

# The wage freeze in light of Marxist theory

*Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite*

## WORKERS WORLD

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25¢

by SAM MARCY

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# Labor ranks call for action; leaders bend to freeze



GEORGE JACKSON: 1941-1971

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# Hundreds protest killing of Soledad Brother

Picket captains from People's Liberation Movement keep up militant chants at Tombs demonstration.



BY ALICE ROBINSON

NEW YORK, August 24—"Prisons are Concentration Camps for the Poor" and "George Jackson is Dead, the People Want to Know Why," read two banners unfurled here today directly across the street from the barred windows of the Tombs. This main prison for New York City is a symbol of racist oppression where many Black and Third World people are confined, but it is also a symbol of courageous opposition by the oppressed—the scene of one of last year's heroic prison rebellions. The banners were carried by demonstrators there to voice their anger and outrage over the murder of Black liberation fighter George Jackson.

Jackson, one of the Soledad Brothers, was murdered by the racist officials of San Quentin prison on August 21. Jailed 11 years ago for allegedly stealing \$70, he became both a leader of the Black liberation movement and an inspiration to all revolutionaries through his brilliant writings. His consistent and determined efforts to fight against his racist oppressors made him a prime threat to the U.S. ruling class. He was to go to trial in September on trumped-up murder charges in the case against him and two other Black men known as the Soledad Brothers.

Today's demonstration began at 4:45 p.m. As soon as they emerged from a nearby subway station, the marchers unfurled banners with pictures of George Jackson, his brother Jonathan (killed one year ago in an attempt to free George and two other prisoners from a courtroom in San Rafael, Calif.), and Angela Davis and marched to the infamous jail near 100 Centre Street. Their chants reached up toward the inmates inside and attracted the attention of many passersby. The police—in a move to try and intimidate people from joining the demonstration—set up barricades around it.

By 5:30 p.m. the ranks of the demonstration

had swelled to over 500 people. A great many Black and Third World sisters and brothers marched on the line and almost all the progressive and revolutionary groups in this city were represented. The size and strength of the demonstration forced the police to move their barricades so that the entire sidewalk across from the Tombs and the court building that sends oppressed people to jail daily were filled by the signs and the banners of the demonstration. The pickets took full advantage of the situation and chanted "Jail the rich, free the poor," "Tear the jails down, free all political prisoners," and other slogans for close to two hours.

The demonstration was called by the Prisoners Solidarity Committee of Youth Against War & Fascism and sponsored by the American Servicemen's Union, the Black Panther Party, the Black Student Union, the Black Workers Council, the Center for United Labor Action, Committee to Free Angela Davis, Committee to Support Middle East Liberation, El Comité, Movimiento Pro Independencia, New York 21, People's Liberation Movement, Progressive Arab Students, Workers World Party and Youth Against War & Fascism.

The following statement on the brutal murder of George Jackson was written by Angela Davis from her prison cell just after news of the assassination was released.

\* \* \*

An enemy bullet has once more brought grief and sadness to Black people and to all who oppose racism and injustice and who love and fight for freedom. On Saturday, Aug. 21, a San Quentin guard's sniper bullet executed George Jackson and wiped out that last modicum of freedom with which he had persevered and resisted so fiercely for eleven years.

Though deprived so long of the freedom of movement enjoyed by his oppressors, even as he died George was far more free than they. Like he lived, he died resisting. A Field Marshal of the Black Panther Party, George belongs to a very special breed of fallen Black leaders, for his struggle was the most perilous.

He was recognized as a leader of the movement which sought to deepen the political consciousness of Black and Brown prisoners who constitute 30 to 40 per cent of California's prison population. His impact on the community outside was and continues to be boundless. George's example of courage in the face of the spectre of summary execution; his insights honed in the torment of seven years of solitary confinement; his perseverance in the face of overwhelming odds will continue to be a source of inspiration to all our sisters and brothers inside prison walls and outside.

His book, "Soledad Brother," a stirring chronicle of the development of the highest

Almost simultaneously, while the demonstration in New York was going on, Buffalo Youth Against War & Fascism was protesting the murder of Jackson. (See article p. 3.) And in San Francisco and Chicago, hundreds of people also paid tribute to this soldier of liberation. Only one bourgeois news source even mentioned this significant event, and then erroneously. The New York Times falsely reported that 75 people participated. Just as they only give the ruling class' side of the events around the murder itself, and try to jam down the throats of the people an elaborate and phony story about an escape attempt, so they are trying to stifle any news of the people's angry response to the murder. But as Tom Soto of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee said as he ended the New York demonstration, this is only the beginning of the people's protests against the war being waged by the ruling class and prison officials against political prisoners. The people have declared war on the murderers of George Jackson and Jonathan Jackson and all oppressed people!

LONG LIVE THE SPIRIT OF GEORGE JACKSON!  
TEAR THE PRISONS DOWN!

## Angela Davis — tribute to

form of revolutionary fortitude and resistance; serves as a primer to captured brothers and sisters across the world. Equally important, his volume, perhaps more than any other, has given impetus and shaped the direction of the growing support movement outside the prisons. George, from behind seemingly impenetrable walls, has placed the issue of the prison struggle squarely on the agenda of the people's movement for revolutionary change. His book reveals the indivisible nature of the struggle on the outside with the one inside....

The prevailing conditions of race and class exploitation invariably result in the captivity of a disproportionate number of Black and Third World people. Our brothers and sisters are usually locked up for crimes they did not commit, or for crimes against property—crimes for which white youths receive prosecutorial, judicial, and penal leniency....

Associate Warden James Park promises us that the new wave of repression which has been unleashed within San Quentin will not halt with George's death. Rather, he has ushered in new terrorism by openly inviting guards to make a show of force and fully exhaust their vengeance on the prisoners themselves. Efforts to squelch revolutionary prison activity will not stop with one murder, Park tells us, but will continue until San Quentin is purged of all revolutionaries and every revolutionary thought.

The newspaper of George's party, the Black Panther Party, is hereafter forbidden within San Quentin's walls. "Old-fashioned prison methods," namely raw brutality, without its cosmetic dress-





# 26 tell of San Quentin terror

Two days after the murder of George Jackson, the two remaining Soledad Brothers, John Cluchette and Fleeta Drumgo, were supposed to appear in court for pre-trial motions. However the prison officials closed off the concentration camp and refused to bring Drumgo and Cluchette to court. A systematic reign of terror was instituted in the prison and no one was allowed in to witness the vicious retaliation being carried out against the prisoners.

When they were finally brought to court on Tuesday, August 24, their bodies showed evidence of the brutal beatings and torture they had been through.

Again on Thursday, August 26, the Soledad Brothers came to court to try to raise the issue of the terror in San Quentin and the murder of Jackson. Again the judge ruled them out of order. This time, a packed courtroom erupted into shouts and cries of protest from supporters demanding that the prisoners be heard and that the true story of the assassination of George Jackson be told. Riot police poured into the courtroom and began a bloody battle with the spectators.

The following affidavit, documenting the reign of terror in San Quentin, was written and signed by the 26 remaining prisoners on the first tier in the prison where George Jackson was murdered August 21. The signers include Fleeta Drumgo and John Cluchette, Jackson's co-defendants in the Soledad Brothers case, and Ruchell Magee, who is being tried, along with Angela Davis, for frameup murder charges. The statement was smuggled out of San Quentin just after Jackson's murder.

.....

## George Jackson

ings, is officially the new regime. Brothers Ruchell Magee, Fleeta Drumgo, and John Cluchette are identified targets; others in the so-called Adjustment Center who have taken sides are equally in danger.

Our responsibility extends to all these brothers upon whom war has been declared—the people must secure their safety, and ultimately their freedom. Prison authorities seek only to cover up their own murderous crimes by attempting to initiate new frameups. These efforts must be swiftly and forcefully countered.

The Jackson family must be saluted. Their grief is deep. In little more than a year, two of their sons, George and Jonathan, were felled by fascist bullets. I express my love to Georgia and Robert Jackson, Penny, Frances and Delora.

For me, George's death has meant the loss of a comrade and revolutionary leader, but also the loss of an irretrievable love. This love is so agonizingly personal as to be indescribable. I can only say that in continuing to love him, I will try my best to express that love in the way he would have wanted—by reaffirming my determination to fight for the cause George died defending. With his example before me, my tears and grief are rage at the system responsible for his murder. He wrote his epitaph when he said:

"Hurl me into the next existence, the descent into hell won't turn me. I'll crawl back to dog his trail forever. They won't defeat my revenge, never, never. I'm part of a righteous people who anger slowly, but rage undamned. We'll gather at his door in such a number that the rumbling of our feet will make the earth tremble."

We the undersigned are each being held incommunicado because of the suffering and both the wounds and internal injuries inflicted on our persons by...agents of Warden Louis S. Nelson, Warden Nelson and Associate Warden James W. Park through their agents...killed one George Jackson and conspired to murder the undersigned who refused to join in the state official's conspiracy.

The officers...opened the cell gates and ordered us to come from our cells. Thereafter gunshots or what appeared to be gun shots went off and guards armed with guns entered the cell block and ordered us to come out or be killed. We were ordered to take off all our clothes and walk from the cell one at a time. Each of us were given vicious physical beating by prison guards' blackjacks, clubs, and guns. We were handcuffed and made to lie on the ground naked from approximately four p.m. to ten p.m....

...While being held incommunicado we are being constantly threatened by prison guards. We are suffering from wounds and injuries and are living in an atmosphere of fear by reason of what was heretofore stated. We are being denied the right to have legal papers and seek permission to further offer affidavits and testimony at a hearing if heard by this court. Defendant Warden Nelson will continue these beastly acts until the courts grant the release sought. We declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

(signed Aug. 23, 1971 — 26 inmates)



George Jackson, Field Marshal, Black Panther Party

## A note on his life

George Jackson was born September 23, 1941 in the heart of Chicago's ghetto. Having moved to Los Angeles, he was 15 when shot six times by L.A. police and sent to a juvenile prison for seven months for allegedly attempting to remove goods from a department store. From then on, his life became a series of run-ins with racist U.S. "justice."

In 1960, George was accused of robbing \$70 from a gas station. Convinced by the DA to cop a plea for a light sentence, he pleaded guilty and was instead given a one year to life imprisonment. He was 18 then. Eleven years later George Jackson was still in jail, most of the time locked up in maximum security.

During that time his readings extended from Shakespeare to Mao, writing constantly, training himself legally and physically, teaching his fellow inmates to read and write, bringing the political message of Black liberation to his people. His respect and influence among the other inmates grew to such an extent that prison officials felt that their rule through terror was being threatened and finally he, along with John Cluchette and Fleeta Drumgo, was accused of killing a guard in retaliation for the murder of

three Black prisoners who were gunned down in the prison yard by a guard firing from a tower.

All pleaded their innocence, George Jackson becoming the outstanding spokesman of the Soledad Brothers, as they came to be called. George was looking forward to the trial. He planned to use his public appearances in court to expose the vicious brutality of the U.S. prison system as well as the overall racist oppression of the Black community in the U.S. To prevent him from doing just that, on August 21 George Jackson was murdered by prison guards. Even if it were true, as the authorities charge, that Jackson was attempting escape, he was justified in seeking freedom from his racist captors by any means necessary. The prison system deprives the oppressed of every political and human right. What right is left but to rebel?

But his fellow prisoner Ruchell Magee has charged that the racist guards shot George Jackson in cold blood in his own cell. Thus his murder, in addition to being a tragic loss to all revolutionaries, is one of the most heinous crimes and frame-ups in the blood-soaked history of this repressive system.

## Protest Jackson murder

BUFFALO, August 24—In response to the call by the Prisoners Solidarity Committee of Youth Against War & Fascism, 35 people picketed in downtown Buffalo at 5 p.m. today to show the government and the wealthy ruling class they represent that we protest the racist murder of George Jackson. One banner on the picket line said "Martin L. King, Malcolm X, Fred Hampton, Jonathan Jackson, George Jackson -- murdered by racist state." Another banner read, "Long live the spirit of George and Jonathan Jackson."

George Jackson was a great Black leader in the struggle for survival against the concentration camp con-

ditions in the brutal U.S. prison system, and like most other prisoners, was guilty of one crime -- the crime of being poor.

His cold-blooded murder is an escalation of the racist war that has been waged against Black people in this country for several hundred years. It happened at a time when the government is also escalating its age-old war against all poor and working people in the form of the "wage-price freeze." This war of racism, like every other imperialist war in the world, must be stopped.

"THE RICH SET THE BAIL,  
THE POOR GO TO JAIL — TEAR  
THE PRISONS DOWN!"



# The wage freeze in light of Marxist theory

BY SAM MARCY

The Nixon Administration's wage-price freeze is bound to provoke a general discussion on the efficacy of planning in a capitalist economy. A large body of capitalist economists have long been beating the drums for it and the capitalist media have made sure to plug Nixon's edict to the point of saturation. It is therefore no surprise if a considerable section of the workers, caught off guard, seem to support Nixon's move.

Of course, the initial impression of the workers reflects what they have heard on the media or read in the press. It shows that ideologically the workers and the mass of the population generally are at the mercy of the ruling class which owns and controls the means of communication.

Hence, as Marx said, the prevailing ideas at any time are the ideas of the ruling class. The wage-price freeze is a perfect example of this.

Bourgeois liberal economists, such as Galbraith and the economic advisers to the large trade unions, are now moving in the direction of "controls and planning"—not Nixon's, some say, but a better, more liberal proposal, one that is more pro-labor, one that takes into consideration "the poor and disadvantaged."

The benefits of a controlled economy are sure to redound to all classes of society, we are told. Isn't the alternative of galloping inflation worse? we are asked.

This is as good a time as any to at least examine some of the Marxist conceptions, based upon historical experience, as they relate to the Nixon Administration's economic program.

## Historical experiences of state intervention

The wage-price freeze is a form of state intervention to regulate the economic system. As such it is not a new phenomenon, either in the history of the capitalist system or previous social orders. There was state intervention in the economic life of the ancient slave system, in feudal society, and in the early stage of the period of commercial capitalism, not to mention the intervention of the state in the period of monopoly capitalism.

But throughout the history of all the successive forms of exploiting social systems, the state always intervened in times of economic difficulties to salvage, to safeguard and to improve the position of the exploiting class at the expense of the exploited.

In ancient times, this was done to help the slaveowners overcome their difficulties and improve their situation as against the slaves. The feudal state did the same in order to perpetuate the exploitation of the serfs in the interest of the lords. And the history of the capitalist system is replete with abundant examples of how the capitalist state intervenes whenever there is an economic crisis to overcome their difficulties, so as to benefit the capitalists.

Because the state is the instrument of the dominant exploiting class in society, and has always been that, its intervention is necessarily for the purposes of improving and strengthening the exploiting class at the expense of the exploited. To view the Nixon program in isolation without seeing its connection to previous historical experience of state intervention breeds confusion, and presents Nixon in the role of an "innovator."

Throughout all class society up to and including the present one, state intervention in economic life has always been class intervention, the intervention of the state as the collective instrument of the ruling class to salvage and improve its deteriorating position as against those whom it rules and exploits.

## Bourgeois-liberal economics

The above must be very clearly borne in mind precisely because the bourgeois economists and their liberal cheerleaders say that Nixon's wage-price freeze, which is a specific form of capitalist state intervention, is bound to help all classes in society, and is in fact a supra-class measure on behalf of the people as a whole, regardless of social class or economic status.

They are now telling us that because Nixon is an unscrupulous opportunist (Galbraith's words)

he is doing something good because it is expedient. In reality, Nixon's plan is a coldly calculated scheme to salvage the capitalist class, and in particular, the biggest, greediest and most predatory monopolies, and it contains nothing good in it for the other classes of society.

While the liberal economists are singing hosannas to the introduction of controls and planning into the capitalist economy, others—the more rightwing, conservative, bourgeois economists—are beraating the infringement on the "free economy," expressing alleged concern for the destiny of the "free market" and "free competition."

This too must be exposed as either delusion or sheer hypocrisy. The epoch of the free market has long been over. What remains in the main is the freedom of imperialist monopolies to struggle against each other on the world market and to plunder the underdeveloped countries, plot conspiracy and counterrevolution and utilize the capitalist state for just such purposes.

Of course, competition at home and on a world scale has not been abolished. Nixon's economic program is calculated to improve the advantage of the U.S. monopolies in intense worldwide imperialist competition.

## Nixon program stems from basic economic trend

His economic program is not a new departure from the basic trend in the U.S. economy, but merely a logical development of it. First of all it is necessary to point out that the capitalist economy in the U.S. is already "controlled or planned," in a very large measure. It is a falsification to say that this is an entirely new departure.

The giant corporations, in collusion with the Administration, have for many years been in the stage of trying to plan and coordinate. For a long time they have been sharing out markets, cornering sources of raw materials, fixing prices, making secret agreements with foreign monopolies and more secret deals for currency manipulations, while combining all these measures to direct even more investment abroad. They have been utilizing the diplomatic and military power of the Pentagon machine to promote these interests. All this takes planning.

Long and careful deliberation and coordination with a variety of different cliques and class groupings within the monopolist structure of the U.S. is a characteristic of modern capitalism. What the bourgeois economists do not tell us is that all this planning, all this maneuvering and manipulating, comes up against a fundamental contradiction in capitalist society, namely that it is planning within the framework of private property. It is to maintain the private economic interest of a specific class in society as against the mass of the people, the mass of the workers, who produce all the wealth of the capitalists and are exploited by them.

Not Nixon's economic program is not new. This type of planning and control has long been in the making. But it has reached an impasse. For planning within the framework of capitalist monopolies, where the fundamental driving force is profit rather than the common good of society, also means planning against each other—planning which is underhanded, secret, cut-throat—an utterly destructive form of rivalry and competition. It is planning on the social foundation of a monopoly of the means of production. It is planning that excludes the mass of producers from any participation in formulating the plan.

The diversity of conflicting interests of class groupings within the monopolies makes rational planning an impossibility. Rational planning, planning for the good of all society, can only be accomplished by expropriating the means of production from the capitalist class and returning them to the people, to the producers, to the working class which alone can produce for the good of all.

## "State monopoly capitalism"—Lenin

Lenin foresaw the development of capitalist planning and took pains to distinguish it from socialist planning. He showed how the development of the giant trusts would necessarily entail a lot of planning (really conspiring) and how this dif-

fered fundamentally from a socialist society that is dedicated fundamentally to production of goods and services for the common good rather than for profit.

He even characterized such capitalist intervention by the state as "state monopoly capitalism" which resulted from the huge concentration of capital in the hands of a few people. While production as a whole had become socialized, the socialized character of production was not accompanied by socialized forms of distribution.

Speaking of the capitalist monopolies, Lenin observed almost half a century ago:

"The trusts, of course, never produced, do not now produce, and cannot produce complete planning. But however much they do plan, however much the capitalist magnates calculate in advance the volume of production on a national and even on an international scale, and however much they systematically regulate it, we still remain under CAPITALISM—capitalism in its new stage, it is true, but still, undoubtedly, capitalism."

However, liberal economists like Galbraith, who are so enthusiastic about Nixon's wage-price freeze (with small reservations) claim that Lenin was wrong and that those monopolies CAN produce complete planning and eliminate crises. Galbraith devoted an entire book, "The Industrial State" to advance this thesis.

Aside from the fact that his book is an underhanded embellishment of the monopolies, the experience of the capitalist system after his book was published in 1967 proved his thesis to be false. If ever complete planning in the capitalist establishment had been possible, it should have been proven above all in the sector known as the military-industrial complex.

## Meaning of Lockheed bankruptcy

Lockheed was the jewel of this very system. It was a product of the planning and coordination of the so-called private industrial sector, the government (the so-called public sector) and the banks (26 of the largest banks headed by Morgan Guaranty and the Bank of America).

Here was a perfect example of private industry working with the military and the banks. Their collaboration had the blessing of the entire capitalist government. They jointly undertook the development of huge projects with the U.S. government acting as financial guarantor. Thus there was production planned with the cooperation of the government, industry and the banks on the highest possible level.

Yet one fine morning, the shares of Lockheed on the stock market took one of those big plunges which really shook up the entire "financial community." Why did Lockheed's stock suddenly fall—and so steeply? Wasn't everything planned? Wasn't there a ready customer? This was the brightest star in the firmament of the military-industrial complex.

The explanation of the bourgeois liberals for the bankruptcy of the Lockheed corporation was (continued on p. 15)

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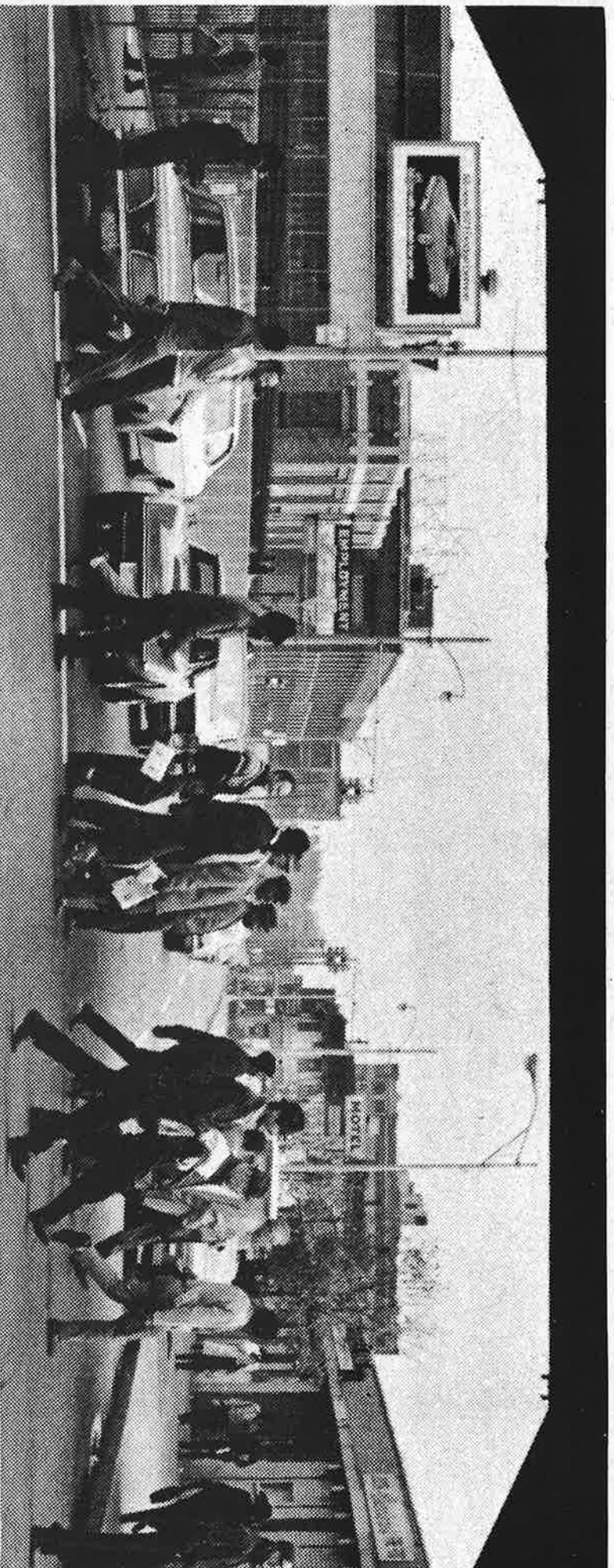
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New York, N.Y. 10010  
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# The wage freeze: What does it mean for the workers?



TO ALL WORKERS: EMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYED; MEN AND WOMEN; BLACK AND WHITE, LATIN, ASIAN AND INDIAN:

## A CALL For an Emergency Congress of All Labor to END THE WAGE FREEZE END EXTORTIONATE PROFITS ROLL BACK HIGH PRICES

By freezing our wages at a time of the highest cost of living in history, President Nixon has declared war on the workers of the United States. And at the same time he has given billions of dollars to big business in the form of tax cuts for investing in their own companies. He has thus encouraged them to introduce more automation and create still more unemployment.

Under this program, the government (continued on page 6)

## Call for emergency labor conference

NEW YORK, August 18—A call for an Emergency Congress of All Labor to "end the wage freeze, eliminate extortionate profits and roll back high prices" has been proposed and unanimously passed today at a leadership conference of the Center for United Labor Action (167 W. 21 Street, New York). The call is addressed to "ALL workers, employed and unemployed, men and women, Black and white, Latin, Asian, and Indian. The CULA is an organization of rank-and-file militants who are struggling to improve the conditions of life for all workers, employed and unemployed. Accompanying the call (printed here) is a petition by which rank-and-file workers can ask their unions to endorse the idea of the Emergency Congress.

"By freezing our wages at a time of the highest cost of living in history," the call begins, "President Nixon has declared war on the workers." Printed in English and Spanish, and to be mass distributed, the call goes on to explain how Nixon's edict is designed to benefit the bankers and businessmen who own the corporations at the expense

of the workers.

"Labor has been wronged; labor has its remedies!" the call declares. "It is necessary to defy Nixon's illegal, unconstitutional decree and reverse it—not with an isolated, overlong, exhausting strike in one separate place or another, but with the united, all-encompassing, national power of all the working people hitting all the corporations with one powerful blow."

This call for an Emergency Congress is all the more timely in view of the weak and vacillating response of the mis-leaders of labor, like Meany and Woodcock. After some super-militant rhetoric, the UAW head said today he would "accommodate" his union to the wage freeze. While these bureaucrats sit on their hands, the rank-and-file workers throughout the land need a bold response to Nixon's attack. The initiative taken by the Center for United Labor Action provides an opportunity for working people to reverse the government's harsh edict and their deteriorating standard of living.



# - Conference called

(continued from page 5)  
ment will provide NO effective policing of the prices of millions of different commodities. Those who sell them have every interest in raising the prices and will do so legally or illegally, openly or secretly. The wages of labor can easily be kept down under these circumstances if the workers do not act. That's because the same people who raise the prices also own the factories and they have every interest in keeping wages low; they will "cooperate" most cheerfully with Nixon on that!—All this is summed up and proven in one undeniable fact known to everybody: on the day after the "price freeze" was announced, the prices of corporation stocks went up higher than they had ever gone in a single day in all previous history!

## LABOR HAS BEEN WRONGED; LABOR HAS ITS REMEDIES!

Ralph Nader said that General Motors knew about the Nixon decree in advance. Of course they did! But that's only half the story. All the rest of big business knew about it, too. They knew about the action even before Nixon did. In fact, they told him to take the action in the first place! It was the collective action of all the big bosses under the guise of a Presidential "surprise" decree.

The action of 85 million workers must also be a collective action;

it must provide a collective response to the anti-labor dictatorship in Washington. It is necessary to defy Nixon's illegal, unconstitutional decree and reverse it—not with an isolated, overlong exhausting strike in one separate place or another, but with the united, all-encompassing, national power of all the working people hitting all the corporations together with one powerful blow.

President Nixon has, in effect, nullified all existing contracts between labor and the billion dollar corporations and has thus declared martial law against the workers. With the same breath that he took away the already guaranteed wage increases, he also threatened to break strikes, thus proving that there is no political democracy for working people. It is now up to the workers to assert their own real democracy, to take the kind of action described above and defend their most cherished rights against the wrongs of big business.

To organize such action, let us call a great congress of all working people. The mere convocation of such a congress—even before any decisive action is taken—will make Nixon think again, and make big business think again. But the congress will also be a congress of action reflecting the real needs and posing the just demands of the working people of this country to end the wage freeze, eliminate extortionate profits and roll back high prices. The time for such a congress is NOW.

# Perils of the unemployed

BY TOM MITCHELL  
Unemployment Grievance Committee  
Center for United Labor Action

For some time now, unemployed working people have been feeling the effects of Nixon's increasingly harder line against the living conditions of all working people. The government's unemployment bureaucracy has been making it harder to collect benefits and harder to resist being forced into underpaid jobs. To resist this injustice, the Unemployment Grievance Committee of the Center for United Labor Action has been helping unemployed workers to fight for their rights.

The newest challenge to the Unemployment Grievance Committee is the new wage-price freeze. Nixon's wage-price freeze means higher prices for unemployed workers and more unemployment for all workers. The 10 per cent tax on imports means that poor people, who have to buy the cheapest goods, must pay more for clothes, shoes, etc. In addition to this, 100,000 federal workers will be thrown out of work by Nixon. But Nixon doesn't even stop there. The 10 per cent tax credit for bosses on capital goods means new machinery for automation, which in turn means cutting jobs. Hundreds of thousands will be added to the already six million unemployed. And the price freeze means that bosses will cut the payroll to increase profits without

## increasing prices.

Once they're laid off, newly unemployed workers will find that about one-third of all unemployed workers are being denied benefits. This is because the companies want to avoid having to pay for the unemployment insurance of the workers they lay off. One way the companies avoid getting charged for unemployment insurance is by reducing their work force through "attrition." The new Postal Service is an example of this. "Attrition" is a campaign of harassment with job duty changes, shift changes, delayed upgrading, speed-up, and "scheme tests." The purpose of this harassment is to provoke quitting or else fire workers who fight back individually. The bosses don't want one big layoff that would provoke the workers into fighting back together.

When you go to the unemployment office to file a claim, you have to face an interviewer who decides if you can collect. He knows the ins and outs of the law, but you don't. It's like a kangaroo court where, according to whatever the boss says, the interviewer can ask just the questions that build a case against you. For example, if you quit because of harassment, this is called "quit without good cause" and you are denied. And if you resisted the harassment and got fired, this is called a "provoked discharge" and you are again denied.

# A PETITION To Call a National Emergency Congress of All Labor

We the undersigned call upon our organization (Name of organization here) to endorse the idea of an immediate Emergency National congress of ALL Labor to oppose the wage-freeze, demand a price roll back and the elimination of extortionate profits, and plan the kind of united action that would force the corporations to agree to this program.

(NAME)

(ADDRESS)

Please submit this petition to your union after filling it out, or if you have no union, return it to the address below:

CENTER FOR UNITED LABOR ACTION, 167 W. 21st St. NYC 10011  
Labor Donated 8/25/71 Phone 212-741-0633



## will be busted off welfare.

The Unemployment Grievance Committee (of the Center for United Labor Action) is organizing against these injustices, which hit Black and Third World people hardest. We have been taking grievances directly to the managers of the unemployment offices and are demanding that all unemployed working people be put on the rolls until they find a job, without being forced into underpaid jobs. We have gone with many people who have come to us for help and forced the manager to reverse unfavorable decisions. As the wage-price freeze causes more unemployment, we will intensify the struggle.



# Workers, youth, GIs, hit Nixon freeze

BY BOB McCUBBIN

NEW YORK, August 17—Men like Richard Nixon and his cohorts in Washington have found it necessary for years now to keep their visits to New York City completely secret until after they have happened. The reason for all this sneaking around is obvious: they have been increasingly fearful of the growing number of people who see them as class enemies and come out on the street to oppose them at each public appearance.

Thus, when an advance statement was given out that Nixon would be speaking in New York the evening of August 17, it was clear that he was banking on a number of long-shots. Nixon fervently hopes that his maneuvering and tricks in Southeast Asia have fooled the American people into believing that the war has been ended. He also hopes that he will somehow be able to deceive the American workers into believing that the new wage freeze is in their interest. So much for Nixon's delusions.

## Hundreds turn out to protest

Youth Against War & Fascism immediately called for a demonstration at the Waldorf Astoria where Nixon was scheduled to speak to an evening meeting of the Knights of Columbus, an organization of racist Catholic businessmen. By 7:30 p.m., this evening, over 400 people had assembled across from the Waldorf with some highly political messages for the money men inside the fancy hotel.

Banners from several different organizations, including YAWF, the Center for United Labor Action, and the Asian Coalition, were visible and raised slogans such as: "Stop Nixon's War Against the Poor," "Nixon: Asia Belongs to the

Asians" and "Tax Your Rich Pals, Not Us." Workers World Party was represented by a banner which read: "Nixon's Imperialist War Brings Fascist Regimentation of Labor." Similar ideas were expressed in chants raised more or less continuously by the block-long picket line. Other organizations participating included Movimiento Pro Independencia, People's Liberation Movement, Women's Bail Fund and Vietnam Veterans Against the War.

At the conclusion of the demonstration, the picket line was transformed into a rally, complete with portable sound equipment. Dave Axel of YAWF chaired. The first speaker was Mike Tilli, Chairman of the Center for United Labor Action. He opened with the statement, "Yesterday Nixon and big business brought their defeat in Vietnam home to the American people. Nixon's wage control is a direct attack on the working people. It leaves the workers at the mercy of big business." Tilli pointed out that even the smallest gains that the workers of this country have made have required tremendous sacrifice and even bloodshed. How is it possible to have faith or trust in a government which, as its first action to solve the economic crisis, lays off 100,000 government workers, he asked?

## Defend the right to strike!

As Tilli put it, "Their real purpose is to make up for what they couldn't take away from the Vietnamese people by taking it away from the American worker." He urged the workers to defend and use their right to strike, to defy injunctions against this right and to continue to fight for the higher wages necessary for a decent life.

The next speaker was Naomi Cohen, co-editor of WORKERS WORLD newspaper. She

plinary procedures designed to speed up the firing of a worker. This, along with harassment and outright contract violations, may be part of their plans to cut down on the expenses of the post office.

At work, many young workers, most of them Black veterans, feel especially threatened. Along with the usual racist harassment, the post office's plan to build new postal facilities in the suburbs will force many Black workers out of their jobs.

The most ominous aspect of the wage-price freeze is the collaboration between Nixon and Postmaster General Blount during the contract negotiations. It has become evident that Nixon tipped the government negotiators off that a wage freeze was coming.

This conspiracy between the different government agencies, along with the help of the union leaders, to deny us a contract they promised and signed, but never intended to

give, will only serve to awaken and unify the workers and prepare them for a struggle for a real contract and a union which represents them and doesn't pose as a cover for our bosses.

—J.P., postal worker

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To the 200 production workers of a rather large mail order shop in Brooklyn, the wage-price freeze was quite important. The workers here are attempting to bring a union into a shop that has been unorganized for the 40 years it has been in business. The struggle to organize has lasted over three years and the union now has the support of a majority of the workers. They are about to call an election. But they also now face the fact that a wage freeze means they are supposedly not allowed "by law" to get the raises of a union contract.

Women in the shop for as long as five years still earn \$90; men running presses have not received raises for six months and some for

pointed out that the capitalist press has been telling us that this so-called wage-price freeze is a new plan where everyone will have to sacrifice equally. But what evidence is there that the big corporations are going to sacrifice anything at all? "Can you imagine them voluntarily giving up any of their profits," she said. "This new plan is laying the economic basis for fascism by regimenting labor in the interests of the monopolies. The workers have to get together and fight it."

The final speaker at the rally was Sue Higa of the Third World Caucus of YAWF. She spoke on how Nixon's measures are affecting the poorest people, the majority of whom are Black, Puerto Rican and Third World. She said that the poor people are tired, "Tired of working so hard. Tired of being the last hired and the first fired. Tired of being thrown into concentration camps for the crime of trying to survive. Does Nixon care about this? No! He's never been bitten by a rat! Jail Nixon! Jail the Rich! Free the Poor! Power to the People!"

A special message was brought to the assembly by Greg Laxer of the American Servicemen's Union. Laxer (who spent 7 months in the stockade for twice refusing to go to Vietnam) stated that the ASU is totally opposed to the use of service-women and men as scabs and strikebreakers and intends to launch a major campaign to educate the rank-and-file GIs about the real character of the new economic policies.

Just before the end of the rally a woman telephone worker took the mike to assure everyone that the operators were not fooled by the new measures and didn't intend to take this attack on their struggle lying down. "We can't live on \$70 per week and we're not going to accept any less than we need, freeze or no freeze!"

as long as a year; men without skills who lug boxes for shipping are often making less than \$100 after a year, regardless of the size of the family they support.

A meeting was held in a nearby bar after work in order to discuss the problems of continuing the organizing drive. Even the hesitant workers came to realize that without a union, the wage freeze would give the company even more excuse to push production and lay off workers so that it could increase its profits without raising its prices.

So wage freeze or no wage freeze the employees have the strength they always had to threaten production and those very profits. If the union needs new members, more dues, let it back us for our crucial demand: more money. Wage freeze or no wage freeze, the company, too, must pay its due.

—R.F., a worker for the union

(More letters on page 11)

## Letters

On August 15, while President Nixon gave big business a shot in the arm, he gave 100,000 federal employees a stab in the back. While making his announcement to institute wage and price control he also ordered the elimination of 100,000 federal jobs. A cutback of this proportion must certainly hit postal workers.

The new agreement with the Postal Service, signed just a month ago, had a provision protecting us from any layoffs during the duration of the two-year contract. Also in the contract, however, are new disci-



# Fascism starts with freeze on labor

BY M. MARGOLIES

Nixon's wage freeze, his "request" for an end to strikes during the 90-day period, and recent other anti-labor attacks could only be described as fascist-like in character. The capitalist system in the U.S. is in deep crisis and the bosses have been demanding a continuous and ever-increasing flow of profits. In order to achieve this, the big capitalists have directed the Nixon government to intervene in the so-called "free" economy—especially to straitjacket the working class.

In order to save capitalism, their main purpose, fascist states such as Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy generally began by creating conditions that permitted the slashing of wages. This included the nullification of union contracts, the abolition of the right to strike,

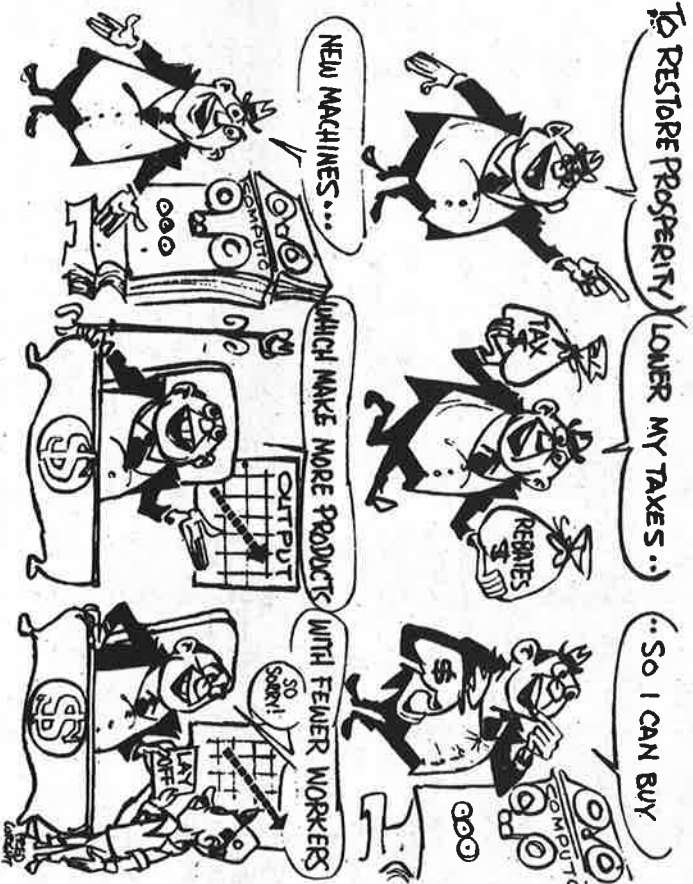
and the destruction of the labor unions. Under Nazi rule, German wages dropped, to the cheers of the bosses, between 25 and 40 per cent between January 30, 1933 and the summer of 1935. This is what the U.S. capitalist class is aiming for.

The bankers and industrialists are perfectly willing to dump "democracy" in order to guarantee their profits. Isn't the right to a contract—like the big money ones for Lockheed, Boeing, etc.—usually defended by the bosses and most of their government officials? But now when the workers win some gains in their contracts, the bosses want to cancel it, tear it up, for 90 days or longer—if they can get away with it.

The right to strike has been upheld, in their courts, any number of times. And, in fact, the Bill of Rights says, "Neither slavery, nor involun-

tary servitude ... shall exist within the United States...." Nixon is now requesting that strikes not take place, at least during the 90 days. (This "request" is backed up by the threat of court injunctions, scabs and even troops if the workers don't comply.) Nixon is preparing to push this harder and harder, as well as trying to continue some kind of freeze after the 90 days are up. Without the right to strike against the boss, a worker is a slave.

The Nazi Goering said, "We must work doubly hard today—eight hours a day is not enough. We must work." Nixon calls upon the workers to "sacrifice," too. Fascism has not yet conquered in the U.S. But the bosses are capable of doing anything to preserve their system—anything for a profit. The workers are the only ones capable of stopping them.



WORLD WAR II

## The great price freeze fraud

BY JERRY ZILG

"I am today ordering a freeze on all prices and wages throughout the United States for a period of 90 days," said Nixon in a national broadcast. But what he really meant was a freeze on wage increases, not price increases.

A Federal decree freezing prices has never worked in the past and won't work now. Richard Nixon knows this. He was a Senator in 1952 when Truman's price and wage freeze didn't stop consumer prices from rising 4 per cent. He was an aspiring politician during World War II when Roosevelt's freeze didn't stop consumer prices from rising 45 per cent.

In both those periods, U.S. Presidents authorized "mandatory" price freezes on big business, but Nixon doesn't even try that—his price freeze is "voluntary." During World War II, an official government board set prices; again, Nixon doesn't even try that. Under his decree, corporations are left to themselves to set prices, as if regulated by some magic hand of free competition. But the age of free competition has long been gone. Today giant monopolies extort huge profits and set prices purely according to their own greedy whim.

Like during World War II, when big business made \$22 billion a year in profits, the highest in history up to that time, U.S. corporations are expecting higher and higher profits under

Nixon's wage freeze, especially when the workers will have no way to fight speedups and wage cuts if they obey Nixon's "no strike" demand.

World War II was a bonanza for big business despite Roosevelt's supposed price freeze. Corporations raised their prices by 45 per cent under Roosevelt's Office of Price Administration and raked in a 250 per cent rise in profits, while wages of workers were frozen and 88,100 workers were killed on the job, 11,112,000 injured. Most workers worked 48 hours a week under a no-strike ban imposed by Roosevelt. While FDR summoned his armed crusade supposedly for "Four Freedoms," including "Freedom from want," over 86 per cent of the American working class earned less than \$50 a week, below the minimum standard of decent living set by the government itself.

During the "cold war" against world socialism and the witchhunt against militant trade unions at home, U.S. corporate profits rose 69 per cent, while the real wages of American workers actually fell by 5 per cent. Today, there is nothing to stop a cut in wages again, or even further layoffs. Nixon's freeze is a freeze on wage increases, not a freeze on wage decreases. Significantly, Nixon did not propose a "job freeze" that would protect workers from layoffs.

No one can keep an eye on all the thousands of items on sale in just the average supermarket or department store. Nixon also knows this. Yet his decree fails to apply any government

watchdog. In fact, Nixon pledged that no "bureaucracy" would be set up. When he promises no government bureaucracy, he is actually promising the monopolies that they will not be bothered with government enforcement.

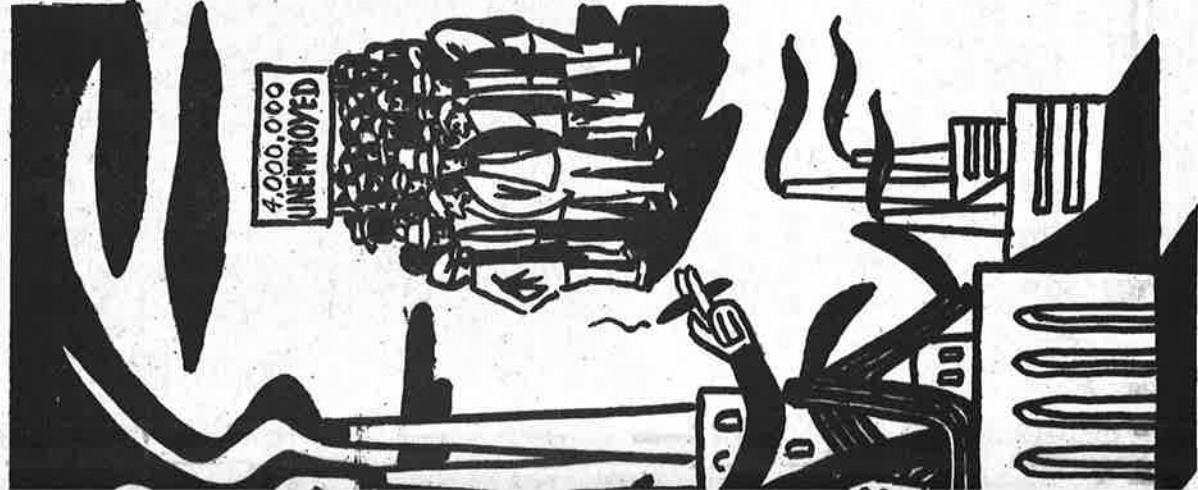
Big business is the only target that would need a bureaucracy to enforce wage-price controls, because labor's wages are already policed—by the bosses. It is the corporations that control the payment of wages, and one should have no doubt as to how efficiently they will serve as a watchdog over labor. As for the corporations themselves, Nixon says let their greed be their guide.

There is only one solution to the economic crisis for the majority of the people. Only the workers themselves can be their own protectors on the job or off. That has been the history of the American working class in the last century. Only the workers themselves can enforce price controls over big business. By taking over the supermarkets, the department stores, the factories, and setting up their own regulators. By striking today, as 3.5 million workers did in 1945 and 4.6 million in 1946, more than ever before in U.S. history despite an attempted strike ban and wage freeze by the government. Only the workers can chart their own destinies in a reasonable way for the common good. This is their right, won through a century of struggle with nothing but harassment from government, a right which no dictatorial decree from the White House can take away.





## Are Here Again!



## Japan the scapegoat in current crisis

Since Nixon's speech on his "new economic policy," a sinister note has been sounded in many news broadcasts, articles and editorials throughout the media. National chauvinism and distrust of other countries is being dished out wholesale to the American people. And it comes from the same sources that have spent the last 25 years reconditioning the public here to regard the former Axis powers as allies in the "crusade against communism."

Particularly strong right now is the propaganda against Japan, some of it bordering on the racist anti-Japanese hysteria of World War II. The term "Jap" has reappeared in the press, along with racist stereotypes of the "Asian mentality," etc.

What does this renewed chauvinism reflect? It certainly doesn't come from the masses. It is one of the most obviously stage-managed shows ever to come out of Washington, and it corresponds exactly to the present needs of U.S. big business. Having made the decision to start a trade war with Japan and other countries, the U.S. establishment and all its institutions are deliberately trying to whip up a fear and hatred of foreign competitors, both to prepare the people

here for an intensification of hostilities, and to divert their anger for the wage freeze and the economic decay of U.S. capitalism from the bosses at home.

Furthermore, the bureaucrats heading the so-called "international" unions have done nothing to combat this chauvinism. They are such racists at home, how can they be expected to understand workers' solidarity abroad?

This campaign of deception must be uncompromisingly fought! The U.S. corporations that are trying to engender national chauvinism among the masses are themselves super-national in that their assets are spread across the globe, and they have no hesitation whatsoever at exploiting workers of any nationality. Only these greedy oppressors can benefit from dividing the workers and oppressed.

The Japanese longshore workers have pledged to respect the present strike of American dock workers and will not unload U.S. ships that have been struck. This is the kind of international working class solidarity that can win real gains for all working people against our common enemy, and we salute our Japanese brothers and sisters!

## Liberal "friends of labor" called for freeze

For years big liberal politicians have been paraded as "friends of labor." However, Nixon's newly-announced wage freeze should destroy that myth for good. The Muskies, McGovern, Lindsays and Galbraiths have, in fact, been calling for "wage-price controls" for several years under the pretense of checking inflation. Typical was McGovern's response to Nixon's executive order last week:

"The wage-price freeze is four years overdue." While Nixon actually put it into effect, it was the liberals who pushed hardest for the wage freeze which is now enslaving many workers into poverty. Even the reactionary trade union bureaucracy, led by George Meany, was forced to admit this. (Of course Meany came out against the wage freeze only because

of a tremendous rank-and-file revolt against Nixon's order.)

As late as August 11, four days before Nixon's wage freeze speech, Muskie was still preaching for wage-price controls. It is well known that the new darling of the liberals, John Lindsay, has been calling for wage-price controls for months. And no one cheered Nixon's wage freeze more than the "liberal" New York Times.

The liberals must be exposed for their vile attempt at deceiving the workers and the oppressed in the U.S. The big liberal politicians knew well beforehand that Nixon's wage freeze was coming and that it would be a boon for big business with economic strangulation for the workers, the poor and the unemployed.

## Losers, weepers in the economic crisis

BY CHRIS ROBINS

There are a number of basic economic facts which U.S. economists (almost all of whom are indebted to the U.S. bosses for their "high" stations in life) routinely try to hide from the people. The reason is simple. Some of these facts demonstrate clearly how the rulers waste the people's money. Others highlight the basic irrationality of the whole system. Still others show how the rich steal their wealth from the pockets of the poor.

So most economists spend half their time trying to figure out how to patch up the crumbling system and the other half developing ways of saying things which will conceal more than they explain.

But during a period like this, when the serious nature of the economic crisis is becoming clear to everyone, the people begin to demand straightforward answers and are ready to listen to sources other than the establishment for some straight talk.

And that's where a revolutionary class analysis can help to clear up a lot of confusion and direct the attention of working and oppressed people to some rather glaring contradictions in the U.S. economy.

In the first place, it's pretty clear that when people buy anything, they do so because the product (Marxists call it a commodity) has some positive value for them. They have a use for it. But there is one type of product that is kind of different from the things like toasters and shoes that we normally think of as commodities. Unlike the things that we buy to help us in our daily living, things that we usually hope will last as

long as possible, military commodities are made to destroy and be destroyed.

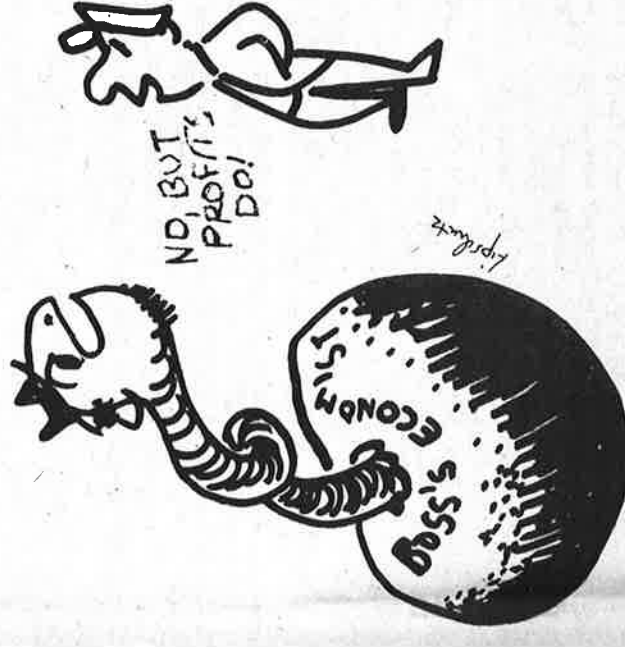
Now the U.S. government buys the sorts of commodities that we all do, things that are of value and things that produce more value. But the government also buys this other type of commodity—bombs, bullets and machinery of war—which has no other purpose than to destroy and be destroyed.

Since World War II the U.S. government has purchased \$1,000 billion worth of war commodities. And the resulting productive effort, involving such a great part of the country's resources, has contributed nothing to the well-being of the people either here or abroad. War production is parasitic, like the blood-sucking leech, because it contributes nothing to the increase of wealth of the country.

What the bosses had hoped was that the tremendous military machine they were building could be used to keep the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America from throwing out the U.S. corporations exploiting their countries. But national liberation movements all over the colonial world are proving the opposite, and inspired by the heroic example of the Vietnamese, are defeating the U.S. war machine.

All this does not mean that the bosses are about to begin spending less on guns and more on butter. What they are doing instead is bringing the war home. What they haven't been able to get out of the Vietnamese and other oppressed peoples, they are going to try to get out of the American worker. But the Vietnamese have won victory over the U.S. bosses and the American workers can too!

HIGH WAGES  
CAUSE  
INFLATION



NO, BUT  
PROFIT,  
DO!





CWA workers on strike against Western Union.

# Nixon — low man on the telephone poll

By a CWA worker, Local 1101

Two telephone workers, picketing the building they walked out of five weeks earlier to win a better contract, angry and frustrated, spoke bitterly about Nixon and his wage-freeze.

"What's the word, brother?" "No time for words, brother, get a gun."

A few feet away, leaning against the police barricades that were placed up and down the block to hamstring our picket line, a few other telephone workers were also talking about the wage freeze.

"There's gonna be some kind of strike, something big, like what happened in France a couple years ago."

The worker who spoke was talking about the general strike of ten million French workers in 1968, and the other workers standing around nodded their agreement. We had heard that the West Coast longshoremen were staying out, and the auto workers' union said they would walk out in December if they didn't get their raise, and it seemed natural to us that if all the big unions

stuck together and refused to accept this wage freeze, we could all go on strike together and force Nixon to repeal it.

"Nixon didn't freeze profits, or stock dividends," a worker observed, though this was something that we all knew. That the rich were exempt from the freeze increased tremendously the resentment we all felt, and workers kept talking about it.

## Nixon a strikebreaker

Our strike against the New York Telephone Company is in its sixth week, and the government is trying to force us back to work with the same lousy pay and lousy conditions we had under our old contract. We had voted to reject the company's offer, and everyone felt that we would soon be back to work with a real victory. The New York State Jobs of the Communication Workers of America had defied the company and the International, and now Nixon was trying to rob us of our victory, our new contract, our right to strike, and even our union.

At first, some of the workers thought that with no chance for a

raise, we might as well return to work, especially since the bills were piling up. But we still had to fight for a new contract; we need a better pension, more vacation time, better medical coverage, and other benefits as well as more money. We still have to bargain for these issues even if we couldn't get an immediate raise. Nixon's edict was designed to make us believe our union could do nothing for us anymore, and that we should lay down our only weapon against the harassment, the racism, the lousy conditions, the health and safety hazards, the firings and the speedups. Nixon was stepping into the role of Number One strikebreaker and union-buster.

The eight-hour-day has long been dead and buried for telephone workers. We work twelve hours a day, six and seven days a week; telephone workers have even sold their vacations back to the company. We were hoping, with a new contract and a good raise, that we could cut down on some of the overtime. We were looking forward to having more time at home with our families. Nixon's edict has sent the eight-hour-day into oblivion.

## Phone workers need unity

Now that the company and the government have joined forces against the workers, it is all the more necessary for telephone workers that we unite among ourselves. Operators, clerks and plant department workers could close down the whole company if we could only overcome management's tactics of divide-and-conquer. Racism has been the company's best weapon to keep us divided from ourselves, and it is racism that the white workers must fight.

Telephone workers can defeat Nixon's wage freeze. We can defeat the company's harassment and low pay. Let us unite and give Nixon and the company a taste of our power.

## The boss

## couldn't do it,

## so the gov't. is trying

By a CWA worker, Local 1190

NEW YORK-- After five weeks of striking against the Bell System, the New York state plant locals and my local, 1190, CWA, in Western Electric installation, have refused to buckle under the pressures of the company and union head, Joe Bieme. They want us to accept a contract that was rejected by the plant locals in New York state. We have been holding out for a contract which will at least make up for the wage losses we have taken over the past few years.

Every morning on the picket line I have been aware of a feeling growing, a feeling that we're in for a tough fight, that we can win only by sticking together with New York plant local 1101. Every morning as the shift was supposed to

start we could see that the guys in the other locals weren't crossing our lines.

Just when we were beginning to hurt the Bell monopoly with the cable breakdowns that weren't being repaired and the lagging installation schedules, Nixon did the dirty work for the company. He and his crew hit us with a wage and price freeze. They said it was no use striking; we can't win our demands; in fact we have to go back after five weeks with no wage raise at all! They are even threatening to bring in- junctions against us to force us back to work and break our strike. And they are forcing a federal mediator into the negotiations between the New York plant locals and the company. The workers on the line are getting a firsthand lesson in the collusion between the

government and the bosses. And we are mad!

Even though Western Electric locals in the CWA have settled for a contract in the rest of the country, our brothers and sisters here have rejected it and are refusing to go back to work under the old contract.

We aren't going to take the old contract, or the one just "settled" either, while all of us are being hit by Nixon's freeze. What do we have to go back to? 1955 wages and 1971 prices both controlled by the company with the blessing of the government? Further threats of union busting by Nixon's decrees? Loss of our progression raises? We aren't going to take this strike-breaking and strong-arm tactic by the government. We're staying out together!



## Letters from rank and file

# Shop talk

## on wage freeze

### Longshoremen

## say "Hell no!"

SEATTLE—West Coast longshoremen are saying "hell no!" to Nixon's wage freeze. The International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union (ILWU) has declared that they are sticking to their demands and that their strike will be in full force, wage freeze or not. Some 15,000 longshoremen here have been on strike for nearly two months now. They are fighting attacks by the shipping barons on their jobs, wages and working conditions brought on by containerization.

The mood of virtually every longshoreman up and down the waterfront in Seattle is very strong and militant. Their spirits have not dampened since their strike began two months ago. The longshoremen were well prepared for a long work stoppage and the wage freeze has failed to discourage them. The workers realize the wage-price freeze is directed at them. Any mention of Nixon's wage freeze is scoffed at, as they reaffirm their commitment to stay out on strike and keep the shipping bosses hurting.

The longshoremen have received support from longshoremen in Vancouver, B.C., where much of the U.S.-bound cargo is now being shipped. Vancouver longshoremen are now conducting a work slowdown in support of their striking brothers in the U.S. (It is now taking ships up to five weeks to be unloaded in Vancouver.) The ILWU has also received letters of support from Japanese and Australian trade unions saying they will refuse to unload American cargo if the shipping bosses ever succeed in using scabs against their strike.

The West Coast longshoremen's strike provides an example to other

American workers. American workers must follow their lead and that of other striking workers if this freeze is to be broken. A united, militant working class can stop the bosses' attempts to bully them, stop it dead in its tracks.

## 1,000 ways to rob workers

By a UAW worker

DETROIT -- It didn't take long for the workers at the General Motors assembly plant where I work to figure out what Nixon's "New Economic Policy" meant. In the last week, many conversations that I overheard or took part in dealt with this new development.

"All the breaks for big business" and "they find a thousand ways to rob the working man" were the two main sentiments expressed. Some workers laid the blame on the Republican Party ("a friend of big business"). Others, however, realized that the whole system, and both parties, are set up for the interest of big business.

We UAW members are due to receive a 13 cents per hour raise this fall plus a 17 cents per hour cost of living boost. If Nixon extends the wage controls, this will be lost to hundreds of thousands of UAW members. Many workers got excited about Woodcock's threat to tear up the contract and strike at the end of three months. Several of us on the line agreed, however, that this gives Woodcock three months to do nothing and that in three months' time the UAW President would be quite a bit tamer.

Things here will most likely get pretty hot when that scheduled raise doesn't come through. Especially since Michigan state income tax



was just raised from 2.6 per cent to 3.9 per cent—a 50 per cent jump! One worker whom I work with said about the freeze, "The government is getting more communistic every day." He didn't understand that this is a fascist move by the government of big business to crush hard-won labor gains and rising labor militancy.

the wage freeze. Although basic steel contracts were negotiated August 2, there are dozens of fabricator contracts to be negotiated with the whole procedure now hanging suspended, probably to the great delight of the employers.

Meanwhile, the rank-and-file steelworkers are more concerned with unemployment than any other issue. Not only is the U.S. Steel Ohio Works shut down with its future uncertain, but the plants of Youngstown Sheet and Tube failed to resume operations on the scheduled resumption date of August 23. As a result, possibly 10,000 steelworkers aren't worrying about the wage freeze right now since they have no wages to freeze. The main question is when will we or will we ever go back to work in the basic steel plants.

—Mose Peterson  
Steelworker

## "Call a national strike"

By a Black Phone Worker

Initially, the majority of workers in Jersey Bell were confused by Nixon's so-called new economic plan. This was mainly because the union had given the workers the wrong information. The union had told us that President Nixon's wage and price freeze would not affect our progression raises. So a lot of the workers were misled by both this misinformation from the union leaders and by the praises of the freeze in the mass media.

On Thursday, however, several workers were supposed to receive wage increases. When no one got their raises, the workers got the true picture and were bitter. We were denied these raises after having struck for two long weeks to get a just contract that would at least meet out basic needs. Now Nixon, in one stroke, has taken all that away from the workers, saying no more wage increases.

The fact that there were no wage increases in our checks on Thursday has raised the consciousness among the workers. As one worker put it, "Let's call a national strike. Who in the hell does Nixon think he is? We demand our pay increase!"

## Ohio Steel shut down

YOUNGSTOWN—The Youngstown AFL-CIO Council reacted quickly to Nixon's wage freeze at their regular meeting on August 16. Representing most of the unionized workers in the Mahoning Valley, the Council fired off a unanimously adopted resolution to Nixon opposing the "inequities and injustices" of

## From a small steel plant

By H. Thomas, Unemployed Steelworker

I'm a member of Local 1339 United Steelworkers, from New Jersey. I'm unemployed but I guess that's not much of a distinction anymore. You probably know that we went on strike recently and got something fairly decent in the way of a wage raise. But what most people don't know is that the steel bosses are using the settlement as an excuse to lay off many workers.

In my plant there are 150 workers and 40 of them were laid off. They were mostly Black and Puerto Rican and young guys—the ones without much time in the shop.

It is not generally known that a lot of the small steel plants, like the one I worked in, have something called "lag dates." Basically all that means is that instead of striking along with the rest of the steelworkers, the workers in small plants keep working for one to three months, or whatever the lag date is, and only after that can they strike. But, in all the plants that did this, the workers are messed over because now they're not going to get any raise like the other steelworkers who struck.

You can imagine how the workers feel about that! So on August 30, all these steelworkers are going out on strike, in defiance of Nixon's so-called wage-price freeze. And they're going to join all the workers across the nation who are going to strike and fight against Nixon's new plan.





# Buffalo Strikes continue despite edict

**BUFFALO**-- Nixon's television announcement on August 15 ushered in a policy of open economic warfare against the working masses of this country, and here on the Niagara Frontier, its effects were like that of a delayed action bomb.

Initially, there was confusion and suspicion among workers who were unable to see through the Nixon wage-price but no profit freeze. But there was a healthy distrust of this latest onslaught on labor as big business and bankers sang praises to the plan. As workers in this pro-union, highly industrialized area began to understand that the "wage freeze" meant loss or delay of negotiated wage increases for the next 90 days and an attempt to put a moratorium on strikes, there was open anger and defiance.

This anger, and a realization of the class nature of Nixon's move, was reflected in a statement by Peter J. Rybka, International Vice-President for the American Federation of Grain Millers, AFL-CIO. He stated, "We think the working

people have been short-changed. Those people who have been unable to open their contract for negotiation in the last few years are just out of luck. But business gets a 10 percent tax rebate and 5 percent permanent tax write-off. Profits and interest rates haven't been frozen and that helps business and the bankers."

The wage freeze announcement comes at a time of many strike actions in the Buffalo area. These include several thousand workers of the Communication Workers of America and sympathetic independent union operators and business office workers honoring CWA picket lines as telephone workers enter the seventh week in their strike against the Bell Telephone System. As one CWA worker put it, "Nixon's phony moves to confuse us have only made us stronger. We aren't going back until we negotiate a decent contract."

Other striking locals in the area are: USW Local 2248 at Bliss and Laughlin Steel, Iron Workers Shopmen Local, 576 and USW Locals

1191 and 4537 at the American Standard plants. Two locals representing about 2,000 workers at the Worthington plants in Buffalo and Wellsville-- confused by Nixon's new attack on labor-- returned to work the day following the wage-price announcement. At this writing, UAW Local 508 at Niagara Machine and Tool has reached tentative agreement after a 17-week-long strike here.

Workers on the picket line at Bell Telephone discussing the wage freeze brought up the question, "Why was the freeze limited to 90 days?" They all generally agreed that Nixon and his banker bosses, fearful of mass strike action against the freeze, had decided on a 90-day test period which could be extended indefinitely... If no major resistance was encountered from the workers. All present agreed that the next three months were crucial for the entire labor movement and that mass demonstrations and strikes should be organized to let Nixon know what labor thinks about his latest anti-labor moves.

Nixon's announcement. The workers had been promised a wage raise as of September 1-- now, of course, that raise is wiped out.

Electric Hose and Rubber workers are by no means the only workers enraged by this wage freeze. At the nearby Phoenix Steel plant in Claymont, Delaware, the workers were so angered that the bosses thought a walkout was imminent.

Local radio talk-shows were buzzing all week withirate calls from workers who pointed out who would benefit from the wage freeze-- big business-- and who would be hurt-- the working people.

The Delaware Center for United Labor Action issued a leaflet explaining what the wage and price freeze would mean. We pointed out that the price freeze was a fraud, first because there is no one to enforce it. We know who will enforce the wage freeze, however--the bosses, of course. Second, price control is not the same as profit control. Price controls will only help the corporations compete more effectively abroad and, because of the freeze on our wages, ensure higher profits for big business and more speedups and layoffs for us. The Delaware Center for United Labor Action is demanding that profits be frozen, not wages. We intend to do more to organize to stop this wage freeze. Nixon and big business have not heard the last from Delaware workers and the poor.

--Delaware CULA



## Delaware Workers petition for general strike

But of even greater importance is that Nixon's edict of wage freeze takes away those rights that we as working people have fought so dearly for--the right of collective bargaining and the right to strike to win our demands. (By now everyone knows that the second stage of Nixon's plan is to outlaw strikes and extend the wage freeze.) In the face of this attack on labor, Delaware's workers and the Delaware Center for United Labor Action are not remaining silent.

In the Electric Hose and Rubber plant in Wilmington, workers are passing around a petition demanding that their International take both a verbal stand against the wage freeze and move to organize a general strike. Almost 130 signatures have been collected in just the short period of time since

## Cleveland

## Locals reject freeze

**CLEVELAND**--When Nixon issued the wage freeze and the orders not to strike, some 4,000 workers in the Cleveland area responded by just continuing their strikes. Many were, of course, confused and shocked by this sweeping attack on labor, but they just continued to walk the picket lines as usual. Some of the picketers who were interviewed by TV and other news media mimed no words in expressing their feelings about Nixon's actions against them. They indicated they have no intention of giving up the fight for new contracts which include better wages, pensions, etc., if they can possibly help it.

Striking workers are more openly opposed to Nixon's order than most other workers because they have been attacked while in the midst of a struggle against their boss. William Jennings, representative of the workers at Addressograph-Multigraph, the largest group on strike in this city, charged that management was trying to break the strike by using Nixon's order and thereby forcing the members back to the plant where regressive work rules are threatened.

Frank Obuch, president of a UAW Local where 1,400 members are on strike against Alcoa, said the workers would be "double losers" because they would lose on wage increases and non-economic issues, too. Lawrence Lanskrone, an attorney for the UAW, stated, "This is just another

Gestapo-like tactic of the Nixon administration to hurt the working man and help the fat cats of the business world."

Other unions and organizations representing workers openly defied the President's order by stating that they will demand wage increases in the freeze period. The Cleveland Typographical Workers Union threatened to shut down Greater Cleveland's printing industry unless the workers get their wage increases during the wage-freeze period. And the Ohio Education Association said they may recommend a strike if the wage freeze is applied to previously negotiated contracts.

Who likes the wage freeze and the anti-strike order? You guessed it! Big Business is right there and so is their puppet news media. Thomas Patton, head of Republic Steel, was "delighted" with Nixon's rulings against workers and against his competitors. This boss, who is a director of such companies as AIT&I and the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, long has been distinguished as Cleveland's highest-paid executive with an annual salary of \$320,000. In fact, according to the Cleveland Plain Dealer, "The Cleveland business and industrial community generally hailed the move and thought it would strengthen the city's economy." And particularly the vast machine tool industry saw the rich harvest coming from the investment tax credits for business.



# U.S. can't hide role in Bolivian coup

BY P. MEISNER

Despite the economic crisis facing Washington and Wall Street, the Nixon Administration was able to organize yet another counterrevolution in a country where the objective conditions seemed ripe for a socialist revolution. Had the revolution in Bolivia succeeded, it would certainly have plunged Wall Street into a new political and economic crisis of catastrophic proportions.

The political character of the coup in Bolivia was absolutely clear in every corner of the globe. It was led by right-wing and fascist puppets of Washington and organized by the CIA. In fact, the first military unit to rebel against the regime of General Juan Jose Torres was the CIA-trained Bolivian Ranger Battalion. The U.S. role in the coup was made even more obvious by the activities of the American Embassy in La Paz, capital of Bolivia. One eyewitness reporter told Workers World reports were circulating in La Paz that U.S. Embassy personnel were ordered to stay off the streets 48 hours prior to the coup. One such report was printed in La Paz' El Diario

"Less than 48 hours after the accredited North American Embassy in La Paz instructed its diplomatic personnel and the North American community to buy food and not to walk on the streets in case of a civil war, a coup d'etat by the ultra-right Bolivian group, which had been in preparation since the day that Juan Jose Torres became the President of the Republic, took place."

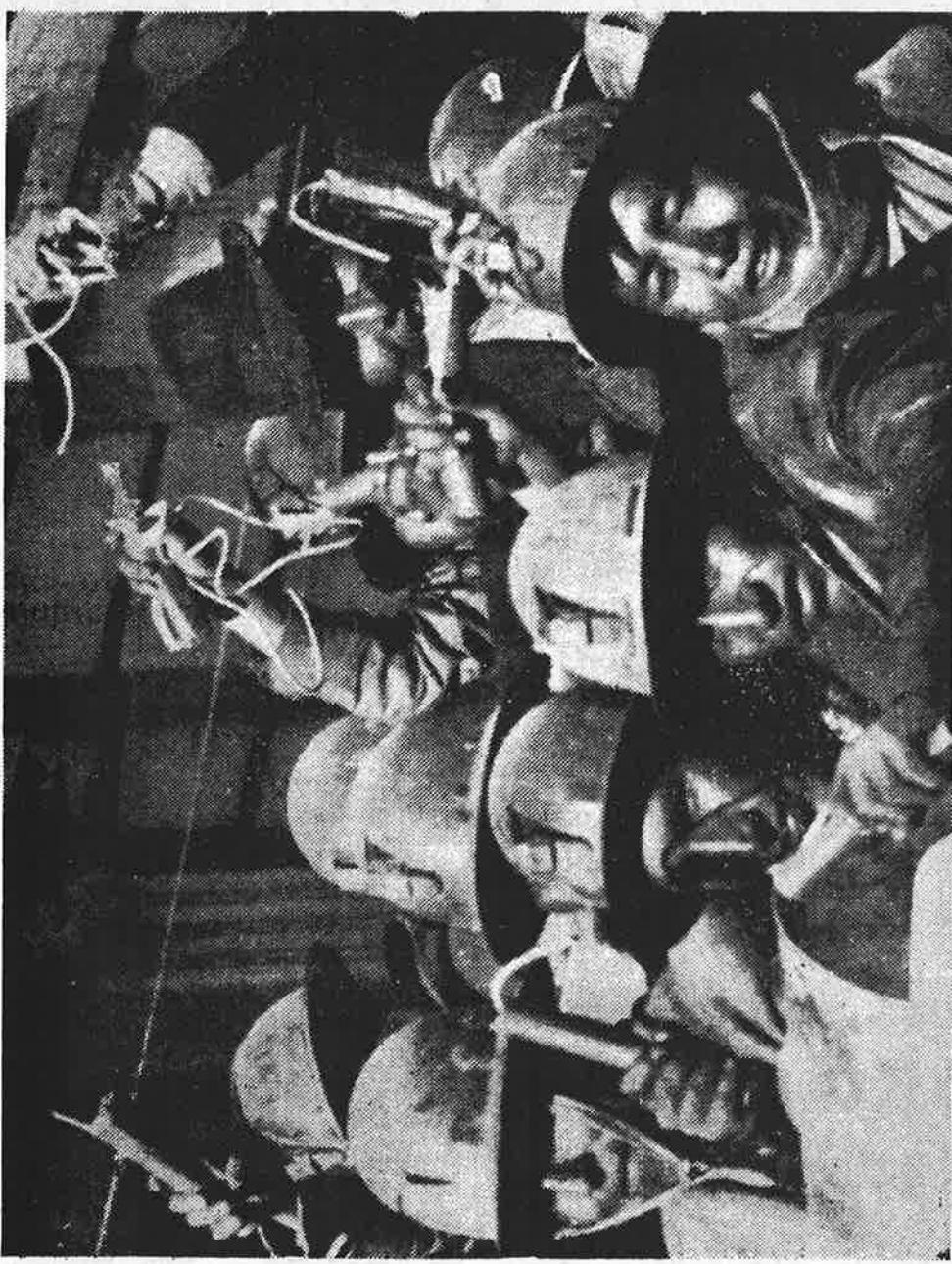
Also conspicuous by his absence was the U.S. Ambassador to Bolivia, Ernest Siracusa, who was in Washington during the coup and returned to La Paz just in time to greet the new ultra-rightist regime of Colonel Hugo Banzer.

While it took the might of the entire Bolivian army to overthrow the left-nationalist regime of General Torres, it was also known that Bolivian capitalists loyal to U.S. imperialism were behind the ultra-right-wing coup. Not even two days had passed before the new puppet regime announced that foreign capital "will once again be welcome" in Bolivia. The new finance minister stated:

"We will give all guarantees to private initiative for capital investment in our country...." Business Week's initial comments on the coup in Bolivia were just as revealing:

"The latest turn in Bolivia's revolving-door government improves the outlook for Gulf Oil Corporation in that country. There's little chance for restoration of the company's oil properties that were expropriated in 1969. But Colonel Hugo Banzer, who overthrew leftist President Juan Torres last weekend, says that his government may alter its policy toward Gulf."

The tragedy of the Bolivian counterrevolution was that most of Bolivia's workers, students and peasants had moved far to the left and backed the socialist program of the recently formed People's Assembly, headed by trade union leader Juan Lechin Oquendo. But what sealed the fate of the People's Assembly, as well as the Torres regime, was its reliance on only parliamentary and peaceful means to institute its socialist program.



Bolivian miners, for years exploited by American companies, rushed to defend the nationalist Torres regime with dynamite in hand.

The People's Assembly never developed into dual power in Bolivia because it failed to organize its own army or mass militia, independent of the bourgeois nationalist government of General Torres. By the time of the coup, Le Monde observed in its English edition of August 28, "The people's militia was armed too late and too inadequately to stand up to its opponents' tanks."

To build that workers' and peasants' army is what Che Guevara died for in Bolivia, and it has proved to be indispensable for the victory of the Bolivian revolution. The lessons and warnings

for the Chilean revolution as well are all too clear. The masses can only rely on their own organizations and their own army to defeat the heavily armed forces of counterrevolution. The capitalist and colonialist institutions, from the bourgeois army to the capitalist courts, must be completely destroyed by the masses themselves and replaced by revolutionary organs of power, as was done in the glorious Cuban Revolution. The alternative is a return to reaction and terror, as the Bolivian workers and peasants are forced to temporarily endure.

## Puerto Rican independence fighters warn of frame-ups

Following is a statement from MPI (Movement for Independence of Puerto Rico) released to the press in New York on August 23, 1971.

The Imperialistic government of the United States is trying to create a climate of hysteria in the Puerto Rican community. The articles that appeared the 23 of August, 1971 in el Diario, La Prensa and the Daily News confirm this. In these articles they attempt to associate the Movement Pro-Independence of Puerto Rico (MPI) with the burning of some Big Yankee Monopolies. By creating a climate of hysteria, they plan a political repression against the fighters for Independence of Puerto Rico in New York.

In Puerto Rico already there are innumerable made-up cases and arrests against Independence fighters, who are well known for their struggle against yankee Imperialism. This campaign of repression has begun in the United States, the arrest of Carlos Feliciano, and Pancho and Goodie clearly indicate this. (The latter are Puerto Rican militants framed up on bombing charges —ed.)

In the last few years, the fight

for Independence of Puerto Rico and our recovery in the U.S. has had a tremendous development. Already we are defining with more clarity our problems, and the revolutionary organizations are acquiring experiences that make them effective. Being the oldest revolutionary organization, MPI has been an important factor in this development.

They want to repress us because we have been effective. They want to shut us up because our message has begun to reach the lives of big sectors of our people. But the battle of the Puerto Rican people will not be stopped by any repressive force. We have not advanced this much for the political police to stop our work. As yet MPI is working anxiously towards the construction of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party, with a working class ideology and a more consistent structure. And this guarantees the continuity of our battle for independence, national liberation and socialism.

DESPIERTA BORICUA, DEFIENDE LO TUYO!  
VIVA PUERTO RICO LIBRE!

— Rafael Baerga



# On the organizing front

## Seattle

### Commemorate San Rafael

SEATTLE, August 7--Today was the first anniversary of the revolutionary courtroom escape attempt at San Rafael, California. Inspired by this heroic act, Frank Little YAWF and supporters took to the streets today to demand freedom for Russell Magee, Angela Davis and all political prisoners. Carrying a large banner which read, "Free Angela, Free Russell, Avenge the heroes of San Rafael," we marched through Seattle's downtown shopping district chanting the above slogan and "Prisoners are concentration camps for the poor." We then rallied at the farmers market and held a street meeting in order to reach the large number of working people who shop there.

Their poverty. Theresa Williams of YAWF enumerated some of the major political prisoners who have been railroaded into U.S. concentration camps. She spoke about Elmer Dixon of the Seattle Black Panthers who was recently given six years on a trumped-up charge, and of the Soliday Brothers. Stan Skjele of YAWF then spoke explaining why the militant action they did, since they were victims of years of brutality at the hands of the racist concentration camp system.

The street meeting attracted quite a few shoppers who stopped and listened. The demonstrators effectively brought the issue of political prisoners to working people and raised the case of Angela Davis and Russell Magee, who face death at the hands of the racist U.S. government.

—Frank Little YAWF

## Detroit

### Women prisoners sit-in;

### supporters demonstrate

DETROIT, August 21—The women at the Detroit House of Correction (DeHoCo) have been holding a sit-in for the past few days to protest the horrible prison conditions there. Hearing of this,

the Prisoner Solidarity Committee (PSC) of Detroit Youth Against War & Fascism went out to DeHoCo today to stage a demonstration of solidarity with our DeHoCo sisters. When we arrived, the road leading

to the women's section was blocked by a prison guard in his car. We marched straight past him, unfurling our banners and flags and chanting "Detroit House of Correction, power to your insurrection."

The women were still outside, and when they heard us they ran to the gates, cheering and screaming, a few hundred strong. The gate by now was blocked by several prison cars, so we formed our picket line a little distance off, chanting, "DeHoCo jail, you better start shaking, prisoner power is in the making."

As we picketed and rapped to our sisters, expressing our solidarity, the cops constantly harassed our picket line, threatening to arrest us if we didn't get off prison property. We stood our ground as long as possible and then marched back to the road chanting, "Jail

the rich, free the poor, power to the prisoners' war."

By this time our cars had been ticketed, and the Wayne County Sheriff was threatening to tow them away, so the drivers began driving up and down the road while the rest of us marched to the DeHoCo's men's section to let them know what the women were doing and what action we had taken in their support.

We could hear the men whistling as we approached and could see their shadows in the windows watching us. After about 10 minutes, we moved further down the road, where one of our drivers had told us there were some prisoners outside. There were about 50 of them, all with fists raised to greet us. As soon as we arrived, the cops forced them back out of sight. We left, vowing to return again, to continue the fight for the oppressed who are incarcerated in concentration camps across the country.

## New York

### Museum workers strike

NEW YORK, August 21—Members of the first organized union of museum professionals in the U.S., ignoring President Nixon's ban on strikes and wage increases, set up picket lines yesterday around the Museum of Modern Art here. The strike, called by Local 1, Museum Division, Distributive Workers of America (affiliated with District 65), is to protest the museum's arbitrary firing of eight employees during negotiations over programs, policy participation and the museum's announcement of plans for staggered layoffs of 53 employees, including 36 union members.

"You are all expendable," museum director John Hightower told the staff yesterday. "The sole func-

tion of this museum is hanging paintings." Especially those belonging to museum trustees like David and Nelson Rockefeller. As for the complaints about the Museum's 50 per cent cutback on educational programs, the public be damned. As for any share by the professional staff in the decision making, the workers be damned.

Hightower be damned, said the union and they walked out, enforcing a 3 to 1 strike vote. Since then, militant pickets have surrounded the museum's main entrance, challenging the privilege of rich trustees to make a publicly financed museum here a mere warehouse for their own treasures.

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# Two trends visible in women's march

BY ELLEN PIERCE

NEW YORK—August 26, 1970 was a day that saw thousands of women pour into the streets of many cities to demand equality. On August 26 this year there were also marches and rallies but the tone, as well as the size, was considerably below last year's level. Yet, despite the lack of leadership that the women's movement has suffered in the last year, and all the attempts to derail it by bourgeois politicians and ideology, thousands of women again turned out, showing the depth of feeling among women on this issue.

There were many crude attempts by politicians here to exploit and de-fuse the women's movement. For example, Mayor Lindsay declared this "Women's Rights Day" and promoted a policewoman to the rank of captain in honor of the occasion. The leadership of the Women's Political Caucus and the National Organization of Women (NOW) were praised by the media for turning away from "extreme" demands (like free parent-controlled day care centers or free abortions on demand but no forced sterilization) to more "serious" matters such as getting

women to sit on the stock exchange or in the halls of Congress.

The proposal made by Councilwoman Carol Greitzer for a women's bank shows how far removed these "serious" politicians are from reality. Banks are one of the most important institutional backbones of this whole oppressive system, concentrating the wealth created by millions of working women and men in the hands of a tiny ruling circle. How would, how could, a "women's bank" be any different? And even if this bank could be run in a "sister-



Women marching August 21, 1970.

## -- Wage freeze

(continued from p. 4)

that it was caused merely by inefficiency and bad management. Is it really just bad management to have a "cost overrun" of two billion dollars on a single venture of Lockheed—the C5A (figures by Senator Proxmire)? Cost overrun, incidentally, is code in the military-industrial complex for extortionate new price demands on the government.

Lockheed is the government's prime defense contractor, not just another contractor. And if Lockheed is in crisis, is it not a fair assumption that this is also the case in the entire military-industrial complex?

It is not merely inefficiency and mistakes here and there or poor decision making, etc., etc. that caused the bankruptcy of Lockheed. These words are merely a euphemism for the unbridled and unconscionable grab for profits that included enormous graft, padded expenses and fantastic salaries. Mismanagement and inefficiency are excuses by the liberal economists to cover up the real motivating force for production—profit.

What really broke the back of Lockheed, and is a general phenomenon in the "controlled" section of the economy as well as in the so-called "free sector," was the absolutely insatiable

lure for profit.

Thus Lockheed was the signal which showed the Nixon Administration how deep was the malaise in the inner structure of the capitalist economy. From that example, Nixon and his advisors drew the conclusion that he had to move from one form of control to a more drastic one. He had to economically regiment labor to make up for the losses incurred by the robbery, pillage and plunder of the military-industrial complex and the civilian monopolies. He is taking it out of the hides of the workers, disguising his economic program of an assault on the working class with a so-called price freeze which the government will not enforce.

Thus the malaise within the economic system arose not from mismanagement and inefficiency, although of course there is always an abundance of that, but out of the greed and avarice inherent in the fundamental relationship of exploitation by capital of labor. It arose out of the lust for super-profits where they seem easiest to obtain—in the so-called defense industry—where the government is usually the sole purchaser and guarantor, and the purchasing agents for the government are either allies or officials of the corporations.

Galbraith, along with a whole section of other economists, all of whom urge "moderation and humanity" on the monopolies, portray the monopolies as all-powerful, able not only to manage themselves but to constructively plan out the growth and development of the system. According to them, the managers and bureaucrats who control the corporations are so divorced from the stockholders that they are less interested in profit than in planning and fruitful growth.

ly" fashion what good would it do women who desperately need equality on the job, livable welfare or unemployment benefits; decent housing and schools for our children, an end to the pervasive male chauvinism and racism of this society.

Two speakers, both Black sisters, at the New York rally addressed themselves to these needs. One of them, Dorothy Pittman, speaking of the struggle for child care in which she has been deeply involved, reminded the women that day care centers must not become concentration camps for the children of poor and working mothers. A gay woman also spoke, although rally leaders seemed upset and opposed to her speaking.

Despite the fact that the New York City August 26 march was turned into a semi-official occasion by politicians who hope to use the women's movement for their own electoneering purposes, this was not why some 10,000 women marched. They came out of their deep feelings of oppression and a will to struggle against it. Though they listened patiently to the vote-for-me type speeches of bourgeois politicians it is becoming clear to more and more women that none of the oppressive institutions of American life will be transformed by becoming "female" rather than "male" oriented. Liberation does not lie in women's banks or women stockbrokers or women senators or women cops.

Across the river in New Jersey, about 100 women attended a rally in Holmdale Park that marked the finishing point of a three-day "March for Equality." At this rally, Barbara Kowalski of New Jersey YAWF Women aimed at a target ignored by NOW and the ballot-box groups—Nixon's wage freeze. She pointed out that working women are now locked into jobs and pay scales that clearly discriminate against us while prices on less expensive imported products and on most foods are not frozen at all.

This scandalously false theory is prevalent in current bourgeois economic thought, and has to one degree or another characterized practically all bourgeois economic theory since Marx.

It doesn't even take a collapse or crisis of the system like the one at present to show how utterly spurious these doctrines are. That's really why Galbraith made a flip-flop in the revised edition of his book. The Lockheed bankruptcy completely exposed the fallacy of their doctrine. For all who are watching closely, it demonstrated that not only Lockheed was in trouble but the entire capitalist system.

The wage-price freeze cannot be a basic solution because it deals with surface phenomena rather than with the structure upon which the system is based. The workers will soon learn that the prices of every-day necessities will not be frozen as Nixon promised. They will learn that the same people who so carefully planned the C5A for Lockheed and so conveniently found themselves with a two billion dollar "cost overrun" will find a new multi-billion dollar "cost overrun."

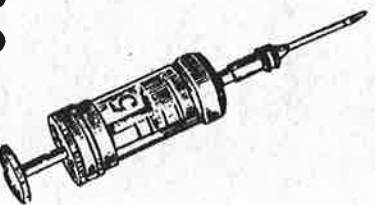
Just as Nixon vigorously defended the Lockheed "cost overrun" and shoved it down the throat of the people, so will he do it anew when these very same banks, giant corporations, food chains, construction companies and big landlords show Nixon they too have a "cost overrun." Nixon can be counted on to again be as obliging (assuming, that is, that the monopolies even need his permission!).

Only the workers, Black, Puerto Rican, Chicano, Indian and white—women and men, employed and unemployed—can successfully resist the monopolies and the economic regimentation imposed by them.



## Vietnam and the opium of the people

Part III



## Drugs in the factory

by JERRY ZILG

Contrary to middle class mythology, a job provides no fortress against the onslaught of addictive drugs. In fact, those few returning GIs lucky enough to land jobs find that work in America only encourages further drug abuse.

Teamsters by the thousands take "speed" (amphetamines) to stay awake while they drive trucks into the ground (and occasionally into other cars) trying to meet their bosses' tight schedule for fast, profitable deliveries. In the plants, drugs are usually taken by younger workers who are given the dirtier, noisier jobs, those jobs most psychologically damaging.

There is always a reason behind the drug madness. In July, 1968, for example, a police raid on GM's Fremont, California plant brought fifteen drug arrests. Mounting prices set by the nation's greedy monopolies had forced many of the men to work overtime to meet their bills. Denny Lemmond, the former chairman of the union's shop committee, recalls that many workers took amphetamines in order to be able to work twelve straight hours. "Men might just start running through the plant screaming," he said. "They'd leave the line and start running." Meanwhile, the bosses at home, like drug-dealing Ky in Vietnam, count their profits.

Raids on plants are on the increase across the country. Sometimes, however, the target is not the anti-social drug pusher but the militant trade unionist. Under the cover of a drug raid, police often rid the bosses of their unruly class opponents who demand better conditions and higher pay. In this important way, drugs play a repressive role in the factory similar to that in the oppressed communities. They provide an excuse for police attacks, as well as the additional function of doping rank-and-file militancy into addiction.

Nor is drug addiction confined to the unskilled worker. Richard L. Noeller, community service head for San Diego's AFL-CIO states that "recently there has been a greater incidence among crafts, such as machinists, plumbers and carpenters." And the disease has grown into a social epidemic. The National Industrial Conference Board of New York reports that 53 per cent of 222 companies surveyed throughout America admit some drug problem among the workers. Dr. David Sohn, medical director of Laboratory for Chromatography of New York reports that of 50,000 tests taken in the last two years, 4,500 returned cases of detectable drug abuse, excluding LSD. A survey by Associated Industries of Massachusetts reports that workers in one out of every five companies have drug problems.

"In one form or another," admitted the New York Times of June 21, 1971, "drug taking on the job—shooting heroin in the men's rooms, swallowing amphetamines at the water fountain—has become a problem of national proportions." What was covertly allowed to happen in the interests of profit has now come home to confront big business. For one form of drug addiction may keep a worker awake, but another may impair his or her ability to produce—the source of every boss's profit. As an economy primarily motivated by profit must eventually reveal its wealth of mad contradictions, so also is there an internal contradiction for the U.S. economy in the fabulous profits of the billion-dollar drug industries.

From the lonely suburb to the reeking ghetto, from high school to Vietnam to the offices and the factories, heroin and other addictive drugs stalk the nation's youth like a terrible plague as profit-motivated capitalism and its wars of conquest drag the American people down to lower and lower depths of degradation.

## Appeal for Palestine Liberation

### BROTHERS AND SISTERS:

Since the massacres of September 1970, and especially now, since the slaughter in Jerash and Ajloun of July 1971, hundreds of Palestinian workers, peasants, and students have been arrested by the fascist Jordanian regime. The most committed of our youth have disappeared, and no one knows of their whereabouts. It is obvious that they are either being murdered or being tortured in the notorious detention camps of the Jordanian intelligence service and the prisons of Amman and Jafar. The only knowledge we have of them is through reports of

the Jordanian press, announcing that so-and-so has been sentenced to death, but giving no mention of the nature of the court nor details of the trial's proceedings.

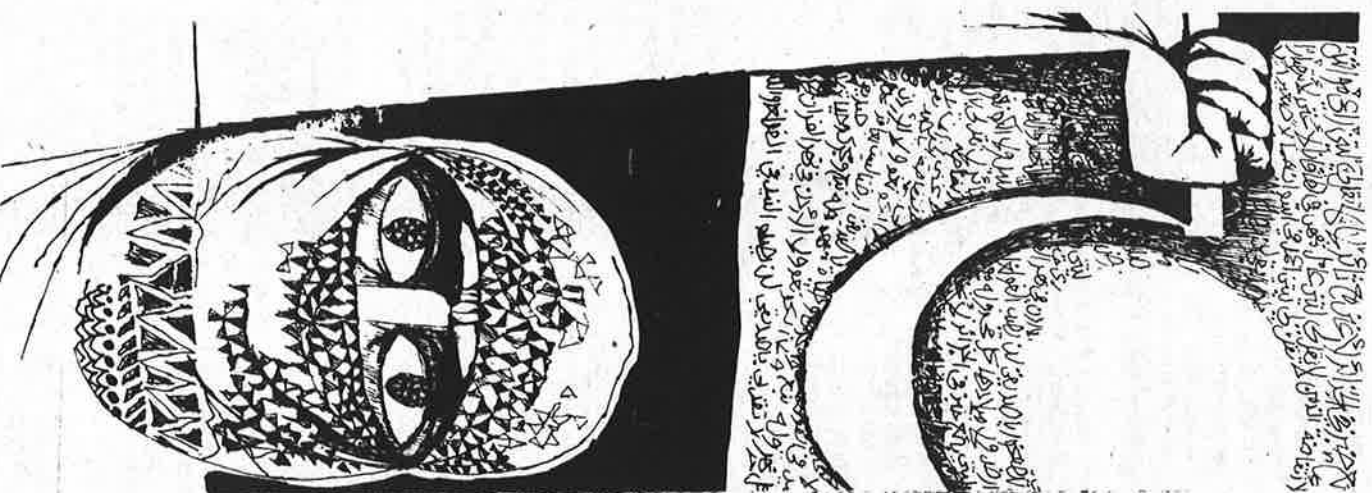
Workers and students of the world, friends of the Palestinian revolution everywhere, show your solidarity with the Palestinian prisoners. There is no time to lose, for with every passing day your Palestinian brothers and sisters are subjected to more psychological and physical torture. At present, there are at least 2,300 fedayeen in prison, not counting the other thousands of political prisoners.

We call on you to demand the immediate release of our prisoners.

Send your petitions to the butchers of Amman, and organize demonstrations against the Jordanian fascists and the American imperialists who are arming them. Let the whole world know that we will not remain silent while the blood of those who are giving their lives for the liberation of the oppressed is flowing.

FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS  
IN JORDANI  
LONG LIVE THE PALESTINIAN  
REVOLUTION!  
REVOLUTION UNTIL VICTORY!

Progressive Arab Students—New York  
Palestine Liberation Organization



(credit: LNS/Kamal Boullata)

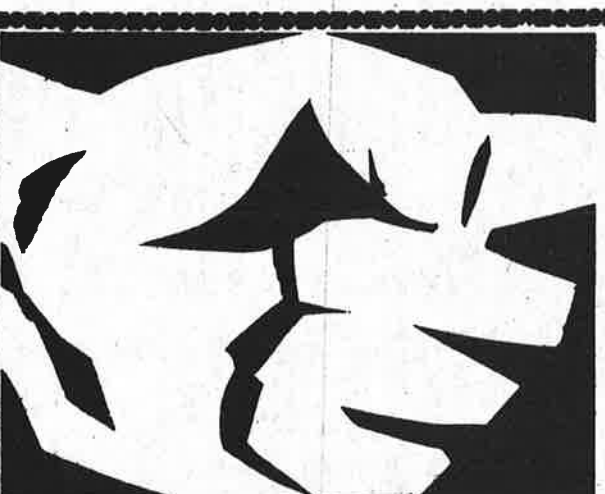
## Expanding Empire

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."

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