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# Houston 12 get support from La Raza Unida Party

By TIM REUSING  
HOUSTON, Texas, Sept. 21—The Raza Unida Party (RUP) of Texas opened its state convention today at the Whitehall Hotel in downtown Houston. Attending were 300 delegates plus observers. Also attending was the Houston 12 Defense Committee which was allowed to set up a table at the convention in an effort to gain the support of Raza Unida members. RUP is a predominantly Mexican-American party formed 4 years ago in the southwestern U.S. In 1972 Raza Unida's Texas gubernatorial candidate won more than 214,000 votes, or 6 percent of the total, which nearly threw the election to a Republican in what has always been a Democratic Party stronghold.

Frightened by this large outpouring of the Chicano vote, the Texas legislature recently passed a law saying a minority party must get at least 20 percent of the vote in the next state election in order to automatically remain on the ballot in future elections. Any party getting less than 20 percent of the vote will be forced to go through the lengthy ordeal of collecting thousands of names on petitions before each election.

RUP now has chapters in 28 states and the party's lightning growth reflects the ever-increasing consciousness of the millions of Chicanos living as an oppressed national minority within the confines of the imperialist U.S.

The Houston 12 defendants (8 of whom are Chicano) are 12 young men who were arrested and brutally beaten by police at a demonstration opposing the U.S. role in the Middle East during last year's October War. They have already gained broad support among the working and oppressed population in Houston, especially within the Chicano community. Their attendance at the RUP convention greatly helped widen this support among the Chicano population across Texas. A resolution supporting the Houston 12 was put forward at the convention. Also over 100 delegates and observers signed letters condemning the police brutality against the 12 and demanding that Mayor Hofheinz drop all the charges.

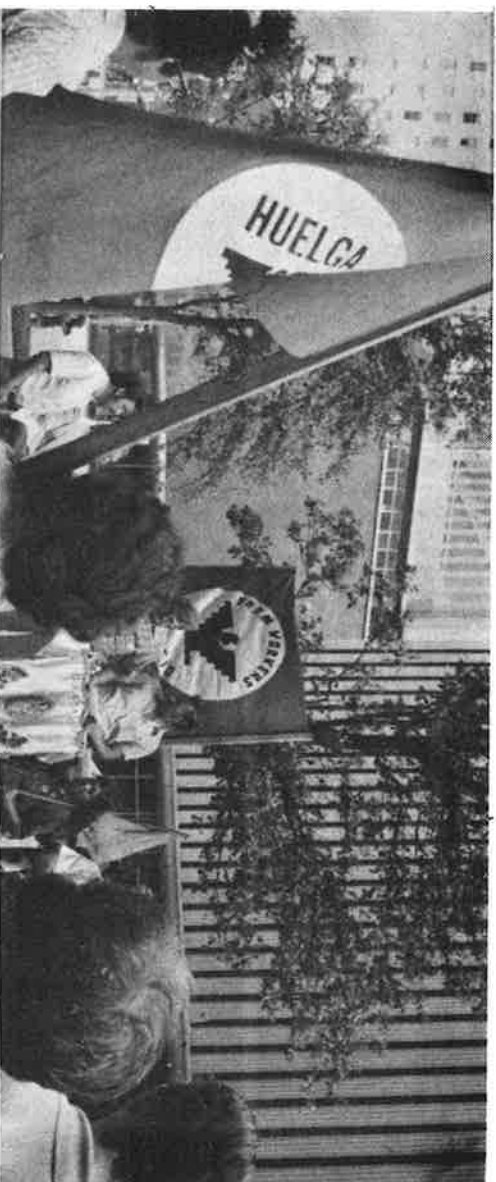
**ACTIONS PLANNED IN HOUSTON**  
The trial date for the five

defendants facing charges of "assault with intent to murder a police officer" is set for November 11 and the defense committee in Houston is planning several actions to expose the vicious and racist nature of the frame-up.

On Oct. 9, 1974, the first anniversary of the arrest, members of the Houston 12 Defense Committee will go to city hall to confront Mayor Fred Hofheinz and the city council demanding freedom for the 12 and an end to police brutality in Houston. Preliminary motions are scheduled for the next two days, October 10 and 11.

On Saturday, October 12, the defense committee is calling for a major march and demonstration. The political theme of this action will be to indict the profit-mad oil monopolies located in Houston, to expose Mayor Hofheinz as a puppet of the oil monopolies and as a breaker of all his campaign promises, and to demand freedom for the Houston 12.

The march is scheduled to get underway at 12 noon on October 12. The assembly point is at Allens Landing in Houston. The Houston 12 Defense Committee urges all progressive people to come. **Free the Houston 12!**



United Farmworker members and supporters in Houston condemn Tenneco's ownership of nonunion farmland. WW photo.

## Tenneco's anti-union policies protested at Farmworker march, picket in Houston

HOUSTON, Sept. 21—Over 100 farmworkers and supporters gathered in Eastwood Park today and marched on the Tenneco building in downtown Houston. Tenneco is a huge conglomerate which owns thousands of acres of nonunionized farmland in California and other states. The United Farmworkers are currently

waging an intensive battle against this agribusiness in their unionization drive. The march proceeded along a 3-mile course on McKinney Ave. to downtown Houston and was accompanied by such chants such as, "Boycott lettuce, boycott grapes," "Boycott the wine that Gallo makes" and "Farmworkers si, Tenneco

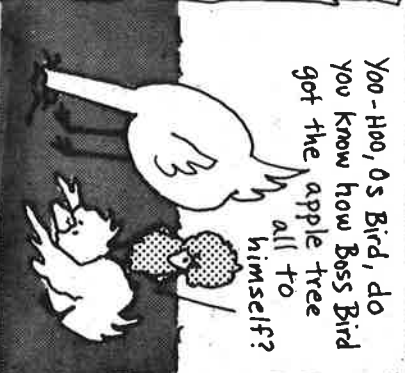
no." A picket line was set up at the Tenneco building followed by a short rally. During the rally, the farmworkers attached an indictment to the walls of the Tenneco building exposing Tenneco for its crimes against working people and demanding an end to its union-busting activities.

## THE CREDIT CRUNCH or "rotten to the core"

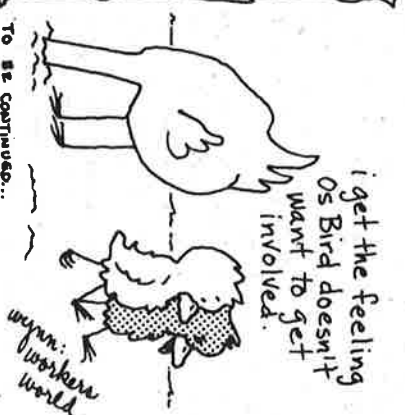
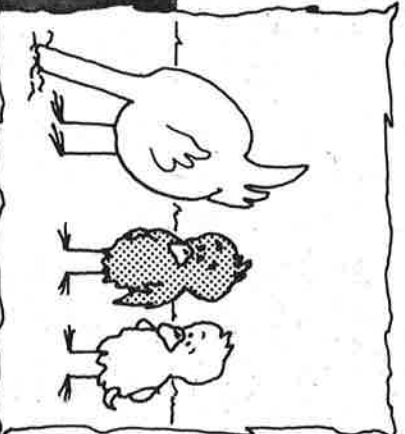
Deep in debt after having to obtain credit from Boss Bird to feed their family, the birds comb the forest in search of answers as to how Boss Bird came to control the best tree in the forest. The birds question everyone they meet . . .



Hello, Os Bird, Can you come up a minute?



Yoo-hoo, Os Bird, do you know how Boss Bird got the apple tree all to himself?



I get the feeling Os Bird doesn't want to get involved.

To Be Continued...

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# The Steelworkers' convention and the radical opposition

By VINCE COPELAND  
NEW YORK, Sept. 30—The United Steelworkers Convention held in Atlantic City this month was an important event if only because it showed widespread opposition to the membership dues increase and a fat salary hike for the already overpaid president, I.W. Abel.

It was especially important because some delegates were bold enough to propose an end to the anti-communist clause in the union's constitution. (This proposition, unfortunately, was heavily defeated—especially with the help of 700 paid staff representatives who as usual wangled credentials from small locals they "service" and acted as hand-raisers and hatchmen for Abel.)

But it was also important because it elicited a relatively new kind of opposition—a series of more or less radical pickets and demonstrations outside the convention hall. And that is worth commenting upon here.

**ELECTED DELEGATES AND FIGHTING REPRESENTATIVES**  
Generally speaking, there are no absolute rules for tactics in the class struggle. And this is even more true for the inner-union struggle.

The 300,000 workers in basic steel and the 1,300,000 other workers in the union had practically no voice in the convention hall in Atlantic City. And even in a much more militant period it will be difficult—in spite of "fair elections," for their feelings and interests to be fully represented there.

But when the revolutionaries in the plants gain the confidence of the mass of workers—through struggle, and more struggle—the workers will find ways of getting this representation.

Where it is impossible to get enough elected delegates, the workers will hold their own departmental meetings and have special elections. They will take up collections for expenses, for travel by bus or car, and accommodations at fleabag hotels, etc.

They could send several hundred "delegates" to Atlantic City that way—have signs from each local and each department and so on, and so on. They could camp out on the boardwalk and appeal to the official delegates with slogans, chants, etc.

And in order to show up the racism of the United Steelworkers top executive board (38 members—all white), they could elect a 38-member steering committee—all Black.

Does this mean there can be no protest until it is on such a massive level? No. But it does mean that the protest begins in the plant—and it begins as a protest against the company, no matter how small a protest, utilizing first the more or less legal weapons provided by the union, but then escalating the struggle to such a level that the bureaucracy must either change its ways and join it or be discredited and swept away.

**THE RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE PROTESTORS**

There is no class law preventing a small number from picketing the convention, however. All honest workers have a right to protest against a bureaucratic policy within their unions. And they have the class right to make that protest

physically known, whether inside their own delegated convention or outside it.

But the question is also one of tactics and approach: how to do it.

The newspaper Daily World (speaking for the revisionist CP) thought that the protesters on the Boardwalk were "ultra-left" and "provocative," and that they permitted the bureaucratic Abel to identify the more serious opposition within the auditorium with the "radical" opposition outside.

It is true that Abel made a vicious red-baiting attack on the various oppositionists outside. And it is true that his intention was to link them up with the opposition inside the hall. But it is extremely doubtful if any votes were changed as a result of this.

However, the group led by the self-styled (in banners)

"Revolutionary Union" did run down the side of the auditorium banging at windows and doors.

They did chant and yell as though they were addressing an assembly of the capitalist class rather than a convention of elected delegates (however conservative) of the Steelworkers Union.

Not one of them was a delegate to the convention as far as could be seen. And if there were a few steelworkers among the 120 or so in the crowd, that could not be detected by their appearance or their demeanor.

They were booed by several delegate onlookers (who might very well have been right-wingers, but the atmosphere created by RU made it rather difficult to raise up any cheers to counter the boos).

The RU group was all white as far as this writer could see. The

steel delegates, although not fully representative of the Black workers in the plants, were at least 10 percent Black—numbering at least 400 or so.

**A DIFFERENT APPROACH**

Earlier in the day, a group led by RAFT (Rank And File Team, an opposition caucus centered in Youngstown, Ohio) held a picket protest, which by comparison with RU's was the soul of working class integrity and the acme of tactical wisdom.

However, there were only three or four actual delegates in the picket—including James Davis, chairman of the Ad Hoc Caucus, an all-Black group, also centered in Youngstown. (No other members of this caucus seem to have been in the RAFT protest rally, although there were several Black workers

who participated.)

Although the RAFT group conducted themselves well, they showed weakness rather than strength. That is, they showed the relative weakness of a body purporting to be a nationwide opposition in the steel union with only three or four delegates to the 4,000 delegate convention.

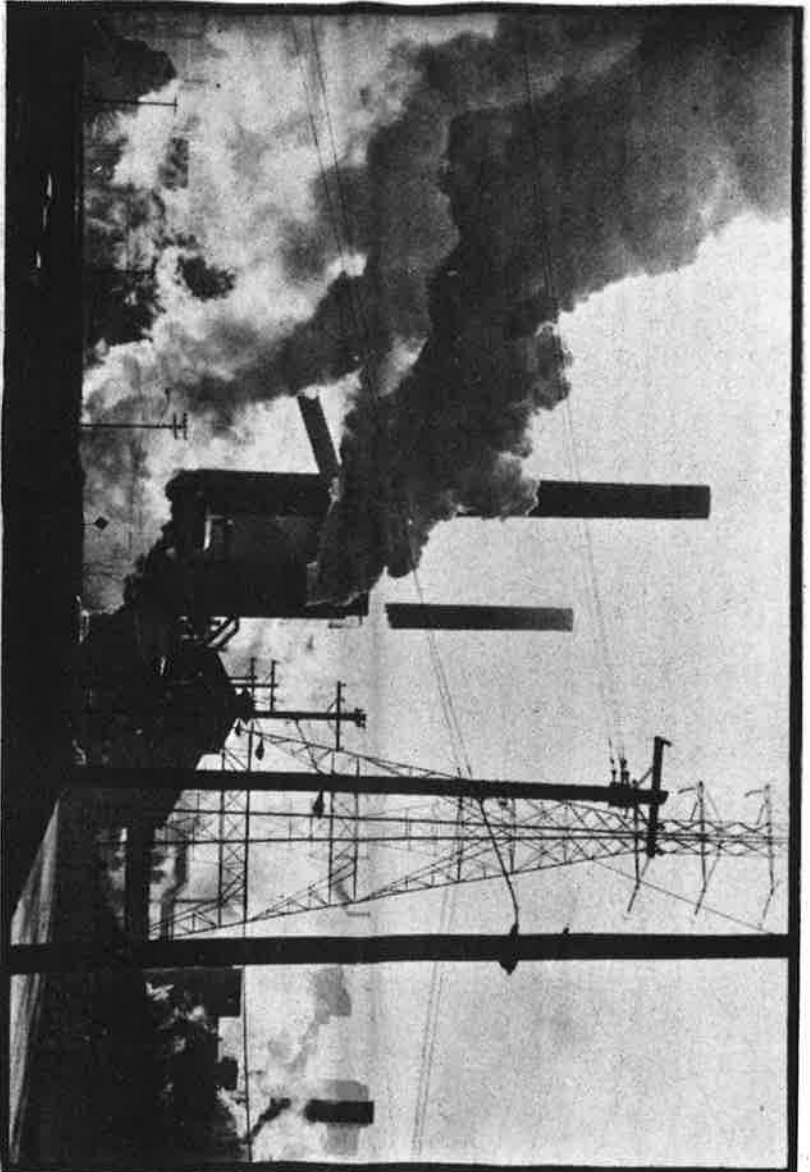
And the fact that they beefed themselves up with 40 or 50 non-delegates, even though some might have been steelworkers and all were more or less working class in character, only made their weakness more glaring.

Both demonstrations centered their protests on Abel's 6-year no-strike pledge and the so-called "consent agreement." The latter provides substantial seniority gains for Black workers but takes away the right to sue the company for past discrimination—in return for a relatively small lump-sum settlement.

The National Steelworkers Rank & File Committee, another caucus—based in Lorain, Ohio, and with some scattered strength in other places—played it more cautiously. They were progressive, of course, and praised by the Daily World. Having a few more delegates, they had a little strength on the floor of the convention—although not necessarily because they were more cautious outside.

There are some very big issues in the steel union. And the top bureaucrats are wrong on practically all of them from racism to the right to strike.

But important as conventions and legal bodies are, the big questions like racism and communism will be settled in a different arena than Atlantic City. And the right to strike, which has been given away by I.W. Abel, will be won back by—striking.



Steel plant, Cleveland, Ohio. The right to strike will be won by striking.

## UPS workers continue strike despite betrayal by International

By A MEMBER, TEAMSTERS LOCAL 804

NEW YORK, Sept. 28—The United Parcel Service (UPS) drivers, loaders, and sorters who work in the metropolitan New York area and Long Island are holding firm in their strike against the largest trucking company in the U.S.

Teamsters Local 804 is in the fifth week of a battle to protect the jobs of the full-time inside workers against the company demand to hire underpaid part-timers without restriction, as UPS is doing throughout the country under contracts negotiated at the beginning of the year through the Teamsters International for the 45,000 UPS package handlers outside of New York City.

Many of the 200,000 parcels transported daily by Local 804 members are being taken to the Post Office, which has built up a month backlog of parcel post deliveries. But a large number of packages are being taken to UPS terminals in New Jersey and Connecticut.

Not only is Local 804 up against the entire nationwide UPS system, but the Teamsters International is deliberately allowing UPS to use other Teamster Locals to scab on Local 804.

**FITZSIMMONS PLAYS DUMB TO SCABBING**

On August 29, the second day of the strike, Teamsters International Vice-President Joseph Terrotola, who heads the Eastern Conference of Teamsters, sent a telegram ordering Local 804 to remove all pickets from New Jersey, after Local 804 Business Agent Edward Dougherty was crushed to death under the wheels of a UPS trailer truck that crashed through a Local 804 line there.

Local 804 sent a return telegram to Teamsters General President Frank Fitzsimmons explaining in detail how Local 177 members in New Jersey are being used by UPS to process parcels normally handled by Local 804 members and asking for permission to

reestablish the New Jersey picketing.

Instead, the International tried to dodge the question by asking UPS to put an embargo on receiving from New York City businesses. UPS proceeded to switch to using Connecticut terminals to receive parcels brought there from New York.

On September 18, the Local 804 Executive Board met with Fitzsimmons at the International headquarters in Washington, D.C. Fitzsimmons refused to accept the clear evidence of scabbery in photos and first-hand testimony and turned a deaf ear to the pleas of Local 804 for support against the giant UPS corporation.

Now Local 804 has come up with photostats of the actual pickup record sheets of New York shipments received in Connecticut, obtained through the ingenuity of a couple of stewards. But the Local 804 leadership is not counting on these indisputable documents to change the monkey business of

Vince Copeland worked at the Bethlehem Steel plant in Lackawanna, N.Y., for many years. He was steward, chief steward, top grievance committee man, recording secretary, editor of Local 2601 News, and was the leader of several wildcat strikes in the blast furnace department. When he was fired, 17,000 workers defended him in a plant-wide wildcat.

**LOCAL 804 STRATEGY**

UPS is trying to inflict a crushing defeat on Local 804, with an assist from Fitzsimmons. The company is taking a no-compromise position because it has the rest of the operation working against the New York City strikers. Fitzsimmons is looking the other way at scabbing by other UPS Teamster locals because the Local 804 strike is in opposition to the contract terms negotiated for those other locals by the International.

But as long as Local 804 abides by the International Constitution, the International must pay strike benefits of \$55 a week that amount to more than \$100,000 weekly for the entire 3,700 strikers. In 10 weeks, that's more than \$1 million.

If the Local 804 leadership with the support of the rank-and-file holds firm against the job-elimination designs, sooner or later the overpaid misleadership of the Teamsters International will decide that the only way to settle the strike and stop the drain on "their" treasury will be to support Local 804 for real.

# How can progressive forces combat racist frenzy in 'liberal' Boston?

By ALAN BALSAM  
BOSTON, Sept. 25—At around 4 a.m. this morning, a force of 300 police from South Boston armed with M-16s, police dogs, and helicopters and dressed in full riot gear invaded the Black community at the Columbia Point projects. They stationed themselves on roofs and took over the People's Center, which had served as the coordinating center for community self-defense against attacks by white racists over the last few days.

In occupying the People's Center, the police viciously attacked Brother Sneed, who was staffing, and a pregnant woman who was present. Brother Sneed was charged with assault and the woman taken to a hospital, where she remains in satisfactory condition. The community remains organized for its own defense and is demanding that the invading police force be removed and that all charges be dropped.

## POLICE SPUR ON RACISTS

This incident starkly reveals the real attitude of the ruling powers in this traditionally "liberal" city toward the oppressed Black community. After several weeks of the most virulent racist mobilization seen in the northeast in recent memory, focusing on the school busing issue, it is the Black people and not the frenzied white racists who are under police attack!

In the area of South Boston, where this racist and fascist-leaning movement has drawn its deepest support, there have been scores of vicious attacks on Black people, especially children, with the tacit and often active complicity of the Boston police.

The racist mobilization comes on the heels of a recent ruling by Judge Arthur Garrity admitting that Boston has maintained a segregated dual system. The ruling followed a 9-year battle by Black community groups to uphold the Racial Imbalance Law, implementation of which has been thwarted by the Boston School Committee and other city agencies. The court ruling maximizes burden placed on the Black community. (For a detailed background of the Racial Imbalance Law and the role of the School Committee, see *Workers World*, Aug. 9, 1974.)

In the days preceding the opening of schools on September 12, racist elements led by the likes of Louise Day Hicks mobilized demonstrations and car caravans against busing and against the democratic rights of Black and Spanish-speaking people to an equal education.

One such demonstration of 10,000 people on Monday, September 9, received national attention. Fascists openly agitated within the demonstration and speakers from ROAR (Restore Our Alienated Rights) and other anti-busing elements called for a white boycott of the schools as well as for an organized presence of white racists at the high schools where integrated classes were to begin. Demonstrators attacked Senator Edward Kennedy and his bland form of liberalism when he arrived to address the crowd. The demonstration ended with chants of "white power" and the trashing of some buildings in Boston's

Government Center.

## FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

The first day of school was marked by scores of white parents and students attacking buses carrying Black children. Many Black parents kept their children home, fearing racial violence. The heaviest attacks occurred in South Boston where at least ten children were hurt. Attacks spread from the schools into the community.

The white boycott was estimated to be 67 percent effective, but the boycott of Roxbury High School by white students to be bused from South Boston was almost complete.

In the aftermath of the first days of school, the police were praised by many liberals, with the highest compliments emanating from the office of Mayor White. In fact, however, the police did little or nothing as crowds of up to 400 people gathered outside South Boston High School preparing to stone Black children. The cops only moved to disperse the crowd after the stonings occurred and when the cops found themselves under attack.

The second school day saw a crowd of 300 to 500 people gather by the Old Colony projects near South Boston High. A marked decrease in attendance by Black students was evident, obviously because of the

violence of the previous day. Buses being escorted through the crowds by police were stoned and several Black children were hurt. The police made no attempt to reroute these school buses away from the racist mob, and the crowd was only dispersed after the stonings had occurred. Racist attacks continued through the day as an army of police moved into the South Boston community.

Over the weekend, Mayor White virtually declared martial law, banning congregations of more than three people in one place. On Monday morning, September 16, an anti-busing rally was organized at South Boston High School. It has since been learned that the Muller's gang, a group which controls organized crime in the white, Irish neighborhood of South Boston, assumed an active role in building the demonstration.

On Tuesday evening, September 17, the media were announcing that the Ku Klux Klan was mobilizing forces from Louisiana to come to Boston specifically to organize the white community around the busing issue. There is no doubt that the mood within South Boston is fascist-leaning. The streets are spray-painted with KKK graffiti as well as racist slogans and swastikas. Blacks are hanged in

effigy on the streets, and on at least one occasion children paraded around in makeshift Klan costumes. But the actual arrival of the Klan could be the factor which crystallizes the racist elements into a much more organized and dangerous force.

## RACIST ATTACKS ESCALATE

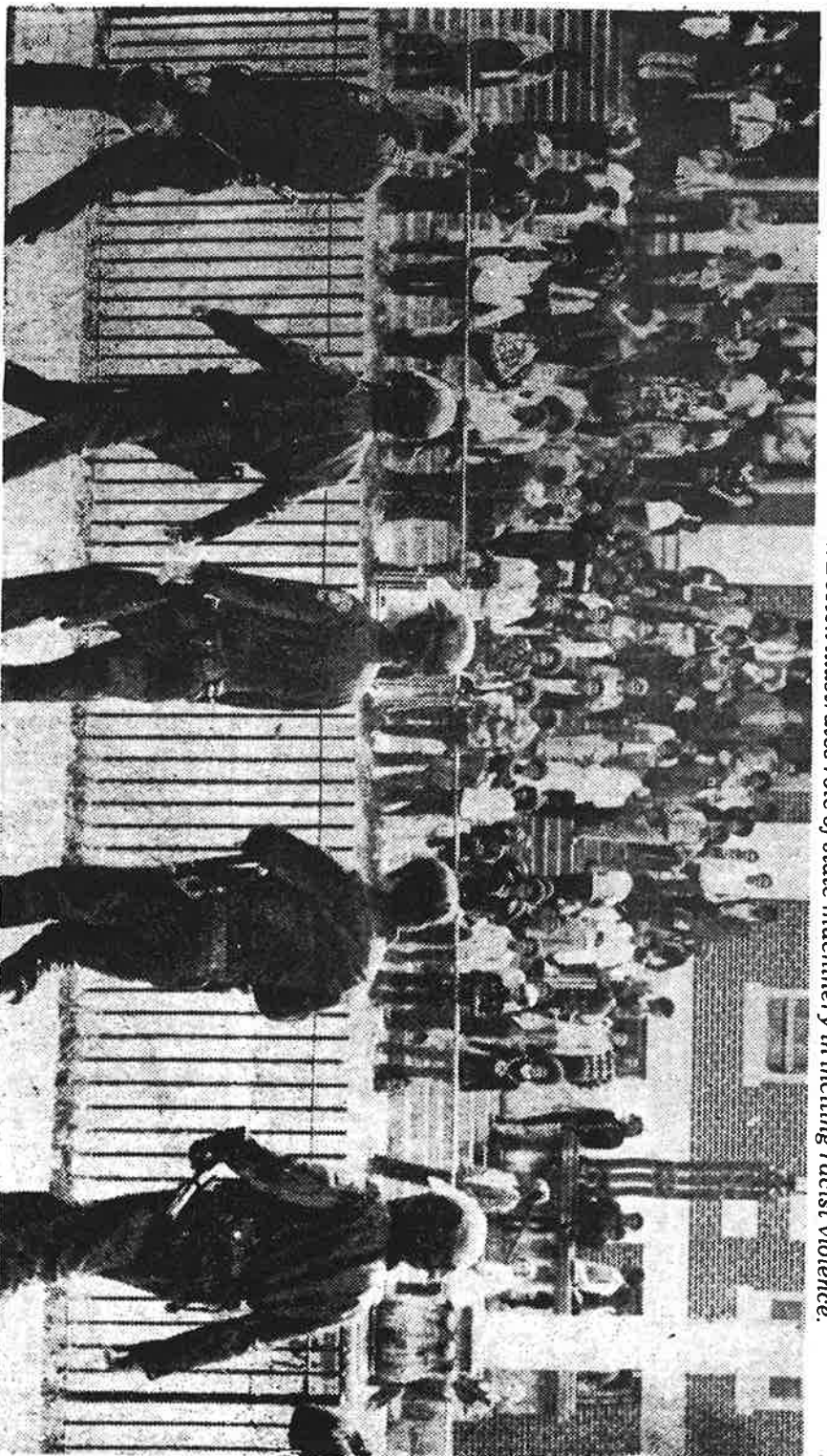
Racist incidents have continued through the second and third weeks of school with confrontations occurring at Hyde Park High School, East Boston, Charlestown, and Columbia Point. For days, white racists had been entering the predominantly Black Columbia Point housing projects shouting racist slogans and provoking residents. On Saturday, September 21, ROAR and other anti-busing groups and politicians mobilized a demonstration against the Boston Globe, a newspaper which is located in front of the projects. During the anti-busing demonstration, shots were fired into the housing project, prompting residents to take immediate defensive action. Mobilizing everyone, armed community defense squads were set up for protection.

Two days later, a racist march of 400 people from the Charlestown section of Boston attacked Black

people along their line of march. They were attempting to enter South Boston to link up with racist gangs there. After being diverted by the police into the North End, they attacked with rocks and bottles schools to which Chinese students had been bused. On the same day, at the Bromley Heath housing projects in Roxbury, cars of white racists drove through shooting at the apartments.

The events described in this article are manifestations of a growing racist cancer which is infecting white workers in Boston. With the current economic crisis and skyrocketing prices, coupled with rampant unemployment, racist propaganda has intensified. Boston, once the center of the abolitionist movement and a refuge for freed slaves, now shows the decay of bourgeois liberalism, which has no answers for the mounting economic problems of Black or white workers. Before the onslaught of fascist mobilizations, the liberals retreat into praise for the police for not openly joining the fascists!

An independent struggle of advanced workers and progressive people must be carried out to defeat racism. It will win over the broad masses by attacking the deteriorating living and working conditions which are becoming increasingly unbearable for all poor people. But a precondition for such a united struggle must be its total support for the right of Black, Latin, and other Third World peoples to control their own destiny.



This massive display of police at Black school in Boston illustrates role of state machinery in inciting racist violence.

## Brownsville community demands Bosco indictment at City Hall

By JULIO GHIGLIOTTI  
NEW YORK, Sept. 25—Today the Brownsville community brought to City Hall its anger and indignation over the killing of 14-year-old Claude Reese, Jr., by a white cop. Over 500 Brownsville residents marched around City Hall demanding the dismissal of Frank Bosco from the police force and his immediate trial for murder.

## COMMUNITY AGENCIES FORCED TO ACT

Businesses in the Brownsville community, mostly white-owned were forced to close in mourning for Claude Reese and schools were closed to allow the students to

attend the City Hall action with the rest of the community. Buses provided by community action groups under the Manpower Agencies brought the residents to City Hall.

Under attack by the city administration for providing the buses, these government-funded organizations said that it was a "mistake" to provide the buses, but "it was an explosive situation."

In other words, pressure from the community forced them to act against the city administration's orders.

At the rally on Murray Street near City Hall, Imamu Baraka of the Congress of African People and

Sonny Carson, former director of the Brooklyn chapter of CORE, denounced the police and the city administration as ultimately responsible for the death of Claude Reese. A group of youngsters presented their own version of some currently popular songs—reworded to depict the murder of Claude Reese and the community's subsequent uprising over it.

They sang proudly, "Look at me, I am Black. I am beautiful. And I am somebody."

The reaction to the murder of Claude Reese marks the second time that the community has come out in rage over the murder of Black children by white police in

this city. Last year Clifford Glover, a 10-year-old, was shot in the back by William Shea, a white cop. Shea also claimed that the Black youth had pulled a gun on him. The Jamaica community came into the streets to protest the racist cover-up of Shea's crime—just as the Brownsville community has now done—and an effective boycott of local merchants put pressure on the police department, forcing them to fire Shea.

The Brownsville community has shown its determination to force the police department to rip the veil off the death of Black youth at the hands of racist white cops. Today's demonstration forced the city to meet with representatives of the community on as issues of everyday living—housing, welfare, medical care, and unemployment.

# Labor defends right to boycott in CULA case

By MOLLY CHARBONIAU

ROCHESTER, Sept. 28—National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) hearings in Rochester, N.Y., backfired in the faces of big business and the government last week as the Center for United Labor Action (CULA) and supporters fought charges leveled at CULA in retaliation for its boycott of Sibley's department store.

The CULA had successfully organized a boycott of Sibley's during the strike of Farah slacks workers last year. Sibley's had refused to take the scab slacks off their shelves even after many demonstrations. In retaliation for the boycott, Sibley's instituted several legal actions against the CULA, including a civil suit for \$1.2 million in damages and an action before the NLRB charging the CULA with being an "agent of the Farah workers' union."

**INDICT SIBLEY'S, NOT LABOR!**  
On September 19, the first day of the NLRB hearings, over 40 members and friends of CULA picketed outside carrying signs reading: "You can't fight inflation with no free speech," "Indict Sibley's, not labor," and "Free speech on trial while Nixon goes free." In preparing for the line, CULA had covered wide areas of the city with posters exposing Sibley's as a racist, strikebreaking company and alerting Rochester area workers to Sibley's attack on labor's free speech.

Sibley's is owned by Associated Drygoods, which made \$40 million after-tax profits last year.

In the weeks before the September 19 hearing, the NLRB was flooded with statements of support for CULA from unions and community groups including: Rochester and Vicinity Area Labor Council (AFL-CIO), Communications Workers of America (CWA) Local 1106, Dennis Serrette (Vice-President of CWA Local 1101 and National President of the Vanguard Society of Black Communications Workers), Henry Unger (Teamsters Local 8149, oil and chemical workers of Long Island), Sam Cimaglia (Cemetery Workers and Greens Attendants Union), Larry Fox (Local 1199 of the Drug & Hospital Workers Union, Rochester), Rochester Patriot newspaper, Metro Act, Clergy and Laymen Concerned, ABC (a Black community group in Rochester), and many others.

## SUPPORTERS PACK HEARING ROOM

The hearing, which was filled with CULA supporters including Dolores Huerta of the United Farm Workers (UFW) began on an optimistic note as NLRB Judge S. J. Barban agreed to read a telegram into the record from John Black, President of 1199 in Philadelphia. Mr. Black stated that he wished to intervene in this case, an important case for all labor, and demanded that the charges against CULA be dropped.

The charge against CULA of being a "collective bargaining agent" subject to Taft-Hartley Law restrictions against boycotts is completely false. Sibley's Department Store and Associated Drygoods have so little evidence to support their charge that they've issued a number of broad subpoenas of virtually all of CULA's records in order to "fish" for something to back up their case. They questioned Debbie Lain, Rochester Chairwoman of CULA,

for 4 hours in an unsuccessful attempt to intimidate her and halt CULA's struggle. Previous charges that CULA is an "agent" of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America (ACWA) were dropped when ACWA agreed not to

picket Sibley's for 60 days.

## Business lobby cracks whip; consumer rights bill defeated

By GRACE STILES

NEW YORK, Sept. 27—Many years ago Will Rogers observed sarcastically, "Congress is the best money can buy."

Certainly that remains true today, when it costs \$1 million to win a Senate seat. Most of that money comes from big business interests and in fact a full 90 percent of all political funds come from only 1 percent of the population, according to a recent report.

So what happens when a bill claiming to serve the "little guy" finds its way into the Senate chambers? Well, the recent fate of the so-called consumer protection is a pretty good example of what happens.

A TOKEN AGENCY

This bill was written about 5 years ago at a time when "consumerism" was beginning to emerge as a force to be reckoned with by the government. It was a plan to create a token federal agency to investigate consumer grievances and supply "balance" in the testimony before government regulatory agencies. The Agency for Consumer Advocacy that it proposed to form would have no regulatory powers of its own, and would merely present its idea of a "consumer viewpoint" on various questions such as product safety.

Moderate supporters saw in it a way to diffuse and absorb protest over the increasingly shoddy and overpriced goods on the "free market," and supply the appearance of a more equal distribution of a more equal government decision making.

But the opposition to this helpless little agency was simply over-

JUDGE BARBAN IS NOT OVER  
Judge Barban has admitted that he knows of no precedent in NLRB law by which CULA, a national organization of workers from

whichever, with a large section of the business community taking a hard line position against even suggesting that consumers have rights. The idea that anyone might take that seriously set them off on a furious campaign of lobbying against it which has been described as "desperate" and one of the heaviest such campaigns ever seen.

BUSINESS OPPOSITION BLOCKS VOTE

The Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers, two of the most powerful and virulent anti-consumer lobbies in the country, mobilized their extensive resources to kill the bill.

Even though it was repeatedly weakened and watered down, the opposition wouldn't give an inch. Senator Sam Ervin, known by most people for his apparent crusader role in the Watergate investigations, showed his real stuff when he led the opposition in a filibuster against this bill. He went so far as to denounce it as "repugnant to the free enterprise system," which as we all know requires an unquestioned freedom to chisel and cheat in order to function properly.

The debate raged for months, with supporters trying in vain to convince everyone that the agency really, honest, couldn't do anything. But finally, on September 19, it was killed when a fourth motion to end the filibuster failed to win a two-thirds majority.

BUSINESS TAKES A "SPECIAL INTEREST" IN GOVERNMENT  
Watergate events have made everyone more suspicious of politicians, but have still left the

many different industries, could be considered the same as a union and that it would take rewriting the law to convict CULA. But as Debbie Lain of CULA pointed out in an interview with this reporter, "The issue which is really at stake in these hearings is whether business and the government want to set a precedent with the case against CULA, a precedent which would affect any independent labor or community support group and make it bound by NLRB restrictions against boycotting."

CULA's fight to win this case is

impression that dirty deals and bribes are the exception. However, when elected officials are financed by big business interests, the effect is bound to be the same whether they get the money in a paper bag under the table or in some more legally acceptable form.

That's why the consumer bill had

## Asbestos workers' families poisoned

By BILL DEL VECCHIO

NEW YORK, Sept. 27—During the 1940s a young woman brought dinner every night to her father, who worked for a year on the night shift at the United Rubber & Asbestos Co. plant in Paterson, N.J. At age 44, she died of mesothelioma, a rare form of cancer whose only known cause is asbestos.

The dangers of asbestos extend far beyond the workers who are immediately exposed to it on the job. In a recent study by the Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York City, it was proven that the families of asbestos workers are afflicted at a 40 percent higher rate than the general population with asbestiosis, lung cancer, and mesothelioma. Even short exposures by family members to the asbestos dust from the workers' clothes showed up 30 years later in the form of these diseases.

MANY USFS OF ASBESTOS

Asbestos is everywhere. It has 3,000 uses. It is in the brake linings of every car, in ironing board covers, in floor tiles. It is used to filter water. Lake Superior, which many small towns in Minnesota use as a water supply, is contaminated with it.

The federal standard for what is a safe level of exposure has recently been shown to be worthless. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is the federal agency that is supposed to protect workers from health hazards. Its rules are that if a plant has more than 5 fibers of asbestos in the air per cubic centimeter, the company must provide showers and a locker room. That's all.

A study done in England shows that a 5-fiber level is way beyond what causes cancer. Workers exposed to 2 fibers per cubic centimeter were followed for a period of 10 years. After that time between 40 and 70 percent had lung abnormalities.

NOTHING MORE THAN A CRUEL JOKE

Even if the OSHA standard were a safe one, the agency's enforcement of safety regulations is a

not over. It will take continued support by working and oppressed people to ensure a victory for free speech and the right to boycott.

If you can help in any way, contact: Rochester Center for United Labor Action, 292 Andrews Street, Rochester, N.Y. (716) 546-4759 or Center for United Labor Action (National Office), 167 West 21 Street, New York, N.Y. 10010, (212) 741-0633.

Send telegrams in support of CULA to: National Labor Relations Board, General Donovan Building, Buffalo, N.Y.

no teeth to begin with, and that's why it was eventually defeated. The tiny percentage of the population that funds political campaigns makes this special investment to collect a "special interest," in the form of legislation favorable to business and finance. They make sure to get what they pay for and the fate of the consumer bill is only one of many possible examples that prove when money talks, little will be said for the poor and working people.

cruel joke. Since 1972, the agency has inspected 3 percent of the country's factories with a staff so small it would take a century to inspect them all.

When the OSHA does find a violator, the standard punishment is to slap a \$28 fine on the company. Since correcting the unsafe condition will almost always cost more than \$28, OSHA's fines are a real bargain.

I was working with asbestos at the time the revelations about its link to cancer came out in 1972. I was arc welding in a foundry. The asbestos was used to shield us from the hot castings as they were taken directly out of the heat treating ovens and brought to us for repair before they cooled. We would cover the entire casting with asbestos paper and expose only the part that needed welding. I also wrapped it around my ankles to keep the sparks from burning through my socks. We even took new sheets of it to sit on during lunch.

Even though we realized we were getting poisoned, there was no change. The companies don't care if you die of cancer in 20 years as long as you're producing for profit now.

The dangers of asbestos are only the tip of the iceberg. Vinyl chloride, the most common type of plastic, has been discovered to cause liver cancer. Lead smelters are afflicted with a high rate of lead poisoning. Textile workers have lung damage from the cotton dust. The chemical carbon disulphide, used in rayon manufacture, was found to have poisoned many workers, making them act insane.

It is possible technologically and economically to eliminate these dangers from production. For this, though, production would have to be planned for the workers' needs and welfare instead of for profits. The clock can't be turned back for the 3 million workers who, like me, have been exposed to asbestos. But we can fight like hell so that future generations will be spared these horrible diseases. And our enemy will be not merely asbestos itself, but the class of millionaire parasites who sacrifice our health and lives on the altar of profit.

## The BATTLE of the BOYCOTT

By Kenny Lapides

In a threat to the free speech rights of labor, Big Business is challenging the boycott and the role of labor-support groups.

THE BATTLE OF THE BOYCOTT tells the behind-the-scenes struggle for the Farah boycott, and the fight to save labor's rights of free speech.

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**EDITORIAL**

# Socialist China's 25th anniversary

The 25th anniversary of the Chinese Revolution is an occasion to reaffirm *Workers World's* total solidarity with the Chinese people and with the socialist society they are constructing. No event has had so profound an impact on the post-war generation as has the sweeping revolutionary struggle in China, which succeeded in 1949 in wrenching the earth's most populous country from the grip of class oppression and which continued to deepen in many internal struggles afterwards.

Now, 25 years since Liberation, the class character of Chinese society is confirmed in the rapid advance of socialist property forms. It is the proletariat—numerically weak in China at the time of the Revolution but historically mature as part of a world class—which was propelled into leadership of that vast social upheaval. It was the historic experiences of the world proletariat, as expressed in the doctrine of Marxism-Leninism, which enabled the Communist Party of China to bring a socialist consciousness to the revolution.

## SOCIALIST CHARACTER CONFIRMED

Today, the proletarian character of the Chinese Revolution is obvious in the extension of socialized property, both in industry and in agriculture, in the development of centralized planning as the lever of production, in the vast industrial growth along the most modern lines possible, in the monopoly control of the state over foreign trade and the banking system, and in the rich development of education, art, and the general cultural level of the people with the greatest efforts being made to raise most those who had previously been mired in the greatest backwardness.

The tremendous turning point represented by the 1949 revolution was not clearly recognized by communists and socialists throughout the world. In this country, it was only Sam Marcy, now chairman of *Workers World Party*, who explained the new class relations in China. He wrote at that time (1950):

"China is a workers' state because the main and fundamental obstacle to the rule of the workers and peasants—the bourgeois-landlord-imperialist alliance—has been swept away and a new alliance—based on workers and peasants—erected in its place. It is not a chemically pure dictatorship of the proletariat, as no social formation ever is, but its fundamental class content is beyond doubt."

And it is because China, despite all the odds, did make a socialist revolution that the wellbeing of all the Chinese people has improved so overwhelmingly in less than one generation—a

fact even U.S. observers now have to admit.

## BLIND IMITATION VS. CONSISTENT SUPPORT

The consistent support for and understanding of the Chinese Revolution by our paper and party have not made us blind followers of China's world positions, however. To do so, unfortunately, would force us to be inconsistent on other questions. The line of the Chinese leadership has vacillated drastically on such questions as the class character of the Soviet Union, the recognition of U.S. imperialism as the main obstacle to social progress in the world today, the right of nations like Bangladesh to self-determination, and many other issues. Those here who go by the label "Maoists" have shown a complete inability to arrive at their own conclusions on major world issues.

It is the duty of all who aspire to give leadership to the working class in the crises that are already beginning to crowd in on us to be serious students of history and not mere imitators. We need to absorb the lessons of other revolutionary struggles in order to apply them as they fit our situation.

But it can only retard the

growth of a revolutionary vanguard to adopt in one piece the entire foreign policy of any particular socialist country—particularly since their leaders are at odds with one another at the present, so that to endorse one country's line means deep hostility to others.

*Workers World* instead takes this occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Chinese Revolution to reaffirm our belief in what the Chinese comrades themselves preach and practiced in their own revolution: revolutionaries must stand on their own two feet and have the strength to make their own evaluations on even the largest questions, basing themselves first and foremost on their own experience in the class struggle.

**Get in the struggle with  
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and Workers World Party!**



For information, contact: **WORKERS WORLD**  
46 WEST 21 STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10011. TEL: (212) 265-0362; (212) 989-3332

*What we mean by . . .*

## THE WORKING CLASS

By MYRON JEFKA

If you've been laid off or work part-time, are you a member of the working class? What about if you've never been able to get a job because you never had the chance? Or if you're a housewife or child of an employed or unemployed worker?

The working class includes the people who create all the goods and perform all the services in today's capitalist society, but do not own the factories, buildings, machinery, raw materials, and land which are necessary for production. The bosses, or capitalists, own all these things and live off the work of the workers. But the workers and their dependents live off the wages they receive for their work.

But you don't have to have a job to consider yourself part of the working class. Those who are

unemployed are also workers, workers who have been deprived of work by the bosses. Unemployed workers live off social services, unemployment insurance, and welfare benefits, paid mostly by those workers who are fortunate enough to have jobs. Unemployed, part-time, and seasonal workers are kept in a reserve pool by the bosses for future jobs when they want to expand.

Housewives and children of employed and unemployed workers are also part of the working class. Housewives are unpaid laborers who produce the necessary domestic services without which the workers wouldn't be able to work. Children are workers' dependents who are being trained and educated to become workers. Without working class children, the workers would die out in one generation and the

working class would cease to exist.

The working class is a class that stretches all over the world, divided into different countries by capitalist rule. It is a class that cuts across both oppressor and oppressed nationalities and people, across white, Black, Asian, Latin, and all other ethnic groupings. It is composed of men and women, straight and gay, young and old, skilled and unskilled, organized and unorganized—in a word, all those who as a whole produce everything.

Only in a socialist society where there are no bosses will there be no unemployment, will domestic services be either socialized or paid, and will all children be trained for productive and creative jobs. Only in a socialist society will everyone be productive and the working class will be all people.

## THE IMPERIALISTS . . .

From a Bankers Trust advertisement in the June 1974 Financial Executive:

"BANKERS TRUST IS BULLISH ON BRAZIL."

"Perhaps this is because Brazil is bullish on Bankers Trust."

"We've been working together since 1919. If you're interested, our bankers in Brazil can offer you an expertise in Brazilian affairs, an agility in dealing with local conditions, and an enthusiasm unmatched by any other American bank."

"Brazil is now a boom nation for investors."

"Contact us in New York, in Sao Paulo, or in our new office in Rio de Janeiro."

## . . . AND THEIR VICTIMS

Brazilian Information Bulletin, Spring 1974:

"76 percent of the houses in Brazil have no running water."

"75 percent have no electricity."

"500,000 Brazilians are victims of the dreaded Chagas disease."

"Infant mortality from tuberculosis is 80 per 100,000."

"In northeast Brazil, infant mortality is 180 per 1,000 live births."

"In Brazil 47 percent of all deaths occur before the age of 5."



## GRIM PROOF OF POVERTY . . .

Detroit, Sept. 12 (AP):

"A man seeking a new kidney advertised this week for a transplant donor and drew about 100 callers willing to sell one for the \$3,000 he offered, his minister said."

"These must be hard times if that many people are willing to give up one of their kidneys," Rev. Iman Karoub said.

"He said three-fourths of the callers have been women, many who said they needed the money."

"It really makes me feel bad if that many people are destitute in Detroit," Mr. Karoub said."

## . . . WHILE FORD CALLS FOR SACRIFICE

Chicago Sun Times, Sept. 22:

"Across the board there seems to be a boon in luxuries—from there jewels and custom-

tailored clothing to Rolls-Royces and Cadillacs.

"A Rolls-Royce dealer here reported very good sales so far this year, with 45 cars ordered. And Ray Ballantyne, a sales representative of Hanley Dawson Cadillac, said sales were 'fantastic. We can't get enough cars.'"

"The Cadillac Brougham four-door sedan was sold out in August, Ballantyne said. It sells for \$10,000."

"A velvet custom interior for the Brougham, which runs about \$1,800 extra, has been very popular this year, he said, and limousine orders have not slowed down. All in all, the last five months have been record breaking for Hanley Dawson."

"The Rolls-Royce convertible, which starts at \$45,000 or \$46,000, has been a good seller, and Mercedes-Benz convertibles with two tops at about \$18,000 are going well, Ballantyne said."

"In general, the people who cater to the rich agree that the affluent are putting their money into expensive goods where they

believe they are getting good value for their dollars.

"Lawrence Pucci, president and owner of Pucci Inc., a custom tailor at 333 N. Michigan, said demand has trebled over the last year. Pucci suits start at \$495 for coat and trousers. A vicuna overcoat costs \$3,500."

## HOW COPS BECOME HEROES

Wilmington Evening Journal, Sept. 9:

"A 22-year-old Delaware state trooper has been fired for allegedly setting a fire in his girl friend's home to impress her with his heroism."

## CORRUPTION A 'WAY OF LIFE'

Chicago Sun Times, Sept. 22:

Cahokia, Ill.—Robert D. Jackson, mayor here for the last nine years, says bribery and political corruption are a way of life in these parts.

"There are kickbacks around here," Jackson said in his city hall office.

"Everyone knows that."

"Other sources said the amount of cash involved was 'astronomical' and may reach several million dollars."

"The mayor himself may be in trouble."

"All records for three city construction projects completed during Jackson's three terms have been subpoenaed."



# U.S. threatens war against oil producing countries

By T. MITCHELL.  
NEW YORK, Sept. 30—On September 18, in his first major foreign policy speech, President Ford spoke at the United Nations, making a belligerent attack on the oil-producing countries.

First Ford covered himself with a lying misrepresentation of the U.S. as the generous and humane supplier of free food to the masses of the world—who in reality are starving under the oppression of the U.S. imperialist domination. Then he blamed the severe economic crisis throughout the capitalist world on the increased price of oil, threatening the oil-producing countries with forceful reprisals if they do not drastically cut the price.

On September 23, Secretary of State Kissinger addressed the same theme at the UN, warning the oil-exporting countries that "the world cannot sustain even the present level of prices, much less continuing increases." Speaking on the same day in Detroit, Ford delivered the ultimatum: "exorbitant prices can only distort the world economy, run the risk of worldwide depression, and threaten the breakdown of world order and safety."

The next day, reports came out of Washington that military action was under consideration. Defense Secretary Schlesinger denied the stores in a way that implied: "No, not yet."

The truth is that for more than half a century, the U.S. oil barons

have grown fabulously rich under the natural resources from under foreign soil, especially in the Mideast. Now for one single year the exploiters have had to pay a price closer to the true value, and they are made as hornets even as they force us to foot the bill so their profits will continue to rise.

## ARABS BLAMED FOR CAPITALIST CRISIS

But for all the hatred of Arabs they spew, the cost of oil is not the driving force in runaway inflation. Fuel is a small part of the cost of

production, and most capitalist economists place only 1.5 to 3 percent of the current 17 percent worldwide inflation on the price of oil.

Runaway inflation took hold in 1973, before the October Mideast War. Under Phase 3 of Nixon's controls, from January to June, prices rose at an 8.3 percent annual rate, and at a 13.7 percent annual rate under the Phase 3½ "freeze" from June to August. Then in August, the wholesale price index registered the biggest monthly

jump since 1946.

Already in September 1973, a Chicago bank as saying that stopping inflation "would require a severe recession, with all of the hardships that normally accompany such an adjustment." And, for that matter, the oil industry was predicting an energy crisis while Nixon had announced the goal of a 5 percent reduction in fuel consumption by mid-1974, all before the oil embargo.

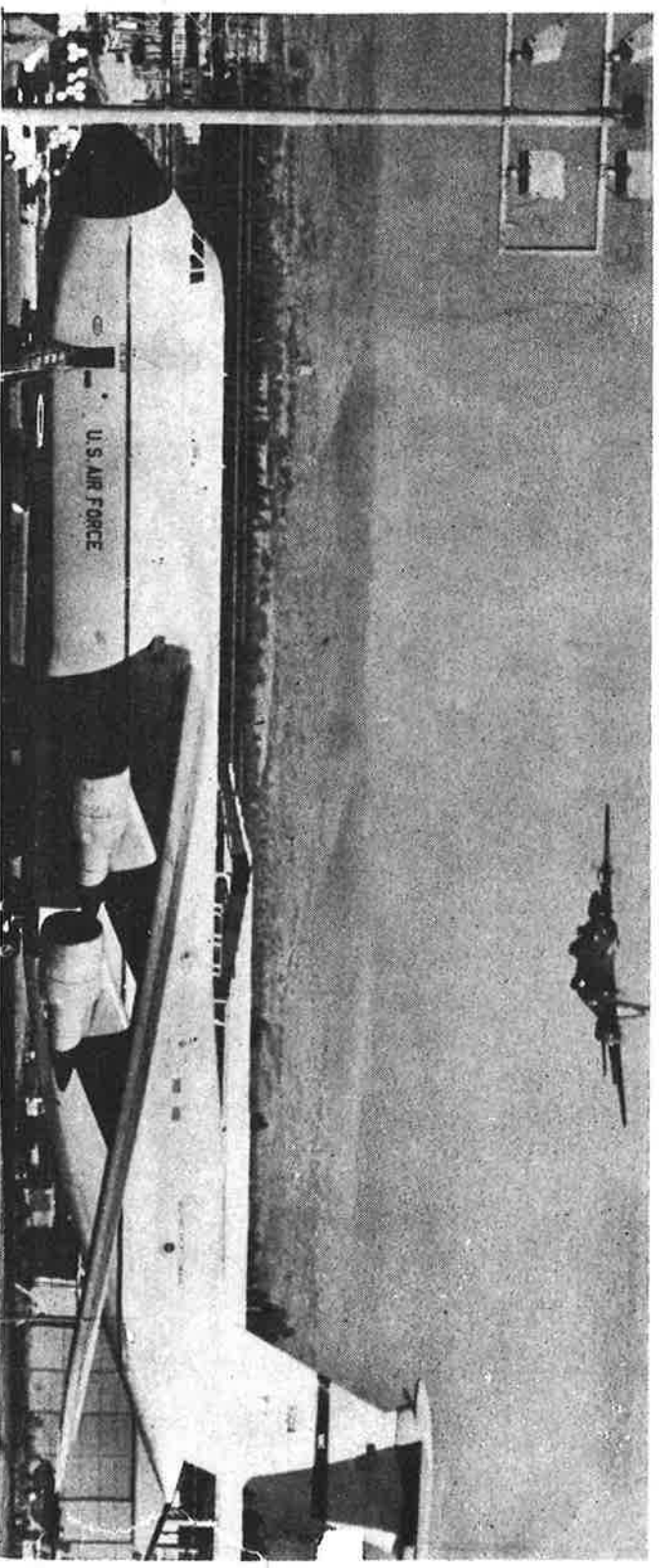
The U.S. economy is on the brink of collapse, along with the entire capitalist world, but the crisis was

not caused by the October 1973 oil embargo or the 1974 higher prices for fuel. Ford and Kissinger are trying to confuse the American people who are bearing the burden of unemployment and shrinking real income by making a scapegoat of the oil-producing countries, especially the Arabs.

The real cause of the crisis is that the economy is being throttled by capitalist ownership of business. Capitalists only hire workers to produce goods when they can sell the product at a profit. With domestic prices fixed so high that sales are falling, credit is stretched to the breaking point, and the government unable to increase spending to pump up the economy without making inflation worse, the capitalist system is breaking down.

## A WAR OVER OIL IN THE MIDEAST?

While the main purpose of the bellicose talk by Ford and Kissinger is to shift the anger of the American people away from the



Blaming the economic crisis on the Arabs is an attempt to whip up new war hysteria. Above, American C-5A jet unloads military cargo in Israel during October war.

## The credit crunch, Part 2 Consumer credit: Barometer of capitalist (in)stability

By KEN FRANKSON

NEW YORK, Sept. 27—Consumer credit is used mostly to finance large purchases such as cars, major appliances, furniture, and houses, plus credit card-type purchases from department stores, etc., of clothes, minor appliances, and other "small" purchases.

The role of consumer credit in the capitalist economy is the same as that of all other credit—to allow ever-increasing expansion.

The importance of consumer spending under capitalism can be judged by the fact that advertising expenditures in the U.S. are over \$20 billion a year.

The overwhelming majority of this advertising is aimed at getting the consumer to spend more. The purpose of much advertising is to create wants on the part of the consumer for useless merchandise, so the system can continue to expand.

## CAPITALIST CONTRACTION IS BEGINNING

As shown in the previous article in this series, the repayment of loans causes a shortage of money to spend for more goods (which would equal more expansion), so a point is reached where expansion can no longer take place and contraction of the capitalist economy sets in.

As evidence of this contraction, housing starts have declined from 2.03 million units in August 1973 to 1.13 million units in August 1974.

The main cause of this is the tightening up on mortgage money and the rise in interest rates. Banks are even giving discounts for extra payments on mortgages that were made at the old 6 percent and under rates, so that they can get in more money to lend out at higher rates.

Not only is spending on housing going down, but the market is also shrinking in another major sector of the economy—automobiles. The reasons are obvious. New car costs have gone up about 20 percent in the last year, without including the price increases on the 1975 models. The cost of financing for new cars has gone up by about 25 percent.

The increase in manufacturing inventories (stockpiles of unsold goods) also shows that the credit system is becoming unable to finance expansion. These inventories rose by \$65 million in June and \$958 million in July. Dollar sales rose slightly during this period because of inflation. Less goods were sold for more dollars.

The piling up of unsold goods at the rate of almost a billion dollars worth a month shows that depression is getting near. Unless these goods can be sold, the

manufacturers will lay off workers by the thousands, since unsold goods give them no profits.

## CAPITALIST SYSTEM OFFERS NO SOLUTION

The capitalist U.S. government is reducing the supply of money to try to reduce inflation and interest rates are staying high. Loans are expensive and hard to get. As a result, many people just don't borrow money for consumer goods. (Also, with workers' real wages going down, people can't keep up their payments and defaults are common.)

With these sources of profit drying up (and with many people withdrawing money from the bank to get higher interest elsewhere), banks are engaging in speculative deals to retain their high-profit rate. The failure of this kind of speculation can (as it did with the Franklin National Bank) result in huge losses that can force a bank under.

It is obvious that the capitalist system is becoming increasingly unable to function.

U.S. monopoly capitalism is a dam holding back the flood of proletarian revolution, but the dam is crumbling; the longer the flood is held back, the more force it gathers, until the time it will sweep away the capitalist system altogether.

## Ford has a better idea: inflation and unemployment

Now that prices have gone so high that working people can buy less and less with their few dollars, the economy is "sluggish." But with sales falling, it isn't prices that are being cut. Jobs are being cut as business cuts back production.

With unemployment growing, the businessmen and economists in the government have decided that recession is really a good thing! To hear them talk about how more hungry, jobless people will slow inflation because working people as a whole will have less money to spend and be more willing to take underpaid jobs, you'd think the hardships of the unemployed should be welcomed!

But the theory that prices rise and fall according to supply and demand belongs in the days of the horse and buggy. Haven't they noticed that car sales are way down while the prices are much higher?

For years they have been telling us that inflation is going to get better, and it has always gotten worse. Now we are being told that patriotically sacrificing our jobs in the "fight against inflation" is all for the better.

But the economic advisers in Washington, D.C., don't care in the least about the suffering of the millions of unemployed workers and their families or the involuntary dieting at the dinner

tables of all the poor and working people in the U.S.

On September 19, at a conference to discuss how inflation is forcing poor people to go without health care, Alan Greenspan, the new Chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, declared: "If you really wanted to examine percentage-wise who was hurt the most on their income, it was Wall Street brokers." He was booted off the stage, fortunately.

If Greenspan's buddies are having such hard times, let them try to get a real job, learn what work really is, and then see how they look at the "choices" capitalism is offering the working class.

**EXPAND EMPLOYMENT**



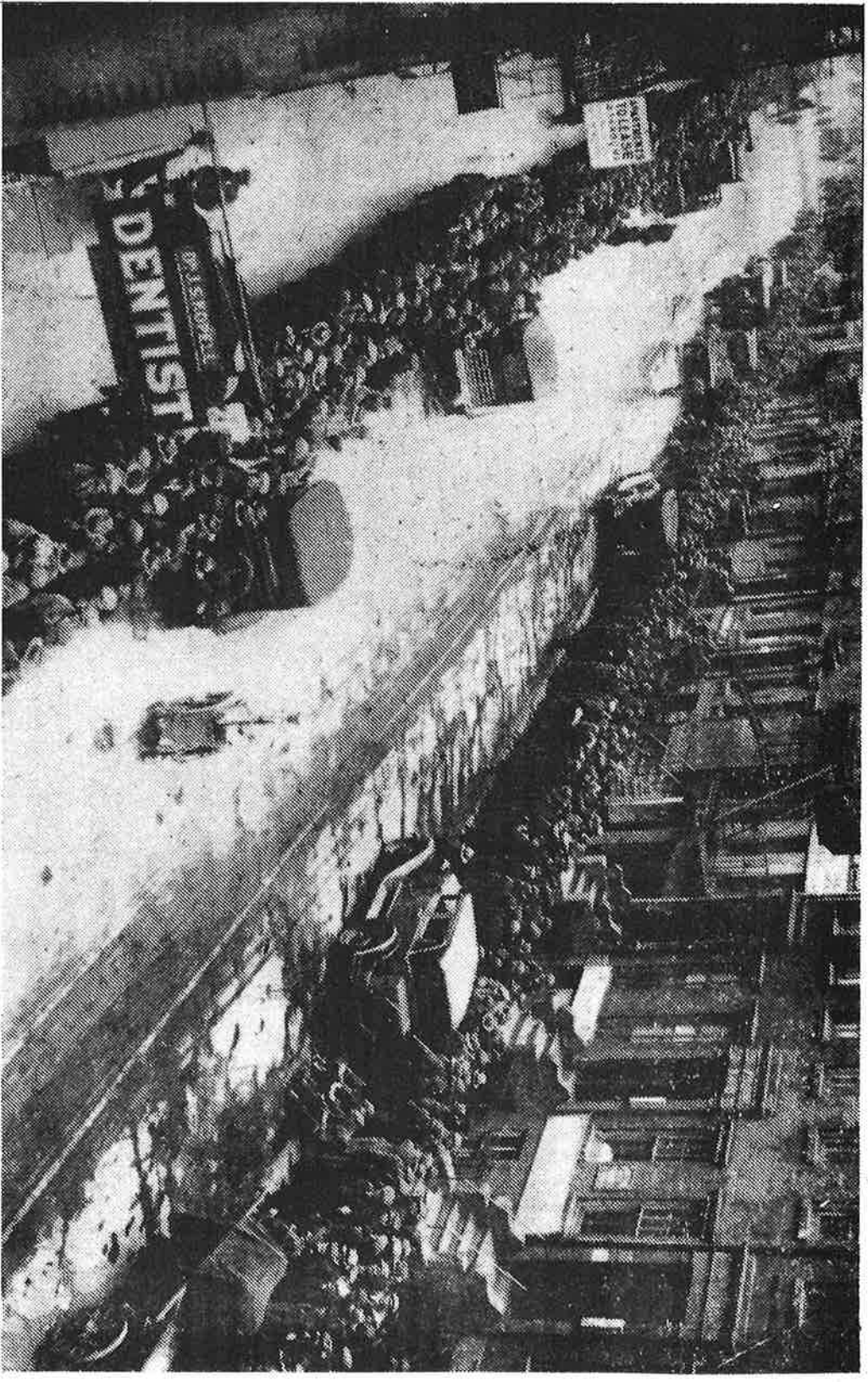


oil price-gouging of the giant U.S. corporations, the possibility of direct U.S. military intervention in the Mideast should not be ruled out.

The vilification of the Arab people serves to reawaken the anti-Arab hysteria disseminated in the news during the October War and the oil embargo. In 1967 and again in 1973, the U.S. armed and equipped the white settler-state Israeli war machine in its drive to conquer more Arab territory. And the U.S. oil monopolists, including Rockefeller in particular, have been seeing red as the Arabs have increased their share of oil revenues.

The chief agent of the U.S. policy in the Mideast, Henry Kissinger, did not hesitate to order CIA subversion of the democratically elected Allende government in Chile so that U.S. businesses could reassert control of Chile after the fascist coup. Is Kissinger any less inclined to aggression and subversion when it comes to the far greater U.S. imperialist investment in Mideast oil?

Historically, capitalist economic crises have time and again unleashed military aggression. Imperialist wars are inevitable as the major industrial capitalist countries contend for domination of the "free world" market that is being reduced by the advance of national liberation struggles and socialist revolution.



The only alternatives to war and inflation capitalism offers the workers are depression and unemployment.

# Rockefeller family empire a myth? Control over \$300 billion very real

By SHARON SHELTON

It is hardly a secret that the Rockefeller family is one of the richest and most powerful in the world with holdings that amount to a virtual empire.

Yet, Nelson A. Rockefeller, testifying on September 23 before the Senate Rules Committee on his nomination as Vice President actually had the audacity to claim that the existence of a Rockefeller empire was nothing more than a myth!

The committee hearings are being held supposedly to determine if there would be a "conflict of interest" for a Rockefeller to hold such a high office. Of course, every U.S. Vice President—and President, for that matter—has been firmly tied to the capitalist class he represents. But with Nelson Rockefeller, it's a case of a member of one of the most powerful ruling families in the world stepping in to the government directly, something Rockefeller is all too anxious to obscure.

In the days before the Senate hearings began, the former governor of New York tossed out several extremely modest, if not outright lying estimates of his personal worth. Rockefeller's first

estimate of \$33 million was such a joke that he was forced to adjust it upward to \$62 million, a mere difference of \$29 million or so. And by the time he got around to testifying before the Senate, his net worth had mushroomed to a lofty but grossly underrated \$218 million.

## WAYS HE COVERED UP FOR-TUNE

There are a number of ways that Rockefeller managed to come up with the conservative \$218 million figure and cover up his family's multi-billion-dollar holdings in his Senate testimony.

One way was simply by lying. For example, he told the Senate that the combined assets of two trusts held under his name in the family's Chase Manhattan Bank totalled around \$116 million. However, a cover story in the September 30 New York Magazine features a photograph of a Rockefeller bank statement that shows that one of these trusts alone totalled \$126 million. The other, according to the New York writer, was "larger in the total value of assets managed."

Rockefeller may have sidestepped by putting some of the assets in these trusts in the name of

his children, but even so, it is money Nelson Rockefeller controls. And if the New York article is correct, the value of these two trusts alone far surpasses the combined \$218 million that Rockefeller insisted is his total worth.

And this is only the beginning. Another way Rockefeller managed to obscure the millions and even billions at his fingertips was by neglecting the financial advantages of the foundations that he and his family control. Although technically the Rockefellers are not owners of the \$332 million Rockefeller Foundation and the 14 other Rockefeller controlled foundations with combined assets of more than \$1 billion, they are non-owners in name only. That is, the foundation funds are theirs to manipulate as they choose.

## FOUNDATION OWNERSHIP OF OIL STOCKS

It should be no surprise, then, that Rockefeller foundations as of 1960 owned almost \$325 million worth of stock in Standard Oil of New Jersey, more than \$23 million in Socony Mobil Oil Co., \$17 million in Continental Oil, \$17 million in Ohio Oil, and \$59 million in Standard Oil of Indiana. These foundations are part of what gives the Rockefeller family control of 5 of the 12 largest oil companies. And these are just the oil companies—the foundation funds perform the same function in a host of other companies such as IBM, International Basic Economic Corporation (which operates in Latin America), and a number of lucrative utilities.

Another less known, but equally devious way the Rockefellers hide their wealth is through what is known as "street companies." A "street company" or "nominee account" is an account of large stock holdings in the name of a nominee instead of its real owner

or owners. Through these accounts, the banks have control over the stocks held, thus getting around the law that prohibits banks from owning stocks.

The Rockefeller's Chase Manhattan Bank operates 28 such accounts, according to an article in the September 19 issue of the Village Voice, based largely on reports of the House subcommittee on Domestic Finance. Three of these are Cudd & Co., Kane & Co., and Egger & Co. Although it is impossible to prove who the real owners of these accounts are, it is safe to assume that Rockefeller-controlled funds make up at least part of these accounts, since one of them, Cudd & Co., was shown in 1965 to have been one of the top three stockholders in the Chase Manhattan, which is undisputedly a Rockefeller bank. At any rate, the Chase Manhattan has control of the stocks, and, according to the Voice writer, "Cudd & Co. may be the largest and most powerful agglomeration of stock holdings in the world."

## CUDD GIVES ADDITIONAL ROCKEFELLER CONTROL

Cudd & Co.'s standing among some of the largest corporations in the U.S. includes: Mobil Oil, third largest stockholder; Ford Motor, second; General Electric, fourth; Chrysler, seventh; Westinghouse, fourth; RCA, second; Dow Chemical, third; Burlington Northern, first; American Telephone & Telegraph, fifth; Western Union, fourth; Safeway Stores, sixth; and First National City, fourth. Most of these are corporations in which the Rockefeller family exercises direct control.

Another way the Rockefellers sit on more wealth than is immediately apparent is through interlocking directorates. Through Chase Manhattan board interlocks alone, the family exercises control

over some of the largest corporations in the U.S., including Atlantic-Richfield Oil, Allegheny Ludlum Steel, United States Steel, Metropolitan Life, Otis Elevator, General Foods, Standard Oil of Indiana, Chrysler Corp., Exxon, IBEC, IT&T, Anaconda Copper, United Aircraft, Singer Co., Good-year Tire & Rubber, Penn Central, Brooklyn Union Gas, Consolidated Edison, AT&T, New York Telephone, and many, many others. These interlocks are so extensive that, according to William Hoffman in his book "David," they give the Rockefellers influence over \$300 billion in aggregate corporate assets! And here again, many of these corporations are controlled outright by the Rockefeller family.

Another crucial way the Rockefellers have amassed so much control over so much wealth is through the Chase Manhattan Bank. According to Hoffman, the bank is the most "powerful financial corporation in the world" with assets exceeding \$23 billion. It has offices in the major European countries, in the Middle East, in 15 African nations, in the Caribbean, Latin America, and the Far East. Not only does the Chase represent vast wealth, but it also is a powerful lever. Especially now when loans are hard to come by, the bank has the power to make or break a company by granting favorable credit terms or refusing loans. This ability to control capital gives the bank—and the Rockefellers—tremendous power over literally a multitude of corporations, large and small.

So, through a combination of their personal wealth and the wealth they control through trusts, foundations, "street companies," interlocking directorates, and ownership of the Chase Manhattan, the family has managed to get controlling interest in corporations like AT&T, Atlantic-Richfield Oil, Consolidated Oil, Ohio Oil, Socony Oil, Western Pacific Railroad, Exxon, and many others. No one knows how extensive the fortune may be. One thing is for sure, though: despite what Nelson Rockefeller says, the Rockefeller holdings truly constitute an empire.

DRIVING

by Vincent Capeland

75 cents

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News from the Midwest

# Shockley stopped from speaking by Black students in Cleveland

By A. ROTH  
CLEVELAND, Sept. 15—A blow against racism was struck tonight as several dozen Black students successfully stopped William Shockley from speaking. Shockley, appearing at a



“debate” with Roy Innis of CORE, is an outspoken racist who “theorizes” that Black people are inferior to whites and should be sterilized. This is nothing short of the same scientific stories the Nazis used to justify their extermination of over 6 million Jews.

Before the debate occurred, several organizations of the left picketed outside. Among those picketing were the Revolutionary Student Brigade, Spartacist League, and the Progressive Labor Party.

Youth Against War & Fascism had a contingent with a large banner that read “Lackey for billionaire rule—Stop Shockley’s racist attacks on Black people!” Other YAWF picket signs read, “Racist propaganda breeds racist violence,” and “Shockley and Hitler, a fond embrace—Both support a master race.”

The militancy of the picket line was displayed with the constant chanting: “Nazi Shockley, scum of the land” and “Racist Shockley.

you can’t hide—we charge you with genocide.”

But it was the Black students themselves who took the decisive measures to stop this racist slime. When Shockley was about to speak the Black students began blowing whistles and chanting. The uproar ended only after Shockley himself left the stage!

At that moment, realizing victory, a Black student jumped on the stage, and with both arms outstretched with clenched fists, yelled “We won! No genocide for Black people. We won!”

Though the success of this action shook up many white liberals who were more worried about the right of free speech than racism and oppression, it pointed the way for a continued struggle against the racism that the ruling class will try to whip up at this time of crisis. The determination of the Black students will certainly be a boost to the general struggle here against the ruling class and its racist quacks like Shockley.



Black students, whistling and yelling, prevent Shockley from spewing his racist pseudo-genetics. WW photo: Al

## Teacher firings, course cutbacks prompt Chicago school protest

By JILL ROUNDTREE  
CHICAGO, Sept. 26—Last Tuesday, September 17, 450 chanting parents, students, and teachers walked out of Cooley Vocational High School to protest the elimination of six teachers there. The protesters marched to the Board of Education and picketed for 3 hours. They were denied entrance to the building and a meeting with Acting School Superintendent J.F. Redmond.

The firing of the teachers meant the arbitrary closing of several classes without prior notification of students or parents. Some students said they would not be able to

graduate because courses they were taking had been eliminated. Students who chanted “Let’s save Cooley!” said they feared that the School Board is phasing out classes as a prelude to closing the school.

Cooley is located in the Black Community near the Cabrini Green Housing Project. The students who go there are all Black. As it is, the program and facilities are a century old and outdated.

This is the way one student described it to WW:

“Cooley is a terrible place. It looks like an old, old factory. All the classes are overcrowded.

There are police always surveying the halls—watching everything you do. It’s more like being in prison than school. You don’t learn anything. Everyone says ‘you go in there dumb and come out dumb.’”

But the struggle to keep the school from completely closing is continuing, showing the community’s great desire for educational facilities. For over a week students and parents have continued to strike and picket for better conditions. All other schools in the area have closed their doors to more students and if Cooley closed down there’d be no high school serving the community at all.

## Payoffs in dairy industry while milk inspectors thrive while children starve

By PATTIE BREY  
CHICAGO, Sept. 20—As milk prices spiral ever higher and farmers complain of price cutbacks, where is all the money going to? A recent expose of dairy inspectors in this city shows where at least part of it is going.

Chicago Board of Health inspectors assigned to Wisconsin and northern Illinois dairy cooperatives have been charged with shakedowns and payoffs to insure favorable treatment to cooperatives. Restrictive milk inspection policies in Chicago have raised dairy prices to consumers by at least \$8.4 million annually.

The inspectors have been charged with pressuring dairy representatives, or fieldmen, to buy them meals and drinks, demanding “gifts” of cheese and meat to fill up the trunks of their cars, soliciting \$20 tickets for annual “Mayor Daley” benefits, accepting \$20 to \$30 “tips” from farmers to insure favorable inspections, and accepting Christmas gifts of liquor from

cooperatives. Of course, as is usual in such charges, the blame is being put on those who are being bribed rather than on the bribers, who in this case are the cooperatives.

WHO ARE THE ‘COOPERATIVES’?

Dairy cooperatives, which pick up the milk from the farms and transport it to bottling companies, were originally formed to protect the farmers from big business monopolies. They were forced to merge or go bankrupt, so that now the cooperatives themselves are monopolies. Members of the boards of directors often have controlling interests in other related fields, such as packaging and other food companies. People like this are accustomed to playing the game, so they advise the cooperatives to write off bribes to the Chicago inspectors as “an unofficial license fee.”

The city of Chicago and the state of Texas are the only places in the U.S. which do not recognize the inspections of other states. This

creates soft jobs as inspectors for friends of the infamous Daley political machine, prevents much-needed milk from coming into the city, and costs the consumers \$8.4 million annually, in addition to the astronomical rate of inflation.

HUNGRY CHILDREN DON’T COUNT

At the same time that poor and working people are trying to stretch the shrinking dollar in order to provide milk for their children, price-fixing monopolies are destroying produce to reduce the supply and propel prices even higher. For example, the Milk Producers’ Association in Los Angeles dumped 23,000 gallons of milk, claiming it could “find no market” for it.

Crying, hungry children could tell these monopolies where to find the market, but they are deaf to any sounds but the crackling of dollar bills. Working and oppressed people hear the hungry cries every day, and it is we who will take the milk out of the hands of money-grabbing monopolies and put it into the mouths of the children where it belongs.



Chicago students fight serious cutback in educational facilities at Cooley HS.

# News From the Midwest

## Milwaukee WUA gives Butz what he deserves

**BY SUE BREITENBACH**  
MILWAUKEE, Wisc., Sept. 23—If wishes were horses, we all could ride, goes the old saying. And if Secretary of Agriculture Butz's promises were sirloin steaks...

But they're not, so women in Milwaukee were out to greet the man who presides over U.S. agricultural policy when he visited the convention of the State Departments of Agriculture here yesterday.

### WHO'S TO BLAME FOR HIGH FOOD PRICES?

About 30 members of Women United for Action and their children, plus supporters from the Center for United Labor Action and other friends, picketed the plush Marc Plaza Hotel where Butz was appearing. Accusing the so-called public servant of really serving the big agribusinesses, the women let him and the public know they were offended at his insistence that consumers are to blame for high food prices.

On the contrary, the women point out, the Agriculture Department's policies themselves drive food prices ever higher—as

LET HIM EAT ALPO! At this insult to poor people who haven't had a well-balanced meal in months, WUA member Peggy Geden presented Butz with a tray containing a dish and can of dog food, some salt, and a fork and spoon, suggesting he try some. She cited a recent Senate committee investigation showing that one-third of the pet food sold in urban poverty areas was being eaten by people.

## Women United hits food chains, has real 'inflation summit' in D.C.

**BY JOYCE BETRIES**  
NEW YORK, Sept. 28—The same women who helped give us last year's boycott against soaring meat prices tangled three times this week with food chains and politicians over the continuing inflation in basic foodstuffs.

Women United for Action (WUA) were in Washington today at Ford's economic summit with their message; on September 24 the New York City chapter of WUA turned up twice, uninvited, when top executives of the big supermarkets tried to pose as Good Samaritans and dedicated public servants.

### WOMEN CRASH SECRET MEETING

Sparks flew in the office of New York State Attorney General Louis Lefkowitz when the women showed up, accompanied by the press, for what had been planned as a 'private' meeting between the state official and representatives from major food chains. The women demanded to know why the public had been excluded from the meeting, which was to discuss the supermarkets' illegal practice of raising prices on current stock, often just by sticking new labels over old ones.

Catherine Hoeg of Women United also demanded to know of the astonished executives why they had refused to meet with the women's group for over 2 years. (They had no answer.)

With no convincing answers for the women, the bigshots boiled. As Leslie Feinberg shouted to their fast retreating backs, "We weren't sure who was representing the food chains in this meeting when we arrived. But now we know you—you're the ones running for the elevators!"

Mr. Lefkowitz was forced to cancel the secret meeting and promised to arrange a public meeting in its place.

### A&P HEAD GETS UNUSUAL AWARD

That same evening the head of the A&P, Robert F. Longacre, was to be presented with the "Brotherhood Award" for "distinguished service in the field of human relations" by the National Conference of Christians and Jews. (It doesn't seem as though any hungry Christians or Jews were there.)

Arriving at the Americana Hotel for his award, Mr. Longacre found Women United already there chanting "W.E.O.—Where Everything's Overpriced." The A&P exec thought he was among well-heeled friends once he got past the picket line and into the hotel, but a group from WUA had

got into the dinner and presented Longacre with an "award" of their own: a box of Gravy Train to symbolize the fact that many poor people are eating dog food these days because they can't afford people food.

(It was later learned that the shaken A&P exec never did get presented with his award for "humanitarianism.")

### WOMEN AT THE SUMMIT

Today's demonstration in Washington saw over 100 angry picketers from New York City, Baltimore, Texas, Virginia, Chicago, Detroit, Philadelphia, and the D.C. area brave a steady downpour of rain in order to bring a note of reality to President Ford's economic summit meeting. "Ford is killing the poor," chanted the busloads of working mothers, welfare recipients, senior citizens, and unemployed. They were met at the Hilton Hotel, where the summit was taking place, by the hotel manager, the cops, and a paddy wagon. Not only were they excluded from the hotel, but were told that if they attempted to picket under the hotel canopy they would be arrested immediately.

So Women United picketed in the record rainfall, holding their own economic "summit"—where the interests and viewpoint of the common person could be expressed. There were also delegations there from the Consumers Educational and Protective Association of Philadelphia, the New York

chapter of Youth Against War & Fascism, and the Norfolk section of the Center for United Labor Action.

Under a banner reading, "Ford's idea to fight inflation is to drive us to starvation," Catherine Hoeg of WUA told the crowd that the real experts on the state of the economy are the poor. The real solution to the people's economic crisis, she said, is to cut corporate profits and roll back food prices. She accused the banks of "putting a killing knife into the housewife and cutting the heart out of her."

Joyce Kaessinger, a working mother from the women's group, accused the "experts' meeting inside of really 'conspiring on how to take away more from the poor' when they talked about fighting inflation.

A spokesman from the Philadelphia consumers' group zeroed in on Ford's selection of Nelson Rockefeller to be Vice President. "Ford has shown how much he cares about the poor by bringing the biggest inflationist in history into the White House," he said.

As the economic crisis worsens, more and more women and men are voicing the demand raised 2 years ago by Women United for Action: roll back food prices. Ms. Hoeg recalls, "Before you could have fooled us, but now the housewife knows who is robbing her. It's the banks, the businesses, and the so-called economic experts. They are our real enemies."

## 17,000 auto workers strike at American Motors

### By A UAW MEMBER

MILWAUKEE, Wisc., Sept. 16—More than 17,000 American Motors workers went on strike today here in Milwaukee, in Kenosha, Wisc., and in Brampton, Ontario. Our old contract had run for 47 months instead of the usual 3 years because the company apparently was doing poorly and the union decided to take it easy on them.

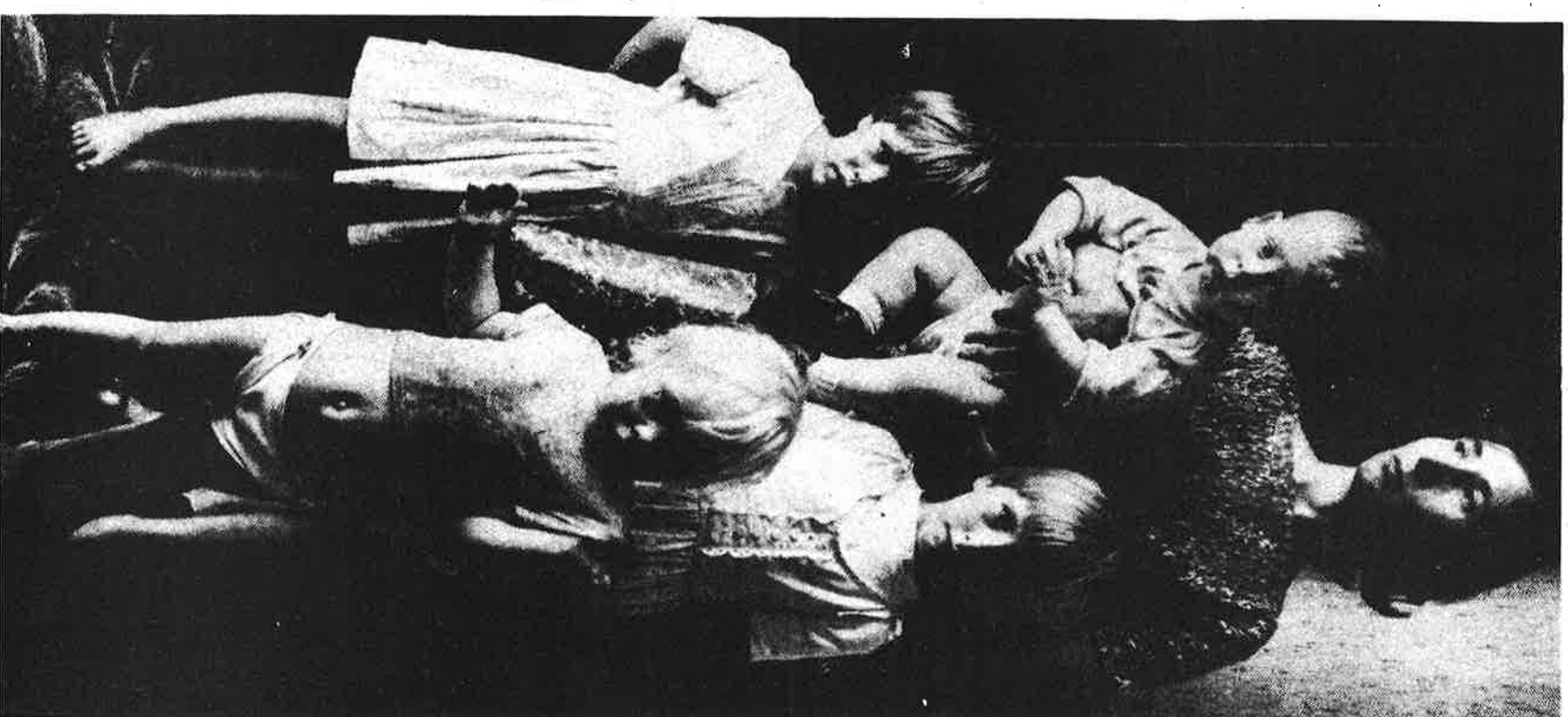
Well, the times have changed and American Motors is enjoying its best profits ever. It has had booming sales in its small-car line since the big increase in the prices of gas and oil last winter.

We workers and our union want to enjoy the company's change of fortune, too, by getting much

higher wages, more vacation and relief time, plus other benefits the Big 3 auto workers obtained after their contract was renewed last year. We want a 2-year contract so we can bargain at the same time as the Big 3.

American Motors workers now enjoy a 35-workers to 1-steward ratio and a right-to-strike clause if the company doesn't process our grievances. The company definitely wants to whittle down these benefits and give us more compulsory overtime, for reasons very apparent.

With all the higher prices in food, rent, and other commodities, we union workers are willing to remain on strike until the company meets our demands!



Secretary of Agriculture Butz claims there are no hungry people in this country! And these "experts" claim to be solving the problem of inflation for poor and working people...

# Portuguese workers stop rightist rally at gunpoint

By ANDY STAPP

NEW YORK, Oct. 2—Portugal's fascists made a long-expected attempt to regain political power on the night of September 27 and were stopped by an urgent mobilization of the working class.

The right wing had moved in response to a provocative invitation to the "silent majority" by then-President Antonio de Spínola. The general had called on the right to mass in Lisbon for a rally against the nation's powerful left parties and trade unions. The former commander of Portuguese troops in Africa, who has been

posing as a "democrat" since the overthrow of the fascist Caetano regime last April, showed his true colors in this appeal, which was answered by the die-hard supporters of the old fascist order.

## WORKING CLASS ORGANIZING

Since the crumbling of the Caetano police state last spring, Portugal's terribly oppressed workers and peasants, including rank-and-file soldiers at home and in Africa, have been feverishly organizing themselves in the trade unions and left parties. Somewhat

like during the Allende period in Chile, the Socialist and Communist parties have been participating in the government, but the bourgeois state apparatus and capitalist ownership of production have remained intact.

In making his call to the fascists, Spínola perhaps reasoned that a large, armed right-wing rally would undermine and demoralize the progressive masses in the same manner that similar mobilizations had done in Chile. Or perhaps the President-general even anticipated a fascist seizure of power in the name of saving "democracy" from the communist and socialist forces.

But he overlooked one fact. The workers might not go along with his "Chile game plan." They might fight back.

And that is precisely what they did. The night before the rally workers, peasants, and left students, many of them armed, fanned out into the suburbs and set up roadblocks on all the major roads leading into the capital. Their slogan: "Fascism shall not pass!"

## BIRTH OF WORKERS' MILITIAS?

Throughout the night all cars were stopped and searched by what the September 29 New York Times disparagingly termed

"leftist vigilantes." These embryonic workers' militias confiscated many weapons being smuggled into Lisbon by their rightist enemies.

City bus drivers struck to ensure that none of the neo-Nazi snakes slithered into the city on municipal transportation.

Spínola, enraged by the workers' counterattack, ordered all Lisbon's radio and TV stations closed down and threatened to fire and imprison his prime minister, who had suggested the fascist rally be called off. By morning, however, it was obvious that the rightists had received a crushing defeat at the hands of the working class. Spínola belatedly faced reality and canceled the rally.

The entire balance of forces had shifted in a matter of a few hours, and the military officers who make up the higher echelons of the government began ordering the arrest of several hundred prominent fascists, fearing that if they did not act the angry workers would mete out revolutionary justice to these hated enemies of the people. Spínola's gamble had flopped completely and on Monday afternoon (September 30) he resigned.

## NEW PRESIDENT ANOTHER MILITARIST

He was replaced as President by General Costa Gomez, the Army

Chief of Staff, whose record is indistinguishable from Spínola's. Gomez had been military commander of the Portuguese Army in Angola under the Caetano dictatorship and is certainly no friend of the oppressed, either in Africa or in Portugal itself.

Even as Gomez took office, a crowd of 20,000 jubilant leftists, celebrating their victory over the reactionary plotters, marched through downtown Lisbon chanting "Death to the CIA!"

Imminent counter-revolution had been beaten back and a phase of the struggle had ended. But the elevation of Gomez is a tenuous compromise that cannot settle anything for long. Despite the arrests of some notorious fascists, the capitalist state apparatus is still intact and shielding thousands of the creatures of the fallen dictatorship. Only a clean sweep of the whole capitalist machinery by the armed workers can permanently end the threat of counter-revolution.

There can be no illusions about any capitalist democratic stability in Portugal. Inflation has hit 30 percent per year, the highest in Europe. The economic and political strains caused by this are enormous on the system, which is rotted through and through with fascists and their collaborators. Stability and justice can only become a reality when the police torturers, generals, and capitalist politicians are rounded up and jailed and the masses have seized the factories and land. Only a complete social overturn can ultimately save the Portuguese masses from a return to the horrors of fascism.

But for now the working class has scored a big victory.



Armed workers and peasants in Portugal prevent the right wing from mobilizing in Lisbon on Sept. 27

## Right on, Fidel!

The Premier of Revolutionary Cuba, Fidel Castro, told it like it is in a speech last week. He attacked the horrors rained down the throats of the Chilean people by the Made-in-USA fascist junta now in power there. He denounced the recent defense of the CIA and its "dirty, criminal" methods by President Gerald Ford. He pointed out that inflation, which is hurling hundreds of millions throughout the world over the brink of disaster, comes directly from the imperialist economic system dominated by U.S. monopolies.

What was different about this speech was that he said it in front of two U.S. senators—Jacob Javits and Claiborne Pell.

And while this shocked and infuriated the bourgeois press here, it was a splendid act of defiance in the eyes of all the world's struggling masses. Right on, Comrade Fidel!

It was also in the best traditions of communist diplomacy, as first practiced by Lenin. Cuba has every right to seek normal diplomatic and economic relations with the capitalist countries. We here in the United States must fight for the recognition of Cuba,

because the imperialist politicians are in fact violating our rights when they try to cut us off from our closest socialist neighbor.

What Cuba has done shows, however, that class questions need not be compromised in order to further purely diplomatic objectives. In effect, the Cubans are carrying out both a diplomatic and a political offensive, in which they are appealing to the support of the progressive elements here and in all capitalist countries.

And this is what has the imperialists choking on their own bile. In what may have been an unguarded moment of truth, The New York Times had this to say in its editorial of October 2:

"When prominent members of the Senate include themselves in negotiations, they may inadvertently encourage a foreign government in the belief that it has more bargaining leverage than it actually possesses or, even worse, that it can appeal over the head of the United States Government to the Congress and the American people."

And what could be worse, in the view of this big business paper, than for the American people to demand a voice in foreign policy?

## Revolutionary armed resistance meets fascist threat in Argentina

By P. MEISNER

NEW YORK, Sept. 29—One year after the fascist-CIA coup in neighboring Chile, the threat of fascism looms ever greater in Argentina.

The brutal murder 2 days ago of Silvio Frondizi, a 67-year-old lawyer and brother of former president Arturo Frondizi, by a fascist organization called the Argentine Anti-Communist Alliance, is further evidence that the Argentine capitalist class, through its military, its ultra-right terrorist groups, and the Peronist right, is planning a fascist takeover.

The wave of fascist violence, which has resulted in the assassination of one person a day since the death of Juan Peron on July 1, has been accompanied by a severe repression carried out by the new government of Isabella Martinez de Peron (Peron's widow). On September 6, Mrs. Peron took two more steps toward fascism by closing down the last of the left Peronist publications, La Causa Peronista, and by appointing a brigadier major as Federal Intervenor for the Province of Cordoba, the scene of violent class battles in recent months.

## LEFT PERONISTS JOIN ARMED RESISTANCE

However, the fascist threat is not going unchallenged. The Revolutionary Army of the People (ERP) has intensified its guerrilla campaign and launched a new offensive against the organs of repression. (See Workers World, Sept. 20, 1974.) ERP guerrillas captured an army colonel and a lieutenant on September 25 and

executed them in retaliation for the deaths of guerrillas.

Also on September 6, the Montoneros, a large left-Peronist guerrilla movement, declared a total people's war on the government of Isabella Peron and the capitalist oligarchy.

The declaration was also signed by the Peronist Working Youth, the Peronist Youth, the Evita Group, the Rural Peronist Movement, the Peronist University Youth, and the Secondary School Students Union, all left-Peronist organizations. The declaration called for "the concentration of all their forces to lead the people's resistance against the imperialist and oligarchic offensive."

The Montoneros also announced the formation of militia units, "so that all the people will be able to play an active part in all kinds of confrontations that will take place during this phase of the resistance."

## GOVERNMENT REPRESSION DEEPENS

The declaration also made demands on the government to abolish all forms of repression, return all deposed trade union leaders back to their legitimate posts, repeal the Social Pact (Juan Peron's program for "class peace," which amounted to nothing more than a wage freeze), release all political prisoners, and restore the rights of freedom of speech, press, and to organize. Mrs. Peron, however, went ahead and passed another totalitarian law on September 26 providing stiff prison sentences for the "dissemination of anti-government propaganda."

The government and the fascist groups have also been carrying out a witchhunt of leftists and left Peronists on the university campuses. On September 7, fascist goons placed a bomb in the home of Raul Laguzzi, the former rector of Buenos Aires University, which killed Laguzzi's 4-month-old son. Yesterday, Laguzzi was forced to leave Argentina and take asylum in Mexico along with two actors, all of whom had received threats of assassination. Another prominent leader threatened by the ultra-right if former president Hector Campora, who has been forced to remain in Mexico City where he was formerly ambassador.

But despite all the repression, the reactionary government has been unable to smash the Argentine workers into submission. After fascists assassinated a leader of the major transport union on September 16, workers staged a 24-hour nationwide strike bringing buses and subways to a standstill. In Cordoba, auto workers recently launched the biggest strike since Peron returned to power 2 years ago.

The Argentine working class and its revolutionary organizations have the strength to defeat the fascist threat. Class battles combined with armed struggle against capitalist reaction and U.S. imperialism are already under way. With the bloody lessons of Chile still before their eyes, the Argentine workers and revolutionaries are gearing up for a struggle to take state power as the only way to defeat fascist counter-revolution.

El Grito de Lares, 1868

# 1st battle for Republic of Puerto Rico

By JULIO GHIGLIOTTI  
Every September 23, the town of Lares in Puerto Rico becomes the focal site of the Puerto Rican independence movement. In-  
dependistas from all over the island gather at "La Plaza de la Revolucíon," the plaza of the Revolution, to commemorate the birth of the Republic of Puerto Rico on Sept. 23, 1868.

It was 106 years ago that a group of Puerto Rican revolutionaries

marched into the town of Lares, took over the town hall, and declared the free Republic of Puerto Rico. A proclamation written by Ramon Emeterio Belances, leader of the revolutionary forces, was used as a manifesto. This proclamation, entitled "The Ten Commandments of Free Men," called for the immediate abolition of slavery and for an end to the despotism of the Spanish Empire in all its forms.

It was here that the cry Viva Puerto Rico Libre—the Cry of Lares—was first raised, embroidered on a banner which also exclaimed Muerto o Libertad, Death or Liberty, marching side by side with the revolutionary flag.

## ABORTED REVOLUTION

Ramon Emeterio Belances, called the Father of Our Land by all Puerto Ricans, was the guiding force behind the insurrection in

Lares. He was convinced, after struggling within legal means for some form of independence from the Spanish oppression, that only a determined armed struggle would free Puerto Rico. "They cannot give us what they do not have," he wrote in 1867 as part of the Revolutionary Committee building and planning for the insurrection.

Actually, the insurrection had been planned for September 29 and was to signal the beginning of a

revolutionary upsurge throughout the country. Belances himself was in the Dominican Republic at the head of a 3,000-man army awaiting the insurrection, and a steamship was on its way to Puerto Rico loaded with arms for the revolution.

However, the Spanish regime was tipped off and immediately set about crushing the movement. Buenaventura Baer, a Dominican traitor, prevented the Revolutionary Army's departure and seized their arms. Belances' ship, El Telegrafo, was seized by the Spanish at St. Thomas. Belances himself was not allowed to land in San Juan.

Yet, the revolutionaries at Lares did not abort their mission and decided to carry out the insurrection a week in advance, on September 23. They hoped that their example would spark an island-wide rebellion of the slaves and workers who had to carry the hated work books with them at all times.

These books indicated whether the worker was employed or not; if not, he was put to work on public projects for token or starvation wages. It was wage slavery in its most blatant form. The revolutionaries' first act on taking over Lares and declaring the Republic was to burn their work books.

The insurrection did not spread as the revolutionaries had hoped. It was crushed too soon and the repression which followed was very heavy. The revolutionary mood created did not have time to develop and spread. Also, the call for the rebellion of the slaves was not picked up for the simple fact that outright slavery was not widespread in Puerto Rico as it was in Cuba. And it was in Cuba that the Cry of Lares struck a responsive chord among the masses.

On Oct. 10, 1868, the Cry of Yara was heard in Cuba—the beginning of the Ten Years War which, interrupted by the Peace of Zanjon in 1878, continued into and culminated in the War of Independence led by Jose Marti. That war always had as its objective the independence of Cuba and Puerto Rico.

The lack of military skill was an important factor in the crushing of Lares. In Cuba there was no lack of military skill with heroes such as Antonio Maceo, Calixto Garcia, and Maximo Gomez leading the revolutionary armies.

Many Puerto Ricans fought in the Cuban War of Independence. Belances was an active supporter of the movement and organized as much aid as he could from his exile in Paris, France—always, always, with the goal of freedom for the Antilles and especially his home, Puerto Rico.

El Grito de Lares signifies the wish of all oppressed people to be free. It symbolizes the undercurrent running just below the surface in Puerto Rico—for freedom, independence, unending struggle.

Ramon Emeterio Belances died shortly after the U.S. invaded Puerto Rico. But the spirit of Lares lives today in the struggle against U.S. imperialism. It was expressed this September 23 when thousands of Puerto Ricans gathered in Lares, primarily organized by the Puerto Rican Socialist Party. And it was expressed by Pepe Sotomayor, vice president of the Nationalist Party, when he said recently at a rally in solidarity with the Newark Puerto Rican community, "Puerto Rico has been at war with the U.S. government since 1896."

That is the meaning of the Cry of



## Filipino liberation struggle rising against fascist state



By LYDIA BAYONETA  
ROCHESTER, Sept. 26—September 21 marked the second Year since President Ferdinand Marcos declared a state of martial law in the Philippines. At that time, thousands of citizens were arrested, including leaders of

Demonstrators protest iron-heel dictatorship of Ferdinand Marcos. This demonstration in Chicago was called by the Union of Democratic Filipinos and demanded an end to U.S. role in the Philippines.

Credit: KDP

## U.S. role in Philippines martial law protested

CHICAGO, Sept. 21—Chanting "U.S. out of the Philippines. No more Vietnamese," more than 150 demonstrators marched from the Civic Center to the Philippine Consulate on Michigan Avenue today. Called by the KDP (Union of Democratic Filipinos), today's march was to protest the 2 years of iron-heel rule by the martial law regime of Ferdinand Marcos. The Chicago demonstration was one of several being held across the U.S. raising the question of the

Philippines to the workers and oppressed here.

There was a friendly exchange on the streets in the busy shopping area. Talking to the people and handing them leaflets, the demonstrators exposed the role of the U.S. government in the Philippines, demanded an end to all U.S. aid to Marcos, freedom for the more than 20,000 political prisoners languishing in the concentration camps, and a full

restoration of civil liberties. They called on the workers and poor in the U.S. to support the struggle of the Filipino people for their liberation.

A delegation from Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF) was there with two banners. One attacked "Marcos' martial law. Made in U.S.A.—Victory to the Filipino liberation struggle."

A representative from YAWF spoke when the demonstration stopped in front of the Federal building, stating unconditional solidarity with the anti-imperialist liberation struggle of the Filipino people, and adding that a victory for the oppressed in the Philippines would be a victory for the world's oppressed.

different political groups ranging from the right to the left wing, trade unions, peasant leaders and members, liberal intellectuals, youth, and student militants. They were taken to a special military detention camp where those suspected of subversion were tried by a special military tribunal.

Strikes and picketing were forbidden and all progressive organizations outlawed. The press and other media were placed under strict military censorship. Elections and the national legislature were suspended, and whatever democratic rights that had ever existed for the Filipinos were destroyed by the severe military control.

Today, contrary to Marcos' claim of having established peace and order, the fascist government continues its indiscriminate killings of thousands of people.

The New People's Army (NPA) and the Muslim revolutionary forces have joined together to establish a united front to fight the U.S.-backed fascist government. There have been at least 26 clashes since September 1 when 50 government troops were killed. In Trolí, South Cotabato, the Muslim revolutionary group and the NPA combined forces to liberate the area.

Despite troop build-ups from 65,000 to 256,000, and an increase of U.S. military aid from \$30.5 million in 1973 to \$91.5 million for 1974, Marcos' puppet regime continues to suffer defeats. Recently, two companies of the puppet army involving 200 men were annihilated. When martial law was declared, the NPA liberated parts of three provinces; now they have liberated additional areas in

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# Political prisoners

## JAMES RAY MENDOZA



**Demonstrators march in front of Milwaukee courthouse to free James Ray Mendoza.** Credit: Al Stergar

By JUDY KORNFELH  
MILWAUKEE, Sept. 26—Two drunken, off-duty Milwaukee cops were shot to death outside a south-side bar in the early morning hours of July 10.

In true storm trooper style, the Milwaukee police immediately launched a campaign of terror against the Latin community. They pushed their way into homes and businesses, carried on racist harassment of people in the streets, and culminated this with the arrest of James Ray Mendoza on two counts of first-degree murder. (During their illegal searches, the police harassed members of Ray's family and stole pictures and other personal belongings.)

Bail was set at \$100,000, despite the fact that the preliminary hearings revealed that the only eye witness testified that the shooting was done by a white man, not a Latino and not Ray Mendoza—pointing up the obvious frame-up.

After continued racist harassment of the Latino community and the binding over of Mendoza for trial on Oct. 8, 1974, the people found it necessary to form a defense committee in Ray's behalf. The committee brought together members of Ray's family, people from the Latin community, and members of several progressive organizations. The committee's main objectives are to see that Ray is free by forcing the prosecution to drop the charges and to put an end to police terror in the Latin community. The struggle to meet these objectives has been carried on militantly since this new reign of terror against the community began. One of the first of many marches and rallies was held late in July when 300 angry Latino, Black, and white supporters marched to the courthouse to protest the arrest of Mendoza and the police repression. The angry protesters marched several miles

from the south and north sides of the city to demand freedom for Ray Mendoza.

Numerous fund-raising events have been met with a warm response. Thousands of signatures have been collected to demand Ray's freedom. These petitions will be presented to DA McCann. Ray's picture is appearing all over the state and in other parts of the country on buttons and t-shirts. More activities are planned.

Because of the growing mass support for Ray Mendoza, the judge, fearing Ray might get justice, has moved the trial to Sparta, a tiny, backward, all-white pocket of racism located over 200 miles from Milwaukee.

On Thursday, September 12, despite bad weather and the fact that the demonstration was held during working hours, over 200 people representing the Ray Mendoza Defense Committee, the Latin American Union for Civil Rights, AIM, the United Farm Workers, Youth Against War & Fascism, and other organizations, plus many individuals, marched to the courthouse, protest this attempt to remove Ray from his family and his popular base of support.

On October 8 the trial is set to begin in Sparta. On Saturday, October 5, mass marches from several points in the city will converge at the civic center for a rally to show the people's anger at the move of the trial to Sparta. Virtually no Latinos or other minorities could be jurors, preventing Ray from receiving a jury of his peers.

The committee will be rallying support in Milwaukee and will be present in Sparta during the duration of the trial. The struggle to free Ray Mendoza will continue until Ray is free of his chains.

The only fair trial is no trial at all! Libren a Ray Mendoza!

## WOUNDED KNEE

On September 16 Federal Judge Fred Nichol dismissed charges against Russell Means and Dennis Banks arising from the occupation of Wounded Knee, S.D., in 1973. The federal prosecutors had asked for a mistrial when one juror was hospitalized during deliberations, because the government expected the jury would vote for acquittal.

Now seven of the jurors and three alternate jurors have formed a committee to organize support for the more than 100 Indian activists who still face charges.

These ten jurors, who had been carefully screened by the prosecution, listened to 98 days of testimony from government agents and saw through their lies.

The committee of jurors has sent a letter to U.S. Attorney General Saxbe calling on him to drop all remaining charges, and the first to sign was Therese Chertier, the hospitalized juror who the government had thought was the only one who would vote for conviction.

Stop the Wounded Knee frame-ups! and fully participate in the new revolutionary government.

### WHY MARTIAL LAW?

The Philippines is an excellent example of neocolonialism—a country supposedly independent and which remains dominated and exploited by its former colonial master.

Before it was granted "independence," the Philippines had to agree to keep U.S. control and influence in every sector of Philippine society. There is literally no other country in the world where U.S. corporations, military commanders, private and government agencies, and policy makers have such a free hand.

Why then, if U.S. domination was

## J. B. JOHNSON

By DIANE JOHNSON  
ST. LOUIS, Sept. 21—A mass rally and

march were held here one week ago by members and supporters of the J.B. Johnson Defense Committee. Many people turned out to show their support for J.B. Johnson, who was accused in 1970 of being an accomplice to the murder of policeman James Boevingloh, a white cop who was fatally wounded during a jewelry store holdup in University City, Missouri.

J.B. Johnson, a young Black man, was dragged several minutes later from a taxi at gunpoint under threat of "having his head blown off." He was then taken to jail and questioned relentlessly without being informed of his rights and was later charged with being an accomplice to the murder. No bail was allowed for Johnson. This is a perfect example of how a racist and corrupt government catches its victims.

In March 1970 J.B. Johnson's mother, Mary Watkins and other concerned people set up a committee in defense of J.B. As the committee grew in membership, more and more people became determined to fight to free J.B.

In September 1970 the committee finally succeeded in having bail set for Johnson. Once he was released on bail bond, J.B. was arrested five separate times by the police who sought to interfere with his ability to work on his own defense. During one of the arrests, J.B. was beaten so badly he could not stand up.

The trial began on Sept. 11, 1972, after many prosecution stalls. St. Louis County Prosecutor Gene McNary and his assistant Noel Robyn asked J.B. to accept a "10-year sentence" in exchange for a guilty plea. He refused, restating his innocence. The owner of the jewelry store was unable to identify J.B. in a lineup stating, "All coloreds look alike to me, anyway."

The presiding judge at J.B.'s trial, Herbert Lasky, watched as an all-white jury drawn from older suburban residents was picked to hear the case. In the final jury panel, 13 of 33 revealed they had close friends or relatives who were police. The jury foreman, in fact, was once a deputy marshal.

The evidence produced by the prosecution was totally circumstantial. The pigs claimed they discovered two rings in J.B.'s shoes during their third jail search. A photo of a police evidence bag taken at the time of the arrest of Walker showed seven rings, but when the evidence bag was produced in the courtroom only five rings were present. This discrepancy was never explained by the pigs or prosecution.

J.B. Johnson, victim of racism, was convicted by an all-white jury after Prosecutor Robyn's summation: "Let's face it, to many of us, they do look alike." J.B. has been sentenced to life in prison.

In March 1973, civil liberties attorney William Kunstler took the case because "there are thousands of J.B. Johnsons in this country." On the morning of September 19 William Kunstler brilliantly argued the right of J.B. to be granted a new trial. The court has 90 days to reply. J.B. Johnson must be freed!

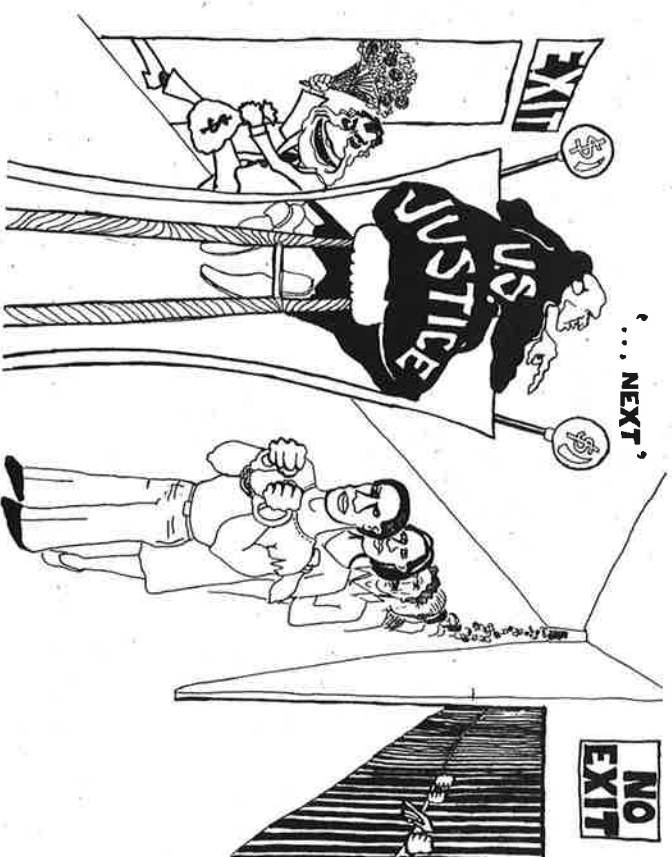
Free all prisoners of racist injustice!

## AN OPEN LETTER TO THE PEOPLE

Over 90 percent of all Americans are working class people—without a single labor leader in Congress.

Democracy in America exists only in the propaganda—justice is for the wealthy few. It is time for us to install a majority government—of the working class, by the working class, for the working class.

(From D. Fichett 79798, Virginia Penitentiary, P.O. Box 27264, Richmond, VA 23261.)



doubts about Marcos' ability as a front man because of the issues of corruption and enrichment in office which plagued his government and because of his frank desire to stay in power. His unpopularity at the time also added to the general instability which added to the growing mass movement within the country.

It was clear to Marcos that there were other distinct establishment groups in the Philippines ready and willing to take power with U.S. support. He didn't lose any time, therefore, in proving to the U.S. that he was the best contender in the neocolonial power game.

Thirdly, the Filipino people had again revived the national liberation movement, with the sincere desire to take the steps

## Philippines

(Continued from page 13)

Central Luzon, Sorsogin, Southern Luzon, and Ilocos province.

There is growing mass support. In many instances, the people have provided the accurate intelligence and familiarity with the terrain that has accounted for the NPA victories. In liberated areas, land has been given to the peasants, and in certain cases, land rent has been reduced to 15 percent of the former amount. The people operate their own schools and medical facilities

Secondly, the U.S. was having

necessary for a good revolutionary upheaval that would pave the way for a new society where hunger, poverty, and social inequality would be something of the past. It is evident that today Filipinos are engaged in a revolutionary struggle, a revolution seeking liberation from foreign and feudal oppression and exploitation. The U.S. is trying hard to prolong its presence with fascism, but the internal and external conditions for armed opposition to the repressive Marcos regime have never been better.

As progressives, we unconditionally support all wars of national liberation. We will show our militant opposition to U.S. imperialism in the Philippines as we have opposed all imperialism.



## Ethiopian masses look to further advances after Selassie ouster

By JOEL MEYERS  
NEW YORK, Sept. 26—The overthrow and arrest of Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie is certainly a great event, and one that will undoubtedly inspire oppressed people all around the world who are saddled with local autocracies and imperialist exploitation.

The overthrow comes after a long period of struggle on the part of workers, students, teachers, peasants, and national minorities, which came to a head in the early part of this year.

**WIDE HATRED OF REGIME**  
Ethiopia's economy is in a stage of development little more ad-

vanced than that of Biblical days, the main difference being that the modern Pharaohs are backed up by modern imperialism, and the masses are plundered by modern imperialism more than they ever were by the Pharaohs alone. The disaffection with the now-deposed emperor and his draconian regime became so great that not only the rank and file of the military, but even sizable elements of the police took part. This was especially true in Eritrea and other occupied, non-Ethiopian territories.

The hatred for the regime is so strong that even elements high in the officer caste have to publicly espouse the popular demands that derail the soldiers' struggle. But the response of Draguignan shows that the concessions were too little, too late.

**FRANCE'S RULERS SHAKEN**  
The bourgeois daily papers in Paris reflected the fears of the French ruling class. *Le Monde* raised the question of a volunteer army for discussion and all said the situation was grave. They were afraid that the ties of solidarity between soldier and worker which are now being built would overcome the habits of obedience and fear that the officers depend on.

Furthermore, demands persist for independence for Eritrea. These demands have been almost universal in Eritrea since this territory and its people were delivered to virtual slavery to Haile Selassie and his Amharic aristocracy in 1952 by the United Nations, acting on a motion introduced by the United States.

**ETHIOPIAN TROOPS DISAFFECTED**

In the months building up to Selassie's overthrow, these demands for the first time were getting an echo from the Ethiopian rank-and-file troops whose lives were being wasted in the futile war against Eritrean guerrillas. (The Ethiopian army has been propped up with 1,800 U.S. "advisers," Vietnam-style.) In addition, the demand for the removal of U.S., British, and Israeli forces from the country was raised.

The top brass were isolated to the point where they could not openly oppose these demands. They were impelled to arrest layer after higher layer of the Selassie regime, culminating in the arrest of Selassie himself. But while buying time with these measures, the top of the military formed its own political movement whose program was to arrest Selassie and his closest advisors but to preserve the essence of the economic system and the relation of Ethiopia to imperialism.

**MILITARY BRASS CONTINUE WAR ON ERITREA**

The revolt has shaken the rule of foreign and domestic plunderers in Addis Ababa. They have been forced to hesitate and backtrack, and give the archaic socio-economic relations there a new mask. But their intentions are to preserve as much of the old order as they can, and to co-opt, not extend, the revolution. This is shown most clearly in their stubborn refusal to give independence to the Eritrean people. Instead, the military brass have intensified the counter-insurgency war there.

Elements of the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) in New York demonstrated for independence at the United Nations last week. The demonstrators told of a new measure taken by the rulers of Ethiopia against the Eritrean people: poisoning of the drinking water. There has also been a massacre at the Eritrean city of Um Hajed. But the ELF vows to continue its struggle for liberation, a struggle that is bound to have the greatest effect on the developing revolution in Ethiopia itself.

## Ruling class alarmed

### French GIs march for their rights

By JOHN C. OTTO  
NEW YORK, Sept. 26—On September 10, 200 privates and corporals in the 19th Regiment of the French Army demonstrated in the streets of Draguignan in southeastern France.

These were the slogans shouted out by all: "Down with repression," "1,000 francs pay" (\$250 per month), "Down with racism," and "We want reforms!" Among the marchers were 30 Black soldiers from the French Antilles and others from North Africa.

As described in the French radical weekly *Rouge*: "For more than an hour the soldiers plowed through the city, through the center, and the immigrant quarter under the approving looks of the population. Reaching the center, the soldiers sat down. The colonel arrived: 'Who are your leaders?' Everyone got up."

#### HALF A MILLION IN ARMY

Of the over 500,000 men in the French Armed Forces, 330,000 are in the regular army. This force is used against the colonial people in what remains of France's empire, as it is now in Chad. Units are stationed in West Germany, threatening the socialist states of Eastern Europe and the USSR. And in a crisis the French bosses would order the army against the French workers, as DeGaulle threatened to do during the 1968 general strike.

It is also a draftee army, with most French youth putting in their 12 months. The pay is next to nothing and the low-ranking soldiers have no political rights. The officers impose their racism on the army, giving the most menial jobs to the Black and Arab soldiers from France's present and former colonies. It's this army that the youth are now challenging.

#### APPEAL OF THE HUNDRED

But the challenge did not spring up overnight. French servicemen began the campaign last spring, after the May elections, with the "Appeal of the Hundred." This was a petition signed by a hundred soldiers demanding weekly passes, freedom of political expression and information, stationing all troops within France's borders, a raise in pay, and other concessions.

The initial response of the military hierarchy was severe repression, sending those they believed initiators of the action to the stockade. These tactics backfired, especially when groups of students and workers demon-



French GIs present demands to military brass: "Down with repression," "1,000 francs pay."

## White racist regimes in Africa shaken by Portuguese defeat

By CAL BONNER  
NEW YORK, Sept. 25—The weakening of Portuguese colonialism after nearly a decade of armed struggle in Mozambique, Angola, and Guinea-Bissau has sent shock waves through the racist governments on those countries' borders—the Republic of South Africa (Azania) and Rhodesia (Zimbabwe).

Reports from South Africa indicate that that government is strongly considering a gradual decline in its dominating role in South West Africa (Namibia). This "change of heart" derives, in no small part, from the stunning raids which the guerrillas of SWAPO (South West African People's Organization) have staged in recent months against the South African police forces in Namibia.

In Rhodesia, a country where 250,000 whites, mostly settlers, actively participate in the oppression of 5.2 million Africans, guerrillas from the Zimbabwean liberation forces have struck with

amazing swiftness and effectiveness at Rhodesia's security forces. This has caused South Africa to augment its neighbor's forces with a sizeable contingent of its own paramilitary policemen.

Rhodesia's military expenditure has risen to more than 12 percent of the budget, compared with 9 percent last year. Farming has been disrupted and the guerrilla actions are wreaking havoc on tourism. Even though it is propped up by South Africa, more whites are leaving Rhodesia than at any time since its unilaterally declared independence from Britain in December 1965.

Equally unnerving to the white supremacist regime are signs of unrest within the rank-and-file of the Blacks in Rhodesia's army and police. Late last year, for example, six Black non-commissioned officers in the army were court-martialed for mutiny. Since whites form less than 5 percent of the population of that country and the government relies heavily on

Blacks in the security forces—a third of the regular army and about two-thirds of the police force are Black—this is indeed an ominous development for the racists.

There is little wonder, then, that Prime Minister Ian Smith has of late avoided repetition of his well-known phrase of a few years back: "We have the happiest Africans in the world." Smith has not been alone in changing some of his opinions to suit the times. There is the farmer quoted in the *New York Times* last year as having told a local (Rhodesian) newspaper: "The terrorists are nothing, only a pinprick in our sides."

"Not long afterwards," wrote the *Times* reporter, "a hand grenade sailed into his bedroom window, killing his wife and wounding him. Farmers no longer like to be quoted in the press."

The rising tide of revolution is sending tremors throughout the white supremacist regimes. In time, the revolutionary momentum will certainly sweep away the feid political backwaters of Africa's southern tip, leaving in its wake the social, political, and economic flowering so long denied its Black majority by their imperialist-supported racist oppressors.

# WORKERS WORLD

NEWS FROM THE MIDWEST

More Midwest news! Articles from Milwaukee, Chicago, and Cleveland on pages 11 and 12.

## Detroit strikers in fierce battle to save jobs, keep union contract

By KAREN PAULICH  
DETROIT, Sept. 27—Striking workers at the Helm, Inc. plant here have been waging a fierce battle for over 8 weeks now against the bosses' plan to smash their union and cut jobs. These strikers, many of them women, have courageously stood up to attacks from all sides—from the scabs, the bosses, the cops, and the courts.

Helm is a small plant with about 175 workers who are organized into the Graphics Arts International Union (GAIU) local 20B. Much of the bindery operations at the plant were recently shipped

out, and Helm is changing to packing and distributing—a field where the majority of the shops are nonunion. For this reason, the bosses claim they "can't compete," and they are demanding that the workers not only tighten their belts and go without a wage increase, but that they surrender their right to a union.

### LAID OFF WORKERS

#### HAVE 20 YEARS SENIORITY

Although there are still a number of bindery machines running, Helm is now trying to throw the bindery workers out into the street.

Many of the workers threatened with layoffs have 20 to 30 years seniority. At the same time, lower-paid workers with less seniority are being kept on. Of those who remain, many are faced with wage cuts.

As one striking worker explained, "We're fighting for our lives." The Helm plan is to discard like so much trash workers who've slaved away their lives there, and to slash the wages of those who are kept. To do this they must smash the union.

Since the strike began, the bosses have been loading vans and

station wagons with scabs and rushing them through the picket lines. Working hand-in-hand with the company, the police even attempted to drive scabs through in squad cars, but were stopped by the strikers.

### SPIKES THROWN THROUGH

#### THE BOSS'S WINDOW

Helm has not found union-busting or strike-breaking to be as easy as he thought. The workers' sentiments about his tactics were pretty well summed up when three railroad spikes were hurled through his office window. Further

indications of the workers' anger are the rows upon rows of smashed-out windows and doors. Strikers have had to fight tooth-and-nail to stop the scabs. There have been more than a few fist fights and pile-ups at the plant gates. Several strikers have been run down while trying to prevent cars from crossing the picket lines.

Some scab cars have been surrounded and physically pushed out of the driveways, while others have been greeted with a hail of rocks, bricks, and bottles, or a path of nails. More than \$3,000 worth of damage has been sustained by scab-running cars, and many would-be strike-breakers have had second thoughts.

Each day, the number of scabs is dwindling. When one young worker hired by an agency realized that the bosses were trying to use him to break a strike, he not only refused to go in but joined the picket line instead.

As the successes of the strike have grown, so has the repression. Strikers are being fired right and left. While many strikers have been arrested for defending the picket lines, not a hand has been laid on the vice-president of the company, who assaulted a woman striker. One of the arrested workers returned to the picket line on crutches after having been run over by scabs the day before. Another striker was shot at by company guards, then arrested. Armed with rifles, cops stand shot-gun over the pickets night and day. The courts are also considering an injunction against mass picketing that would threaten the only strength the workers have against the scabs and cops. Seeing how clearly the cops have supported the company, some strikers have challenged them: "Why do they tell us you're here to fight crime when you're nothing but strike-breakers?"

### STRIKE GETS HELP

The Helm strikers are not alone in their fight. The Westside Mothers Welfare Rights Organization has been walking the picket lines alongside strikers. The Center for United Labor Action has supported the picket lines and has issued a leaflet appealing to other workers to help the Helm strikers. These have been mailed to unions and distributed at workplaces.

It is this kind of class solidarity that is needed if the strike is to be won. Helm is counting on the small size of the plant to strangle the union there. With strike support from other workers, this won't be possible.

The outcome of the Helm strike will have far-reaching implications for both organized and unorganized labor in this city. Detroit is a union town, but if the bosses can bust one union, the others are threatened as well. All of Detroit's workers have a stake in the struggle at Helm.



Strikers at Detroit's Helm plant confront scabs in struggle to save their union.

## Ford oil war threats opposed in Detroit protest for full amnesty

DETROIT, Sept. 23—When President Ford arrived here today to deliver the keynote address at the World Energy Conference, more than 300 demonstrators were on hand to give him the kind of reception he really deserved. Today's demonstration was especially significant as one of the first protests against the new President since he took office.

At the energy conference itself, Ford and the other U.S.

representatives fired the opening guns of their renewed offensive against the Arab oil nations. According to Ford, it is the Arab countries that are responsible for an expected "worldwide depression . . . (that would) threaten the breakdown of world order and safety." Clearly the ruling class is trying to shift onto the backs of the Arab nations the blame for the developing economic crises in which the capitalist countries find themselves mired,

and for which the capitalists themselves are responsible.

The spirited demonstration outside was aimed primarily at Ford's position on amnesty and called for unconditional amnesty for all war resisters. Workers World Party and Youth Against War & Fascism participated in and organized for the demonstration, but demanded in addition an end to bad discharges, no amnesty for Nixon, an end to the war against

poor and working people, and also an end to the U.S.-Israeli aggression in the Middle East. Even though this energy conference was used by the U.S. imperialist class to intensify its anti-Arab propaganda, none of the many other groups present at the demonstration raised the issue of the Middle East.

Ford and the rest of his class are meeting opposition to their plans for war in the Middle East and a war of unemployment, poverty, low wages, racism, and inflation here at home. The poor and working people of this country will no more tolerate these wars carried out by a Ford than by a Nixon.