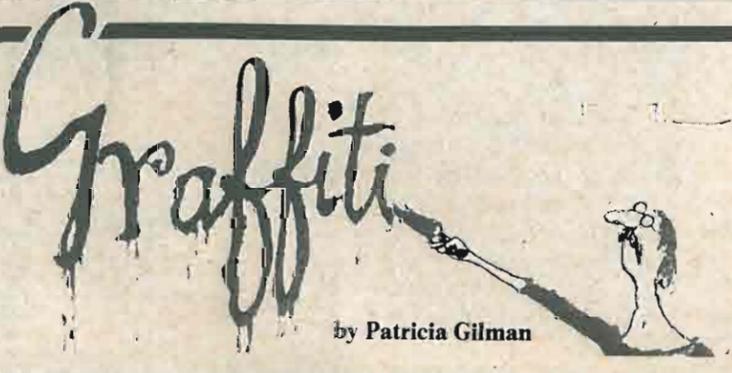
After tearing up all the parking lots closest to the Rouge as well as the sidewalks, Ford laid down new grass and several trees, most of which look like broomsticks with fringe. One by one, the trees and grass are dying from the fumes, smoke and dirt of the plant.

The exhaust pipes from the trucks are the exact height as the tree foliage and the leaves are now a lovely shade of black. Another winner is putting new siding along one of the walls of a production area. It looks great, but this siding goes over all the windows, effectively shutting out all natural light.

Ge whiz, for the all of two minutes anyone sees the outside, coming in or going out of the plant, they could have spent it on something really frivolous like safety equipment, fire extinguishers, or, god forbid, a pay increase. □



Sterling Coca-Cola glass, gilt interior and 18-karat gold straw, \$650.



by Patricia Gilman

Murder Memo

Remember all those inexplicable suicides, accidental deaths and untraceable murders that overtook witnesses of the Kennedy assassination and other episodes where the CIA's involvement has been suspected? A new batch of papers, released by the agency under the Freedom of Information Act, reveals just how it was done.

In November, 1967, an agent named "Bill" was sent a two page memo giving him detailed instructions in murder techniques. The author of the memo is not identified, but he was obviously a senior official.

The aim, says the memo, is to kill in four ways: make the death seem accidental; make it seem like suicide; leave the corpse with "residues that simulate . . . natural diseases"; and, finally, to murder in such a way that the cause of death cannot be determined.

Sodium fluoacetate and tetraethyl lead, two obscure but deadly chemical substances, are recommended as particularly useful. The first when swallowed in sufficient quantities leaves "no characteristic pathological lesions." The second, when "dropped on the skin in very small quantities" produces "no local lesion, and, after a quick death, no specific pathological evidence."

Another technique is to lure the intended victim into a tightly sealed room containing a block of ice impregnated with lethal carbon dioxide fumes. The memo comments: "There will probably be a period of hyper-activity in the course of such a death," but the cause would be undetectable. On the other hand, it says, exposing the victims to doses of X-rays over a period of time would kill without any of that unseemly thrashing about. "Sporadic deaths of this kind would

probably be considered as due to blood dyscrasia" (un-identifiable blood disorder).

The memo concludes with advice about other techniques that require "no special equipment besides a strong arm and the will to do the job. These would be either to smother the victim with a pillow or to strangle him with a wide piece of cloth." A bath towel, for instance, would be ideal. But bear in mind, the memo continues, that "serosal petechia" (broken skin capillaries and tissue) and "marked visceral congestion" (organs, such as lungs, swollen with blood) might not always be accepted in an autopsy as indicating death by natural causes. □

—thanks to Mike Egan

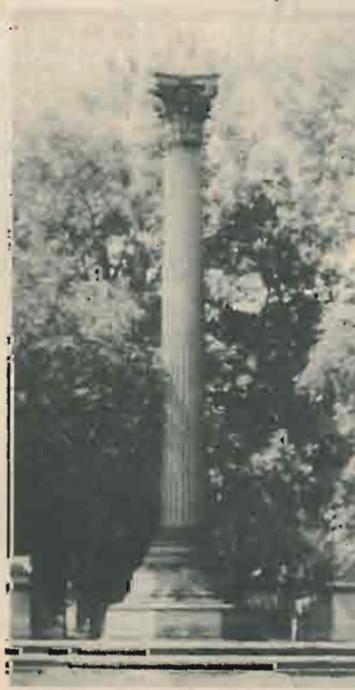
Avoid Long Lunch Lines

The owner of the Beverly Hills restaurant, the Daisy, has come up with a new idea to help you avoid long lines while waiting for a table at lunch. For \$300 a month, you can have a table permanently reserved for you. If you are not going to show for lunch a particular day, you can call and have it loaned out to a friend or even, god forbid, have it made available to the "general public". □

Wasting Time Is A Crime

Police in Britain have come up with an ingenious new law under which they can arrest virtually anyone, anytime, for anything. There already exists a law allowing the police to detain someone for questioning. If they do this and the unfortunate suspect really doesn't know anything, that person can be charged with "wasting police time" and for this horrible crime can be fined and further detained. It would seem more that the police themselves are a "waste of the public time". □

He Even Took Their Sewage



George Pullman was one of the railroad robber barons of the 19th century. He owned the town of Pullman, Illinois, just south of Chicago—the houses, stores, everything. He was one of the most brutal vicious strikebreakers of the time. His use of his workers was so complete that he used to pump the sewage from the workers' houses out to his farm in the country. But at his death he was conceited enough to fear that the people would not let his body rest. So he had himself buried in a concrete sarcophagus, several feet thick, had railroad tracks that had been welded together placed on top of that, and then 6 feet of earth. On top of this was placed this marble column. A sure fire winner of the Conceited Capitalist award. □

—international news— “We Stopped the Nazis”

LONDON—“What we say is— if the Front had been allowed to march, there would have been much more violence in the community. All the people I’ve talked to are glad that the National Front was stopped from marching.”

Those were the words of David Foster, a bus inspector from Lewisham, South East London, after the demonstration on Saturday, August 13 against the British fascist group.

The National Front had intended to march through the multiracial community in Lewisham as part of their campaign to harass the local black residents.

THOUSANDS

But thousands of anti-fascists responded to the British Socialist Workers Party’s call to stop the march. They were joined by many of the marchers from an earlier “peaceful” demonstration against the fascist presence in Lewisham—by demonstrators who saw that peaceful pleading will never stop the nazis.

The whole of the assembly point for the National Front march was obscured by anti-fascists when 4,000 police began the random, unprovoked attacks on the demonstrators. Both foot and mounted police surged into the crowd to make a path for the fascists to march.

Nazis were allowed through the police cordons to join their march by showing their

membership cards. And then the police began to charge down the road to make a path for the nazis to march.

This was when the crowd of anti-fascists exploded—throwing sticks, smoke-bombs, any missiles they could find at the nazis.

The angriest of the demonstrators were the local people—the blacks and a group of young white soccer fans wearing their team scarfs.

CHARGE

Several times the police charged at the demonstrators. Several times the anti-fascists broke up the nazi march—seizing banners and setting fire to them, watching the would-be master race cower as far from them as possible.

The nazi march dispersed well before its destination, but this did not deter the police. They had only just started.

As a result of the riots at last year’s West Indian Carnival in Notting Hill, London, the police had been equipped with \$9,900,000 worth of new riot control gear, which they were anxious to try out.

Using shields as well as batons over 100 demonstrators were injured—suffering broken arms, legs, ribs, even a cracked skull. Over 200 were arrested.

Many people will say that if the demonstration was left alone, no one outside of Lewisham would know that the nazis had marched there.

But fascists will not go away if socialists and anti-fascists just ignore them and pretend that they’re not there.

They will continue to grow and spread their racist, anti-working class filth—especially in a time of bad economic conditions when people are desperately looking for an alternative.

The significance of stopping the National Front is not only a moral victory. They won’t show their faces in that area for a long time now.

But even more significant is that a growing number of people are becoming aware of the danger of the nazis and are prepared to confront them. Furthermore, a growing number of people are becoming aware of the socialist alternative. That is why the Socialist Workers Party will be there to stop the nazis whenever they rear their ugly heads. □

by Nina Strelch



Steve Jefferys, SWP Central Committee, at the London press conference: “We are implacably opposed to racism and fascism because it divides the working class.”



Triumphant anti-fascist demonstrators in Lewisham

Israel

New Evidence of Torture

In 1947 Chaim Weitzmann, Israel’s first president, declared: “I am certain that the world will judge the Jewish State by what it shall do with the Arabs.”

Since then Israel has maintained that it treats the Palestinians within its control with justice and according to the rule of law and that allegations of repression and torture are lies.

PROOF

Now a long and detailed study, published in the London **Sunday Times**, a pro-Israeli, conservative British newspaper, contains irrefutable proof that the allegations are true. The paper was forced reluctantly to admit the evidence overwhelmingly showed that, in its own words, “Torture of Arab prisoners is so widespread and systematic that it cannot be dismissed as ‘rogue cops’ exceeding orders. It appears to be sanctioned as deliberate policy.”

Forty-four Palestinians have made public sworn statements giving details of their torture at the hands of the Israeli police. Twenty-two have allowed their names and addresses to be published, despite the risks. The picture

revealed is an ugly and brutal one.

Most of the victims are Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank territory. Israel claims they are terrorists and murderers of children. They prove this by citing the confessions which are used as the basis for conviction in the military courts.

But the report shows that these “confessions” are extracted by the use of the most brutal force. One prisoner, Ghassan Harb, discovered that he was arrested merely for being a Leftist. Under interrogation he was beaten “for fifteen, twenty minutes” at a time. He was repeatedly asked: “Do you want to speak?” But he had nothing to tell them.

So he was nearly suffocated in a tiny cupboard—a hood was placed over his head, his hands were tied, and sharp fragments of rock were cemented into the floor of his cell.

“On one occasion . . . they took me to the cupboard at night . . . then I was taken outside and I heard some voices, sounds of pain, crying, pleading, ‘Oh my head.’ ‘Oh my stomach.’ ‘You are killing me.’ Of course I couldn’t see who the people

were who were groaning, but I heard it.”

Most of the other victims confirm these details, and endured similar experiences. The report concludes:

“Taking the evidence as a whole . . . we conclude that it amounts at least to a strong prima facie case that in 1974 Israel maintained an interrogation center administered by the army, where suspects were hooded, continuously handcuffed, deprived of sleep, and other human amenities, and systematically subjected to physical and mental suffering.”

Some of the victims have revealed tortures comparable to the atrocities perpetrated by the Nazis against the Jews. Nineteen state that their genitals were regularly beaten, squeezed or twisted. Some claim electrodes were attached to their testicles. Abdel-Karim, another victim, says: “They taped the wires to me and then put the plug directly in the socket. It just blew me away, and they had to re-attach it.”

One prisoner, Ahmed Sheikh Dahdoul was beaten to death in a military vehicle in March, 1976. When news of this leaked out, the Israelis claimed he had died of a heart attack. Only four months

later, when the Arab doctor who treated Dahdoul made the truth known, did the Israelis admit what really happened. No one has ever been prosecuted for Dahdoul’s murder.

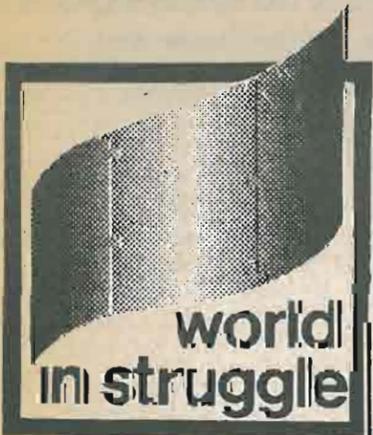
In the U.N. Israeli ambassador Doron has said that Dahdoul’s death was “exceptional” and the result of a “regrettable” use of force. Dahdoul’s death, he says, was “a mistake”, which will be corrected. Turning his face from the record and the truth, Doron maintains: “My country can proudly stand by its record of scrupulously observing the rule of law in the administered areas.” □

by Mike Egan

What the US Left Behind

The Vietnam War finished two years ago. But the effects of the American barbarity are still being felt.

The Vietnam news agency tells how many South Vietnamese are suffering from “chromosomal aberrations” caused by the spraying of chemicals. Children are being born with deformities as a result. □



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PHONE CONTRACT SOLD OUT AGAIN

Glenn Watts and the CWA International have done it again. Bringing back bad memories from the last minute sellout in 1974, the national walkout against the Bell System scheduled for August 7, was called off minutes before the strike deadline.

After weeks of getting psyched up for a strike, telephone workers have been left in the lurch once more.

The proposed settlement is a total disaster. On nearly every issue, it doesn't come close to meeting CWA's original bargaining demands. The new contract falls short on:

WAGES: The first company offer, called "completely inadequate" by the CWA International, gave 5% the first year, and 2.5% the second and third years. The settlement calls for a first year increase of 7.6%, with 2.8% the last two years. That's little better than the "completely inadequate" first offer. With no COLA increase this year and inflation running at 9%, the proposed wage increase means a cut in real buying power.

JOB SECURITY: The original demand for a 32 hour week got lost in the shuffle. Instead, an innovative "breakthrough" was negotiated. In the event of a layoff, employees under age 62 who are eligible for pensions could retire early, on a \$250 month maximum. Of course, no one will retire on that pitiful income, leaving younger employees to be laid off as usual. Some breakthrough!

UPGRADES: CWA President Watts repeated on several occasions the need for a traffic upgrade at the June CWA Convention. But as in years past, traffic got left out. There is no upgrade in this contract.

PERSONAL DAYS: The contract calls for one day in 1978, two in 1979, and three in 1980. But the days are to be assigned by seniority when the company wants them. What a joke! Apparently, it's up to employees to arrange for car trouble, sick children, etc. to fall only on

the scheduled "personal day".

PENSIONS: The CWA Bargaining Council proposed a \$350 minimum pension, a COLA on the pension, and no penalty for early retirement. The new contract would raise the minimum to only \$200-275. The penalties on early retirement would remain. There would be no COLA to make up for inflation. An operator with 30 years service would still retire on \$3,530 a year -- far below the poverty line.

OVERTIME: The contract would "limit" forced overtime to 15 hours per week for five months of the year, and 10 hours a week for the other seven months of the year -- except in so-called "emergency conditions". This does not stop forced overtime. And, it gives the company the possibility to try to force overtime in those departments where it had been previously voluntary.

In short, telephone workers are getting the shaft. The International is "enthusiastically recommending" three more years of falling real wages, deteriorating job security and company harassment. Glenn Watts and Co. have shown themselves once again to be completely unwilling and incapable of leading a serious fight against the Bell System.

WILDCATS

Opposition to the settlement is widespread. Wildcats have been reported in Michigan, New York, Washington, Indiana and California. The consensus at a District 9 (Pacific Northwest Bell) Local President's meeting was to recommend a "No" vote. Art Koski, President of a Minneapolis local, called the settlement "a weak, watered-down facsimile of a contract" and is publicly urging a "NO" vote.

The task at hand for CWA activists is to convince any wavering members to vote "NO" and to pressure Local officers to publicly come out for rejection. Those who do recommend ratification of this sellout should be made to understand their time in office is short.

by Harold Kincaid

NORTHERN IRELAND RULE BY N

a report from BERNADETTE

The situation at this minute is that Northern Ireland is governed by Britain solely by naked force and repression.

The population of Northern Ireland is just under a million and a half total. Yet there are now over 15,000 British army soldiers stationed there.

Then there is a NATO Regiment, as they call it, a section of the British army recruited almost exclusively from the Northern Ireland loyalist population. It's called the Ulster Defense Regiment.

There are 10,000 soldiers in the Ulster Defense Regiment and there is the target of recruiting another 7,000 soldiers by the end of this year.

There are over 12,000 armed members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and Reserve Constabulary together.

So altogether that's about 40,000 armed military personnel supposedly keeping the peace among a population of a million and a half.

PRISON

The prison population in Northern Ireland alone stands at three and a half thousand, which is higher than it has been at any time in the struggle. And 90% of the prisoners are imprisoned as a direct result of the political conflict—whether on charges such as the murder of a police officer, or on a charge of withholding information.

There is systematic torture in Northern Ireland today.

Britain argues that there is due process and the rule of law in Northern Ireland, that it's all very democratic.

But there are no jury trials in the North. And the onus is on the accused to establish innocence.

At the same time, the police have the authority under the emergency powers act to arrest without reason—without stated reason—any person and hold them in custody for seven days without access to a lawyer, a doctor, and without informing



Bernadette Devlin speaking to ISO members in Ger

anybody that they are holding the person in custody.

This is where people are tortured, and forced to sign confessions to crimes they have not committed.

ASYLUMS

There have been at least six people taken directly to mental asylums as a result of the seven days in custody.

The worst case is that of Peter Moran, a 66 year old man who was taken into custody along with his 17 year old son.

After seven days, he was taken to a mental asylum where he was for four weeks being rehabilitated—before he could remember who he was and before he could identify any person related to him.

And he still doesn't know what happened to him in the police station.

But he was tortured in another cell where he could hear the screams and pleas of his father.

And after that the p



Two women pass a British soldier as they return home from work in Belfast.

**Southern
Africa
after
Soweto**

ALEX CALLINCOS AND JOHN ROGERS



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WEAKENED FORCE

BY PETER DEVLIN

“The repression is made easier by the political vacuum”

The anti-imperialist struggle in Ireland has now been in a period of downturn for about four years.

After the mass movement—beginning in 1968 with the civil rights movement—the most active and militant young people turned to the Provisionals (the extreme nationalist faction of the I.R.A.) and the military struggle to smash the Stormont State.

At the same time, the British attempted to solve the Northern Ireland crisis by establishing a new government based on power sharing. After 50 years of one party rule, they promised guaranteed rights in government for the Catholics.

This initiative was destroyed by the reactionary loyalists. It was not supported by the mass of the Catholics in any case. But it was destroyed by the loyalists. They called a loyalist workers' strike which was basically a general strike for the most reactionary of reasons.

STANDSTILL

They brought everything to a standstill and they brought down the government.

The Provisionals developed a military strategy pure and simple but in the long run the republican ideology could not provide political leadership for the kids doing the fighting and their position stagnated and became military elitism.

Their activities more and more isolated the mass of the people from the struggle.

The social democrats (the Social Democratic Labor Party) had hoped for power sharing and had become engaged with Britain in attempting to find an “equitable” solution—a little power for themselves.

ELITISM

Therefore, politically, people were demoralized and betrayed by the social democrats and confused by the military elitism of the provos.

After the general strike, the British decided they couldn't cope with the reactionary loyalists and decided to work back towards a settlement where power could be given back to the loyalists—as was the case before 1968.

In order to do this, it was necessary to attempt to exterminate the anti-imperialist struggle. And that task was made much easier because of the political vacuum in Northern Ireland.

As a result, there has been a massive increase in repression—in the numbers of soldiers and military personnel. The penalties are much heavier. The political status for prisoners which had been won by the mass movement has been taken away.

It was now conceivable that the Provisionals might actually be destroyed.



Young militants are the vanguard of the anti-imperialist struggle

...vn, Ohio. July, 1977.

...were able to extract from this young man a confession to three murders that he didn't commit—and for which they had no evidence.

But he signed the statement.

People in Northern Ireland can be convicted on the word of a police officer who swears they confessed. Today the average prison sentence is fifteen years. There are children 17 years old serving 30 year sentences.

The youngest political prisoner in Northern Ireland is 13½ years old.

“We need a socialist alternative”

I don't see the situation in Northern Ireland as totally pessimistic, but we've got to accept that the struggle has been in a downturn.

And we've got to accept that the Provisionals cannot win—no matter how courageous, no matter how determined they are. And the courage of some of the kids is absolutely unbelievable.

The Provisionals cannot win even within their limited objectives. They cannot defeat British imperialism by their military strategy and it is even conceivable that they could be defeated.

There are some sections of so-called socialist opinion who think that this would be a good thing. Some Stalinist groups think that the defeat of the Provisionals would actually be

a step forward.

The fact of the matter, however, is that no matter what the Provisionals are—or are not—they represent the vanguard of the anti-imperialist struggle.

They are certainly not socialist but if they are defeated the whole anti-imperialist struggle and with it the struggle for socialism, stands defeated.

DEFEND

Therefore it's absolutely necessary for the small socialist left in Ireland to defend the anti-imperialist struggle. And that means to defend the Provisionals, to defend their right to political status. And to demand the withdrawal of British troops, and an end to torture, and an end to all the repression. But simultaneously socialists

must build an independent socialist perspective within the struggle which can draw towards a revolutionary position the young militants. Which can also attract the workers who are confused by the strategy of the Provisionals.

There must be a coherent understanding of the relationship between the fight for socialism and the fight against imperialism.

This is beginning to happen, despite the fact that the left is infinitely small in Ireland. We are working in the union movement, we are attempting to fight the economic battles day by day.

And we are attempting to build an independent working class organization that can fight for leadership of the anti-imperialist movement—and for

socialism.

We want your support. But the best thing you can do for us is to work for a socialist society here, in America.

A socialist America is the only kind of society that can be of any help to us in Ireland. And that is because of the age old problem.

Socialism cannot be built in one country, and certainly not in Ireland alone. We know this not just because of some theoretical dispute in the past, but because of 12 long years of actual physical struggle.

We know that even national independence is impossible outside the struggle for socialism. So we are for the fight for international socialism—in Ireland, in the United States, in every country.

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Contract Gets Angry Reception

To Socialist Worker:

Few telephone workers were happy about the proposed agreement reached this month by the Communications Workers of America with the Bell System. Some of the reactions in the Pacific Northwest:

- 1) Western Electric workers wildcatted for three days at a plant in Kent, Wash.
- 2) Officers from several locals in Washington and Oregon met in Vancouver, Wash., in an

impromptu meeting to urge rejection of the contract. In the official meeting of local presidents a week later, the general consensus was to urge rejections, despite efforts by international representatives to get local leaders to toe the line.

3) The reception by the members of these locals was one of anger. Most were ready to strike and felt let down when the International settled for crumbs. Obviously the local

leaders felt this pressure.

Unfortunately there was also demoralization. A petition circulated to resign from the union. Many, more loyal to the union, felt the union had already lost and there was little hope of getting anything more. Many of these will vote yes on the contract.

The international is making a big campaign, including the use of personal pressure on local leaders, to get the contract rati-

fied.

We can vote no on the contract, but it will take more to make the union strong enough to take on ATT. That will require pressure and organization below. The locals should belong to the members, not the international.

Jim Feathers
CWA Local 9102
Seattle, Wash.

Sacco and Vanzetti Issue Still Alive

Dear Socialist Worker:

You will be interested to learn that the Sacco-Vanzetti executions are still very much a controversial issue here in Boston as the 50th anniversary of their deaths takes place.

As you noted in a box article in your August issue, the governor of Massachusetts has declared that the two did not receive a fair trial. For this, the state senate has voted to censure him. Newspapers and televisions have editorialized on both sides of the question. The one surviving juror has declared that the same verdict would be reached today.

A state senator asserted "His proclamation indicts the entire state judicial system and some of our most prominent people." (He's right.) The furor can also be related to the campaign to restore the death penalty, which fell short of being reinstated here in 1975 by only one vote, and more broadly, to the condemnation of the entire legal system which the case implies.

The public is only now getting access to information the state has had for 50 years, so we will be hearing more of the case and be continually reminded of the courageous shoemaker and fish peddler.

Marianne Hall
Boston, Mass.

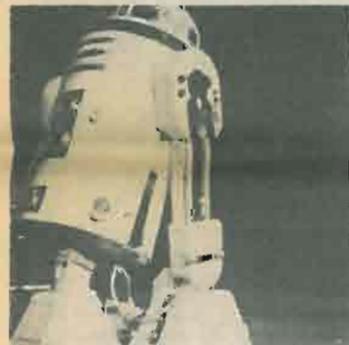
Letters

Write to Letters,
Socialist Worker
P.O. Box 18037
Cleveland, OH 44118

Dear Socialist Worker:

"Star Wars" has grabbed the United States. Everyone is talking about it. Everyone is going to see it. And I'm not surprised. It's a good, fun, escapist movie. It's nothing more than that, but no less either.

I keep hearing leftists talking about how Star Wars is fascist; how Star Wars is racist and sexist. Well, I'd be the last person to say that it's perfect—but I'd definitely look at it from another angle...



For a start, there's a small group of rebels fighting against an evil (fascist) empire. There might not be too many women or blacks, but that's no reason to dismiss the whole thing. And the Princess (besides the title) wasn't just the 'passive, quiet type' we could have seen. She had more character and guts to her than a lot of the men! (I know that's not much to go by.) And the music was great, too! I won't go on....

Enjoy it while it's around. As with all successful commercial ventures like it, Star Wars 2 won't be nearly so good!

Nina Streich
SWP London
(visiting Detroit)

Elvis...

Dear Socialist Worker:

Since I used to be a beserk Elvis Presley fan, I thought I would write a few words about him. Somewhere in my house I have his first LP album. Against vehement objections from my parents I went to an Elvis Presley concert where I screamed my head off. My parents thought he was a wild, drug crazed sex fiend. I hoped he was. He was the greatest.

I stopped being an Elvis fan as soon as he went into the army. Then his music became too commercial. Not surprisingly, the more plastic his music got, the more respectable he became, the more money he made.

But Elvis and his promoters were making millions from the racism in the music industry. Other Black musicians who were far better than Elvis, Chuck Berry, John Lee Hooker, Little Richard (to name just the most famous) were lucky if they got \$25 a gig. Elvis took from their music and raked in all the money.

A few years back my girlfriend and I found the original *Howl Dog* in a record store in New York City. It was written by a Black woman, Willie Mae Thornton. It cost \$15. It was a collectors item.

But Elvis Presley made more on that one record than Willie Mae Thornton could dream of in her lifetime.

Susan Brody
New York City



A class of slave labor

Dear Socialist Worker:

Many people have hailed Connecticut's new "workfare" legislation as the final solution to getting welfare recipients to work instead of 'merely' collecting our checks. In actual fact, however, the workfare provision is a threat to the jobs of many workers.

Workfare—work welfare recipients will be required to do in order to collect their welfare allotment—will create a new class of slave labor. The welfare recipients will be forced to take any job offered or else see their families starve because of a withheld welfare check. Employers will love workfare because they can use it to break the back of the union movement which they feel has too much power now.

Workfare in Conn. will involve work in both the private and public sectors. Because public agencies will be required to pay only what they choose—not even minimum wage, let alone union wages—workfare workers (welfare recipients) will soon be replacing public service union members on their jobs. Public service employees will thus be forced onto unemployment (if they can collect under the new unemployment laws) and possible welfare—where they may be able to get their old jobs back but not at the

wages they previously received. They will instead work for whatever the public agency decides to pay them, and they will have to do it or lose their welfare allotment.

In the private sector employers will have to pay only minimum wage for work done by welfare recipients. The resulting savings in labor costs will create increased profits. As profits increase, welfare recipients will be pushed to the front of the employment service lines

where they will be forced to accept any job offered at minimum wage. All workers' wages will consequently be driven down and union safeguards for workers will be destroyed. And all this isn't as remote as it sounds: workfare has started to be implemented in Massachusetts, and it won't take long for other states to follow...

Patricia Buck Wolf
Hill Welfare Moms
New Haven, Conn.

Dear Socialist Worker:

Here is a poem I've titled, "A Good Year for Death."

This is a good year for death.
Times are changing,
Getting hard, getting rough,
Can't cope with this stuff.

Got layed off.
Got a bad cough.
Need some green.
Gotta get mean.

But I'm cool,
I ain't no fool.
I went to school.

I live in the land of good
and plenty,
Yet, I ain't got any.
Gonna get me some.
I don't care how,
I'll take my bow.

I need a good sham.

I'll become the No. 1 flim-flam.
Well, Hell, I don't give a damn.
I am what I am!!!

Don't blame me,
The fault lies with thee.
The government, big business,
The Doctor, the Lawyer,
Yes, the whole of Society.

Alas,
I may die of starvation,
I may get hit by a car.
I may die from an overdose,
or die of drunkenness falling
from a bar.

I may die in jail,
if I can't foot my bail.
I may get shot by you
while breaking into your house.
But anyway,
It's a good year for Death.

C.C.M.Jr.
Gary, IN

I want to join
 I want more
information
about

the International
Socialist
Organization

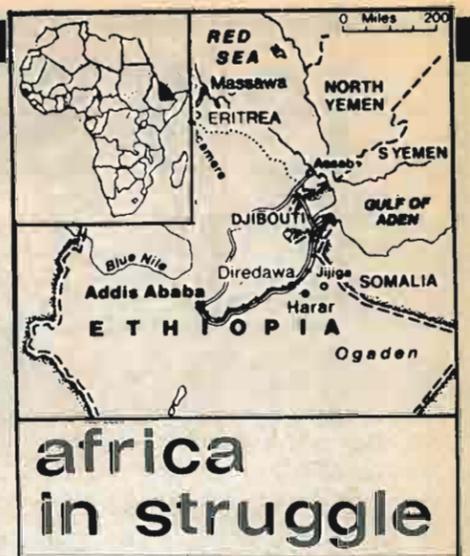
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The Role of Russia in Africa

by
Michael Long



**africa
in struggle**

The role of Russia in exploding Africa has received tremendous attention since its support for the liberation movement (MPLA) which won independence for Angola in 1976. The United States and its allies daily complain about the "Russian threat" to the "stability" of Africa.

In the best traditions of cold war rhetoric, the Western ruling classes accuse Russia and its junior partner, Cuba, of aiding revolution in Africa, thus upsetting the balance of power and threatening the "peace."

Russia itself claims to be the chief anti-imperialist country that supports movements for liberation from Western imperialist domination. Always a part of Stalinist Russia's propaganda, this boast has lacked substance, especially in the wake of revolt-crushing invasions like Czechoslovakia in 1968. The substantial aid for the revolution in Angola gives Russia's anti-imperialist claim renewed substance.

However, neither the Western charge, nor the Russian claim is accurate. Both explanations disguise more than they reveal. For the West the rhetoric is designed to disguise the policies of exploitation that have gone on in Africa since the slave trading days. For Russia and Cuba the support of revolution in Angola is now being used as a smoke screen while they cross to the other side of the barricades to support a reactionary regime in Ethiopia.

In pursuit of its own interests (military bases, natural resources, markets, etc.) the Russian ruling class finds itself supporting liberation movements in some countries, while suppressing them in others. Russian support in Angola and Ethiopia demonstrate this two-faced policy.

ANGOLA

In 1976, Angola won its political independence after nearly two decades of continual armed struggle against foreign colonization. This was accomplished under the leadership of



Eritrean rebels are now on the brink of victory.

the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) which had to fight both the Portuguese colonialists and eventually phoney "liberation" movements backed jointly by South Africa, the US and "People's" China.

No matter what is thought of Russia or Cuba, most supporters of African liberation recognized that the liberation of Angola was an important step toward sparking off revolution in the rest of Southern Africa. The military aid they supplied was important in the MPLA's victory.

Based on its role in Angola, the Russian ruling class boasted of its "progressive" and anti-imperialist role in Africa.

ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia is ruled by a right wing military dictatorship called the Derg which calls itself "Marxist-Leninist."

Led by Mengistu Haile Mariam, the regime massacred 1,500 revolutionary workers in the capital of Addis Ababa on May 1, 1977. The regime brutally imprisons, tortures and executes militant and revolutionary workers and peasants. Its policy of extreme repression puts the Derg in the tradition of its predecessor, the late

Haile Selassie, who ruled until 1974.

Yet, today it is Russia which supports Ethiopia in its war against Eritrean liberation. So far, the regime has received a \$100 million arms agreement from Russia, and both Russian and Cuban "advisors" to train the government's peasant militia in its fight against Eritrean independence. The Russians play the same role in Ethiopia today as the Americans did in the decades before.

How can Moscow one day support a liberation movement in Angola and the next day suppress another in Ethiopia? What does all this have to do with socialism?

IMPERIALISM

The answer lies in understanding the structure and needs of Russian society.

The world is made up of a few empires and the laws of capitalist competition operate between them all. These empires compete for the wealth of the world in the forms of natural resources, markets and sometimes labor.

Though Russia is called "Communist" or "Socialist," it is in reality a state owned capitalist society run by a small ruling class which extracts its wealth from the working class.

As in the US, the Russian rulers need to accumulate wealth leads to foreign expansion and to the creation of an empire—imperialism.

Viewed together, the relationship between the US, Western Europe, and Russia is that of rival companies fighting it out for the wealth of the world. This policy of economic domination requires a strong military empire, strategically located. Just as the US supplies regimes throughout Africa with military support and in return receives military privileges, the Russians do the same. This explains Russian support today for Ethiopia which sits on the vitally strategic "Horn of Africa" with direct access to the Suez Canal, the Red Sea, and the Middle East as a whole.

At the same time, it is to the benefit of Russian imperialism as the challenger in Africa to support a genuine liberation movement in Angola in order to weaken the American hold in that part of Africa, just as the US might attempt to undermine Russia's East European empire.

Russia is not a socialist country. Socialists support the struggles of the oppressed wherever they occur, not just when it fits a particular national interest. No matter what Russia calls itself, its actions prove otherwise.

The workers and peasants of Africa have no alternative in either the imperialism of the US or that of Russia. Both are exploiting empires in a worldwide contest for conquest and domination. Neither can be relied on to end imperialism in Africa, or to bring about a socialist society run by the African working class.

The liberation of Africa will come about only through a working class revolution, a lesson that is being painfully learned.



These Derg troops are trained by Cuban, Russian, and Israeli advisors.

BRIEFS

Today, Lt. Col. Mengistu Haile Mariam, the military dictator of Ethiopia, is a worried man.

In the past few weeks, his army has lost control of much of the North East to rebel forces backed by neighboring Somaliland. At the same time he lives in fear of further military defeat by the Arab-backed Eritrean liberation forces in the north of the country.

The question now seems to be not whether he will be overthrown, but by whom he will be overthrown—the left, led by the EPRP, or the right-wing, pro-American EDU.

The Western press, which used to be uniformly hostile to the Eritrean struggle—which has a long history of links to the Palestinian struggle against Israel—has now started printing stories favorable to the Eritreans.

Meanwhile the Russians and Cubans, who used to help the Eritreans, have now thrown their full weight behind the attempts to crush the struggle. They are behaving in exactly the same cynical way the US did in Vietnam.

The main opposition to the Derg remains the left-wing opposition, which is opposed to the Americans as it is to the Russians.

In Eritrea this means the two main liberation movements, the ELF and the EPLF. Among Ethiopians it means worker based EPRP and its armed front the EPRA.

No doubt the US hopes to pick up the pieces if the Derg can succeed in smashing the left. But this is unlikely.

Although Ethiopia is one of the most backward countries in the world, its working class has shown great fighting capacity and can beat any carve-up by the Russians or Americans.



ISO Summer Schools



John Anderson, Detroit ISO



Bill Hampton



Bernadette Devlin and Anna Palmer, Cincinnati ISO



John Charlton, British SWP



Abbie Brooks, Canadian IS

GERMANTOWN, Ohio—One hundred people participated in the first Summer Conference of the ISO held here the last weekend of July. Midwest ISO members, their families and friends enjoyed two days of socialist education and recreation in the sun of southwest

Ohio. Featured speakers at the conference were Bernadette (Devlin) McCallisky, who spoke on the Struggle in Ireland; John Anderson of the ISO, who talked about organizing auto plants in the '30's; and Bill Hampton, who pre-

sented a film on the murder of his brother, Fred Hampton, a Chicago Black Panther. Julia Reichart, of Dayton NAM also participated with her film, "Union Maids".

Classes were held on the Russian Revolution, State Capitalism, Women and the

Revolutionary Party, U.S. Capitalism Today, Black Workers and Revolution, the Russian Dissidents; Rosa Luxemburg, and Party and Class.

Similar conferences were held in Los Angeles and Seattle in August.

Duncan Hallas to Speak

Duncan Hallas, member of the Central Committee of the SWP (GB) will be coming to the United States in late October.

Hallas has twice been the editor of the International Socialism Journal, and is the

author of numerous pamphlets and articles including the Meaning of Marxism and Party and Class. He will be speaking to ISO branches on Revolutionary Traditions.

For more information contact the local ISO branch.

new pamphlet

A brief history of revolutionary socialism in the United States

Hera Press

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78 pages

\$2.50

Milton Fisk

socialism from below in the united states

The Origins of the International Socialist Organization

FOR WORKERS CONTROL

Workers create all the wealth under capitalism. A socialist society can only be built when workers collectively seize control of that wealth and democratically plan its production and distribution according to human needs instead of profit.

The working class is the key to the fight for socialism. Freedom and liberation will only be achieved through the struggles of workers themselves, organizing and fighting for real workers' power.

REVOLUTION NOT REFORM

The capitalist system cannot be patched up or reformed as some union leaders and liberal politicians say. Capitalism is based on the exploitation of workers. No reforms can do away with this exploitation. The only way workers can

FIGHT OPPRESSION

Capitalism divides the working class. It pits men against women, whites against blacks. Capitalism fosters and uses these divisions to prevent the unity necessary for its destruction. As capitalism moves into crisis, oppressed groups—blacks, women, latins, native americans, youths, gays—suffer most. We support the struggles of these oppressed groups.

We oppose racism in all its forms. We fight segregation in the schools and housing and against racist firings and harassment. We demand freedom for all political prisoners.

We fight for women's liberation. We are for equal pay for all women workers. We fight for an end to forced sterilization and for free abortion. There should be free quality child care for all who need it. We fight for the opening up of jobs for women and an end to sexual harassment and

INTERNATIONALISM

The working class has no nation. Capitalism is international and that is why the struggle for socialism must be world wide. A socialist revolution cannot survive in isolation.

We champion workers' struggles in all countries, from Portugal and Spain to Chile and Puerto Rico, from Palestine and Eastern Europe to China and India. We support all genuine national liberation struggles. We call for victory of the black freedom fighters in Zimbabwe and South Africa. We oppose all forms of imperialism and oppose sending U.S. troops anywhere in the world to impose U.S. interests.

Russia, China, Cuba and Eastern Europe are not socialist countries. These countries are not governed by workers' control but by a small bureaucratic class. A revolutionary movement must be built in these countries to achieve workers' control.

WHERE WE STAND

come to control society and create a system based on freedom and a decent life for all is by overthrowing capitalism and replacing it with revolutionary, democratic socialism.

FOR A WORKERS' GOVERNMENT

The present state apparatus (federal and state governments, the courts, army and police) was developed to maintain the capitalist system. This apparatus cannot be taken over as it stands and converted to serve workers. The working class needs an entirely different kind of state based upon mass democratic councils of workers' delegates.

Supporting the present state apparatus is a vast network of propaganda—newspapers, radio, television, movies. Workers are bombarded daily from all directions with capitalism's point of view. The working class needs its own sources of information. To help meet this need, we are dedicated to building a newspaper that the working class can trust and use in their fight against the present system.

firings. We are for an end to discrimination and harassment of sexual minorities.

We support the independent organization and struggles of oppressed peoples to strengthen the working class struggle for socialism.

FOR RANK AND FILE ORGANIZATION

The unions today are largely business machines that long ago stopped fighting seriously for the interests of the working class. Business union leaders either act as brakes on workers' struggles, or as police, delivering workers into the hands of the bosses. We fight to change this.

To make the unions fight for workers' interests, power must be built on the shop floor. This can only happen if the rank and file organize themselves independently of the union bureaucrats. We work to build rank and file organizations in unions and companies wherever we are employed.

REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

The activity of the ISO is directed toward the initial steps of building a revolutionary party in a working class that is today fragmented and cut off from socialist ideas. Revolutionaries must be involved in the day-to-day struggles of workers and other oppressed groups at the work places, in the unions and in the communities. We build every struggle that will strengthen the self-confidence, organization and socialist consciousness of workers and the oppressed.

As the working class movement gathers strength, the need for revolutionary leadership becomes crucial. We are part of the long process of building a democratic revolutionary party rooted in the working class. Those who agree with our stand and are prepared to help us build toward revolutionary socialism are urged to join us now.

International Socialist Organization

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| National Office | P.O. Box 18037, Cleveland OH 44118 |
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Deborah Roberts Reviews:

AGAINST OUR WILL

Susan Brownmiller's 1975 book, *Against Our Will*, is now in its second year. It is still getting record sales and it is at the top of the reading list for liberal and feminist circles.

The book is popular, first and foremost, because it represents the first systematic, written attempt to deal with the long history and growing

reality of violent sexual assault against women by men.

AGAINST OUR WILL, by Susan Brownmiller, Bantam (paperback), 1976, \$2.75.

Against Our Will reflects both the strengths and the crippling weaknesses of the women's movement of the late

60's and 70's.

As a journalistic record of the crime of rape, the book is a step forward. Brownmiller carefully traces the historical overlapping between individual and group rape on the one hand, and war, slavery and imperialism on the other.

The examples cited from the Vietnam War are among the most horrible. At My Lai,

"three Vietnamese men and a woman were sighted running from a burning hut . . . the men got away but the woman was caught . . . stripped naked and flung over a GI's shoulder . . . The whole 2nd Platoon 'caught her ass,' recalls one GI. 'They all raped her . . . tore her up.' Bleeding badly, the woman later managed to escape."

The book does a good job of describing the role rape played in the institution of slavery—documenting how "black women's sexual integrity was deliberately crushed in order that slavery might profitably endure"—and the systematic rape of Vietnamese girls and women by U.S. forces. Brownmiller begins to draw some essential links between sexism, violence and power.

Yet, this is precisely where Brownmiller fails, because she draws all the wrong lessons. Her program for ending rape is to build an alliance between feminists and the repressive apparatus of the government—the courts and the police.

Brownmiller confuses biology with history, making no distinction between "male" and "oppressor" In her view, all men benefit from the fear all women feel because of man's power to rape.

Rape typifies this society, in which one very small class has the power to own and control most if not all of our lives, in which misery and frustration are the rule and not the exception, in which the ruling ideology of individualism and competition pits the people on the bottom against one another. But for Brownmiller, the fundamental cause of women's oppression in all spheres of life is men's biological capacity to rape women: ". . . we cannot work around the fact that in terms of human anatomy the possibility of forcible intercourse incontrovertibly exists. This single factor may have been sufficient to have caused the creation of the male ideology of rape. When men discovered they could rape, they proceeded to do it."

MISTAKE

From her basic mistake, seeing the fundamental hostility in society arising from men's power to rape women, Brownmiller's program is inevitable: she calls on the

state—the ruling arm of capitalist oppression—to be more sympathetic to women, to deprive men of the "power to rape," and to impose "swift and certain punishment" if they do.

This can be accomplished, in part, by insuring that all police forces are half female: "I am convinced that the battle to achieve parity with men in the critical area of law enforcement will be the ultimate testing ground on which full equality for women will be won or lost."

Because she sees the government as neutral and reformable, Brownmiller also bases much of her argument about rape and who commits it on police and court statistics. As in every other crime, the power of class, sex and race oppression insures that those arrested and convicted are, in large measure, the poor, the minorities, the powerless.

Rape was first made a capital crime in America in the pre-Civil War South. The white man's fear that the black man would seek revenge for his oppression by defiling the white man's "property," his wife or daughter, characterizes racist propaganda today as it did 150 years ago.

Of 455 men legally executed for rape in the United States, 405 of them have been black. No white man has ever been executed for raping a black woman.

REACTIONARY

It's nothing short of reactionary to call for "law and order" as a solution to rape, as Brownmiller does, without confronting the essentially racist and sexist history of this charge. The impact of such a call is to strengthen the enemies of women and the friends of white, male, capitalist domination, and to increase the divisions among white, black and other minority women.

Increased police repression won't stop rape, any more than it stops murder or other violent crimes spawned by this system.

The only way to fight sexism in all of its hideous forms is to build a unified and independent women's movement. The success of this movement depends on its ability to spread its base far beyond the present confines of the women's movement, to make working alliances with all other victims of oppression and exploitation. □

THE OTHER MARX

••
"I hope they bury me next to a straight man"



The Marx Brothers made funny films. Their films debunked the pompous authority and the establishment.

They made millions laugh and helped many to see through the cardboard of capitalism's facade.

The films were not glowing examples of revolutionary fervor showing the need to build a revolutionary party. Many contained some explicitly or implicitly sexist and racist jokes. They were made to make money.

Nonetheless, they reflected the anarchy of the driving force behind the Marx Brothers, Groucho (Julius) Marx. He was the most verbal of the team, with his quick wit developed from his days in the music halls.

To an audience throwing pen-

nies at the act: "If you people are going to throw coins, I wish to hell you'd throw something a little more substantial, like quarters or dollars."

After the Brothers made success on the stage, they made success in films, though Groucho liked his anonymity off-stage:

Policeman: "If you're one of the Marx Brothers, say something funny."

Groucho: "If you're a policeman, let's see you arrest someone."

REFUSED

When refused admission to a beach club on racial grounds, he replied: "My son's only half Jewish, would it be all right if he went in the water up to his knees?"

And his often quoted retort on leaving another club: "I don't care to belong to any social organization that would accept me as a member."

He made a lot of money but found the type of film the companies were getting him too stifling to continue. He went over to television, then retirement.

Before he died, last month, his friends, family and mistress were fighting over his money and his competence to handle it.

His will contained a clause saying that anyone who contested the will would get only one dollar. "That's what they called a sanity clause." □

By MARTIN ADAMS

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It's One Struggle

ELWOOD, IN—The strike at the Essex Wiring Company here continues.

The dispute, which began over contract issues in April, has been marked by considerable violence, including the shooting of Carol Frye, one of the picketers.

The workers are members of UAW local 1663. 85% of them are women.

They are paid \$2.76 an hour, and Essex has offered them 63¢ more over the next three years. The strikers consider this to be an insult.

••

North of the border in Dunneville, Ontario, another group of workers is fighting Essex.

Since late May, 380 workers, mostly women, have been on strike against Essex International.

The issue—paltry wages. They make \$2.84 per hour and face unending harassment on the job.

The strikers have been forced by an injunction to limit pickets to three per gate and a total of nine. Unfortunately, their union, UAW local 1383, has agreed to abide by the courts ruling.

••

Meanwhile, in Ayrshire, in Scotland, 130 women and 30 men have occupied their factory. And guess who owns it? Essex International.

The strike was provoked when the management tried to introduce time and motion studies without consulting the union.

The Scots are now attempting to get the support of Essex workers in yet another country—Derry, Northern, Ireland.

••

Essex International makes components for automobiles. It is a subsidiary of an even larger multinational conglomerate, the huge United Technologies, a \$30 billion a year enterprise.

••

In each case, Essex seems prepared to stick out a long strike. And, in each case, the workers are represented by unions that treat them as second-class citizens—and are also responsible for the sweetheart contracts in the first place.

••

The Essex strikers deserve support. They are fighting an international corporation with enormous resources. They cannot win in isolation. This is the real meaning of the socialist principle—**Workers of the world unite!** □

The Miners Fight On



Coal miners stage protest in Washington, D.C. on August 5.

CHARLESTON, W.VA.—Most of the Appalachian coal miners are now back at work. They are bitter, however, and with pickets still shutting down mines in central West Virginia, there is the possibility that the wildcat strike might continue.

The strike began in June when rank and file miners learned that health benefits for some 300,000 UMW members and their families would be cut.

It reached its peak in mid-August when there were 80,000

miners on strike in five states.

This is the third summer in succession of massive wildcat strike movements in the coalfields. The strike this year has been smaller than that of August, 1976, when 120,000 miners struck to protest court injunctions.

Nevertheless, this strike may prove to be equally important.

CONTRACT

In December, the national contract between the UMW and

the coal operators expires, and many miners now consider that these latest wildcats are simply the prelude to the struggle to come.

None of the union's top leaders, including Harry Patrick, who was recently defeated in a bid to replace Arnold Miller as UMW president, has supported their strikes.

Miller and the union's executive board have said, however, that they will consider calling a national strike if the

companies do not restore the cuts within 60 days.

Most rank and file miners consider this to be just one more manoeuvre by a leadership which has proved itself to be thoroughly incompetent.

So, many miners are now preparing for a strike in December. At the same time, there are miners who would just as soon start now. In the words of a District 17 miner, "What is the point of waiting. There is nothing left of this contract anyway." □

500 March for Striking Mechanics



SEATTLE, WA—500 people demonstrated in downtown Seattle on August 6 to support a strike of auto mechanics and other workers employed by the city's auto dealers.

The rally was called by the King County Labor Council (AFL-CIO) and was also endorsed by the Teamsters.

The strike has been going on since May, and the auto dealers have refused to give an inch.

The main issues are wages and benefits. The employers have offered far less than is necessary to keep up with inflation. The workers are

determined not to accept this type of offer.

The dealers have begun hiring scabs but the strike is cutting business.

SUPPORT

The demonstrators marched to several car dealers to give the strikers support. Before the march, several labor officials and a city councilman addressed the crowd, attacking the stubbornness of the dealers.

This is the first time in memory that the King County Labor Council has called such a rally in support of a striking local union. □

A New Anti-busing Rampage

LOUISVILLE, KY—A Labor Day anti-busing march in Louisville's South End blocked traffic for several hours and resulted in serious injury to a nine year old black youth.

The injury occurred when protesters threw a brick through the windshield of the car the child was riding in.

The marchers repeatedly attacked blacks driving down the Dixie Highway, where the demonstration took place.

Although police were present in the immediate area, no arrests were made.

Several whites were also

attacked when they refused to honk their horns in support of the demonstration.

SMALLER

The march was called to commemorate the second anniversary of the massive anti-busing demonstrations that occurred when busing began in 1975.

Although this demonstration was smaller—only about 350 people participated—it shows that the anti-busing elements continue to be a serious racist element in Louisville. □

Revolutionary Feminism



By BARBARA WINSLOW

A pamphlet that traces working women's struggles for liberation and socialism.

Order today from **Socialist Worker**. Send 75¢ to P.O. Box 18037, Cleveland, Ohio 44118.

US Hosts Pinochet

The Butcher of Chile Comes to Washington

This month, Augusto Pinochet, the right wing butcher of the Chilean working class, and a score of other Latin American dictators, will be parading through Washington

D.C. Pinochet is expected to have a private meeting with that great advocate of 'human rights,' Jimmy Carter. Then he has been invited to witness the

signing of the Panama Canal Treaty.

COUP

This month also marks the anniversary of the overthrow

of the Allende government by Pinochet.

Since September, four years ago, thousands of Chilean workers, students, intellectuals and socialists have 'disappeared,' been murdered, forced into exile, brutally tortured or jailed for indefinite periods of time.

For the rest of the working class, Pinochet's regime has meant the smashing of trade unions and all other forms of workers' organization—slashing of wages, high unemployment, raging inflation and an atmosphere of constant terror.

DINA

The U.S. press now says that Pinochet is 'moderating' his policies. As a result of international pressure and also to gain favor with the U.S., Pinochet recently dissolved the DINA—the secret police.

The DINA (Direccion de Inteligencia Nacional) was behind the Chilean atrocities. It's acts of barbarism in places called 'The Palace of Laughter' or 'The Discoteque' made Chile an international pariah, with a few exceptions, notably the

U.S.

The DINA operated outside of Chile as well. It has been accused of the bombing murder of Chilean socialist Orlando Letelier in Washington D.C. last September.

The DINA has now been replaced by the CNI (Central National Intelligence). However, according to one Chilean, this new organization is "just a little rouge and mascara in the face of a deadly organization."

IMPERIALISM

The overthrow of Allende's government was aided by American imperialism in order to protect the profits of American corporations such as ITT and Anaconda Copper which had large investments there. Under Nixon's government, Pinochet's thugs met with CIA agents to arrange the coup.

Today the State Department is once again trying to give a 'liberal' image to their Latin American policy. But the policy remains reactionary. Jimmy Carter is simply following in the footsteps of Nixon and Kissinger—and of those before them. □



Political prisoners in Chile

Support the Farmworkers



BOSTON, MASS—Supporters of the United Farm Workers staged a 24-hour vigil outside of the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance offices in downtown Boston on August 18-19.

CML invests in Coachella Growers, the largest citrus fruit ranch in California, which for almost two years has managed to avoid negotiating a contract with the UFW there.

Hundreds of people witnessed the events of the vigil, which included dramatic readings, songs, speeches and the presentation of a statement to Connecticut Mutual.

The farmworkers are seeking wages of \$3.35 an hour. The Chairman of CML—Edward Bates—is estimated to receive \$90 an hour. □

VICTORY FOR DAWSON 5 BUT THE FRAME-UP CONTINUES



DAWSON, GA—The Dawson Five frame up continues. Recently, however, Circuit Court Judge Leonard Farkas has said that the 'confessions' of two of the Dawson defendants were inadmissible as evidence in the upcoming murder trial.

The two—Johnny Jackson and J.D. Davenport—were

set free on their own recognition on August 29, after 19 months in jail. The District Attorney announced he would no longer seek the death penalty but hurriedly added that he would nevertheless seek long prison sentences.

There is no doubt that this whole trial is part and parcel of the racist attacks on black people both in Terrel County where the defendants live, and around the country.

CRUX

The 'confessions', which the prosecution considers to be the 'crux' of its evidence against the five, were obtained by sheer intimidation.

A former Dawson police officer, who witnessed the event, testified that the deputy sheriff drew his gun, cocked it, and held it between the eyes of one of the defendants in order to obtain the desired confession. This same police officer testified that police

harassment of black people goes on simply as a routine.

All this—surprise, surprise—takes place right down the road from Jimmy Carter's home.

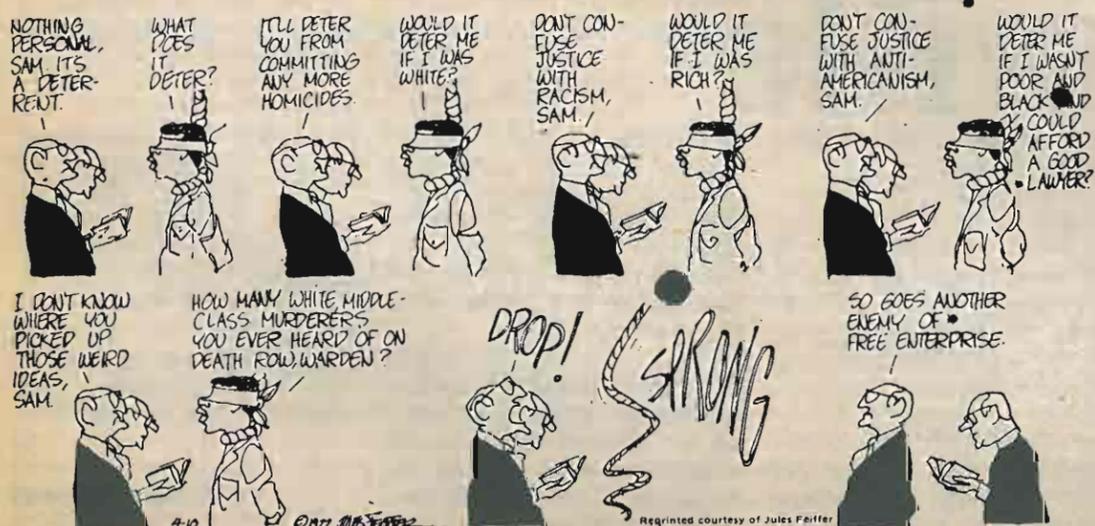
Earlier last month, Defense Attorney Millard Farmer moved during pre-trial motions that all charges be dropped because of the brutality involved in obtaining confessions.

Alongside this motion, he asked that the confessions be made invalid as evidence. The then Circuit Court Judge Walter Geer turned down the first motion and then, on grounds on poor health dropped the case. His replacement, Farkas, decided in favor of the second.

The decision by Farkas is clearly a victory for the Dawson Five and anti-racists all over the country. As yet, however, the case is not yet over. They still have to go through a disgusting frame up trial.

The Dawson Five must continue to get support until all charges are dropped. □

Feiffer



Philadelphia Teamsters

Fired

PHILADELPHIA—At the beginning of August, custodial workers at the University of Pennsylvania were called separately into the Personnel Office and told that, regrettably due to the need for economies, they were required to take a pay cut of \$1.23 per hour.

The 385 workers, all recently enrolled members of Teamster Local 115 refused. They were instantly fired.

IMPRESSIVE

The solidarity and determination of the workers has been most impressive. Pickets were immediately mounted and four weeks after picketing began, every one of the 385 were still sharing picketing duties.

The University Trustees—all powerful Pennsylvania business men—not required to make sacrifices in the interests of "essential economies", hired hourly paid scabs from as far away as Northern New Jersey.

The scabs' incompetence and unreliability has already led to a severe decline in safety and service on campus and hopes among the pickets are high. A mass picket of Philadelphia workers, students and academics was to be mounted on the first day of the new school year.

The University of Philadelphia trustees' action is particularly disgusting, since it affects largely long service workers with as much as 34 years service in the same job, workers whose pension rights were threatened by their decision to picket and who can have little hope of finding fresh employment.

However it should not be seen as an isolated act of vindictiveness. Service workers throughout the U.S. and indeed many Western countries are currently taking the brunt of the bosses' crisis. Only a determined rank and file battle can save jobs and conditions. □

NAZIS ARE KILLERS

For two hundred blacks who attended their church's Labor Day picnic in Charlotte, North Carolina, the afternoon turned out to be one of terror.

A lone sniper, wearing an armband with a Nazi swastika, opened fire, killing one man, wounding three others—one critically. The Nazi then shot himself.

Undoubtedly, this shooting will be condemned as the act of a lunatic. But condemnation is not enough. The Nazis are out to build a mass racist movement, to smash trade unionists and socialists—in order to save this decaying system. □

1,000 March for Abortion Rights



BOSTON, Mass.—Shouting "1-2-3-4—defend abortion for the poor; 5-6-7-8—get the money from the state," 1,000 demonstrators marched in downtown Boston on August 8. The demonstration was sponsored by the Abortion Action Coalition. It was part of an intensive campaign against the

Doyle-Flynn Bill now in the State Senate. This bill would cut off all public funds for abortions in Massachusetts. It now appears, partially as a result of this campaign, that the bill will be vetoed by the Governor and that there are sufficient votes in the Senate to sustain the veto.

Racist Arsenal Uncovered in Louisville

26 sticks of dynamite, 97 hand grenades, 17,000 rounds of ammunition and one pistol—all buried in barrels—were uncovered by FBI agents on August 17 near Shepherdsville, Kentucky.

The FBI issued a statement saying that the warrant to search Smith's Landfill and Private Rifle range, the site where the munitions were found, "was obtained as a result of an extensive continuing investigation into the

activities of a local radical anti-busing group."

Robert DePrez, the leader of a local anti-busing organization, has demanded that the FBI either name the group it is investigating or retract its statement. He claims that the FBI is giving all anti-busing groups "a bad name".

POLARIZED

Regardless of what the FBI says or does, anti-busing groups have already earned

themselves a "bad name". For two years they prevented a peaceful transition to integrated education in Louisville. For over 2 years they have polarized the city and attempted to terrorize its black population.

Time and inevitable defeat have finally taken the wind out of busing opponents' sails. School started this year on August 30 with virtually no problems. One brief demonstration of 10 people was held

and a few flags were waved, but no violence awaited the children this year. Attendance in the city schools was 89% of the projected enrollment, far greater than in 1975 and 76.

It looks like this round of the fight is over. But the racists are no doubt gearing up for their next campaign. They aren't armed for nothing. □

by Christina Bergmark