

Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite

WORKERS WORLD

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25¢

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Strike wave defies sellout leaders

For stories on phone strike, see pp.2-3

"Sellout! Sellout!" is the accusation ringing out in union meetings across the country. Workers straining to push earnings up to pre-inflation standards and resisting the bosses' attack on work rules and safety standards find sellout union officials are bargaining away most of what's won on the picket lines.

Take the telephone strike, or the postal strike, or the struggle of the taxi drivers. The workers have been ready to stick it out, even at great sacrifice, and see the bosses putting to a showdown. But with the companies putting on great pressure through the press and the government, the bureaucrats have been folding left and right. They are bargaining away what little control the workers have had over working conditions to win a few nickels.

The major offensive of the big corporations is on work rules. They are aiming at intensifying speed-up and laying off more workers. They want the people to pay for the breakdown of their system. The giants of modern industry are now complaining of bankruptcy, obsolescence and inefficiency, and they want us to pay for it!

But it was their policies, their leadership, and their imperialist adventures around the globe that brought on the present crisis.

The sweetheart union misleaders who've been shaking the boss's hand and taking his dollar cigars for years aren't worth the nickel and dime raises they settle for. And the workers are beginning to tell them so! A few days ago, a meeting of over 3,300 postal workers in New York City broke up in a shouting match when the union leadership tried to steamroll through a new contract over rank-and-file demands for strike action. Over 200 workers chased Letter Carrier president Vincent Sombrotto and Moe Biller, president of the Manhattan-Bronx Postal Union, out the back door of the hall and down 33rd St. With shouts of "Sellout" and "Chicken" they pounded on the roof and windows of the cab in which the two bureaucrats took refuge.

In the telephone strike, CWA President Beirne forced 400,000 workers back on the job who hadn't even seen the new contract. But another 90,000 are in rebellion.

Job security is another issue on which the

internationals are refusing to fight. The monopolies have decided they must streamline their operations—at the expense of the workers. In the railroads, the post office, and countless other industries, safety regulations and the limits of human endurance are being disregarded as management connives at overturning the present work rules and forcing one person to do two and three jobs.

In "good" times, speed-up means breaking your back on the job and probably getting an ulcer. In bad times like the present, speed-up means all this and more—the prospect of more layoffs, a shrinking job market, more young people getting out of school with no chance of ever getting a job, and more older people considered "obsolete," used-up, not wanted, ready for the "scrap heap."

The combined attack of bosses and bureaucrats on the sisters and brothers who make the mighty industry of this country run must be answered. And there are indications that many workers are ready to do so.

Why did China do it?

The new turn in Sino-U.S. relations by Sam Marcy

See centerfold

Stop the genocide against Palestinians!

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Counterrevolutionary terror sweeps Sudan

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INTERVIEW WITH PHONE OPERATORS

Women walk out in solidarity

by ALICE ROBINSON

The following interview was given to Workers World newspaper by two New York City telephone operators who, along with many other operators, have refused to cross the picket lines of the CWA union locals now striking against Ma Bell. The operators—all women—belong to the ITU, a company union, and are therefore risking their jobs by staying out. The solidarity between operators and striking CWA workers has been high, however, and the women hope to affiliate with the CWA in the near future.

WW: What happened in your shop on the first day of the strike?

What were the feelings of the women regarding the strike?
Sue: The night before the strike, the women were very enthusiastic. They were hoping for large picket lines so they wouldn't have to come to work. We knew—because of the horrible conditions in my building in particular, with cable bugs crawling all over us and bells ringing at night to make us work faster—that we would really have to make a strike against the company.

We had all arranged to meet at the corner before reaching work so that we could see what the situation was at the building. We all wanted to stay out during the strike.



Brooklyn operators hit the bricks.

Buffalo —

Rank and file
explain rebellion

by a WOMAN TELEPHONE WORKER

BUFFALO, July 25—As the strike against the Bell Telephone system approaches the end of the second week here in Western New York, over 6,000 CWA strikers, supported by independent union operators, clerks and business office employees, remain firm in their stand not to return to work as ordered by New York Telephone Company and sell-out CWA President Joseph Beirne.

"Joe's done it again—another sell-out!" shouted a 28-year-old AT&T long line veteran of eight years. "I wonder who paid him off this time?" added another picket, a 56-year-old maintenance woman with 26 years' service. "What's he trying to do to us? I can't live on an \$80-a-month pension. I just about make it

now. This company only pays me \$77.78 for a 27 1/2 hour week—and that's gross!"

Temper and militancy among all Bell workers remain high here despite the momentary shock and demoralization that set in immediately following the AT&T-Beirne deal. I spoke with another striker, a business office representative. "This is the first time in 30 years that the Telephone Commercial Union has struck... This company holds an economic stranglehold over all of its employees, but especially women. There are men—college graduates—just hired who make \$3,000 more a year than some of us who have been with the company 10, 20 or 30 years! We don't blame the guys; it's the company that's behind this scheme to divide us." A young plant clerk chimed in, "Last contract, the men got retroactive pay, and we didn't." She added, "My aunt is an operator and she makes \$113 a week after 47 years. She's out (respecting the picket line) too. Just the other day she told me, 'They built this company on the backs of women like me. I'm bitter and tired. At this stage of the game, what have I got to lose? I'm staying out.'"

The words and thoughts varied, but the story was the same. This strike, despite the sell-out, has awakened many, many workers for the first time. It's clear that you can't walk on a picket line with a co-worker one day, and cross it the next. They are refusing to accept the sham contract offer.

Last week, 2,000 members of Local 1122,

Gail: My building doesn't have any men working out of it—only operators—so there was no picket line on the first day of the strike. The women called the union to demand a picket line because that was the only way we could stay out of work—by not crossing the line. Finally the union sent some pickets over at 12:00 noon.

When the women got word of the picket line most of them walked out as soon as they could—on their lunch break, on their relief breaks or on their breaks to go to the bathroom.

WW: In the past the men and women have been separated. Was there solidarity in this strike between the men and women? Can you give some examples?

Gail: Well, as I said, there aren't any men working in my building but some men came to staff the picket line. These men were very impressed with the women's strength and their determination to stay out. There was an incident at my shop which showed the men and women felt that the strike was a joint struggle against the company. At one time there was only one man on the line and some cops started harassing him. So the women decided we'd all better walk with him so he wouldn't be arrested for loitering. And so we all joined the line and chanted "Ma Bell Go to Hell."

WW: How has the company reacted to the women's striking?

Gail: The company was totally surprised when the women went out. They tried to use every method to make us go back to work. They called us up at home and told us there were no picket lines when there were. They told us we'd get steps (penalties—ed.) for staying out or that we'd be fired. And they always had some managers downstairs watching us on the line.

Sue: At my building it was the same. They tried to put as much pressure as possible on the women to go to work during the strike. When we called in they told us it wasn't our strike, that we weren't

going to win anything in the strike and that it was the men's strike. They tried to divide men and women, Black and white.

But the women who stayed out did so because they knew that if they did the company couldn't function. And the company knew this.

I went back to work two nights ago for the first time. I mentioned before that the company put on bells to make the women work faster. But there are no more bells at the shop. They haven't even tried to put the bells on. And they have also served us free lemonade and sandwiches right inside the shop where we work. They're trying to be as nice as possible to keep the women working.

WW: How have the women reacted to the so-called settlement and do they have any feelings about the future?

Gail: Well, even though the operators have gone back to work, we feel we've shown the company we could fight and we feel it's great that the strike is still on in New York City. We support the New York locals still out and we wish them "All Power."

Sue: In my shop the women have read the so-called settlement. The company has distributed it quite widely because they feel it's a great settlement. But the women in the building know it's a rotten settlement. It doesn't eliminate the step system or the sick day system. Right now we have no paid sick days and the company hasn't even offered sick days to the men. And this was the men's strike. So the women realize that the company has not given anything to the men.

But what the women are looking forward to is that on August 1, the women's contract with the company is up. And the women are talking very militantly about going out on strike then. They're talking about it in terms of a strong women's strike. They're talking to the men in my building and hoping that the men will honor their picket lines and go out on strike with the women on August 1.

the largest of several CWA locals in Western New York, shouted, "No, No!" and hoisted and jeered at the mention of Beirne's "11:59-July 20 ultimatum." Local union officials stated at that meeting that what the company offered and what the CWA's bargaining committee were railroaded into accepting won't even bring top craftspeople up to government standards. Pickets continue to be maintained at all New York Telephone central office and business locations.

To this day, operators and commercial workers are respecting the CWA lines on the Niagara Frontier. Plane loads of supervisory scabs are still being flown into Buffalo from "territory headquarters" in Albany. Word has gotten out that the company has set up cots in many employee lounges for scabs who prefer not to face the wrath and jeers of pickets as they cross the lines.

"We haven't made up for what we didn't get during the last contract," one striker explained.

"If we have to stay out for months, we'll do it. One good rain and their telephone equipment will be shot to hell—automated or not. Those 12 hour a day supervisory scabs won't be able to keep it up very long!" This pretty much told the story.

The company's arrogant stand against the strikers and their supporters has been a unifying factor for all workers. The we're-one-big-happy-family myth is coming to an end in the Bell Telephone system. It's taken almost a century of oppression for our sisters and brothers at New York Tel to know who the real enemy is!

Phone workers rebel against Bieme-AT&T pact

by a C.W.A. PHONE WORKER

There is a workers' rebellion in America today. Tens of thousands of telephone workers are in rebellion against the high and mighty AT&T empire. The richest, most powerful bosses in America are unable to force 50,000 telephone workers in New York, as well as thousands more in California, Florida, Pennsylvania and other states to go back to work.

The bosses' "labor statesmen" flunkies are unable to get the workers back inside. Communications Workers of America President Beirne signed an agreement with AT&T that was so rotten that even this veteran sell-out artist was unable to make it stick. The AT&T-controlled press has scarcely breathed a word about this rank-and-file rebellion, knowing full well how contagious it could be.

The bosses shuddered

When half-a-million telephone workers walked off their jobs throughout the country last week, a shudder ran down the spine of the bankers and businessmen who rule over the AT&T empire (at least among those few of that class who still possess that portion of the human anatomy). The brave stockholders and executives hurried to inform the nation through their privately controlled mass media that the telephone system was "automated" and that service would remain in its "normal" state of virtual collapse. Of course, they hastened to add that their army of professional strike-breakers num-

bering 300,000 (generally known as "supervisors") were being mobilized to assist their "automated" equipment.

The AT&T managers tried to conceal their panic from the stockholders and from the workers. Buried deep in a New York Times article, however, they were forced to admit that a "prolonged strike could result in a complete breakdown of the system."

Outrage at contract offer

The half-million strikers (most of whom are members of the CWA) were prepared to engage the world's richest monopoly for at least a month to win their demands for a better contract. And yet, within a week, most of these workers were back on the job with barely a dollar more than old Scrooge Bell had offered just before the strike began.

The national strike began Wednesday morning, July 14, and on Sunday afternoon CWA president Beirne announced a "tentative" agreement with AT&T and instructed all workers to go back on the job midnight Tuesday. Except for an agency shop clause, there was no real difference between the agreement and what the company had offered before the strike. The workers' disbelief was matched only by their outrage at the indecent haste which Beirne had employed in betraying them. A telephone worker might ask, "Why did Beirne call the strike in the first place if he had no in-

(Continued on page 13)



New York CWA workers refuse to go back.

Strikers

expose company tactics

All over the country, CWA workers are out on strike for their lives and jobs. Red Times, newspaper of Detroit Youth Against War & Fascism, interviewed several of the picketers here in Detroit and they had plenty to say about Ma Bell.

RED TIMES: What are your strike demands? LLOYD: Well our main strike demands are for more money, an end to harassment between company and the workers, and for more and better benefits. Those are the main demands.

R.T.: What kind of benefits do you have now? LLOYD: Like Blue Cross; we get the lousiest Blue Cross in the city. It's really no good. We don't have any dental care; we don't get X-rays; we gotta pay our doctor bills.... We want Blue Cross...or something where we get general care and where we don't have to pay the first \$10 or \$15 on our X-rays and all.

R.T.: What are the wages here? LLOYD: Someone hired in at Western Elec-

tric, they hire in at \$2.99 an hour and to be trained electrical engineer and all this stuff runs about 50 to 75 cents more an hour. Two ninety-nine an hour—that's way behind! I'm an installer and I make \$3.34 an hour but that's still behind for the time I've been with the company....

R.T.: What are the operators' wages? OPERATOR: Ninety-nine dollars a week—gross—starting... LLOYD: That's before taxes.

OPERATOR: After taxes it's a shame!

R.T.: What are the working conditions like? LLOYD: The working conditions for men are filthy. They don't have nobody to keep the machines running clean. The company supplies us with clothes sometimes—but most of the time we have to wear our own clothes and it's just plain dirty. There's no decent working conditions in this building.

R.T.: How long is the strike going to last, do you think?

LLOYD: Till the company gives us a better offer. Michigan is going to be the last local back in again probably, cause we took a nickel loss the last time. The contract they offered us was with the raise and then after we paid our 20% Blue Cross we took a nickel loss. That's how they want it this time, but I don't think the people will settle for that again.

R.T.: Have you had much trouble with the cops or scabs?

LLOYD: Sure. Nothin' but scabs been goin' in there. They hired these Kelly Girls to work in place of operators and management's tryin' to do our jobs. There's enough scabs to run the place...nothin' but scabs.

There are about 10 to 15 people in jail right now for stopping people and talking to 'em. But the union's working on it now so they won't be in there more than 2 or 3 hours. There was a couple busted yesterday and one the first day. They say it was for stopping people from going in. But actually they were talking to people and the police said we were harassing them and holding them back. They arrested 'em on false pretenses, really.

Red Times also interviewed several opera-

tors and other women employees at Bell.

R.T.: What are working conditions like?

OPERATOR: They're terrible!

OPERATOR: Brutality.

LINEMAN: All kinds of human indignities! CAROL: They expect you to be there every day. They don't want you to be sick. They feel if you're sick you should do something not to be sick. Ain't no paid sick days regardless of how long you been there. (This particular woman had been injured on the job and was still harassed by the company to work even when the company refused to pay compensation—ed.)

OPERATOR: The management they're always buggin' you to work and they really don't know how to do the work themselves. I'd like to go up there and actually see them working!

R.T.: How long have you worked here and what do you earn?

MATTIE: I've been here almost three years and I make \$109—before taxes.

OPERATOR: I've been two years and I make \$104. By the time we get to five years, we might even make \$110 or something like that!

R.T.: What's the difference between men's wages and women's wages?

MATTIE: For instance, a woman'll get \$109 and a guy'll get \$150 and they're doin' the same thing! I know! I had to train these guys and they were making \$150 at the time and I was making \$106. Where I work it used to be all men and they called 'em "framemen," and they were making more money, but now that they brought women in and they changed it to "switchroom helpers" in order to pay the women less. They still have the guys as framemen so naturally they get paid more....cause a switchroom helper doesn't seem as important as a frameman, but you're doin' the same work.

R.T.: How long do you think the strike will last?

MATTIE: I expect it to last at least a month. We expect anything from two weeks to October. If it goes over Labor Day they're sunk cause you can already see the difference in service. Dial information and it rings a hundred times before you get an answer. Who are they gonna blame the service on? There's no employees to yell at!

editorial

Counterrevolutionary terror

Sweeps the Sudan

Riding high on the wave of counterrevolutionary terror that has inundated Jordan and Morocco in the past weeks, the Sudanese government has ordered the execution of 14 men accused of participating in the coup that briefly overthrown the regime of Gen. Gaafar al-Nimeiry on July 19. More executions are expected shortly in the vicious onslaught against all the progressive organizations of the workers and peasants of the Sudan.

The latest victim of the widespread hunt for leftists and communists was Abdul Khalek Mahgoub, Secretary General of the Sudanese Communist Party. Mahgoub was hanged on July 28, just 11 hours after his secret kangaroo trial before a military court. In the preceding four days, 13 others, military officers and leftists, including the head of the Sudanese Trade Union Federation, were also hanged or brought before a firing squad after summary secret trials.

These brutal murders cry out for a protest from every progressive and revolutionary organization!

The swift-moving events began on July 19, when Major Hashem al-Ata (also executed) announced the overthrow of the Nimeiry government. The leftist officers who organized the coup immediately announced their intentions to grant regional autonomy to the people of the south who have been fighting for self-determination for many years; the rebel government also freed 49 political prisoners, lifted the ban on the Sudanese CP, outlawed by Nimeiry, and moved to strike down the political institutions set up by Nimeiry.

Within three days, however, Nimeiry was back in power—aided by allies in Egypt and Libya and backed by the U.S. puppet regimes in the area. (Two leaders of the rebel government on their way to Khartoum by plane were forced to land in Libya on July 22 and were then handed over to Nimeiry to be executed four days later.)

The vicious counterrevolution sweeping the Sudan today will not, however, remove from the agenda of history the revolution of the Arab people. But this revolution must be carried out by the masses themselves and must ultimately result in the socialist reconstruction of the Arab world in order to be permanently victorious.

U.S. overjoyed by executions; Indonesia recalled

The bloodbath in the Sudan, now clearly aimed at the workers' and peasants' organizations, was met in the bourgeois press here with calm satisfaction. (Most of the bourgeois nationalist Arab governments, with the exception of Iraq, were also relieved to see Nimeiry back in power.) What a difference between the bourgeoisie's encouragement of the counter-revolutionary terror in the Sudan and their hysteria over the hanging of Iraqi Jews accused of collaboration with U.S. imperialism! Their quiet joy over the slaughter of the Sudanese leftists can only be compared to their delight over the massacre of hundreds of thousands of communists and leftists in Indonesia in 1965.

Whatever the U.S. government's immediate role in the events in the Sudan may have been, one thing is clear: U.S. imperialism can only benefit from such a counterrevolutionary onslaught. The U.S. empire of oil in the Middle East will be temporarily strengthened by the victory of reaction in Sudan as well as in Jordan and Morocco.

(Vice President Agnew exposed the feelings of the U.S. capitalist class perfectly when he went to Morocco just days after an abortive coup there and warmly congratulated King Hassan II for his "courage" in butchering scores of rebels.)

While the U.S. ruling class revels in its temporary victory in the Middle East, it is the duty of all revolutionaries here to expose imperialism's role in subjugating the Arab people, and to protest the massacre in the Sudan. These murders must not go unavenged!

Long Live the Arab Revolution!

Indonesia

The second greatest crime of the century

96 pages

By *Deirdre Griswold*

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Absentee steel owners threaten Youngstown

by MOSE PETERSON

YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO, July 18--Against an ominous background of idle mills and cold furnaces, 1,200 members of Steelworkers Union 1330 met here tonight to discuss the shutdown of the Ohio Works plant of United States Steel.

With callous contempt for the welfare of this steel town, Wall Street slammed the plant shut July 17, throwing 4,000 workers on the unemployment scrap heap. At tonight's meeting, District 26 director Frank Lesegianich and local union president Charles J. Carney tried to bring a ray of hope to the suddenly cast-off men. All three principal speakers detailed their efforts in Washington through the office of Congressman Wilbur Mills to pressure the company into keeping the plant running.

Although they managed to get a statement from Edward Gott, Board Chairman of U.S. Steel, that the shutdown is "temporary," rather than "indefinite," the majority of the steelworkers showed little confidence in such promises. As Al Wellington, vice president of the local, remarked, "We lost the battle; the Ohio Works is shut down."

Rank-and-file members took the floor and in emotional speeches voiced their bitterness at the corporation's brutality in declaring virtually the whole community expendable in their drive for profits.

The biggest hand of the evening was given Ted Dostal, retired member of Local 1330, for his powerful speech calling for constant pressure against U.S. Steel to reopen the Ohio Works and demanding that the International Union protect the men "too old to work, too young to die" with special and increased unemployment and pension benefits and give the young men a chance to work through a shorter work week.

The sudden shutdown of the Ohio Works rips aside a screen of partial prosperity and exposes a rapidly deepening economic crisis in the Youngstown area. Rumors that Lykes-Youngstown, the conglomerate that seized control of Youngstown Sheet and Tube, is awaiting an excuse to close down the Brier Hill works in this city are coupled with threats to close down Copperweld Steel and the Ohio Leather Company.

To the absentee owners of heavy industry, Youngstown appears as a gutted strip mine that they intend to abandon and the ability of the workers to rally enough social and economic pressure to save the Ohio Works may be the key to the future jobs of thousands.

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Editors
Naomi Cohen *Deirdre Griswold*

Contributing Editors
Vincent Copeland *Fred Goldstein*

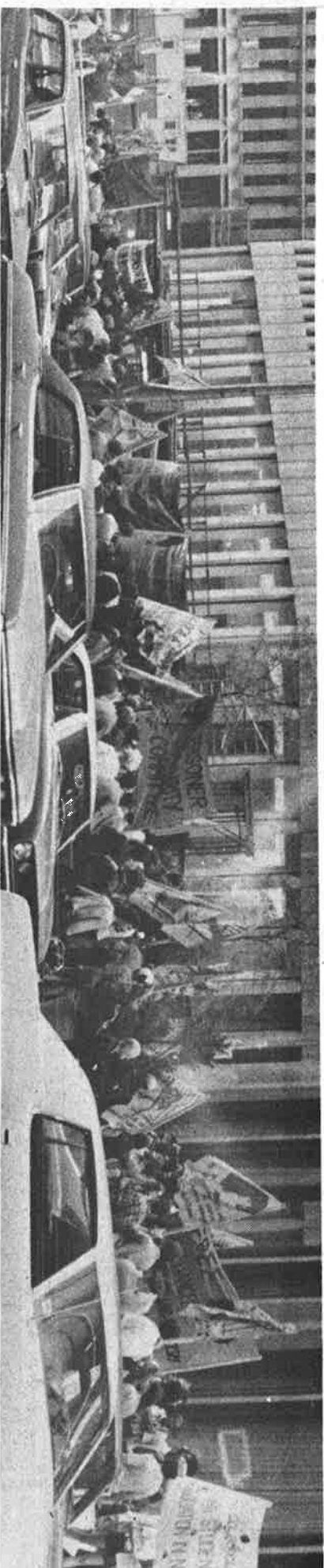
Manager
Dorothy Ballan *Rita Mullins*

OFFICES

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Tele. AL 5-0352

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Block-long picket line in front of Rocketteller Center.

Third World groups unite on prisoner issue, demand...

Jail the rich, free the poor!

by BOB McCUBBIN

NEW YORK, July 26—The glass and steel canyons near Rocketteller Center resounded with the cry of hundreds of voices this evening. "Prisons are concentration camps for the poor!" shouted the demonstrators as they poured from the subway exit in front of the Time-Life Building at 5 p.m. Unfurling banners and flags even before they reached street level, they immediately set up a spirited picket line in the middle of the rush hour traffic.

Their purpose in assembling together on this eighteenth anniversary of the beginning of guerrilla struggle in Cuba (26 de Julio) was to demand freedom for all prisoners of U.S. imperialism. The list of revolutionaries jailed for opposing the rule of the rich against the poor, all poor people forced by the conditions of oppression to "break" the rich men's "law," and all the courageous liberation fighters all over the world who have been jailed by puppet regimes for opposing the takeover of their countries by U.S. imperialism.

The groups represented, many from the oppressed Black and Latin communities here, included the Prisoners Solidarity Committee of Youth Against War & Fascism, Black Workers Council, Committee to Free the Harlem 6 (Blood Brothers), El Comite, Iranian Students Association, Movimiento Obreiro Latino, Movimiento Pro-Independencia,

New York 21, Progressive Arab Students, Haitian Student Federation, Latin Workers Movement, Proletarian Voice, Puerto Rican Student Union, Women's Bail Fund, Black Panther Party, Young Lords Party, Committee to Support Middle East Liberation, Youth Against War & Fascism and the American Servicemen's Union (ASU).

The presence of so many Third World organizations highlighted the fact that, in this country, 85 percent of the people behind bars come from oppressed Third World communities and, on a world scale, it is the people of Asia, Africa and Latin America who suffer most from the systematic repression used to keep them from reclaiming their own land and resources from the control of U.S. Big Business.

Hundreds hear rally

By the time the rally began, with demonstrators still moving around the centralized speakers' platform, the assembly had grown to over 400 people. In addition, hundreds of office workers looked on from vantage points on all sides. Over fifteen speakers addressed the crowd, giving a shocking perspective of the wide range and number of prisoners held captive by the imperialists all over the world.

In her opening remarks, chairwoman Sue Higa of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee noted that the prisons in this country cannot be understood except as concentration camps for poor people. She also pointed out that the Indonesian government, put in power and controlled by the CIA, currently is holding, under the most barbaric conditions in jails and camps, over 200,000 Indonesian anti-imperialists—the largest number of political prisoners in any country in the world.

New York attorney Conrad Lynn, in his remarks, spoke about the Harlem Six and Carlos Feliciano,

all victims of frameups by the government for attempting to free their people from the rule of the racist, capitalist class. Another speaker noted that four of the Panther 21 are still in jail and many of the others, though out on bail, still face other charges in the ruling class courts.

Many other Third World political prisoners were mentioned by the speakers. These included the Soledad Brothers, Lolita Lebron, Ruchell



Many oppressed groups represented on the line.

Magee, the Auburn 6, the Quincy 5, Carito Rovira, Angela Davis, Martin Sosire and many, many others.

Terry Klug of the ASU (who served two years in the stockade himself for refusing to serve in Vietnam) contrasted the over 7,000 servicemen being held in military prisons for opposing the imperialist military with the U.S. war criminals being held by the North Vietnamese, all of whom were caught in the act of genocidal warfare against Vietnam. Klug noted that all but three of those being held by the North Vietnamese

Iceland say that conditions there are worse than at the House of Detention and the only real solution to the inhuman conditions is to release all the prisoners.

Prison rebellions hailed

Several speakers praised the courageous prison rebellions which have swept the U.S. during the past year and condemned the brutal repressive measures which have been used to try to silence these acts of desperation and outrage. While even capitalist politicians have admitted that it is the inhuman conditions in the nation's prisons which give rise to these rebellions, the prisoners are systematically brutalized and have frameup charges heaped on them by the hypocritical officials. It was out of struggles around these prison rebellions that the YAWF Prisoners Solidarity Committee, which called for this demonstration, was formed.

The rally ended with a chant which clearly exemplified the feeling of unity which pervaded the whole demonstration: "Que viva nuestra frente!" "Long live our united front!"

from behind the walls of

auburn concentration camp

prisoners call out: freedom

order pamphlet from:
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Part 1. Pushers in the holy war

Vietnam and the opium of the people

by JERRY ZILG

In the form of a silky grey powder, the war in Southeast Asia has come home to mainline America. Heroin, once the ignored plague of the poor, has now spread into white suburbia and the university—and suddenly been discovered. "Smack" is now the major killer of young people 18 to 35, surpassing Vietnam battle deaths, accidents, cancer or suicide.

From the teeming ghetto to the lonely suburb, half a million Americans are now addicts, 20 per cent of them teenagers. And not only youth have been infected with this social disease. Increasing numbers of workers, including those of middle age, are shooting up to relieve their job alienation or popping pills to keep awake to get that badly needed overtime. And the blame for this misery can be laid squarely on the shoulders of the world-wide empire of U.S. corporations and their government in Washington.

The world's two major sources of opium, from which heroin is made, are Turkey and Southeast Asia. Both areas are ruled by dictatorships supported by the U.S. Federal Government; both grow opium as their major cash crop. Previously, Turkey was the major supplier. But since World War II, despite Nixon's continued emphasis on the Middle East traffic, there has been a major rerouting in the source of worldwide opium traffic, flowing in the wake of U.S. expansion in the Pacific. By 1966, according to the U.N. Commission on Drugs and Narcotics, at least 80 per cent of the world's illegal opium came from Southeast Asia, and only last year an Iranian government official told a U.N. seminar on narcotics that 83 per cent of the world's opium comes from the "Fertile Triangle" of Burma, Thailand and Laos. The link in this chain of death is the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

The CIA as pusher

In Laos, the major collection point for opium is Long Cheng. An extensive military base, Long Cheng was built by the CIA in 1962 in direct violation of the Geneva Accords of that year. It has become the mountain stronghold of the Meo tribespeople who gather the opium poppies as their only cash crop. From there, CIA-created Xiang

Kouang Airline or the CIA's own Air America flies the crop to refineries and markets.

"Over the years eight journalists, including myself, have slipped into Long Cheng," reported Carl Strook in the January 30 Far Eastern Economic Review, "and have seen American crews loading T-28 bombers while armed CIA agents chartered with uniformed Thai soldiers and piles of raw opium stood for sale in the market (a kilo for \$52)." In return, the Meo serve as spies and counter-revolutionary mercenaries for the CIA in Southeast Asia and as far north as southern China. Their reward for this deal has been some gold for their chiefs and the destruction of half their population in war.

The CIA is not alone in this traffic of death, however. Saigon's Vice-president Ky, its commander of II corps, General Dzu, and Laotian Air Force General Ouane Rathkone have all been identified as some of Southeast Asia's biggest pushers. Their introduction into the big time came after 1963 when local gangsters couldn't operate in the area any longer as the Pathet Lao's war of liberation intensified. At that time, the Royal Lao Air Force's C-47s, donated by the U.S., stepped in, aided by the CIA's Air America. Thus, the U.S. government and its allies quickly replaced the underworld with a military efficiency that soon raked in over \$500 million in profits every year.

GIs die of heroin — one a day

Meanwhile, American GIs in Southeast Asia are dying from heroin at the rate of one a day. Officers know about the junk, and some even deal a little on their own, sergeants and lifers often receiving payoffs. The result is just one more tragedy for drafted Americans forced to fight in Southeast Asia—addiction. One American reporter in Vietnam, Gloria Emerson, only touched on the problem in a story that was inserted in the Congressional Record of March 10:

"In a brigade headquarters at Long Binh, there were reports that heroin use in the unit had risen to 20 per cent." When this hurts combat willingness, the military brass officially react with brutal

The bosses' lie about foreign competition

by MICHAEL TILLI

Many branches of U.S. industry are using the ploy of foreign competition to deny their workers a decent wage or to send them to the unemployment compensation office. They claim imported products made by underpaid foreign labor are undercutting the market.

In reality, the money behind this foreign competition is usually as American as apple pie.

In recent years U.S. big business has been exporting huge sums of capital abroad. Every penny of these billions was first extracted from the surplus labor of American workers. Then it was put to work to extract still more surplus labor from foreign workers. Giant profits squeezed from the super-exploited labor of South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore and Hong Kong now fill the banks of Wall Street.

U.S. Big Business abroad

Between 1958 and 1968 American corporations increased their overseas capacity 471 percent compared

to only 72 percent at home. The lure of a working force that can be exploited for wages as low as 10 to 20 cents an hour has proven irresistible to the U.S. corporations. The New York Times (May 12, 1970) cited a Motorola plant in South Korea which has "production costs one-tenth of those of a similar plant in Phoenix."

These South Korean workers have to work six days a week and 10 to 11 hours a day. When the politicians say the U.S. fought a war to keep South Korea "free," this is the freedom they mean—freedom for U.S. big business to exploit the Korean people.

Electrical manufacturers were one of the first cartels after World War II to profit on the super-exploited labor of the weaker imperialist countries and especially of the colonized countries. According to the United Electrical Worker, 25 percent of all consumer electronic products sold in the U.S. are imported.

The General Electric Co., which

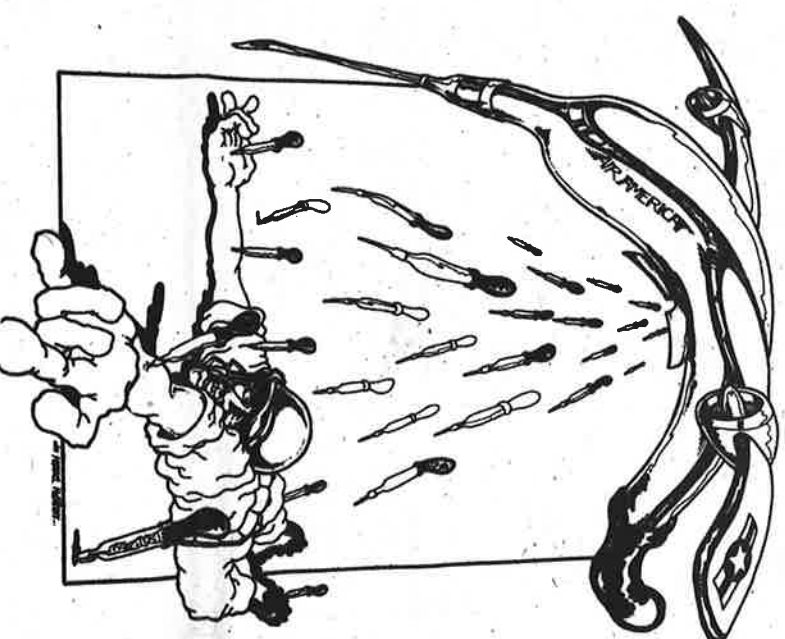
has 100 affiliates and 70 manufacturing operations outside the U.S. and whose sales from foreign plants have doubled to a total of \$840 million between 1964-69, is typical of the general trend of American capital to invest abroad. Recently G.E. contracted with Sanyo Electric of Japan to produce nearly 1 million cassette tape recorders to be sold in the U.S. by G.E.

Shot Tower, a workers' paper in Baltimore, revealed in its June issue how the U.S. companies, Kaiser and Armco Steel, are building huge mills in Australia, where a steel worker's wages averages about one-half that of a U.S. steel worker. The plan is to then import the steel to Houston, Texas, for finishing.

Phony concern about low wages

A recent pact between Chrysler and Mitsubishi Motor is setting the trend in the auto industry. With this deal Chrysler acquires 35 percent of the Japanese corporation and Mitsubishi will manufacture the Dodge Colt for U.S. distribution.

After stating that, "Japan's wages are still a quarter those of the U.S.," the president of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries pointed out it would be "more profitable" for his U.S. partners to import cars from Japan.



crackdowns on addicted GIs. Meanwhile, Ky goes on counting his millions and the CIA's Air America keeps up the night and day supply to its hungry markets.

Not surprisingly, the name of Richard Nixon is deeply implicated in this drug commerce. Air America's founder was General Claire Chennault. Chennault's wife raised a quarter of a million dollars for Nixon's 1968 presidential campaign as co-chairwoman of the Women for Nixon/Agnew Advisory Committee. The Chennaults, Madame Nhu, wife of the late Saigon dictator Diem, and other opium dealers were some of Nixon's strongest supporters as far back as the fifties when they joined FBI director J. Edgar Hoover and Congresswoman Claire Booth Luce in the "China Lobby," supporting dictator Chiang Kai Shek. Significantly, Chiang's 93rd Division still operates as roving bandits in Burma and Thailand, controlling the flow of opium that eventually shoots its way into the veins of GIs and, increasingly, their friends and relatives back home in America.

(To be continued next issue: The drug traffic at home.)

The idea must appeal to the U.S. magnates because G.M. and Ford are arranging to buy into Isuzu Motor and Toyo Kogyo, respectively. (Only a couple of months ago, Henry Ford II was howling about competition from the low-priced Toyota. His howls were not intended for the ears of Japanese manufacturers, but for those of the overworked U.S. Ford workers.)

The engine of Ford's Pinto is now produced in Britain and West Germany. Recent demands by the British Ford workers for a decent wage, backed up by militant strikes, seems to have motivated Ford to initiate plans for U.S. production of that engine, while the British plant will be maintained for engines. The European demand for engines. Thus the big sob story about "cheap labor" and foreign competition is more and more of a hoax on the U.S. workers. If U.S. big business was really so worried about the low wages of foreign labor hurting business here, it would do something about raising those wages.

But instead, the Ford Motor Company, in this instance, actually uses American labor to keep the already low British wages from rising!

The author of this article is chairman of the Center for United Labor Action of New York City.

CIA inspires Hussein assault...

STOP THE GENOCIDE AGAINST PALESTINIANS!

Protest Hussein attack on Palestine



Commandos were held near Mafrag (1), hunted in valley (2).

NEW YORK, July 20—At this moment, thousands of Palestinians in Jordan are desperately fighting for their lives and homeland, resisting King Hussein's attempt to annihilate them as a people. This vicious attack is the result of a recent visit to Israel by CIA director Richard Helms, during which Helms was asked by ranking Israeli leaders to eliminate the Palestinian commandos as a precondition to returning some parts of the occupied West Bank of the Jordan River.

On July 18, the CIA's "final solution" to the Palestinian question began. King Hussein unleashed U.S.-supplied tanks and troops in an unprovoked attack on Palestinian refugee camps, killing thousands. With a fat tongue in cheek, Hussein "regretted" his campaign of genocide, claiming it was necessary because the Palestinians are allegedly subversive to his throne. Yet the king makes no such claim against hundreds of Israeli secret agents who had slipped into Jordan to infiltrate Palestinian ranks and are now being allowed to openly flee back into Israel. For Hussein, Israeli terrorists in Jordan are fine; the just struggle of the Palestinian people to regain their homeland is not.

The Palestinian Liberation Organization office in New York tried to bring these facts to the American people today by calling a press conference at the Jordanian Mission to the UN, and, as in Jordan, they met police brutality and denial of basic democratic rights. Attempting to see the Jordanian ambassador, who is originally Palestinian, to enter a demand that Hussein's massacre must end, demonstrators from the Arab community and supporting Americans were confronted with a

squad of helmeted New York police. Under orders from Jordanian officials and the State Department, the police refused to allow the demonstrators, including Jordanians, to visit the Jordan mission. The demonstrators immediately held a press conference, denouncing Hussein and U.S. complicity. As the demonstrators tore up a picture of Hussein and lit it afire, Rashid Hussein, a representative from the Palestinian Liberation Organization, stated, "They (Jordanian Embassy officials) say they represent the Jordanian people. If they represent us, why don't they want to see the people? They don't represent us!" Rashid then asked American reporters to accompany him inside, but as one reporter explained, "That is really not our role." Their real role was revealed that night when news reports attacked the demonstrators.

Ten demonstrators, including two members of the Committee to Support Middle East Liberation, did manage to get up to the Jordanian offices, but were arrested. They chanted "Palestine will win!" as they were taken off to jail. One suffered injuries from the police and had to be hospitalized. He was then charged with assaulting the police! Like the floating terror of the Mediterranean, the U.S. Sixth Fleet, which backs up Hussein's regime in Jordan, armed American police terror backs up Hussein's UN Mission in New York.

The demonstrators then marched to the offices of the moderate Arab League at the Chrysler Building to demand the Arab nations respond to the cries of Palestine. Again a bus load of helmeted police were on hand. With militant chants of "Down with King Hussein! Down with U.S. puppets!" the demonstrators triumphantly reached the offices and staged a sit-in, demanding the League put on political pressure to obtain the release of their jailed comrades. Embarrassed, the League got in touch with a lawyer and within two hours, the imprisoned demonstrators were freed.

A joint press conference was called where Y. Abouk, acting observer of the Arab States to the UN, met with the Palestinians and pledged the League's full support for the just cause of the Palestinian people. But the Palestinians wanted more than "sweet words." The time was critical, they said, for the Arab world to pressure Hussein to stop his genocide of Palestinians in Jordan.

"The most tragic and depressing thing in this whole situation is the attitude of the Arab governments," stated PLO representative Rashid in a prepared press release. "For twenty-three years they have been feeding us with speeches and military music. We are tired of this kind of food. Today I asked the staff of the Jordanian Mission to the UN to join either the Israeli or American mission. This is where they belong."

WWP statement on massacre of guerrillas

Workers World Party strongly condemns the recent criminal attacks against the Palestinian liberation movement in Jordan. They are the latest wave of a more or less continuous assault which the U.S. puppet Hussein has been waging against the Palestinian people in Jordan for almost a year.

The latest attack was an unprovoked massacre, launched by Jordanian troops under cover of darkness. Speaking in the name of the entire Palestinian liberation movement, spokesmen announced on July 13 that "Jordanian tanks and infantry have begun an all-out offensive against guerrilla positions in Jordan. 'The attacks continued for days with reports of systematic

brutality and massacres of captured guerrillas. On July 20, Wasfi Tal, Jordan's puppet premier, announced that 2,300 guerrillas had been captured.

This attack is the second in less than a year. Hussein last September ordered his troops to attack major refugee camps and population centers in Jordan. The toll in Palestinian blood was 15,000 dead and a like number wounded.

Workers World Party, at the time of this event, characterized it as a genocidal massacre engineered in Washington and executed by the puppet Hussein, in the fashion of Washington's puppets in Saigon. It is clear that this earlier carnage laid the basis for the present attempt to liquidate the resistance movement. Hussein (not even of Jordanian background but imported by the imperialists from Saudi Arabia) is a primary agent for Wall Street's oil empire in the Middle East. The struggle against his criminal regime is an important part of the world-wide struggle against U.S. imperialism.

Workers World Party has a history of firm support for the Arab liberation struggles. We hold the position that the state of Israel is no more than the willing tool of U.S. monopoly interests in the Middle East, a garrison state which was formed to blunt the growing wave of Arab revolution. Regarding the Palestinian liberation movement, our party vigorously supports the just struggle of the Palestinian people to regain their homeland.

Workers World Party urges all partisans of Arab liberation to help expose the systematic plan to destroy the Palestinian people. Stop the genocide against Vietnam and Palestine!



Palestinian commandos captured by Israelis after flight from Jordan.

The new turn in Sino-U.S. relations...

Why did

by SAM MARCY
Enough time has now elapsed since the announcement of Nixon's projected visit to the People's Republic of China for all to see that this is not an incidental diplomatic maneuver soon to be submerged and forgotten in the welter of international affairs.

What is emerging in general outline is not a mere normalization of relations, but a projected rapprochement between the U.S. and People's China, something more in the nature of a broad agreement.

Nixon's motivation

It is much easier to explain the motivation for the Nixon Administration's undertaking a visit to China than it is to explain why China extended an invitation in the first place.

It can scarcely be denied that the U.S. ruling class finds itself in a virtually impossible situation in Southeast Asia. The crushing defeat handed to U.S. imperialism by the Vietnamese people during the Tet offensive, as well as the ill-fated invasion of Laos and Cambodia, have made it plain to the overwhelming majority of the people in this country and to an ever larger section of the ruling class that the mad adventure in Vietnam is a lost cause. The inability of aggressive U.S. militarism to turn the tide in Vietnam after so many years of stubborn persistence has signalled the end of an era in U.S. imperialist supremacy.

The Vietnam catastrophe of American finance capital symbolizes the general decline of American capitalism and its inability to solve its fundamental contradictions either at home or abroad. The most crying contradiction for the ruling class is the spectacle of the Nixon Administration daily promising to "end the war soon" while continuing the bombing and rejecting the offers of the NLF and the DRV to seriously discuss withdrawal.

Under these circumstances it is quite understandable why the Nixon Administration would undertake some new way to help salvage and re-forify the U.S. imperialist position.

This is what has motivated Nixon to undertake his projected visit to China. It is not "a journey for peace" but a new method to achieve the same objective: to refurbish the tarnished image of the U.S. ruling class and to strengthen its diplomatic and military position.

Colossal disappointment

What, then, motivated China to extend the invitation at a moment when the fortunes of American imperialism seem to be at its lowest ebb? It is necessary to examine this from two points of view: from the point of view of its international significance as far as the revolutionary liberation movements and the world working class are concerned, and secondly, from the point of view of how it will affect the national interests of China as a workers' (socialist) state.

Insofar as the revolutionary forces in the liberation movements and the working class movement generally are concerned, the invitation cer-

tainly came as a colossal disappointment. Its very suddenness, and particularly the secret character of the negotiations, cannot but be viewed with apprehension.

To prepare such a sharp turn and in total secrecy is completely alien to the Leninist conception of conducting international relations with imperialist powers.

Secret diplomacy not

in Leninist tradition

Was this not what the Chinese C.P. objected to in Khrushchev's diplomacy? Lenin made public all the secret treaties of the Czar and conducted diplomatic relations with the Germans, the French and the British openly. Never for a moment was the revolutionary vanguard in doubt as to the world revolutionary orientation of the Soviet Republic, that it put the interests of the world revolutionary movement ahead of the interests of the Soviet Republic.

"Open treaties, openly arrived at" was a slogan mouthed by Woodrow Wilson, but only the Soviet Republic under Lenin's leadership put it into practice. Secret diplomacy keeps the imperialists informed and the masses in the dark.

There can be no getting away from the fact that this venture into secret diplomacy by the Chinese leaders has caused a serious setback to the revolutionary movement of the world, and the ruling class has, at least temporarily, gotten a psychological lift as well as a diplomatic one. Its morale and outlook have been improved, even if it is only temporary.

In sum, as the Chinese leaders have so often said and done, the goal of the revolution is not only to raise the consciousness of the masses, to give them confidence in the struggle against the class enemy, but also to uphold the principles of proletarian internationalism. Judged by these criteria, the irresistible conclusion is that the Nixon invitation is a setback to the revolutionary movement.

Khrushchev's Cuban crisis diplomacy

One of the highly objectionable elements of Khrushchev's diplomacy with the U.S. during the Cuban missile crisis in 1962 was the failure of the Soviet leaders to consult with the Cuban leaders during the negotiations.

Scarcely anything could have been more important than to have mutual consultations on how to confront the imperialists during such a great crisis. Nonetheless, the government of Premier

Fidel Castro was informed of the outcome of the negotiations through the capitalist press. What a humiliation! The Chinese C.P. attacked the Soviet leaders for doing this, as we did and others, too.

It is very clear now that the announcement of Nixon's projected visit to Peking, let alone the long negotiations between Kissinger and Premier Chou En Lai, were not coordinated with the DRV and the NLF, who are fighting against the genocidal war conducted against the Vietnamese by the Nixon Administration.

Vietnamese view of Nixon visit

It is no wonder that Nhan Dan, the official newspaper of the DRV, made it abundantly clear that it was opposed to a "compromise between the big powers in an attempt to make smaller countries bow to their arrangements."

Who could they mean in this context but China and the U.S.? To make absolutely certain how they regard the Nixon visit, Nhan Dan said that Nixon "has been running about wildly in search of a way out. But he has gone to the wrong place. The exit door has been opened, yet he has tumbled into an impasse."

Certainly it cannot be doubted that what the DRV and the NLF want is for Nixon to negotiate with THEM on the question of the war, that the place is either Paris or Hanoi, not Peking, and that the subject is the withdrawal of the U.S. imperialist forces and their satellites from the territory of Vietnam.

Of course, China has supported the seven-point program of the NLF and the DRV and has continually supported their struggle. But this doesn't obviate Kissinger's long negotiations with the Chinese leader and the fact that the Vietnamese were not consulted.

It is very clear that one of the objective effects of Nixon's diplomacy is not only to widen the rift between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China, but to utilize any eventual agreement that may come out of the negotiations to the detriment of the Soviet Union.

Nixon exploits USSR-China rift

The Soviet leaders have only themselves to blame in the event of such an outcome. It must be remembered that the substance of the ideological struggle between China and the Soviet Union was particularly over the attitude toward imperialism. The Soviet revisionists were trying hard for an accommodation with the imperialists to the detriment of the revolutionary movement. In fact, so far and so deep had the process of Soviet accommodation with the imperialists, particularly the U.S., gone, that in the eyes of the Chinese C.P., the Soviet Union was only in words preaching socialism, but in effect had degenerated to imperialist practices. China has been denouncing the Soviet leaders, not only for collaborating with the imperialists, but for having made a virtual alliance with them against the People's Republic of China.

Certainly the whole course of the last decade is abundant proof in that direction. We have previously written about this in this newspaper and have attacked the Soviet leaders for their course.

Our forecast of China-U.S. pact

For several years now we have felt that the ultimate result of the Soviet policy in relation to China might be just such a development as we are now witnessing in the turn of Sino-U.S. relations.

As long ago as the 1966 Labor Day Conference of Workers World Party, held at the Cornish Arms Hotel in New York City, we said:

"If the ideological struggle between the Chinese party and the Soviet revisionists deepens and becomes a struggle between states, then it is possible that People's China may make a pact with the U.S. against the USSR."

In response to comrades at the 1966 Labor Day Conference who asked if such a development might change our attitude to People's China itself, we explained that "the eventuality of such

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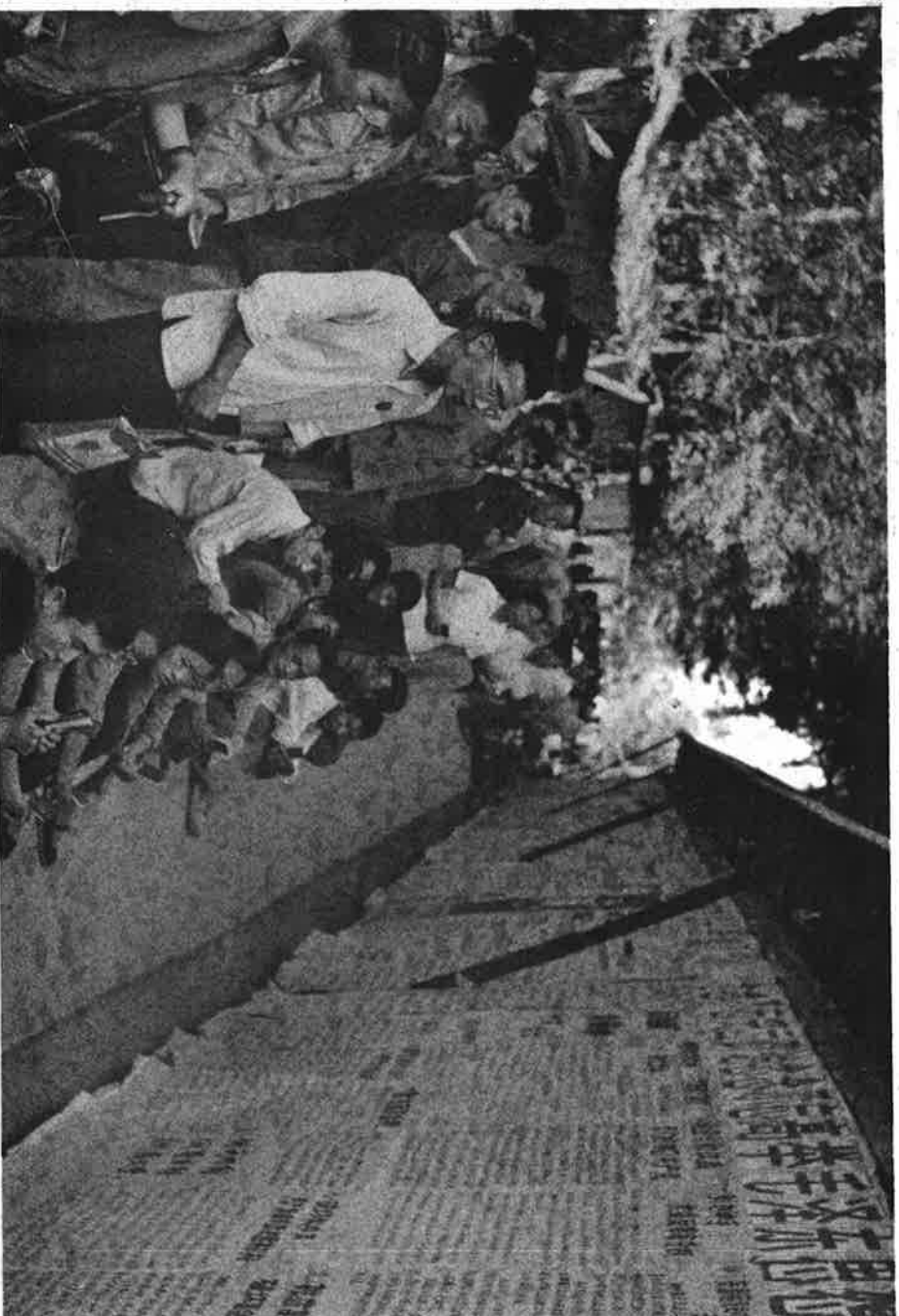
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Heinrich photo

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China do it?

a pact would in no way affect our class loyalty to the Chinese socialist republic. We would defend it against imperialism even though we disagreed with the pact—just as we defended the USSR, even during the Stalin-Hitler Pact.”

Certainly Nixon's efforts in personal diplomacy are very much akin to Hitler's. Hitler, too, maintained that the pact with Stalin was in the interest of peace. The pact at that time had a demoralizing influence on the revolutionary movement. Many people in this country were so outraged by the pact that they completely lost their moorings and declared that the Soviet Union was an imperialist state.

It was further explained at the Conference that:

“What we opposed in Stalin at that time, was not the principle of his right to enter into an agreement with an imperialist nation. What we opposed was the way it was done—the secrecy, the shock to the proletarian forces, his painting up of the enforced agreement as a great thing and his softening of his previous position against Hitler as a result.”

This explanation, given at our Conference in 1966, holds true for today in the wake of the new turn in Sino-U.S. relations.

The turn of Chinese foreign policy in relation to the U.S. cannot be explained solely as a response to Soviet revisionist policy, however. That has a great deal to do with it, of course, but China's new turn in foreign policy cannot be wholly explained by this alone.

Deeper cause of new turn

The deeper cause lies in the failure of the Chinese Revolution to spread to the rest of Asia, as it did to Vietnam and Korea. The inability of the Chinese party to win large and influential communist parties away from revisionism and towards a revolutionary position is a key factor in the situation. In this sense, it is correct to contrast the course of the Chinese Revolution to the early years of the Russian Revolution. From the very first day of the victory of the October Revolution, hundreds of thousands of revolutionary socialists throughout the world immediately split from the Social-Democratic Party (Second International) and, by 1919, were rallying around the Communist International as the vanguard of the world revolution.

The decisive sections of the revolutionary proletariat came over to communism as against social democracy.

Parallel with Russian Revolution

The Chinese C.P. has been unable, for various historic reasons, to win over large constituted revolutionary parties in the same way that the early Leninist policies won over large and decisive sections of the world revolutionary movement. The Soviet Union at that time became not only the inspiration for revolutionary struggle, but its guide in theory and practice.

The Chinese Revolution, like the Russian Revolution, evoked a series of revolutionary situations abroad, which unfortunately were defeated. The big defeat in Indonesia in 1965, however one explains its causes, was a setback to the Chinese Revolution in the same way that the defeat in Germany, in Italy and in Hungary in the early 1920's set back the Russian Revolution and ushered in a policy of retreat from world revolutionary goals.

Retreat to national socialism

This policy of retreat is not only due to the failure of the Indonesian Revolution, however. It is also explained by the re-emergence of Japanese imperialism. The strong and numerous Japanese proletariat has been unable to develop a strong revolutionary Marxist party capable of challenging Japanese imperialism. All this, together with the encirclement of the People's Republic of

China by a multitude of imperialist puppet regimes, plus the hostility of the Soviet leaders, has caused China to retreat to a position, at least for a period, of “national” socialism—of taking care of the national interest in such a way as to subordinate the interests of the international revolutionary movement.

In this way the Chinese leaders hope to defeat U.S. plans for its isolation, to strengthen its international contacts in commerce and trade, and also to participate in the world power struggle along with the Soviet Union and the U.S.

But the question for revolutionaries is, again, how and in what manner will this policy affect the world movement of the oppressed and the working class in general?

Judgment of spokesmen

for the ruling class

In the immediate sense, the ruling class here hopes that a concrete result of the Sino-U.S. negotiation and the projected visit of Nixon to Peking will result in an ameliorization of its catastrophic position in Southeast Asia.

The Wall Street Journal, which speaks for a large section of the ruling class, said in its lead editorial of July 22, that a concrete deal between the U.S. and China lies somewhere between Washington giving somewhat on Taiwan and China giving somewhat on Vietnam.

“The new thaw,” says the editorial, “if it proves more than momentary, is likely to have its effect on the speed and shape of the war's conclusion. It's even possible to see the hazy outlines of some kind of deal, since the Americans want help in ending the war in some reasonably honorable way, and the Chinese want some movement on the issue of Taiwan.”

The Wall Street Journal continues a little further on:

“While anything so overt is only a remote possibility, the President's China trip is bound to have at least an indirect impact in Vietnam, and it's hard to conceive that his impact will be anything but favorable.”

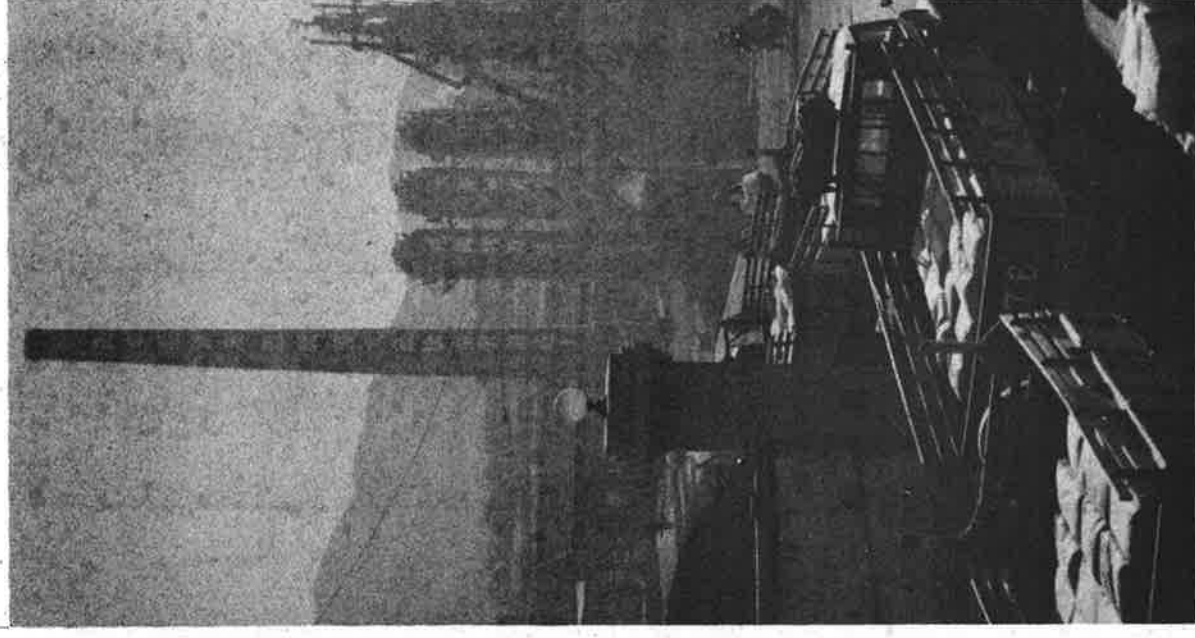
Such are the calculations of the ruling class in general, to one degree or another. They are banking on a projected Sino-U.S. agreement which would pull them out, or at least partially improve their desperate situation in Southeast Asia. But this is only a projection.

For one thing, they are not counting on the intransigence of the Vietnamese people, an error they have been making for almost a quarter of a century. As we noted above, the Vietnamese are only too well aware of what they call “big-power politics” and they are not likely to be a passive object in any U.S.-China rapprochement which concerns their interests.

Lasting significance of cultural revolution

Of course, no rapprochement between China and the U.S. is likely to materially affect the internal social structure of the People's Republic of China. It is much too late in the day for that. The Chinese Revolution is one of the greatest triumphs in modern times. During the decade of the fifties, it consolidated the power of the socialist state and laid the foundations for socialist construction. In the period of the sixties, it opened an immense campaign to drive back and crush the neo-bourgeois restorationists' influence in the party and in the government. At rock bottom, that was the real significance of the Cultural Revolution. It saved China from a bourgeois restoration and set back the forces of bureaucratic degeneration.

China set a revolutionary example by fighting bourgeois restoration on the home front and its political ideology, revisionism. It opened the road for genuine mass participation of the wor-



Hsinhua photo

kers and peasants in the socialist transformation of China.

China and USSR compared

In this respect, there is scarcely a bourgeois observer who has not attested to the success of the People's Republic of China. Instead of fostering and encouraging the growth of a parasitic bureaucracy, the Cultural Revolution drastically cut them down. Our opponent political tendencies in the radical movement here, such as the SWP and the CP, were opposed to the Cultural Revolution, although from different points of view, they say. We supported it wholeheartedly. The Cultural Revolution is a lasting monument to the socialist transformation of a quarter of the human race.

Whatever subsequent political exigencies may impel China towards an erroneous course in international relations, the fundamental achievement of the Cultural Revolution remains a formidable obstacle to any internal regression. In this respect, China also stands way above the Soviet Union, where an entrenched, ever-growing bureaucratic apparatus is daily encouraged by the leadership, and moves further away from socialist norms even as it continues to develop technologically and economically as a deformed socialist state.

While we regard Soviet revisionist policy as growing fundamentally out of the very nature of the privileged bureaucracy which dominates the socialist state, the same cannot be said of China. It is for this reason that we view the projected Sino-U.S. rapprochement as a temporary departure and not as growing out of a congenital need of the social system of China.

Pact seen as temporary departure

For this reason the imperialist bourgeoisie cannot count on any long-lasting agreement with the Chinese People's Republic that would fundamentally disavow or appreciably alter the socialist direction of the Chinese worker's state.

There is no peace in the world today, nor will there be any, as long as imperialism exists. At best, peace is merely an interlude between imperialist wars. It is in this light that we should view the turn in Sino-U.S. relations.

On the organizing

Wilmington

CULA fights DuPont taxes

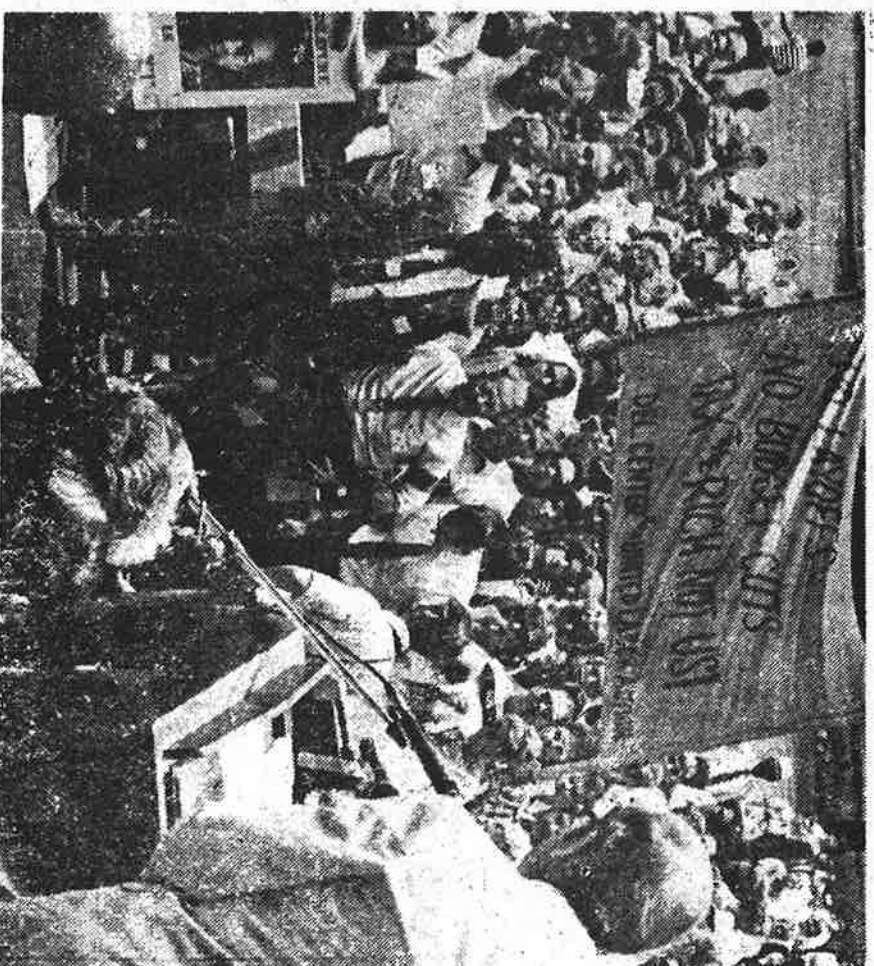
WILMINGTON—The state of Delaware recently announced that it had a deficit of about \$30 million. The financial crisis was touched off when the projected revenues from the meagre taxes on the corporations and the rich—the tax on corporations incorporating in Delaware, the corporation income tax, and the inheritance tax—fell far short of expectations. To offset the money which he didn't get from the corporations, Governor Peterson, a former DuPont executive, has proposed a personal income tax and taxes on gasoline and cigarettes. The legislature slashed \$13 million from the state budget, most of it from education, and the state threatened a layoff of 1,000 state workers.

The Delaware Center for United Labor Action (CULA) immediately reacted to the scheme to rob the working people of Delaware. They released a statement denouncing the proposed cuts and new taxes, and called for a picket line at the governor's Wilmington office at noon on July 6. The picket line, on which the Center carried a banner reading "No layoffs, no budget cuts,

tax the rich, not us," was greeted very enthusiastically, as were the leaflets distributed. The leaflets demanded that the state "Tax the banks, tax the corporations" and urged people to attend a rally protesting the cuts called by the teachers' organizations in this city.

On Saturday, July 10, CULA held a street meeting in a shopping center outside of Wilmington. Although the shoppers nearby were very receptive to the CULA speakers, the local police showed whose side they were on. Because of the Center's support of the interests of working people, one of CULA's supporters who was handing out leaflets at the meeting was arrested on trumped-up charges of trespassing; he was later released on his own recognizance.

The teachers' organizations (the N.E.A. and the A.F.T.) called for a mass rally to oppose the budget cuts on July 13 in Dover, the state capital, when the state legislature was scheduled to reconvene to deal with the budget crisis. The legislature decided it was unwilling to face the anger of the people, however, and postponed the session to avoid a confrontation. The rally was then



CULA banner reads "No layoffs, no budget cuts, tax the rich, not us." moved to the governor's Dover office.

The Delaware CULA sent a delegation to the rally, where at least 3,000 people assembled to protest the cuts. Although the crowd was very angry, the leaders at the rally focused their attention on stopping the budget cuts rather than on demands that the proposed taxes

Champaign

Letter from a Black airman

Ed, note—This letter is from Bill Roundtree, an ASU organizer who has worked with the Champaign branch of Youth Against War & Fascism. Bill is currently serving five months hard labor for resisting the brass of the imperialist U.S. Air Force. On July 21, he and eight other Black Airmen were taken to Fort Carson and put in maximum security. This letter was written one week before.

* * *
July 15

To My Revolutionary Comrades,
I greet you all with as much love as I have hatred for the oppressor. I wish also to take this time to thank you all for the support you have given me and all oppressed people. My imprisonment is just another attempt by the fascists to undermine the revolutionary fervor that has been instilled in the people.

They feel that jailing me will dampen my spirit for struggle. But as they have found out already, the jails are just another battleground, because most of the brothers in jail here are Black. The white prisoners here are also very together. Everyone's reading the Panther papers and all the other Revolutionary material we can get our hands on. Even though this material is considered contraband we are still able to obtain it. The most difficult material to get a hold of, though, is books by Marx and Lenin. These, if found, will

be taken away immediately. I've come to the concrete conclusion that they're more afraid of this than anything else.

There're many Blacks and whites who are revolutionaries in a sense, but fail to understand this class system. Many of them are allowed to integrate with the rest of the prison population, while I'm "segregated."

Being with YAWF the last half year has really helped me to understand a lot of these things about class struggle and has helped me in being able to pull these forces together. So I'll probably stay isolated. But my presence is still felt. Many of the prisoners are wondering why and are beginning to find out what it's all about. People have seen the few leaflets I brought with me, many of them don't believe YAWF is a primarily white organization and want to find out more about it. Also so many of these guys haven't heard about the ASU and wonder where in the Hell it came from. But everyone digs it.

I must go now because they are about to turn the lights off in "seg." But in closing, I would just like to say that my spirit and determination has really increased to such a degree that it would be hard to write in words.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE
FREE JOHN LOMBARDO
FREE THE CHAMPAIGN 7
your comrade in struggle,
Bill

Chicago

Protest corporate tax breaks

CHICAGO, July 15, 1971—Across the U.S., working people are revolting against high taxes and the current economic crisis, and today Chicagoans joined the protest.

At 10 a.m. in the morning, a picket line was set up by Campaign Against Pollution in front of City Hall to let Mayor Daley and P.J. Cullerton (Tax Assessor) know how they felt about both high taxes and air and water pollution. The protest was over the under-assessment of Loop sky-scrapers by the "Crook" County Tax Assessor P.J. Cullerton. In a leaflet issued by Campaign Against Pollution, which organized the protest, the following facts were presented about under-assessment of the following Corporate polluters:

COMPANY	Under-Assessed
U.S. Steel	\$16.4 million
Republic Steel	\$5.5 million
Interlake Steel	\$1.3 million
Wisconsin Steel	\$3.8 million
First National Bank	\$2.1 million

It is no wonder that so many large capitalist corporations are placing their national headquarters in Chicago. The new buildings include the First National Bank, John Hancock Building, Standard Oil and the Sears Roebuck Co.

CULA banner reads "No layoffs, no budget cuts, tax the rich, not us." on working people not be passed. The governor gave in partially to public pressure, restoring \$6 million to the budget, but the question of where the money will come from has not yet been answered. The Delaware Center for United Labor Action plans to continue to provide the workers' answer to that question—"Tax the rich, not us."

The picket signs carried by the protesters read, "If You Liked Paul Powell, Then You'll Love P.J." (Paul Powell stole \$3 million as former Secretary of State) and "No Taxbreaks for U.S. Steel." A "Chicago Monopoly Dollar" was passed out inside City Hall, which referred to Cullerton as Daley's Bagman and had this notation written on it, "Ubi Est Mia"—"Where's Mine."

A rally was held directly in front of the Tax Assessor's office in City Hall, and about 500 people loudly chanted for Cullerton to come out. It was announced that a woman, who owned a 90-year-old house and was herself 93, had her property taxes raised from \$2800 to \$4500 in just one year.

The character of this demonstration was marked by its diversity. It involved the young as well as the elderly, many of the youth coming from the high schools and colleges. At City Hall, Daley and his henchmen were shaking because they could see the "power of the people" in the making. The time is drawing near when big capitalists like Gaylord Cogelin (president of U.S. Steel), Gaylord Freeman (president of First National Bank), P.J. Cullerton and Daley will face the people for their crimes.

POWER TO THE PEOPLE!
K. Savage
YAWF-Chicago

front

Champaign

Picket airbase for Black GI

CHAMPAIGN, Ill., July 7 -- Members of Youth Against War & Fascism demonstrated outside the north gate of Chanute Air Force Base today to protest the crooked court-martial and imprisonment of Bill Roundtree, a Black airman, and to denounce the racist policies of the Chanute brass towards Black airmen and women.

Roundtree, who is an active member of the American Servicemen's Union (a rank-and-file GI organization opposing the racist and exploitative policies of the military), was arrested June 4 on a John Doe Warrant stemming from a militant demonstration in support of

the United Front of Cairo. He was leaving a later demonstration in support of Black Panther leader Bobby Rush, when University of Illinois security agents and Champaign County Police arrested him. When supporters tried to bail him out, they were told the FBI had informed military authorities of his whereabouts and he was on "military hold" for alleged desertion.

The first few hours after he was captured, Bill Roundtree was extensively questioned on his organizing activities and about people he associated with. It became clear that the FBI, local government and military brass were trying to stop

his activities and destroy the ASU. While in Champaign County Jail for a week, he was not allowed to see his civilian lawyer, an attempt by the authorities to confuse and intimidate him. When supporters from Champaign YAWF attempted to leaflet outside the base to raise the issue, they were harassed by the military and FBI and leaflets were illegally confiscated from GIs. Three supporters, including his wife, were ambushed outside the jail and hauled in for "resisting arrest."

When plans for Roundtree's railroad were complete, he was brought up to the Chanute Stockade. Other prisoners in the stockade were told that they would get in trouble if they associated with him. When he tried to resist racist harassment, he was beaten and put in solitary for five days. When the brass saw the solidarity of other Black GIs shown for Bill, they speedily had him court-martialed. He was given no warning of this

trial and had no opportunity to contact his lawyer or supporters. The court-martial lasted one-half hour and was obviously rigged. Although Roundtree has been declared legally blind in one eye, he was sentenced to five months at hard labor and docked \$300 in pay. Now he is imprisoned at Lowry AFB in Colorado, a further attempt to isolate him from any of his contacts in Chanute or Champaign.

Despite continued repression, GI rebellions are occurring now wherever the U.S. military sends young men to carry out illegal wars against the people. Bill is only one oppressed GI more determined to fight back. Supporters are continuing to protest his illegal imprisonment and continue to aid in whatever way possible the struggles of GIs against the military machine.

POWER TO THE GIs
POWER TO THE ASU
--Barbara Dunn

Milwaukee

Police terrorize Latin community

MILWAUKEE, July 5 -- On July 1, at 10:00 p.m., the Milwaukee Pig Force committed another act of police brutality. This was part of the daily repression against the Black, Brown, and Native American communities here, only this time it sparked organizing and fighting back by the entire Latin community.

On that day, "Milwaukee's Finest" were cruising around a playground filled with Latino and Native American children, when they saw a youth throw a beer bottle into a garbage can. The pigs decided this was a crime; so they drove their car right into the middle of the playground, just missing a number of children. Frightened by this, many youths started running, including the one who threw the beer bottle. The pigs jumped out of their car and shot at the fleeing youngsters.

Latin community leaders, meeting a block away, heard the shots and immediately went down to the playground. They found the pigs holding a youth, threatening to beat him

unless he told who threw the beer bottle. The Latino activists made the pigs release the boy and immediately started organizing a demonstration for the next day.

Overnight a march was organized which drew 200 people. Participating in the demonstration were the Brown Berets, Young Lords, Latin Masters, Welfare Rights, YAWF, the Union Action Committee, and D.R.U.M.S. (Determination, Rights for Menominee Stockholders). The signs read, "Police use playground for target practice; Poor people make poor targets." Some of the chants were, "Latino Power," and "Fidel, Fidel." The march went from the playground in the Latin community to the fortress-like police headquarters (which the Milwaukee rulers call the "Safety Building").

After meeting with "liberal" D.A. McCann, the Latinos were told that nothing would be done about the two policemen who had committed the

Chicago

Fires spark people's investigation

CHICAGO, July 21 -- The Woodlawn community on Chicago's south side is one of the most oppressed areas in a city famed for its oppression of Black people. In the past few years, hundreds of fires have been set to homes in the community, driving out over 30,000 residents and leaving the streets blackened with abandoned buildings.

This week the Black P. Stone

mic exploitation of the people in Woodlawn." He said the Stones expect harassment by police and other government officials during their investigation.

As he spoke, two cops, with their guns drawn, entered the church where the press conference was being held, claiming to be looking for a P. Stone member with a warrant out for his arrest. But Evans told a Chicago Daily News reporter that such harassment is an everyday occurrence.

The Black P. Stone Nation is not only subject to recurrent attacks by trigger-happy cops, but their leadership is presently being framed in a long series of political trials. Jeff Fort, a top leader, continues to be held on \$900,000 bail ransom

Rally listens to victims of police terror.

of brutality were recorded, all of which will be presented to the cops as formal complaints. This rally was just the beginning of a community-wide effort to meet any new police crimes with a unified, angry response from the people.



while awaiting several more trials, and their membership populates over 150 cells in Cook County.

The repression against the Stones stems from the fact that they are successfully organizing and arming the Black community to stand up and fight police brutality and economic exploitation. Their progressive positions in favor of construction jobs for Black workers and against Daley's electoral machine have marked them as a target of Chicago's ruling class.

Contributions for legal defense may be sent to:

Black P. Stone Nation Defense Fund
c/o First Presbyterian Church
6400 S. Kimbark
Chicago, Illinois

The lesson of Chile's nationalization

by EMILY HANLON

On July 11, the Chilean Congress voted unanimously to immediately nationalize the properties of the three U.S. copper giants, Kennecott, Anaconda and the Cerro Corporation. Nationalization has been a ready threat to the copper companies ever since Salvador Allende Gossens was elected President eight months ago. Allende considers himself a Marxist and views nationalization as an important part of the building of socialism in Chile. Allende won the votes of the workers on a platform that declared the wealth of the country the property of the Chilean workers and peasants who have built it and not the foreign investors who have exploited it—the copper companies have been taking profits out of Chile to the tune of \$80 million a year!

More recently, Allende has been leading the attack on the copper interests in order to build up public opinion against substantial compensation for the copper companies. In order to emphasize this, the government has been running advertisements in the Chilean papers showing pictures of shack dwellers and naked, undernourished children under a caption reading, "This would not have happened if the copper had been ours." It is clear that if Chile were to pay the U.S. copper robbers anything close to the \$700 million they say they have invested, there would be little left with which to develop the Chilean economy.

Report reveals robbery by U.S.

A recent report prepared for the Chilean government by a Soviet mission and a French consultant company, Sofremines, has detailed the ruthlessness of the U.S. companies, especially since Allende became president. Anaconda, for example, had moved to make the quickest profits from the Chuquibambilla mine, the world's largest open-pit copper mine, by removing high grade ore while leaving behind an enormous amount of slag and by permitting equipment to become obsolete.

Under former President Eduardo Frei Montalva, a friend of the copper barons, Chile had acquired a 51 per cent share of the three companies—a fact which the U.S. interests like to point to as proof of their good faith. But the Frei government paid Anaconda \$175 million to acquire the majority control on a book value of only \$181 million!

There are some revolutionary groups within Chile who oppose any compensation and are calling for outright expropriation of U.S. interests, since nationalization with compensation, although progressive, is essentially still recognizing the property rights of the bourgeoisie. Expropriation without compensation is the act of a revolutionary government that has the armed support of the masses of the people, that has worked out the class contradictions within the country sufficiently so that it can tell the imperialists to go to hell. Outright expropriation is the recognition that im-

perialism cannot be nibbled away at—as Lenin said, "When one makes a revolution, one cannot mark time; one must go forward—or go back."

The Bolshevik way

It was for these reasons that the Bolsheviks' program, even before the 1917 Russian Revolution, demanded land reform without compensation. The Bolsheviks acted upon this immediately after the October victory, along with the expropriation of the factories by the workers, the banks and all the interests of the ruling class.

It was for these reasons that Fidel answered the U.S. elimination of the Cuban sugar quota—which the U.S. and, to a certain extent, even the Cubans, thought might be fatal to the newborn revolution—with the statement, "They will take away our quota pound by pound and we will take away their sugar mills one by one." Along with expropriations came the slogan, "Sin cuota, pero sin amo"—"Without a quota, but without a master."

In Cuba, as in all the other countries that have made a socialist revolution, taking the property that "belonged" to the expropriators was an absolutely necessary prerequisite for socialist construction. But in order to do this, the people had to be armed and prepared to defend themselves against a reactionary counterattack.

History has shown again and again that the ruling class will use terrible violence before it will relinquish its property and social position. What seems to be the hard way—organization of the masses for armed struggle—is in reality the only way.

* * *

(Since the above was written, the head of the Chilean Socialist Party has called for "nationalization without compensation," and for a plebiscite to dissolve Congress and elect a new people's assembly. The Revolutionary Left Movement also calls for expropriation of the copper mines, and has organized farm seizures and occupation of factories by the workers.)

Fighting Irish vs. British imperialism

The following article was submitted to WORKERS WORLD by Sean O'Cionnaith, Joint General Secretary of Sinn Féin in Ireland. O'Cionnaith is in the U.S. to assist in the formation of Irish Republican Clubs here to further the fight for Irish freedom from British domination.

* * *

Ireland has a population of almost four and a half million people and is still in the process of changing from an agricultural society to an industrial one. Every development in Ireland is influenced by the relation with its nearest neighbour, Britain. For eight hundred years now a struggle for Irish independence has been in progress. Ireland's condition has varied from one of complete subjection to Britain to one of partial subjection.

Today Ireland can look back to the beginning of this century and see two important developments in the history of colonial countries that first were used in the Irish-British arena. One was the method of guerrilla warfare which the Irish Republican Army used to fight the British forces of occupation to a standstill and the other was the use by the British of partition to continue her conquest of Ireland by dividing her people.

Ireland weakened by divisions

Britain, when the inevitability of her withdrawal from the greatest part of Ireland became apparent, decided on partition. The present Northern Ireland State is the result. The North had shared in the indus-

trial revolution of the 19th century and most of the bigger industrialists there felt they would suffer from the Home Rule and protectionist trade policy of the southern freedom fighters. Their economic interests lay in the direction of access to the British markets while that of the southern sector lay in the direction of protectionist trade policies to help build up their industrial potential.

With James Connolly's death at the hands of a British firing squad, the working class took an increasingly secondary role in the developing Irish struggle for national freedom and was not really represented as a distinctive group in the 1918 Parliament when the forces of National Liberation swept the country and set up an independent parliament in defiance of British rule. Britain retaliated by the Government of Ireland Act (1920) which established Northern Ireland and the political situation that now exists in Ireland.

This regional difference was added to by historical and religious factors. Very many of the people of the North East were of planter origin and were brought in for plantation settlements by the British in the 17th century. Their religions were Protestant, Presbyterian, etc., whereas the religion of the vast majority of the country was Catholic. Sir Edward Carson and F.E. Smith found it easy, therefore, to inflame sectarian feelings in a demand for the retention of the Union with Britain at a time (in 1912) when the Home Rule party with its protectionist trade policy had

forced the British to concede Home Rule to the whole country.

Socialist goal unifies struggle

Northern Ireland is an artificial state with a two-thirds majority in favour of the British connection and one-third opposed. By and large the majority is Protestant and the minority is Catholic so that political enmities are cemented by religious differences. Britain, by virtue of the Government of Ireland Act, is in direct control of the North and, by virtue of economic factors, in indirect control of the South.

The Irish Republican Army is outlawed both North and South. Its policy is to unite all Irish working people without reference to religious differences in the common struggle to reconquer Ireland for the Irish. Over the years the IRA has launched many unsuccessful military campaigns against the British occupation; these were defeated as much by Irish apathy as by British military equipment.

These defeats led to a rethinking of the whole IRA position and a determination to become involved in the problems of the ordinary workers in the fight against imperialism. One of the first results of this policy led to the Civil Rights campaign in the North where the discriminated against minority was encouraged to fight for their rights and to seek an end to discrimination in housing, employment and jobs. The Civil Rights Movement was reformist but the reaction to it by the Unionists in the North split the Unionist Party

Expanding Empire

by VINCENT COPELAND

"The basic cause of the U.S. invasion of Vietnam lies deep within the social and economic system of the United States, itself. The aggression was built in, and the Asian war was predetermined before Lyndon Johnson was born."

To obtain the above pamphlet, send 50¢, plus 10¢ postage, to: Workers World Publishers 46 West 21st Street New York, N.Y. 10011

and brought the North to a state of complete breakdown in August 1969. An attempted pogrom in Belfast ended in the destruction of hundreds of houses and the loss of many lives. Because of the rioting and fighting and the need to rush in reinforcements of British troops the whole political solution of the Government of Ireland Act was in the melting pot. South of the border, under the pressure of events in the North, a split developed in the Cabinet which led eventually to the sacking of two prominent Government Ministers and the resignation of a third. Socialism is seen by the Irish Republican Movement as a unifying factor between workers of different religious persuasions who are nosed by sectarian leaders of either the Catholic or Protestant religion. The objective of Republicans is not just to end partition, their objective is National Liberation and emancipation of all the people in Ireland, North and South.

"Never to see a bird or hear a woman's voice..."

Malik Hakim (slave name Albert Bradford) is the president of the New England chapter of the Malcolm X Foundation. On May 13, he was busted by FBI pigs on phony charges of assault with intent to commit murder and rape. These charges were later dropped, but he now faces extradition for parole violation in Missouri stemming from a crime he committed when he was 16! He has already served 16 years for that crime, but now faces a life sentence. Clearly, the local bourgeoisie considers Malik a threat to their rule and is searching for any excuse to put him out of their way.

The following interview was given to WORKERS WORLD on the night before his arraignment hearing (July 6, 1971). A week later his extradition hearing was set for September 10.

* * * * *

Workers World: Could you tell us a little about your political development?

Malik: The thing I'd like to point out is that from the moment a Black man is born, your political development starts because of the repressions that exist in your environment. In the beginning you become aware of the environmental pressures that are upon you....You'd go to the movies and see Tarzan. He would always whip all the natives and never get a scratch from their spears. So you get this whole underdog, repressive feeling. You get these silly superstitions about black Thursday or a black cat crossing your path. Everything that was evil, dirty and bad was black. You knew you weren't white, so you began to ask yourself are you that evil force? You knew you weren't treating white folks bad; they're treating you bad. So you ask where is justice for me?

By that time, you're 12 years old and going through juvenile changes. The white boys in juvenile court are getting probation, the Black boys are going to reformatory school. So you begin to question these things and you begin to get resentful. Hence the search for identity begins. You start chewing "bennies," you start drinking wine, smoking grass and shooting "skag." By the time I was 13, I was a junkie. I did all the things that junkies do. When I was 16, me and this other cat robbed a safe so I could get money for "skag." He was 15 and I was 16 and we were busted the next day. He got six years and I went to the big

jail. I went through all the changes you go through in a big jail.

Three or four months later the lawyer brings this thing to my parents about cleaning the books. He says "cop out and I'll get you 20 years. The judge will give you parole in three." So I go to court and the judge gives me life for rape! I couldn't relate to no rape so I split the marshal's jaw and got myself into fighting. So I went to the joint and after about six years I got a letter saying I go up for parole the next year. So I went up for parole for seven straight years.

I went in the joint at 17 and got out at 33. Then I went to St. Louis. Parole was supposed to be a blessing, but it turned out to be a curse.

So I guess you might say that my political education grew out of my bitter experiences in prison—it was a whole conglomeration of things; it is the whole environment, the whole way of life.

Now I realize that I turned to "skag" because of my frustrating environment. The more I struggled to be a man when I got out of prison, the more I got repressed. I learned architectural design, mechanical drawing, tailoring and carpentry while I was in jail. I couldn't get those kind of jobs. So I said "How about letting me join one of those community organizations so I could teach art to the little kids," like the NAACP or the Urban League since they were the only ones with art programs. He said, "No, they're too militant."

I am a profession musician. I play all the reeds so I started to blow my horn in the park on Saturday. The parole officer said music has a tendency to excite people, you might incite a riot, so you can't blow your horn in the park. I said suppose I met a woman and I wanted to marry her. He said, "If I approve of her you can marry her. If I don't I'll have to violate your parole if you marry her." So I caught a bus and began to travel, trying to find where I fit most. So in California, I met Hakim Jamall, President of the Malcolm X Foundation, and a whole lot of political people on a first hand basis. I met Angela, Bobby, Ericka and John Huggins, and Bunchy Carter.

I came here about 25 months ago. So since then we've been involved in education, the type of education that's relevant for Black folks. We're talking about grass roots education for Black folks and we began to develop a re-education thing. We understand that the system as it exists is not designed for Black folks. It is designed for

— Phone strike

Continued from page 3

tention of staying out?" The rank-and-file rebellion over the sell-out pretty much answers this question, that is, that he had no choice. But it is also interesting to hear the answer in the words of the bosses themselves. The following statements are from two anti-strike editorials in the New York Times: "The union's members are in a state of near-rebellion, so much so that any pay increase, however high, would probably have faced rank-and-file rejection without a strike."

"Union and management negotiators... were manifestly less concerned about any real differences between them than about how to fashion an agreement that would satisfy the inflated expectations of a restless union rank-and-file."

NY locals still out

New York City's Local 1101, with 15,000 members, is the largest local in the CWA. Despite the lo-

well as terrific pressure throughout the state from the rank-and-file, forced not only 1101 but every local president in New York State to reject the settlement and instruct their workers to remain on strike.

The insurgents in Local 1101 launched a petition drive to call an emergency membership meeting. Under the local's by-laws, 600 signatures are required. In a matter of a few hours, more than twice that number of members signed.

In the meantime, CWA ballots are being sent out for a membership vote on the new contract. A rejection would mean a new nation-wide walkout. In New York, where the strike is continuing independently, the soon-to-be-held membership meeting of Local 1101 could give a strong impetus to the rebellion.

No matter how the strike finally ends, the telephone workers have learned that they can push their leadership when necessary, or, go around them. The company tactics of relying on their "labor lieutenants" are proving increasingly ineffective against an aroused rank-and-file.

ultra-wealthy white folks. It wasn't really designed for poor white folks. So we began to educate our people to overcome certain hurdles. If you help someone to understand why he is the victim then he knows how to change it. So basically what I'm saying is what's important for Blacks in 1971 is preparation for 1980. The conditions haven't changed. What they were in 1520 they are right now. So we talk in terms of dealing with these situations. How junkies kill themselves, how to take a sister off a block and give her an education. So we try to show our people that they are the victim of the very same games they think they are playing. So by changing the environment, that is, the internal environment of the mind and the external environment in which we live, you get rid of the beast, you can come together as human beings. Once we begin to build a humane society you will see that there will be a whole lot of togetherness. There won't be no peace and love as long as the environment sucks the very life out of the individual. As long as it constantly oppresses the attempts to become human, to act and function as a human being, as long as the repression is directed against those who attempt to change the environment for the better, until these things are changed there will be no peace, only discord.

Workers World: Speaking from your experience in prison, how do you view the present wave of rebellions in the prisons?

Malik: I think that prisons should be abolished and replaced with places of learning so that cats will understand why they break laws. Prisons are foul. They create so much hate. Let me tell you this about prison experience. Have you ever thought what it would be like not to hear a baby cry, not to see a dog or cat or a bird, not to hear a woman's voice for 10 or 15 years? The only faces that you see are hard faces like your own, you never see a tear fall out of somebody's eye—you almost forget how to cry. Is there any question why there are rebellions in prison? Take the new work programs. With 60 or 70 or 80 per cent Black population only 3 out of 13 get to go on the new work program. So this is why those cats rebel. If you treat a human being like a dog he will bark and bite. No cat wants to go to prison. I haven't seen one happy prisoner. I don't care how many reforms and legislation you pass, if you don't change the environment, and by the environment I don't mean the physical structure, but the people who administer it, there will be rebellions. If you don't give human programs you are always going to have rebellions.

Money for Malik's defense is badly needed. Send all contributions to:

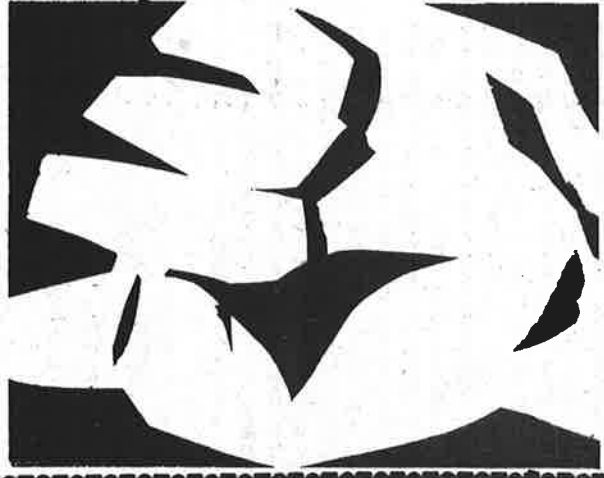
Albert Bradford Defense Committee
Malcolm X Foundation
378 Bluehill Avenue
Roxbury, Mass.

BE IN THE STRUGGLE WITH YAWF

YOUTH AGAINST WAR & FASCISM is an anti-imperialist organization of militant youth, active since 1962 in every aspect of the struggle in the United States—from protesting against the war in Vietnam, to demonstrating in support of Black liberation, to walking picket lines in solidarity with striking workers.

MANY OF the activities YAWF is involved in are reflected on these *Organizing Front* pages. If you are interested in learning more about YAWF fill in this coupon and send it to YAWF, 58 W. 25 St., New York, N.Y.

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY STATE



John Lombardo trial set

Champaign community backs YAWF leader

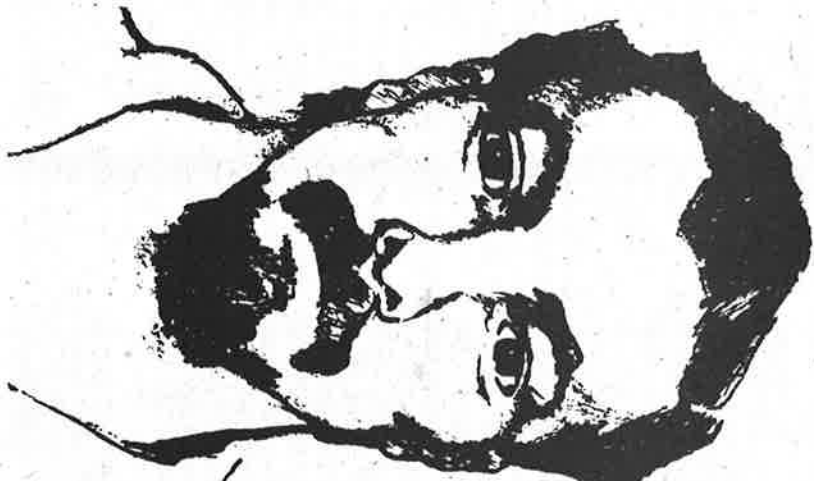
CHAMPAIGN, ILL., July 7.—The Committee to Defend John Lombardo and the Champaign 7, along with supporters, went to the Champaign County Courthouse here today, to present State's Attorney Larry Johnson with petitions demanding that the charge of flag-desecration being leveled against John Lombardo, a YAWF leader here, be dropped.

The Defense Committee had previously sent a letter to Johnson requesting that he be present at a meeting in order that the committee could present him with the petitions signed by close to 1,000 people in the Champaign-Urbana community. Johnson responded with a letter stating, "The number of friends a prospective defendant may have is not considered in determining whether criminal charges will be filed against the person... Therefore, your petition cannot alter our consideration of this case. For that reason I will not meet with you to accept the petition."

The Committee took the issue to the community by holding a press conference making public the contents of the petition and Johnson's response. The Defense Committee exposed Johnson's attempts to silence the people by blatantly ignoring their right to petition. The petition demanded that the charges leveled against Lombardo be dropped. It stated, "All people have a right, in fact a duty, to express their political opposition to the U.S. govern-

ment's policies where those policies have resulted in racism, war, exploitation, and injustice; and they should be able to do so without repression."

The petition also points out that the charges leveled against Lombardo are a clear case of political repression—the charges were six months old when presented to John, pre-



cisely at a time when he was actively speaking out against the oppression and exploitation of Black, poor, working and political people in Champaign-Urbana and all over the world.

Along with presenting the petition concerning Lombardo's case, the people also demanded that the charges against the Champaign 7 (seven persons attacked and arrested by plainclothes police for protesting Governor Ogilvie's racist and genocidal policies in Cairo, Illinois) be dropped, for they also constitute political repression. The statement released by the Defense Committee reads as follows. "We on the John Lombardo, Champaign 7 Defense Committee will not cease struggling to see that John Lombardo and the '7,' and all political prisoners are freed; we, along with thousands of people in Champaign-Urbana, will be closely watching the court's response to our demands and will thwart any attempts to make victims and scapegoats of these individuals who have been bravely challenging the corrupt, ruling class of this country."

CHAMPAIGN, July 9—Attorney Richard Halprin argued here today that charges against John Lombardo be dropped because they deny constitutional rights to publicly express dissent against the government, which is symbolized by the flag. Halprin gave Judge Birch Morgan the "opportunity to be a

wounded in the head and abdomen. Even though the office was surrounded by cops armed with high-powered shotguns, including Thompson machineguns, and even though the office was being barraged with bullets from almost all sides, the three Panthers were framed on the charge of shooting at the cops!

The defendants held that they had fired no weapons, while at the same time defending their right to have arms, and that the cop who was wounded was shot by another cop's gun. The prosecution never once proved that any of the Panthers' weapons had been fired, nor had they run any tests on the defendants for powder burns. In fact, the prosecution claimed that Ortag, the wounded cop, was shot with a .357 magnum. Had this been true, his jaw would have been completely shattered.

As expected, most of the cops who testified contradicted each other's stories. None of the cops ever saw who shot Ortag, nor did they see any Panther fire any shots. But this type of evidence wasn't necessary for convicting three Black men. The racist prosecutor based his whole case on the racism and anti-communism of the jurors. The majority of the jurors (10 white and 2 Black) were businessmen, supervisors and foremen. Most of them were elderly people.

Throughout the case, the prosecutor, Patrick G. Lazarro, tried his best to red-bait all defense witnesses. Lazarro even threatened a defense witness who had recently graduated from law school, saying he would try to keep the witness from being admitted to the bar. Lazarro also displayed the weapons that the Panthers had in their office, attempting to scare the jurors. Showing pictures from the Panther paper of Black people defending themselves, he turned the case into an attack not only against the three defendants, but against the Black Panther Party and the Black liberation movement as a whole.

This vicious attack was most evident in his summation when Lazarro told the jurors that these were Panthers who wanted to kill pigs. "They would even kill you!" He went into detail about how Ortag was wounded and even had the

racist cop sit in the back of the courtroom wearing a bright red shirt so jurors could see his disfigured jaw. After portraying the three defendants as killers, the racist prosecutor called them "not Panthers, but yellow pussycats" who were only brave when they had weapons.

At the conclusion of this kangaroo trial, Judge George W. White thanked the jurors for their time and declared, "This is how our system works." Before sentencing, Curtis Johnson told the judge, "We have shot at no one, I have committed no crime, except the crime of being a member of the Black Panther Party."

The question that comes to mind is why were these three Panthers convicted; how did the racist ruling class get away with the frameup? This question applies not only to Cleveland, but to all places where Black liberation is on trial. The real reason why they were convicted was because the courts felt no threat from the community. The leaders of the anti-war movement in Cleveland and various so-called radical organizations who can mobilize many people, were aware of this trial, yet not one of them lifted a finger in defense of the Panthers. They have yet to understand that the struggle of Black people is essentially the same struggle as that of the Vietnamese. And if one supports the Vietnamese, then one must defend the Panthers. Without mass protest, the government felt it would be easy to railroad these three liberation fighters.

There will be more severe attacks against the Black community as well as against all revolutionary and progressive movements in the future. It is essential that all parties which claim to support Black liberation actively defend all victims in the struggle. As Mae Mallory, secretary of the July 23rd (Ahmed Evans) Defense Committee and herself a one-time political prisoner, said at a rally to free the Cleveland 3, "Someone has to say it, if the Cleveland Panthers 3 go, then Cleveland goes."

Money is desperately needed to cover legal fees for appealing the case. All supporters should send donations to the Cleveland Political Defense Committee, P.O. Box 2576, East Cleveland, Ohio 44112.

Cleveland 3

get two to

sixty years

CLEVELAND.—In the past few weeks, the Black liberation and revolutionary movements have experienced a series of victories in the courts. Such people as Bobby Seale, Ericka Huggins and the N.Y. 21 have been acquitted. In Detroit James Johnson, a Black autoworker, and the Detroit 17 have won victories. While these cases were indications of a retreat by the ruling class in the face of a growing revolutionary movement, the ruling class is always prepared to deal more blows when it believes it can get away with it.

In Cleveland, on July 7, Curtis Johnson, Fred Clark and Mike Dowell, three Black Panthers, were convicted of shooting at three cops during a police raid. Their sentences ranged from 2 to 60 years.

The case of the Cleveland 3 grew out of a police raid on the NCCF office. The Cleveland cops, assisted by the "tactical unit," the subversives squad, and the FBI attacked the NCCF offices under the pretext of serving a peace warrant. During that "shoot-in," one cop was wounded in the jaw, and Fred Clark was

Part II.

Lead poisoning

— the curable
epidemicDiseases
of the
poor

by LARRY LEVY, M.D.

On April 15, 1969, Janet Scurry, age two, was brought to a Bronx hospital in a coma. Nobody thought to test her blood for lead until April 21, but then it was too late. On April 22 she died. More than a week after she buried her daughter, Mrs. Scurry learned the results of the blood test: lead poisoning.

There are many such heart-breaking accounts of lead poisoning, which kills over 200 children, usually between the ages of one and five, each year. New York City alone is estimated as having some 30,000 cases, while the U.S. total probably exceeds 400,000. But nobody really knows the full extent of this frightening epidemic.

Before 1940, lead paint was used freely on the walls of the buildings in which poor people now live. Today, lead in paint is still being used as recent official disclosures have proved. Thus, potentially deadly living quarters are being readied today for a new generation of poor children thirty years from now.

Besides the normal desire to put anything in their mouths, these children of the poor are often hungry. Their hunger drives them to eat anything they can find. Lead accumulates in the body; it therefore takes only two to three paint chips a day over a three-month period to cause severe illness with the possibility of life-threatening coma.

The early symptoms are often so mild and vague that they are frequently overlooked. There is usually abdominal cramps, loss of appetite, nausea, constipation, crankiness and clumsiness. Anemia, which can be caused by lead poisoning, produces weakness and fatigue. As the condition worsens, drowsiness, vomiting, convulsions and coma develop. It is important to note that lead poisoning is most common from July to October when ultraviolet radiation causes increased absorption of lead.

The medical treatment consists primarily of removing the lead from the body with chemical compounds known as chelating agents. In spite of rapid treatment, over half of the 400,000 children affected will tragically end up with a permanent handicap. They may suffer mental retardation, kidney disease, epilepsy, cerebral palsy or be regarded as "behavioral problems" the rest of their lives.

Since permanent brain damage almost always follows a second attack, the most important aspect of

treatment is to permanently remove the source of lead paint. The solution is really quite simple. Landlords must be forced to repair and repaint every chipped, cracked, crumbling, flaky wall and ceiling in their buildings. It is bad enough that human beings are forced to live in these decrepit hovels, but it's intolerable that infants are killed by these conditions.

Being a disease almost exclusively of the poor, not much attention has been paid to lead poisoning. Laws already exist on the books that state that landlords must keep their buildings in good repair. Since it is only the poor who suffer, the laws go unenforced. As a professor of pediatrics at New York Downstate Medical Center said, "The horror of it is that lead poisoning is a completely preventable disease....When we used to have ten polio cases, the whole city was up in arms, but when 30,000 kids are affected with lead poisoning, nobody notices."

Recent attention has been focused on the problem because it has reached such mammoth proportions. In addition, lead is now being found in the air (especially in New York City) and in the water all over the country. Limited programs have been instituted to reach out into the oppressed communities to find the many victims of this menace. The result has been that the harder people look the more cases are uncovered; many children have thus been saved. Many, however, are still not being found. The reason for this is that funding has been totally inadequate. Because it is strictly a disease of the poor, virtually no pressure has been brought to bear on the blood-sucking landlords by governmental authorities.

Lead poisoning, a disease for which both the causes and cures are known by everybody, continues to exist in epidemic proportions in the capitalist USA. It has become more than a disease; it's a monstrous crime committed against the people.

The intolerable contradiction of fantastic wealth for the few and antiquated housing where thousands of children eat lead paint is a manifestation of the inhuman relationships in class society. It could only exist where selfish gain is placed ahead of human dignity, where profits are more important than insuring adequate food and housing for every person. This capitalist system is most degenerate because, unlike previous societies, it has the technological ability to provide for all. It's consistent failure to do so places its destruction on the order of the day.

Rikers -- Devil's Island in vinyl

by ELLEN PIERCE

To hear New York Prison Commissioner McGrath tell it, doing time in the new women's jail on Rikers Island is more like a vacation than a punishment. "Tennis courts, secluded gardens off the living quarters, a beauty parlor, a standard-size gymnasium, the most modern of kitchens and a complete elementary and high school" were among the facilities glowingly described in the press on the prison's opening day in June. "Each color-coordinated room is furnished with a desk, day-bed, sink and toilet, and there is a throw rug on the floor.... There are only a few barred doors in the complex, and no barred windows."

Hotel or concentration camp

They don't need bars on the windows and doors — but not because

the women are happy with the "accommodations." Bars are unnecessary because the women's jail is on a penal-colony island in the middle of New York's East River along with a men's prison and the Adolescent Remand Shelter. The only way on or off the island is a guarded bridge — or the water. And two of three men prisoners who tried to swim their way to freedom recently drowned in the attempt.

The opening of this "model" prison was a time of rejoicing for Mayor Lindsay and Commissioner McGrath. Stunned by the rebellions that swept almost all the city jails last October, officials now felt they could show off the new jail and call it great progress. "Welcome to New York's newest and perhaps best hotel," said McGrath at the dedication. And Lindsay told the audience,

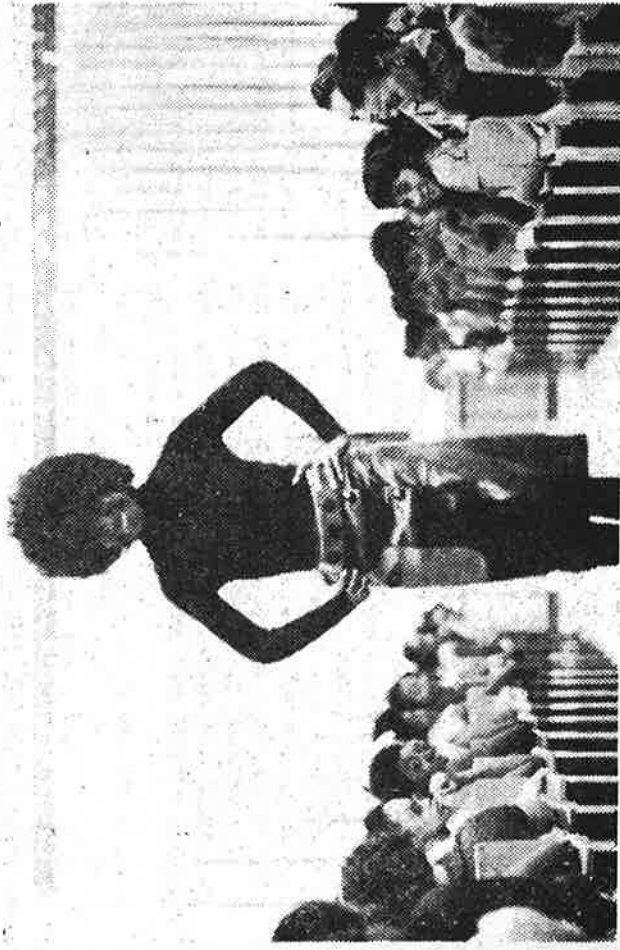
"this is only the beginning." The beginning of bigger and "better" concentration camps for the oppressed, it seems.

Just what are the facilities in the new "model" prison for women? The "private rooms" are like solitary confinement cells. The color coordinated furnishings, made of the cheapest possible materials, can be taken away from an inmate for the slightest infraction. And some of the things that come under the label of rehabilitation are a cruel joke — like the fashion show presented there on July 18.

Models in the "model" prison

When Marie Antoinette told starving Frenchmen to eat cake if there was no bread, she was no more out of tune with reality than the people who put on a show of \$300 Pierre Cardin fashions before the women at Rikers. Many of the inmates are there for shoplifting clothes (although probably less expensive ones) like those paraded before them!

The idea for the show came from Barbara Hughes, house model for Pierre Cardin in New York, who worked out the arrangements with the prison's Rehabilitation Division, in order to "inspire, inform and uplift" the inmates. Cardin's public relations director, who narrated the show, responded to criticism that the clothes were too expensive for the women to be able to afford. "We aren't trying to peddle these clothes," she said. "We know there is a sewing and design course here, and we hoped this show might give the students some ideas." But the sewing rooms she referred to, ac-



Fashion show at Rikers.

THE SOLEDAD BROTHERS
DESPERATELY NEED CASH!

With the trial finally about to start, the Soledad Brothers Legal Defense team is on the verge of total bankruptcy. The outcome of the trial hangs in the balance. The Soledad Brothers have been under indictment since February 1970 (more than 18 months). The massive pre-trial assault by the prosecution (charges of venue, gag rules, harassment, endless pre-trial hearings) have almost completely exhausted every penny raised by the defense.

The trial is now scheduled to start on August 9, 1971.

Defense attorneys expect it to last 5 months. Conservative estimates put the cost of the defense at \$100,000. The state has offered to pay for the expenses for witness interviews from all over the state, the bare necessities for supporting three attorneys and their staff during the trial, etc.) at \$125,000. The state will be spending many times this amount in its ruthless attempt to railroad the Soledad Brothers to the gas chamber. Your money can help prevent a legal lynching. Please send your contribution immediately to:

THE SOLEDAD BROTHERS LEGAL DEFENSE FUND
1000 Third Street
San Jose, California 95113

Enclosure for the names of justice in the Soledad Case

Please send Soledad Brothers (75¢ minimum contribution) due to work for the Soledad Brothers in any community. Please send information.

Name _____

Address _____

cording to reports from Rikers, look suspiciously like garment industry sweatshops, not high fashion design centers.

That is the concept of a "model" prison in this racist, oppressive country. A moat instead of bars; a cell with pretty colors; a fashion show of clothes that will land you right back in jail if you try to get them.

And even if Rikers were the "best hotel" in New York, even if inmates got steak three times a day and silk sheets to sleep on, a prison is still a prison. The time is still a chunk out of a woman's life, her freedom is taken away in the new "model" prisons just as in the old ones. A "model" jail still serves to maintain the rule of private property by seeking to terrorize the propertyless into accepting their condition. That is the real purpose of a jail in this society and no amount of decoration can change that fact.

July 26 -- The "defeat" that sparked a revolution

by P. MEISNER

The first 50 years of the 20th century was a period of virtual economic enslavement for all of Latin America. From Teddy Roosevelt to Franklin Roosevelt, U.S. imperialism engulfed almost all of the Western Hemisphere's resources, either through political bribery, economic blackmail or outright military intervention.

But on July 26, 1953 a new kind of revolutionary movement was born in Latin America. A group of young Cuban revolutionaries were determined to overthrow the U.S.-backed Batista dictatorship, which had taken power via a coup on March 10, 1952. The Batista coup had been a devastating setback for the Cuban people, who had made significant social gains, even if limited, under the previous semi-capitalist, colonial regimes.

Moncada, inspiration for masses

Aware of the Cuban masses' new consciousness, the young revolutionaries, known as the Centennial Youth (1953 was the 100th anniversary of the birth of the great national liberator of Cuba, Jose Marti), were convinced that the conditions were ripe for an armed struggle against the brutal regime of Fulgencio Batista. On July 26, 1953, 26-year-old Fidel Castro led his comrades in a heroic assault on Batista's famed Moncada Barracks, lost 70 people in battle and was himself captured. What appeared to be a disastrous military defeat was actually a momentous political victory for the young Castro, since the Moncada attack had electrified the spirit and hopes of the entire Cuban people.

What was new about Castro's movement was not armed struggle in and of itself, but armed struggle based on a revolutionary political and economic program which captured the imagination of Cuba's peasants and workers. And even though the July 26 Movement's program was formulated in terms of bourgeois nationalist and democratic reforms, the execution of this program under Cuba's political climate at the time could only be carried out by the revolutionary overthrow of the colonial regime.

In analyzing the 1953 political situation, Castro said:

"The people were deprived of all participation in public life. The people had to adapt themselves to that military dictatorship which in order to remain in power with the support of

political elements and the reactionary classes, had also entered the electoral game....However paradoxical it may seem, it was precisely at the moment when all roads were tightly sealed, that the solution for the people appeared closer than ever before."

Castro on July 26

Castro further reflected on the revolution he led:

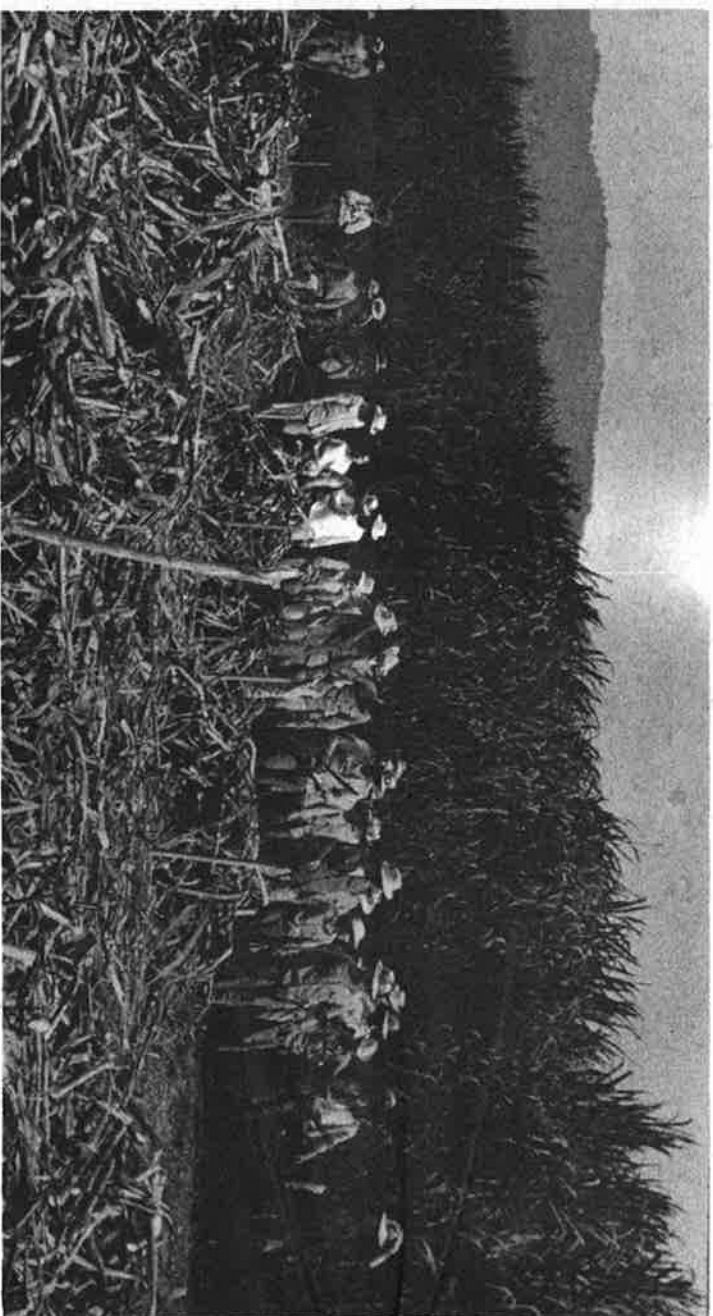
"The importance of that date (July 26, 1953) is that on that day the people began to take, at first modestly, the road which would lead them to Revolution. That date is important because it marked the beginning of a new concept of struggle, which in a short time would crush the military dictatorship and create the conditions for the development of the Revolution."

It was the tremendous mass support throughout Cuba that eventually freed Castro and his comrades from Batista's jails and which enabled them to lead the victorious struggle from the jungles of the Sierra Maestra in 1956 to the march on Havana, January 1, 1959. The triumph of the Cuban Revolution immediately inspired the births of guerrilla movements throughout

Latin America, from Guatemala to the Dominican Republic, and from Venezuela to Uruguay. The other side of the victorious Cuban Revolution has been its uncompromising leadership in defying Yankee imperialism while defending its national independence. The latter has even inspired some elements within Latin America's national bourgeoisies to resist U.S. economic domination over their countries. Recent events in Chile may have even superseded mere bourgeois opposition to U.S. imperialism.

But July 26, 1953 still remains the clarion call for revolutionary armed struggle throughout Latin America, and for that matter, Africa and Asia as well.

On this 18th anniversary, it is still celebrated in every nation on the face of the earth, without exception. And with the Revolution almost 13 years in power, the social and economic achievements are almost a miracle, despite the vicious U.S. economic blockade: full employment, the wiping out of illiteracy, free medical care, free housing, free transportation, free day-care centers, free public telephones, virtually no organized crime, prostitution or drug addiction, etc. This is the fruition of the Cuban Revolution—which all began on that historic day of July 26, 1953.



Prensa Latina photo

When you sit in the dark little theater on Bleeker Street and see hundreds and thousands of healthy brown, red, black and white children studying in modern schools, exercising in spacious playgrounds, tenderly cared for in spotless day nurseries and rolling in the surf at the once privately owned beaches, it is hard to drag your mind back to the era—hardly more than a decade ago—when Cuban children were illiterate, suffering from malnutrition and intestinal worms; where infant mortality was as high as anywhere in Latin America, and where the future for all the children of the poor was bleak and hopeless.

And it is hard, too, to remember that the young women you see, teaching both little children and aged grandmothers, studying medicine, mastering the science of engineering and the techniques of modern agriculture, were so short a while ago condemned to backbreaking work in the fields and factories or to heart-breaking slavery in Havana's brothels.

The camera takes you to scenes in other parts of Latin America—to police hosing and gassing demonstrators; to great stretches of garbage dumps, where hundreds of human beings, with rakes and shovels and bare hands root among the discarded rubbish hoping to find a pan, a usable mattress or perhaps a pair of shoes thrown away by some affluent Brazilian or oil-rich Venezuelan.

And then the camera's eye focuses again on Cuba—on Batista's presidential palace, now a school; on the beautiful, palm-bordered swimming pool made for the exclusive use of Batista's officers, now free to the children of Havana; on clean new houses and apartments built for working families, now rent-free.

This is not a film about the great leaders of the Cuban Revolution. Fidel is only seen briefly in an interview, where he explains quietly and patiently why the Latin American countries have no choice but to overthrow the jackeys of imperialism with armed force. Che's picture appears only fleetingly in a pano-

CUBA VAI!

and the people know where

"Cuba Vai!"—(Movie to be shown at the Bleeker Street Theater in August.)

The energy, the power and the radiant optimism of a revolutionary people is the underlying theme of this beautiful film made in Cuba last year by Felix Greene.

"Cuba Vai!" teems with the youth and vitality of a nation in creative struggle; it shines with a glimpse of the golden future to be transmuted in the revolutionary cauldron out of today's leaden world.

But this honest film shows, too, the immense problems still to be solved. You see women, and men still cutting sugar cane with machetes—one of the hardest jobs in the world. And you know that a way has to be found to mechanize this human-killing labor, and that although significant gains have been made in diversifying Cuba's agricultural output, sugar is still the backbone of its economy. But you know, at the same time, that all this toil and sweat is for the people of Cuba and its future and will never again benefit a lazy and decadent handful of plantation owners.

Greene, as in all his films, emphasizes cultural development—especially in the sphere of music. He shows us ballad singers influenced by the popular music of the capitalist world, schools of experimental music, which are striving to express the aspirations of the revolution with a blending of African and Caribbean folk rhythms, and an academy where classical music is still being taught. (It is as though Cubans were saying, "Yes, we have destroyed the rottenness of the old regime—the brothels, the racketeers and the bloodsuckers—but we will keep the great works of art. If future generations find no meaning in them, then they will wither away.")

"Cuba Vai!" ends with a ballad sung by representatives of all three of these musical—implying that the past and the future, thesis and antithesis—have found a new synthesis in revolutionary Cuba.

—E. Ross and S. Serge