

Festival of vultures in Iran

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Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite

WORKERS WORLD

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FREEZE 3: WORKERS MUST FIGHT BACK



For articles on the wage freeze

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Pentagon plans 5 more years of war!

If President Nixon is supposed to be "winding down" the war in Indo-china, you would never know it from the latest Pentagon plans for Southeast Asia. The Joint Chiefs of Staff have just designed a five-year "pacification" and unconventional warfare program for Cambodia which will cost the American people \$500 million a year. So while Nixon is publicly talking about withdrawal, his military chiefs have already drawn up plans for more war until 1977.

The Pentagon plans for Cambodia have a strong resemblance to the early "military aid" and "adviser" programs that were implemented in South Vietnam. The Joint Chiefs of Staff are also counting on additional

financial "aid" from the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) and the CIA to build up police forces in Cambodia.

The Pentagon brass plan to divide up Cambodia into eight "pacification" areas and have a U.S. Deputy Ambassador in charge, just as in South Vietnam. The program is divided into four categories, "Pacification," "Unconventional Warfare," "Psychological Operation," and "Civil Affairs." Since the U.S. already invaded Cambodia once, there is no doubt U.S. troops could be quickly mobilized for another criminal invasion if the "pacification" program were to fail. Also, even if the use of U.S. ground troops

in Cambodia were limited, this would not prevent the launching of massive aerial bombings, like those used against North Vietnam.

While some "liberals" and "doves" in Congress have expressed opposition to this latest plan for another adventure in Southeast Asia, the Nixon administration and the Pentagon are hell-bent on holding on to the U.S. economic empire in Asia, despite their tremendous defeats on the battlefields of South Vietnam. Only more victories by the Cambodian and South Vietnamese peoples and continued struggle against the war at home will convince all the U.S. rulers that their dreams of conquest are doomed in Southeast Asia.

YAWF branch under attack

Trial of Champaign 7 opens

CHAMPAIGN, ILL., Oct. 17—The trial of the Champaign 7 is scheduled to begin here tomorrow. The question at issue, essentially, is the right of an organization opposed to government policies to exist. Almost the entire leadership of the Youth Against War & Fascism branch here is being framed up in this case in a conspiracy by the local government to stop their militant organizing against racism, the war, and exploitation.

The Champaign 7 (five of whom are leading members of YAWF) are facing imprisonment on charges stemming from police attacks and arrests during a demonstration at a police graduation ceremony here last March. The demonstration was to protest police attacks on the Black community of Cairo, Illinois. John Lombardo, a leader of YAWF and one of the defendants, is also facing a possible 15 years in prison and \$15,000 in fines for phony "flag desecration" charges in another frameup case.

The wave of political arrests and

indictments fell on the YAWF chapter during a time when the chapter was vigorously organizing support for both the Black community of Cairo and the GI rebellion at nearby

Chanute Air Force Base. In fact, Lombardo's arrest for "flag desecration," came six months after the alleged incident occurred during a demonstration protesting U.S. aggression in Southeast Asia. According to all evidence, the arrests were clearly political in motivation, an attempt by Illinois authorities to crush the Champaign YAWF branch and stop its political activities.

Since the arrests, the Committee to Defend John Lombardo and the Champaign 7 was formed. Close to 1000 people signed petitions to State Attorney Larry Johnson demanding freedom for Lombardo and the YAWF leader was acting within his constitutional rights to express his political opposition to the racist, genocidal, and exploitative policies of the U.S. government in this country and abroad. The petition also supported the Champaign 7 for protesting Illinois Governor Olgivie's racist war against the Black community in Cairo.

State Attorney Johnson, however,

refused to accept the petition or to meet with the committee, in effect attempting to silence the voice of 1000 people. A press conference held later by the committee made

public the petition and Johnson's arrogant rejection.

Lombardo is charged with 1) mutilating, 2) defying, and 3) casting contempt on that most sacred of objects among right-wing nationalists: the U.S. flag. But whatever "sacred" importance can be laid to a symbol of war and racism, and whatever charges are raised over the Cairo demonstration, the real

issue at stake in the case of the Champaign 7 is the official attack being made on Youth Against War & Fascism's right to exist, and on the just causes it struggles for across the country. Both must be defended as the concern of all oppressed and working peoples.

As the Defense Committee has pointed out, "We, along with thousands of people in Champaign-Urbana, will be closely watching the court's response to our demands and will thwart any attempts to make victims and scapegoats of these individuals who have been bravely challenging the corrupt ruling class of this country."



BULLETIN—As we go to press, it has been reported that H. Rap Brown was shot and captured by police in New York City on October 16. The cops are claiming that Brown, who has been underground for 17 months after racists tried to assassinate him in Maryland, was involved in a holdup of a bar. He was shot in the stomach and remains in serious condition in the hospital.

Because Brown was a leading figure in the Black liberation

struggle, the police and FBI have been searching for him for a long time. And we know that they will stop at nothing to frame him up.

FREE RAP BROWN!

Black Servicemen rebel against Coast Guard

GOVERNOR'S ISLAND, N.Y.—On Thursday, September 30, a rebellion began at this Coast Guard base by Black servicemen protesting their exclusion from patrol duty, the punishments they receive (significantly harsher than those given white CG), and the direct support lent by the base authorities to such white racist groups as the Ku Klux Klan. They were joined in their struggle by the American Servicemen's Union, which asked white CG to support their Black brothers.

On the morning of September 30, members of the Black Servicemen's Caucus, formed early this year, boarded the U.S. CG Cutter Galatin in response to threats by white CG

against individual Black CG on the ship. When a fight broke out, the Black servicemen were confronted by LT. (j.g.) Demello, the white Officer of the Day, who in the ensuing altercation was injured and taken to the hospital.

In the course of the following workday, a strike developed in which the Black personnel on the base, refusing to go to their normal duties, demanded an investigation of the incident and the prosecution of those responsible. Noting that the Galatin incident was only the latest of a long series of grievances, the Black Servicemen's Caucus announced the following list of demands:

1. End to the exploitation and oppression of our brothers and sisters in the community.
2. End to all rules and regulations that prohibit Black Servicemen from engaging in the struggle for liberation in their communities.
3. A Black Studies and cultural center that will serve as a club that can be representative of our culture and heritage.
4. The end of the use of the military in the streets and on the campuses of the U.S.
5. We demand that dishonorably discharging individuals from the Armed Services be prohibited.
6. We demand the right to have and to pass to our brothers material relevant to our culture, heritage and present situation.
7. We demand that the base library provide literature on our "TRUE" heritage and culture.
8. We demand that our brothers and sisters in the military be tried by a jury of their peers.
9. We demand fair representation.
10. We accuse the military system of the U.S. to be racist and a tool of

the racist power structure that is attempting to destroy and suppress the cries of Black people and all oppressed people throughout the world—this must end.

Following the incident on the cutter Galatin, a leaflet was distributed on the base by white members of the American Servicemen's Union, which called on white CG to come to the support of the Black Servicemen's Caucus, and called for a demonstration at South Ferry on Manhattan for the afternoon of Friday, October 1.

Robert Watson, of the American Servicemen's Union, a former enlisted member of the U.S. Air Force,

perpetuated by the U.S. Coast Guard. We, the Black community, say struggle on until complete freedom has been won. Long live the Black Servicemen's Caucus! Ardent yours in the struggle, the Black community."

School's racism spurs revolt

The Newark school system is guilty of overt psychological violence toward its Third World students. On October 4, sporadic racial violence broke out at Barringer High School. Just what actually touched off the disturbance has not yet been clarified, according to the students who attend Barringer. The racial tension has been growing since the spring semester. I spoke with several Black and Puerto Rican students at Barringer, and they related the same story. The school has a population of 2800 students of whom 70% are Third World students. Patrick Restaino, the principal, is the arch administrator of racism. Despite the overwhelming majority of Third World students, there are no classes on Black or Puerto Rican history to teach them of their true heritage. These students have no say or power in any of the decisions which will affect their lives.

"One Puerto Rican sister told me, "The textbooks don't tell us anything about Puerto Rico or our people. In class the teachers are clearly racist in their dealings with the non-white people. The cultural plays which are put on by the activities committee don't relate to Black or Puerto Rican people. Any Puerto Rican or Black student who shows any sign of resistance to Mr. Restaino's racist policies is immediately expelled."

There are constant racial remarks made to Third World students. Barringer is nothing more than a symptom of the decadent New Jersey school system. Just two weeks before the events at Barringer, there was a fight for community control at Irvington High School. The New Jersey schools show a clear, cold, calculated system of racism and cultural genocide toward Third World students.

For example, 90% of the public

school system in Newark is Black and Puerto Rican. Over 40% finish high school functionally illiterate. The average reading level for a Newark high school graduate is 8th grade; the math level is 6th grade.

To add insult to injury the bulk of the teachers come from white, middle class communities outside of Newark.

Overcrowding is so bad that in Hudson County (Jersey City and Bayonne) the schools work on split shifts, while in Newark the classroom population is five times the size of the rooms' capacity! There seem to be no foreseeable plans to build new schools to alleviate the problem.

We of Newark Youth Against War & Fascism support the just struggle of the Barringer High School students against racism.

PROJECT FREEZE

More freeze for workers

Over a week after President Nixon announced the plans for Phase 2 of his economic war on the working class and oppressed, the tangle of boards, commissions and councils created has yet to be unraveled. Only one fact has so far emerged clearly: Phase 2, like Phase 1, is really a blow aimed at all the working and poor people in this country. Any and all boards set up by this "new" plan only function to camouflage Nixon's real aim of forcibly depressing the living standards of the workers in the United States—this includes not only union members, but also non-union workers, unemployed workers, welfare mothers, and all the oppressed peoples who are systematically kept out of work by racist discrimination.

U.S. labor received another blow last Tuesday, October 12, when leaders of the AFL-CIO, Teamsters and UAW agreed to join in with the Nixon government to try to impose the new wage freeze on the workers. After sounding off on their

"adamant" stand against participating in a Pay Board whose rulings could be vetoed by the government, Meany, Woodcock and Fitzsimmons announced that since they had gotten assurances from the President that the board would be autonomous, they would work on it. This move only gives legitimacy to a thoroughly anti-labor board whose "autonomy" is a very thinly veiled fraud.

The Pay Board, along with the Price Commission, was set up by Nixon to create the impression that the government economic policy is an even-handed one -- five representatives of labor, industry and the "public" each would participate. However, it is already clear from Nixon's proposed "public" members on the board (see article below) that the "public" category is a fictitious one. In fact, the board will have ten representatives of big business and five (misrepresentatives) of labor. To agree to participate on such a board alone is to betray the trust of the workers and can only serve to cover up the role of this agency as the tool of the corporations.

The ongoing attempt by Washington to regiment labor on behalf of the monopolies by means of economic decrees reflects a deepening crisis of the capitalist system itself. This war on the workers—Black, Brown and white, employed and unemployed—is a reflection on the domestic scene of the weakening of U.S. imperialism internationally. The inability of the U.S. military to subjugate the Vietnamese people after almost ten years of war has been the primary cause of the deterioration of the U.S. economy.

The inflation was not caused by wage raises, as the bosses claim, but by the spending of \$100 billion on a war that does not promise to return anything in the way of conquest of new territories to be exploited. Whatever meager wage increases the workers have gained through struggle have been effectively wiped out by ever rising prices. For millions of workers, real wages (that is, purchasing power) have gone down, not up.



Nixon laughs with Senators about wage freeze just before announcing Phase 2.



Labor bureaucrats Meany, Fitzsimmons, and Woodcock after agreeing to help Nixon freeze workers' wages.

Federal pay board weighted against labor

He is also a vice-president of the rightwing National Association of Manufacturers and is a director of the American Manufacturing Association.

As a result of Nixon's Phase 2 plan, wage-earners throughout the country will find that their wages are being determined by a so-called autonomous Pay Board whose membership is in fact balanced in favor of business interests.

The federal Pay Board is supposedly composed of five representatives each, from labor, business, and "the public." But it is already clear that the Board will have a strong pro-business flavor by a heavy dose of "public" appointees who have investments and connections with some of the country's biggest monopolies. Here are some of the connections of three of these so-called "public" figures appointed to watch over the wages of working people.

William G. Caples, president of Kenyon College in Ohio, is on the board of directors of Inland Steel Products Company, and is a former vice-president of the multimillion-dollar Inland Steel Company.

controlling investments in 14 electronics firms. Besides these "public" duties, Jacoby has also found time to be consultant to RAND Corporation since 1951, and an editor of the Petroleum Industry Studies since 1950.

Another "public" appointee is Neil H. Jacoby, a professor of business economics and policy at UCLA's Graduate School of Management, and former dean of the Graduate School Administration. Both schools, training academies and job agencies for young bosses, openly serve corporate needs for executive personnel. But Jacoby's business connections are even more intimate. Since 1959 he has been a member of the board of directors of the Occidental Petroleum Corporation, one of the largest monopolies in the world with \$1 billion in oil and gas sales in 1969 alone. Jacoby is a major stockholder in Occidental, which has subsidiaries in 12 foreign countries and owns eight coal companies, three sulphur firms, a shipping line, and even hotels.

This "neutral" Pay Board member has also been a director of the Electronics Capital Corporation since 1959, a \$38 million company with

The squeeze on the workers domestically—which includes not only a wage freeze, but also speedups and layoffs—is also a reflection of the increasingly aggressive attempts by U.S. monopolies to outsell their foreign competitors. By raising productivity (through speedups) and lowering U.S. goods, the billionaire rulers hope to make U.S. goods more competitive internationally. Essentially this means that the corporations want to sweat more out of the workers here in order to further their domination over the rest of the capitalist world.

When Nixon first announced his new economic policy last August, WORKERS WORLD newspaper stated that this was a step toward the fascist regimentation of labor, an attempt by the government to control workers' wages but no real effort to control prices or profits. It was clear then that the next step would be no-strike laws and crackdowns on labor unions if Nixon's decree was not accepted by the workers.

Phase 2 is just a continuation of this policy. But in order to put it over without resort to outright fascist methods of suppression, the corporations felt they needed the voluntary cooperation of labor's leaders. So they created a phony Pay Board to give the impression of an equality of sacrifice for labor, industry and the "public." And then they got Meany and their other labor lieutenants to endorse it—"for the good of the country."

Whether the rank and file will long consent to this kind of robbery is another question, however. When President Nixon went to Detroit recently, thousands of workers turned out to picket him with signs that read, "Freeze war not wages." Many longshoremen on the West Coast as well as miners by the thousands have refused to go back to work under government pressure. The militant ranks are already rejecting the capitulation of their leaders and may well initiate yet another phase—Phase 3 for the workers—which will mean fighting back.

The question that remains, then, is how can these business executives and apologists be the "neutral" representatives of "the public"? In fact, they are not because there is no such thing as "the public." Nixon's own appointees prove that there are only representatives of contending classes, and in class warfare there is no neutrality.

editorial

U.S. frantic to keep China out, Chiang in

At the very moment when Henry Kissinger is on his way to China to arrange for Nixon's trip there, U.S. officials are frantically trying to prevent the People's Republic from gaining its rightful seat in the United Nations. And on the eve of the China debate in the UN, it is clear that the U.S. is desperately stepping up its efforts, by arm-twisting and threats, to keep the reactionary, illegitimate Chiang regime in.

Both Secretary of State Rogers and U.S. delegate to the UN George Bush have been busy employing outright blackmail methods to round up every puppet of U.S. imperialism to vote to keep the Chiang clique in, and thereby prevent China from taking its seat.

This disgusting, hypocritical display, at the very moment when Washington claims to be trying to improve relations with Peking, can only expose the true predatory intentions of the U.S. imperialist establishment toward China. It is further proof that the foreign diplomacy of Washington is merely an instrument to carry out imperialism's interests and aggressive policy of world conquest.

The correct position for every worker and progressive person is:

Chiang out, People's China in!

Nixon's visits to Moscow and Peking

Nixon will visit Moscow next spring, after his trip to the People's Republic of China. To political partisans of the Soviet leadership, like the Daily World in this country, this trip is a "breakthrough for peace", and "an important breach in the aggressive structure built up by U.S. imperialism." (The Daily World, by the way, was not so wildly enthusiastic about Nixon's trip to China.) Other left tendencies see Nixon's projected visit to China in a similar light: as a victory for China and the oppressed.

Workers' World Party has always supported the socialist countries against imperialist attempts to undermine and destroy them. In the irreconcilable antagonism between the two social systems, we stand unconditionally with our class, the proletariat, defending the workers' states regardless of the politics of the leadership.

The history of the world since 1917 is replete with proofs that Western imperialism's basic objective is to destroy the socialist countries. Their strategy since the formation of the Chinese People's Republic has been to try and drive a wedge between the two great socialist powers.

It is in this light that we view Nixon's forthcoming visits to both China and the Soviet Union. Nixon, taking advantage of the split between the two great socialist powers, is blackmailing both the Soviet Union and China with the prospect that the U.S. may enter into an alliance with one against the other. Even the timing of these two trips is arranged with that end in mind.

Those who claim that Nixon's trip to Peking (or Moscow) is a good thing for the workers and oppressed of the world say that imperialism is

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forced to sue for peace because it has been so greatly weakened by its failure to subdue the Vietnamese. It is absolutely true that imperialism's failures in Southeast Asia have brought on both a political and economic crisis for the monopolists. But is Nixon opening up a diplomatic offensive with the Soviet Union and China in order to sue for peace, which he could do at Paris, or to recoup U.S. losses and reorganize for a new and (he hopes) more successful aggression?

Let us look at the realities. The U.S. has not withdrawn from Southeast Asia. On the contrary, it still maintains over 200,000 combat troops in Vietnam, and recent Pentagon disclosures show that plans are already laid out for military campaigns in Cambodia through 1971. For Nixon to be invited to come to the capitals of either socialist ally while there are daily bombings cannot be encouraging to the Vietnamese liberation fighters.

In addition, the U.S. continues to bolster its position in the strategic Middle East, sending more Phantom jets to Israel, lending all its authority to the most tyrannical puppets like the Shah and King Hussein, and shoring up the NATO southern flank by promoting the Greek fascists while sending the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs to Spain to integrate another fascist state into its European military alliance.

On the general military front, Laird in a Pentagon press briefing has voiced dire warnings about the Soviet Union's missile system capabilities, laying the groundwork for another escalation of the arms budget. The Pentagon is also demanding more billions to expand the Navy, citing the growth of the Soviet fleet as a pretext.

The point is that imperialism has not changed its basic nature, nor has it resigned itself to the existence and development of socialism in the world. U.S. diplomatic strategy, like all aspects of their foreign policy, is calculated to find a breathing spell at the bargaining table while they make preparations to renew the expansion on which the health of their system depends.

We have no argument with those who say that the socialist countries must try and normalize relations with the capitalist nations. But it is false to imply that the only way in which diplomatic state relations can be normalized is by inviting Nixon to the capitals of the socialist world to engage the most hated imperialist leader in secret discussions.

The larger issue is whether Nixon's visits will serve the interests of developing socialism in China and the Soviet Union, as well as the international struggle of the working class. We think it would be better if he stayed here. And it would be 100 times better if we were able to sharpen the growing revolutionary struggle here and make it impossible for him to leave.

The Festival of the Vultures

In 1953, the CIA overthrew Iranian Premier Mossadegh whose left-nationalist government had taken over the vast oil fields from British and American imperialism. The first act of the reaction was to restore Reza Pahlevi to the throne as Shah.

Today, in air-conditioned tents in the desert near the ruins of Persepolis, the Shah is celebrating 2500 years of the Persian monarchy, tracing the royal family back to Cyrus the Great. But in truth, the Shah owes greater fealty to the Rockefellers and Roosevelts than he does to Cyrus.

(Continued on page 5)

Texas Cops shoot Panther leader

of the Black Panther Party, George Jackson, 31 prisoners at Attica and numerous others who fought against racist oppression... We condemn you and your entire system of oppression. The poor, oppressed, and working people will bring this racist attack on Johnny Coward and all your vicious acts to justice. We demand the trumped-up charge against Johnny Haile be immediately dropped."

Coward and his co-defendant Darrell Hampton, Mark Clark, 30 members

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Against War & Fascism in New York City sent a telegram to Governor Smith of Texas condemning the brutal attack on Coward as a fighter for Black Liberation. The telegram stated in part, "Your kind ruthlessly murdered Malcolm X, Fred Hampton, Mark Clark, 30 members

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Iranian students assail Shah's repression

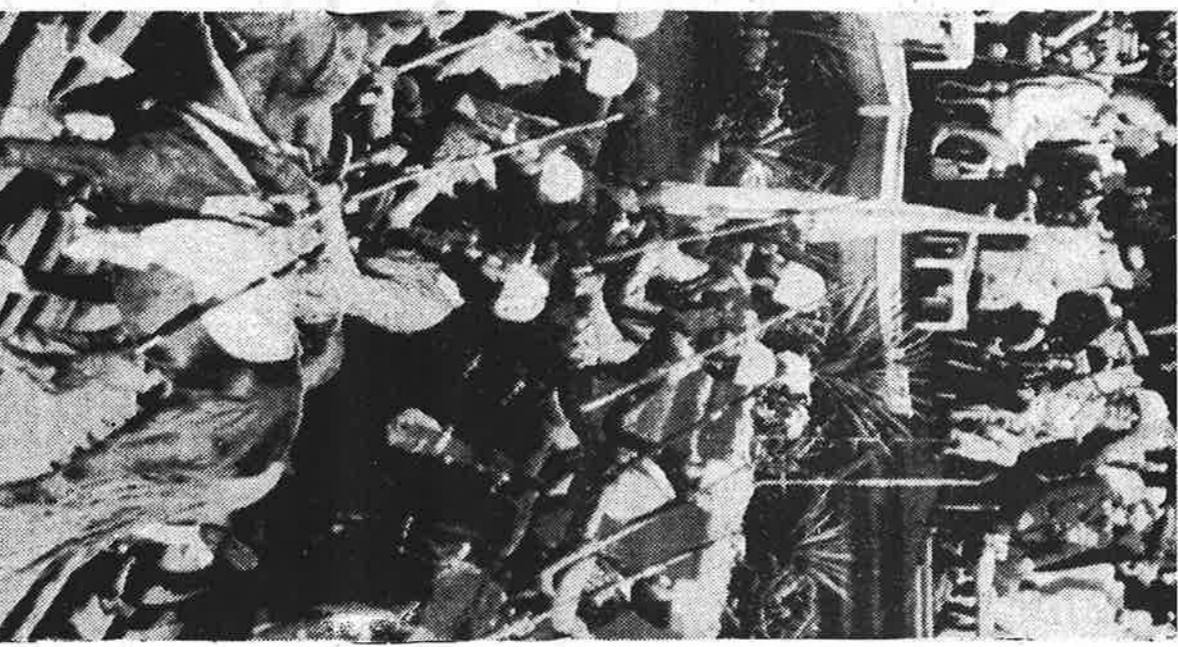
They came from far and wide, from a total of 70 nations, to honor the Shah ("King of Kings" and "Light of the Aryans"), and 25 centuries of Iranian monarchy. The news media were full of reports of the splendor and opulence of the gathering. Heads of state, royalty, and other important personages sat down together at the huge banquet table and gorged themselves on exotic delicacies. They slept in lavishly appointed tents, attended by an army of servants.

Meanwhile, the Shah's SAVAK (secret police) agents set fire to the Iranian Students Association (ISA) headquarters in Washington, D.C. In Iran itself, 4,000 people who are known to be opponents of the regime have recently been arrested and their names have not been released. A number have been secretly executed for alleged "crimes" against the government. At least 30 are being systematically tortured. Demonstrating workers

were shot down with a total of least 20 dead from machinegun fire. An American whose husband is Iranian is being held incognito, charged with possession of "subversive literature."

The reason for all of this intimidation and terror has been to insure that nothing would interfere with this "important" celebration. For Iran is a fascist country. Under the facade of calm and contentment are the reality of oppressed and angry masses of peasants and workers. There is an ever-growing guerrilla movement. Working hand-in-hand with the CIA (the organization which put him in power in 1953), the Shah has collaborated in the theft by U.S. oil monopolies of billions of dollars worth of oil.

The Shah has outlawed the World Confederation of Iranian Students but he has been unable to prevent them from spreading the truth about conditions in Iran. And, hard as he tried, he was unable to prevent the protests in this country against his celebration. Three hundred people, mostly Iranians traveling from a number of East Coast cities, gathered in Washington for a five-hour demonstration against the celebration in Iran. In



WWP in solidarity with Iranian people

Workers World Party statement at Iranian Student Association demonstration in Washington

Speaking as a representative of the National Committee of Workers World Party, I want to express our solidarity with this demonstration and to denounce the festival of vultures being held in Iran. It is a celebration of imperialist domination. It is an attempt by a reactionary monarchy to demonstrate to U.S. imperialism its control over the oppressed people of Iran.

It is U.S. imperialism which is to blame for this disgusting display of wealth in the midst of poverty. The Shah is a fascist puppet put into power and kept there so that U.S. oil companies may drain the lifeblood of Iran. The Shah has surrounded the 2500-year celebration with mass terror, arrests, murder, and torture because he, along with the billionaire bankers who stand behind him, is afraid of the Iranian people and their just anger.

Workers World Party also feels that it is most unfortunate that representatives of socialist countries went to this decadent imperialist display. Their presence gives a cover to this reactionary display. Their participation can

San Francisco, 800 people demonstrated.

Starting from the burned-out headquarters of the ISA, the demonstrators in Washington marched to American University carrying signs which read, "Stop political repression in Iran!" and "The Shah is a U.S. puppet!" Many wore masks to hide their identities from the SAVAK agents. A YAWF banner read, "U.S. oil monopolies get out of Iran! Down with the Shah!"

Several members of the ISA addressed the rally at American University. They pointed out how the U.S. is building up the Shah so that Iran can be used as a second Israel, against the Arab revolution. They discussed the growing mass struggle in Iran and expressed solidarity with the struggling peoples of the Middle East.

A representative of Workers World Party spoke, characterizing the celebration was a "festival of vultures." (See full text of speech reprinted on this page.) A YAWF speaker pointed out that Rockefeller, the Attica murderer, is stealing oil wealth of Iran which rightly belongs to the Iranian people. An Arab student spoke, expressing solidarity with the struggle of the Iranian people.

-Festival of vultures

(Continued from page 4)

since oil is what keeps him in power in Iran. (Kermit Roosevelt, a CIA official who personally participated in the military coup that overthrew Mossadegh, became a vice-president of Gulf Oil two years later.)

The assembled royalty and heads of state in Iran are being treated to one of the most disgusting displays of decadent opulence in many years. Even the bourgeois press must comment wryly on the sumptuous meals, the air-conditioned Rolls-Royces, the thousand and one indulgences in a land where the principal city does not even have a sewer system and the mass of the people are impoverished and illiterate.

But the pampering of the rich at the expense of the millions of poor people is only the beginning of what is so vile about this Festival of Vultures. Much worse is its political purpose. The Shah, and especially his influential backers in Washington, didn't plan this whole affair merely to have a grand old time. Those who are not mere figureheads are busily spending their time in backroom-caucusing, private talks with other political figures that are fruitful precisely because of their informal character, and generally picking up rumors and sensing the mood of the world's rulers. That is one purpose of such a gathering of international bandits.

Far more important is the psychological effect these ruling class figures hope such a lavish display of wealth and power will have on the masses. They want to overwhelm the Iranian masses, who have been fighting the Shah, with their fabulous possessions, pointing to the thousands of years of imperial dynasties as a justification and proof of the invincibility of

their rule today. U.S. imperialism, which gives the Shah the arms and money to perpetuate his rule, is particularly interested in strengthening Iran's position in the Arabian Gulf and the Middle East in general, where a revolutionary mood has prevailed among the people for decades. All of this is to be expected from imperialism, and fuels the fires of revolution. But this festival has an added feature, which is demoralizing to the vanguard fighters all over the world who have nothing but contempt for the Persepolis orgy. That is that the Soviet Union and other socialist countries have chosen to send delegations to the affair. The Soviet delegation is headed by no less than the President of the USSR.

No amount of diplomatic advantage to be gleaned from attending this affair can outweigh the terrible damage to the morale of revolutionaries throughout the world that is bound to result from seeing the representatives of socialist countries lend themselves to such a disastrous spectacle. It is bad enough that Tito, once a heroic guerrilla fighter against the Nazis and for socialism, should be photographed beside the Shah with an equal number of ribbons and medals across his chest. But no revolutionaries look to Tito for assistance against imperialism. Knowing how far Yugoslavia has slid back into the mire of capitalism, this is not surprising.

In the interests of all the oppressed, and especially the Iranian people who have been fighting the Shah's fascist tyranny, the Festival of Vultures should be boycotted and denounced. This would strengthen international class solidarity and awaken sympathy among the masses of Iran, who, unlike the Shah, are the only true allies of the socialist countries.

by MAX LEVY

The largest university in the capitalist world, the American prison system, has become so effective in teaching political analysis that, raising consciousness to new heights, it is producing literally hundreds of clear-thinking, dedicated revolutionaries. In fact, so much have the jails become educational dynamos that prison officials were praying this week that they had found a way to slow them down.

If any doubt still lingered as to the impact of the curriculum, proof enough was provided by the list of jails—in New England, the South, the West, the Midwest (as well as around the world)—in which inmates were moved during the last few weeks to show solidarity with their comrades at Attica. In fact, it was this fear of growing political consciousness that forced the prison pigs in California to murder George Jackson, one of the greatest and best-known teacher-leaders. After the invasion at Attica, for the very same reason, the pigs picked out and murdered men known to be revolutionaries. Because there are only so many political murderers a bourgeois state can get away with and still maintain a democratic facade, an alternate means of demoralizing inmates has always been to segregate the most militant of them in vicious kinds of solitary confinement. Though the purpose has been to weaken both the militants and those who watch them being led away, more and more it has done the opposite. Every attack has become an object lesson, and consciousness is so high that new extremities have bred greater courage, increased solidarity, and new leadership.

Because the old repressive measures have stopped working, New York prison officials were glad to be giving in last week to certain demands made by Jerry Wurf. Wurf is the class traitor who claims he can lead the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees while also negotiating for the prison guards, the brutal agents of the capitalist state. In fact, it is likely, since he refused to disclose all the details of the package he "negotiated," that, under cover of bargaining with the state, Wurf was actually the front man for the state.

"Maximum-maximum"

One of his "demands" must have struck prison officials and their boss Rockefeller as especially attractive: a new "maximum-maximum" security prison. To be ready within 30 days, possibly at the already infamous Kew Gardens jail, this new Auschwitz for "hardened and dangerous offenders" is not for antisocial psychopaths nor for deranged racists. Rather it is a political prison for 500 to 600 "incorrigible" militants, whose removal from the cell-block classrooms of New York will, the state hopes, "remove focal points of agitation from the rest of the inmate group."

Though this development will intensify the repression against individual prisoners, there is another side to it. It is an admission that the most vile attempts at breaking the inmates' spirit have failed and that the struggle within the walls cannot be stopped. And in a more stunning defeat, the state is finally admitting that it does have political prisoners and that it now needs a special political concentration camp.

Pray as the pigs may, this latest effort to insulate the prisons from revolutionary consciousness will also fail. Only in bourgeois colleges, where minds are confused by bribes of "culture," and bits of privilege, are instructors needed to steer students around the truth. In Attica, Auburn, and San Quentin, with the contradictions of capitalist society so brutally clear, the prison itself is the teacher.

What Black person today, already a political victim in the war against Black America, will need any instructor to understand, after a few months in any prison, that the capitalist state is organized violence, that bourgeois law is a gimmick, that racism is the best weapon the pigs have against class solidarity? How many poor white prisoners today can maintain their racism in the face of prison lessons?

Virtually all American prisoners are political prisoners in that they are being punished for refusing to surrender in the capitalists' war against the working class. It's too late to lock up this truth in one political prison: all America's jails are political prisons—and the colleges of the revolution.

Rockefeller's

new political prison

AFSCME leaders side with guards against prisoner-workers

Reprinted from the Center for United Labor Action newsletter.



Relatives of Attica prisoners exposing guard brutality and racism at recent press conference of Prisoners Solidarity Committee.

It is in fact the very essence of their "job," against their boss. In prison, a strike is necessarily a rebellion.

A strike, or a rebellion, by prisoner-workers, is met with immediate opposition by the prison guards. These hacks are like armed foremen, holding the power of life and death over the prisoners. Any attempt by a prisoner to assert his human dignity is countered by the hacks' brutality. The guards violate the spirit of unionism in every move they make. The prison hacks, like the cops, are not workers, and have no place in the labor movement. They are the armed servants of the boss: always ready to break a strike, protect a scab, or cripple a union.

Every worker should condemn Wurf and his vile threats of "lock-in," and his connivance with Rockefeller. Wurf and the hacks are flunkies of Rockefeller and the other millionaire bosses and should be thrown out of the AFSCME.

The unions should open their doors to the prisoners, and extend all possible aid to the prisoner-workers. As workers ourselves, we should give unconditional support to the prisoners and their struggle against the slave labor concentration camps.

The full force of the state was hurled against the Attica prisoners. Even after the rebellion was brutally crushed, the prison authorities have continued their policy of cold-blooded murder, systematic beatings, and torture of the prisoners. As part of this gestapo-like repression, although in the guise of a concession to "labor," Rockefeller just announced plans for a new supermaximum security dungeon for militant and rebellious prisoners. This new "maximum-maximum security prison," was demanded by Jerry Wurf, President of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. New York State's 8,000 prison guards are members of Council 82 of this union, and it was their threat of a statewide "lock-in" of the prisoners in their cells that supposedly compelled Rockefeller to agree to this new nazi-type concentration camp. In reality, it was Rockefeller who was using Wurf, with Wurf's connivance, of course, to dissociate himself from the responsibility for this new Buchenwald.

What kind of union members, or even workers for that matter, are capable of such a vicious tactic against the poor and oppressed? The vast majority of the state's prisoners are Black and Puerto Rican (while most of the guards are white). This is a continuation, and a verification (if one were needed), of the colonial oppression of the entire Black and Puerto Rican nations in the streets and factories of the U.S. Only prison guards and cops, whose "job" is to defend this system of national and class oppression, could execute such a cruel act of repression as a "lock-in." It is no job action against the boss; like workers everywhere, they must go on strike

WORKERS WORLD**Clinton**

Box B, Dannemora, N.Y.
September 19, 1971

Peace and Power!

Please give our greetings of Peace and Power to everyone engaged in this continuous struggle for freedom from these slave camps... This is the way I got it, so I'm giving it to you word for word. (Hope you received it as we are out of contact with outside.)

They told X that he is not going to see his mother again, so kiss her goodbye and give her your "last kiss." They put a knife in his back.

All the doings up here they blamed on X and said he was going to pay for it, and they beat him with sticks down to his knees (in the auditorium). They put sticks around his neck and told him to "beg" to go through the gates... They told X they were going to "kill him" if he did not do what they say — officer in T-shirt (works up here) told X to say he was sorry for all he did and when he comes back, not to talk to us, or they will take him out at night through the back door and fuck him up again.

They say that X was the leader and also told X they are fucking him up so that we will understand that this is not Attica but Clinton.

(They) cut off all his hair (clean) injuring his scalp (with cuts in his skull) and made him clean up his hair from the floor and gave him a towel and forced him to wash up. They told X he had a good mother, and if she can't discipline him, that they will one way or another to make a man out of him.

X's condition — right eye closed (completely) and left eye swollen and whole face bruised and scarred up. Back is fucked up and left side is red. Leg is also fucked up. He came back to cell half nude... All took place today Sunday afternoon after second visit with mother.

Power!

Your brother and comrade P.S. Attica draft is here but we are completely cut off from them and cannot communicate and we do not get any news whatsoever. Be assured that they have certain ones here set up to be killed.

Green Haven

From: The Revolutionary Vanguard: United Third World Front Against Racism and Exploitation, Green Haven Concentration Camp.

Salutations:
Youth Against War & Fascism, our beloved comrades, we greet you and all Third World Revolutionaries in the only honorable manner that comrades can:

All Power to the People.

Dare to Struggle & Dare to Win.

Beloved comrades, what can we say? Without a doubt you are truly doing your job in the struggle against exploitation here in Racist pig land. We, the "Legiron", comrades called out to you and you not only heard our cries with receptive ear but came to our aid through the only media open to reach us by — "Any Means Necessary."

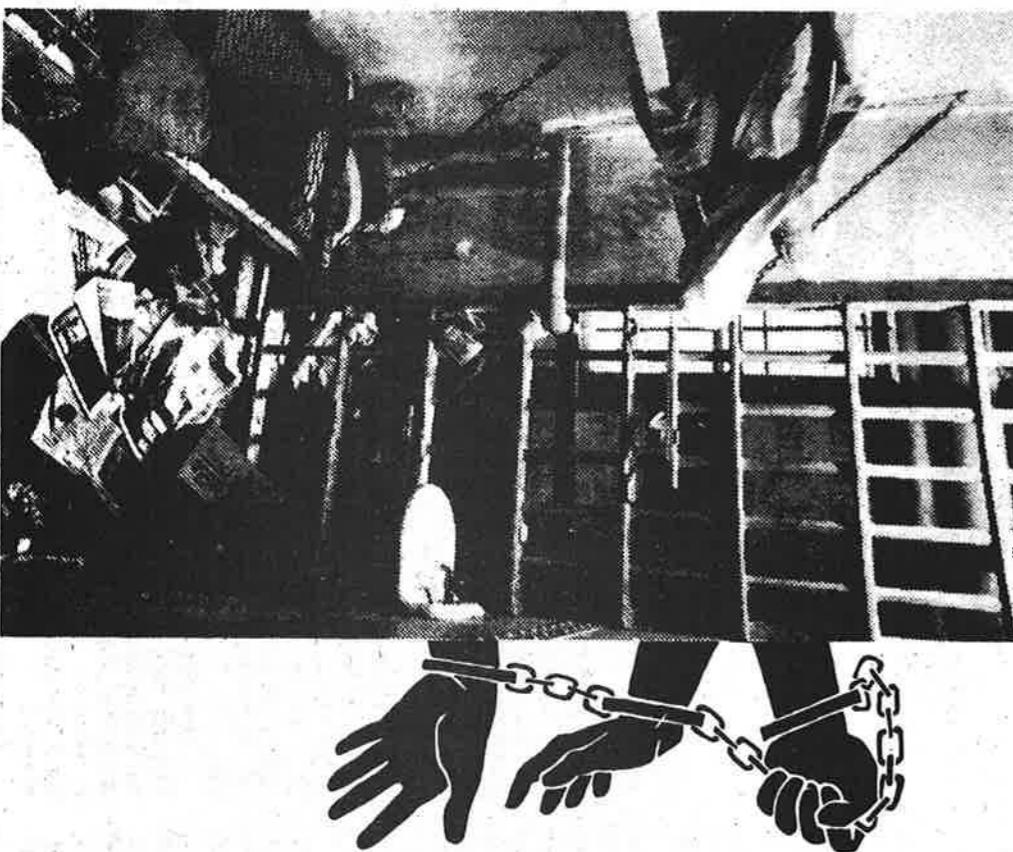
To some, who we called out to, we received a very negative response. We understand how the capitalist running dogs have portrayed us, the "Legiron", as society's criminals. It's a shame that people

still believe such myths. . . . There are only two types of prisoners confined in concentration camps in this present era. This is the epoch of the "Illegitimate Capitalist Prisoner", and the "Political Prisoner", — the latter being the overwhelming majority in confinement. There exists no such individual as the once-accepted die-hard "criminal," at least not behind these walls.

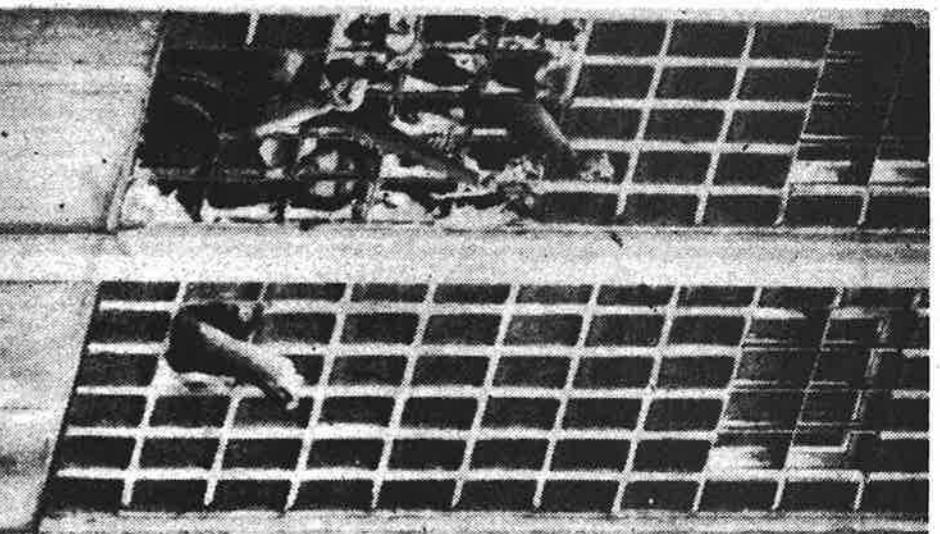
In the event that society wishes a "Mug-Shot Identification" of their criminals, we, the Vanguard, have at our disposal a list of criminals. To name a few: Ford Motors, General Motors, General Electric, U.S. Steel, Standard Oil Co., Bank of America, Chase Manhattan, etc., and right down to the running piglets who carry out exploitation and oppression and who kill under the banner of law and order. These people and their corporations are society's enemies and criminals, for they dictate by personal whim and make the decisions that affect and control our communities and its institutions. Further, it is society that enhances this form of criminality because it lets a select rich few control and dictate the decisions and policies

that affect all our lives. Comrades, Mothers, Fathers, Sisters, and Brothers and all who are oppressed, we scream to you, decide your own fate, stop living for the crumb of life, live for the whole cake, get it by— Any Means Necessary." Can you dig the overall crimes committed by the pigs here in Racist America? You knew how important "Stormville," and the other concentration camps throughout Racist America? You knew how important your mission in order to help the people and the Political Prisoners and others in the struggle against the racist hog. Knowledge prevails over ignorance, just as revolutionary deeds prevail over reactionary pig setups. So will we win in the struggle against the concentration camp hogs and their running piglet dogs. Yes, comrades, it is war, we are knowledge-wise prepared, we cannot be tampered with any longer.

"All Power to the People",
The People's Revolutionary Party, Green Haven Concentration Camp
"All Power",
Writer for the people.



Letters from prison

**Comstock**

I would like to elaborate on my brothers and sister struggle to stand up and be treated as human beings, from my point of view, being I'm in these gray walls of hell. Attica will forever be remembered by every oppressed prisoner and human alive. What those beautiful brothers died for was freedom from being treated as animals. Anyone conceived that the atrocious dogs (prison authorities) were not going to accept any type of demands set up by my brothers there in Attica.

They stalled, as you stated, to try and convince the public that what they did was justifiable. It was nothing but murder and any who tries to conceal that fact is as guilty as the murderers themselves.

There will be countless Attica occurrences, if the prison authorities do not raise up from harassing and constantly treating us with such punishment. It's a phenomenon we are still alive in these prison walls.

Here at Comstock in this so-called Special Housing Unit, I have witnessed and experienced such cruelty and unusual punishment. For example, six brothers on the other

side, which is the opposite from locking location, were all teargassed and individually dragged out of their cells and beaten upon by five to ten pigs. One small brother that was among the six, could not stand the teargassing for the simple fact he had asthma. As they dragged him from his cell he was in a state of semi-consciousness. As the dogs struck him upon his top torso, he could not withstand any more and went into a coma. The brother was carried out and taken to the hospital.

The aforementioned is just a somewhat minor incident that occurs within the walls of hell. I myself have been teargassed along with a brother, for simply asking for my personal property.

Any non-white who is sent to the dungeon here, is stripped nude and placed in a cell with no toilet paper or blankets, sheets, and other normal things for your cage. I was put in a cell naked, and stayed that way for two days with only a mattress to cover myself with. One of the brothers that got transferred here from Attica, after it was taken down to the dungeon and placed in a cell with the same treatment I was served when I was placed in the dungeon. But he was not as lucky as I was, I had a mattress, he didn't.

One brother who was locked near the brother who had come from Attica threw him down a blanket he got after being in his cell as the brother was now suffering. The officer saw the transaction and responded like a beast. He demanded the blanket from the brother from Attica and after receiving the blanket he went to the brother down here in the dungeon, who had suffered a blow upon the head and had to receive stitches to close the hole. He was attacked for refusing to put on a pair of state shoes to go before the adjustment committee. All the Latin brother wanted, was to wear a pair of his own personal shoes.

Tell me, did that warrant a blow on the head that may have been fatal? Legal action on that matter is already in process. I hoped to be released in six months, that is when my two three-year terms are terminated. I desperately want to help my black brothers and sisters in the upbringing of a new and purified nation. I do not have anything to offer but myself. I am poor. Finance is concerned. What I have to offer cannot be bought.

by V. COPELAND

The way steel production is going in this country the total at the end of the year will undoubtedly be surpassed by the Soviet Union—a country which twenty years ago could not produce even 10 percent of the United States tonnage.

This simple but startling fact is closely related to the international economic crisis, to the wage freeze in the U.S., and to the attempt of Nixon's financial experts to "dethrone" gold (i.e.—to deny that gold has any reality as money, and dictate that the money system of the world correspond to the needs of overproduced and outrivaled U.S. manufacturers).

Even with plenty of imports of foreign steel in 1969, the U.S. plants were able to produce a record 141 million tons in that year.

But with approximately the same amount of imports of foreign steel in 1970 (actually a smaller import from Japan than in 1969), the U.S. produced only 131 million tons. The present year with considerably less imports, steel experts are predicting a year-end total of U.S. production as low as 125 million tons. (The Soviet Union is expected to produce over 132 million.)

Thus the cheaper foreign steel was only part of the reason for the decline. The internal difficulties of the capitalist system, the contradictions in the huge privately owned production system, were at fault.

The immediate cause of the world economic crisis is of course not Soviet production, which is used almost completely for internal development, but the growth of huge capitalist rivals—like Japan—who are beginning to produce more efficiently than the U.S. corporations and undersell the U.S. in world markets as well as in the U.S. itself. Japan, West Germany, France, and others are not "trading partners" of the U.S., as the news-papers say, but trading rivals—and potentially very bitter ones at that.

It is only the presence of the socialist countries, and their economic as well as political power, that restrains this imperialist rivalry from breaking out in extremely virulent form. The imperialists all fear that greater conflicts among themselves would benefit the oppressed more than anybody else.

The U.S. capitalists, knowing they have a bigger economy, if not a better one, and confident that their imperialist rivals still need U.S. military aid in the struggle against the socialist countries and the world liberation forces, have gone so far as to change the most basic rules of international trade and, among other things, to insist that gold is worth what they say it is worth.

But gold, like steel, is produced by the people. It is a product of human labor. It takes a certain

amount of socially necessary labor to produce a ton of raw steel. And it takes exactly the same amount to produce a certain number of ounces of pure gold. And that's why the gold and the steel can be exchanged in the appropriate proportions.

The steel itself could be used for money just as validly—if not as handily—as gold. Only in that case the vaults that now hold gold would have to be enlarged a few thousand times to hold an equivalent value—amount of steel.

The amount of gold in U.S. vaults has been declining for years—for about the same years in fact that the amount of steel produced has been declining relative to the rest of the world's production.

After Japan sells steel in the United States and only buys enough iron ore and coal from U.S. companies to account for half the value of the Japanese steel sold in the U.S., the Japanese capitalists want the rest of the value in cash. And cash is not just dollar bills, but hard money—gold.

It used to be that dollars could be exchanged for goods anywhere in the capitalist world. But that was when all countries were sure just how much gold a dollar represented.

Steel, although equally valuable with gold—in certain proportions—is not acceptable to Japan for payment in this case, because Japan itself produces steel more efficiently than the United States. And since there is some question about the dollar, Japan will prefer gold to settle the differences in the "balance of trade."

Of course if Japan, West Germany, and France really were "trading partners" of the U.S. and merely divisions of friendly and cooperating capitalists, then "paper gold" or even "paper steel" might last forever as bookkeeping devices to adjust the temporary imbalances of trade. And gold would be unnecessary.

But this simply is not the case. Gold will reassert its true capitalist value, either in a further crisis, or in a new international arrangement wherein the capitalist governments appear to dictate its "new" value, but in reality submit themselves to the law of labor value, which in the long run determines the price of gold as well as the decline of the U.S. steel industry.

It is not necessary to predict an immediate and formal U.S. gold-revaluation—that is, raising the official price of gold in dollars—to prove that Nixon and his experts are absolutely wrong in thinking they can rule the economic process and consign gold to the economic scrapheap.

But it is possible to say categorically that sooner or later the gold will rise and rule them—until a socialist revolution does away with capitalist crisis and its anarchic cycles and measures production in terms of human need.

Striking Virginia sisters

take on monopoly

The following article is reprinted from "The Virginia Weekly."

* * *

IUE LOCAL 174 ON STRIKE FAILURE TO BARGAIN

The striking women workers at the Alliance Manufacturing plant in Shenandoah, Virginia, are still holding out, after three and a half months of militant struggle against this subsidiary of one of the world's largest monopolies, North American Phillips.

The women have been subjected to a company that refuses to negotiate, to courts that operate at the whim of the bosses, to police who have used every trick they know to try to scare the strikers and encourage the scabs, but they are far from giving up.

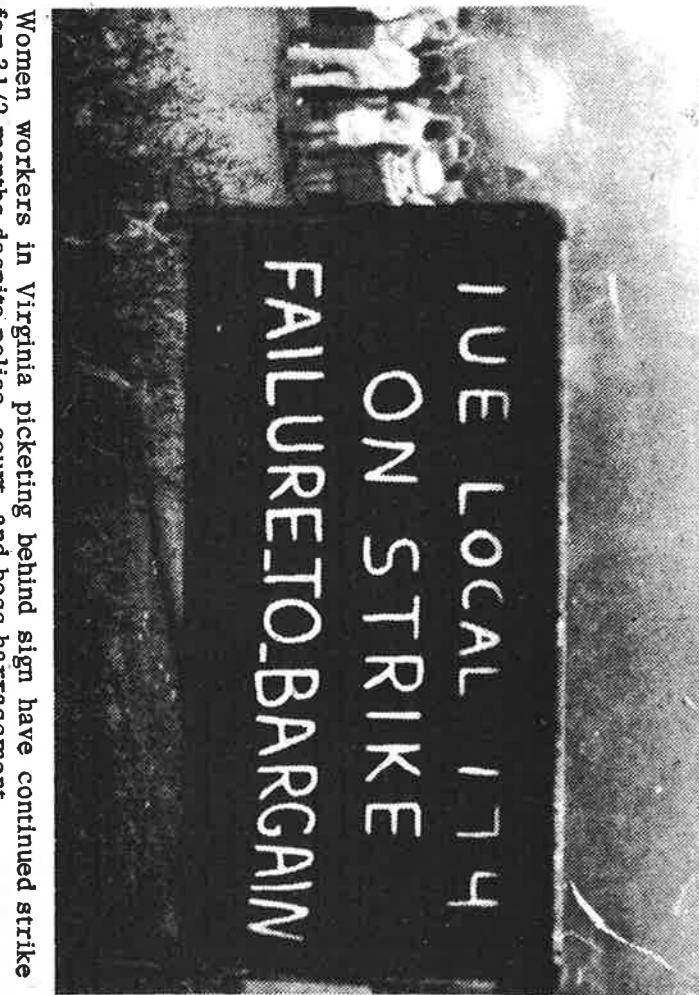
The strike began on June 2, after the newly organized Local 174 of the International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE) was unable to get the company to agree to a contract that

would guarantee what should be basic human rights—decent wages, a grievance procedure, seniority, and fair working conditions.

The Alliance workers in Shenandoah were getting a top wage of \$1.76 an hour, after the company had been there for eleven years. Alliance workers at the parent plant in Ohio, who do the same work, average \$3.10 an hour. Alliance has justified treating the Shenandoah workers this way by calling them "hillbillies" and "dogs."

From the beginning, the police were used by the company to try to break the strike. More than 25 state troopers were there the first day. After that the company obtained an injunction preventing mass picketing within 100 feet of the plant and began hiring scab labor, mostly young high school students.

More than 30 people have been arrested so far as a result of the struggle to shut down the plant. There were also eleven arrests under the old "stranger picketing" law, which said that no one could picket a plant unless they were working there when the strike began. Although the law had been ruled unconstitutional twenty years ago, the Chief of Police and the Commonwealth's Attorney decided it could still be useful in preventing anyone from supporting the strikers. Arrested under the law were members of the Virginia Weekly's staff, a woman who had been laid off from Alliance before the strike began, strike supporters from Charlottesville, husbands of some of the strikers, and the head of the Vir-



Women workers in Virginia picketing behind sign have continued strike for 3 1/2 months despite police, court, and boss harassment.

Connally...

by JERRY ZILG

In the hot summer of 1966, a large group of men walked along the dusty roads of southern Texas. The men were Chicanoos, members of the United Farm Workers from the Rio Grande Valley, an area plagued with low wages, poor farm working conditions, and one of the lowest per capita income levels in the country. They were heading for Austin and the governor's mansion, some fifty miles away to plead for a \$1.25 minimum wage law. These men were tired and thirsty, having already walked 200 miles from the south, and they were looking forward to a short rest at the next town, New Braunfels. They were not prepared for the reception awaiting them.

There, surrounded by armed state police and Texas rangers, stood the governor of Texas — John B. Connally. He was dressed in a \$300 suit, alligator shoes, and a big "Texas" smile, the kind a rich rancher uses when he's trying to sell you some poor quality steer. A minimum wage? Nonsense, replied the tall, silver-haired Connally. Now, why don't you all just go on home and get educated. "Education will help you, not the state of Texas."

A TOOL OF OIL BARONS

Needless to say, the workers of Texas got no minimum wage law while Connally was governor. In fact, Connally fought against every progressive piece of proposed legislation, including poverty programs, civil rights, and union rights for the state employees. He fought for the state's "right to work" law attacking people of the state of Texas."

Ridling the oil boom to power



Secretary of Treasury John Connally

organized labor, and raised taxes in two out of three legislative sessions.

All this was in keeping with Connally's pro-business tradition since the days when he received his political initiation as an administrative assistant and protege of a ruthless young congressman, Lyndon Baines Johnson. From there, after World War II service as an arrogant Navy officer, Connally followed LBJ's lifeline to the oil interests of Texas as a member of the Austin law firm Powell, Wirtz and Ruhrt, eventually landing a job as attorney for oil billionaire Sid Richardson.

After nine years of faithful service, Connally became sole executor of old Sid's estate when he died. This made Vice-President-elect Johnson take notice — Connally was now one of the most powerful men in Texas and the country. It also made John F. Kennedy take notice. It was not too surprising, then, when the Boston millionaire president chose Connally with his Southern oil contacts as Secretary of Navy, balancing out his Ford, Rockefeller, and Eastern establishment cabinet. There Connally promoted bigger military contracts and government subsidizing of technical experiments in ocean drilling for a future offshore oil boom.

Big John didn't stay long, however. He wasn't satisfied with Kennedy and neither were other Southern oil interests. Within a year, he left Washington to return to Texas and run a well-financed and, therefore, successful campaign for governor. For six years this millionaire ruled one of the poorest states in the country with nothing but contempt for its poor and working people.

CONNALLY AND THE WAGE FREEZE

Now, Connally has put his contempt for labor into action on a national scale as architect of Nixon's wage freeze. Within a year, he left Washington to return to Texas and run a well-financed and, therefore, successful campaign for governor. For six years this millionaire was now one of the most powerful men in Texas and the country. It also made John F. Kennedy take notice. It was not too surprising, then, when the Boston millionaire president chose Connally with his Southern oil contacts as Secretary of Navy, balancing out his Ford, Rockefeller, and Eastern establishment cabinet. There Connally promoted bigger military contracts and government subsidizing of technical experiments in ocean drilling for a future offshore oil boom.

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During the short hearing on his nomination, Connally was more than modest about his wealth. His oil and gas holdings, he said, "reached the magnificent sum of \$7240," while at the same time complaining that acceptance of the federal post would result in a loss of income. "In the hundreds of thousands" of dollars due to selling of holdings in his law firm and all but "one or two little piddling things," (ranches) in his stock portfolio. Connally, of course, did not mention holdings in his wife's name or the billion dollar oil empire of the Sid Richardson estate he controls. But after all, those are only "little piddling things."

The nomination of Connally for Secretary of the Treasury went by without much of a stir, in spite of the obvious "conflict of interest." However his role in the implementation of Nixon's new economic "game plan" has shown that Nixon's choice was a significant and well-calculated one. Connally represents not only a racist, militarist, anti-labor section of the biggest capitalist bosses, but also that section of the monoplists which is most aggressive in its efforts to regiment American labor and whip foreign capitalist competitors into line. Connally is proving to be the perfect man for the job.

Expanding Empire

by VINCENT COPELAND

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

To obtain the above pamphlet, send 50¢, plus 10¢ postage, to: Workers World Publishers, 46 West 21st Street, New York, N.Y. 10010

held a car wash to raise money for the strikers and has joined the picketing. The Strike Support Committee has publicized the strike all over the state and in many other parts of the country.

The strike is now in its crucial weeks. Most of the scabs have gone back to school, putting even more pressure on the company. Yet Alliance seems determined not to treat the Southern women it has been robbing and exploiting for a decade as if they were human beings. Sooner or later, before this strike ends, the Alliance Company will be forced to understand that the days are over when companies come into little Southern towns and force these conditions down people's throats. The Alliance women, like so many workers all over the world, have decided to fight back.

William Merica was sentenced to four months in jail, although his case is being appealed. Strikers who were up on other charges decided that being tried by Judge Paul was no better than having an Alliance executive as the judge and decided to plead guilty to get lighter sentences.

Support for the Alliance strikers has been widespread, in spite of everything the police and courts have tried to do. Workers from other plants all over the Shenandoah Valley and the Charlottesville area have contributed part of their wages to help the strikers. Supporters from General Electric, Westinghouse, DuPont, Dunn and Bush, and University of Virginia workers and students have all been on the picket line with the strikers. A Women's Support Group formed in Charlottesville has

ginia AFL-CIO. After threats of false arrest and conspiracy suits, the charges were dropped and the police stopped using the "law." Many of the arrested strikers were less fortunate, however, and had to go to court in Luray and Harrisonburg. In Luray, both strikers and scabs were on trial on a variety of minor charges. Many of the charges were dropped, but some people from both sides were convicted and given light fines.

In Harrisonburg, the story was different. Judge John Paul dealt out the kind of "justice" so often experienced by poor and especially Black people in the U.S.A. Although all the prosecution's evidence was contradicted by several witnesses, Judge Paul convicted William and Randolph Merica of disorderly conduct and William Merica of reckless driving.

Serfdom USA



by CHRIS ROBINS

"If God intended for these children to be in school in October, he wouldn't have had the cranberry farm in New Jersey. "Odd deaths and 'accidents' are not the least bit rare. Justice — in the best American legal traditions of retribution and revenge — is swiftly meted out to 'troublemakers.' " These are the words of a United Farm Workers organizer on the mysterious deaths of 25 peach pickers on a farm near Yuba City, California.

There are one million or more migrant workers in the United States. From coast to coast, wherever seasonal farm work is available, whole families of poorly paid farm laborers gather, sometimes for short periods and often for extended stays. They live together in camps of rundown shacks, rented for outrageous sums from the farm owners. Their conditions of life in "modern" America can only be compared to the serfdom of medieval times when the feudal lord had the power of life and death over "his" servants.

Official and unofficial studies of the inhuman treatment of migrant farm workers at the hands of the farm owners and of the equally inhuman conditions under which they are forced to live in the camps are not some recent breakthrough inspired by the compassion of the latest crop of "liberal" politicians. Conditions in the migrant camps have been known by the federal and local governments since the thirties and before. From time to time, gestures toward reform have been made. But they are just that — gestures — calculated to deceive the public into believing that something is being done to improve things.

DISEASE WIDESPREAD

Reports continue to show the same terrible situation, year after year. For example, the annual statement of the Suffolk County (N.Y.) Migrant Health Project for 1970 showed that of 1000 inspections conducted in the 79 migrant camps licensed by the county, at least one violation, such as rat infestation, was found on each occasion. Nearly half of the total migrant population of the county live in unlicensed camps. Tuberculosis, epilepsy, and venereal disease are widespread.

When three workers for the New York State Rural Health Program attempted to expose the conditions in camps in Wayne County, New York, earlier this year, they were immediately suspended from their jobs. "They were supposed to be delivering health care, not inspecting camps" was the reason given by County Health Commission Chairman Arnie.

On a national scale, the crimes against migrant workers are staggering. Until last week, when a federal judge ruled that migrant workers "are not serfs," (that remains to be seen!), state trespassing laws were systematically used to isolate the migrant families from any contact with the community beyond the camp. Legal assistance, welfare and food stamp information, and medical aid, as well as political development, were thus prevented. With the new ruling perhaps, the owners will have to shift to more subtle devices for hiding their brutality — if the ruling is actually enforced.

A conspiracy to prevent migrant workers from organizing for their basic rights exists at the high-

est levels of government. The Pentagon, that most powerful of strikebreakers on a worldwide scale, bought up huge quantities of grapes during the California table grape strike led by the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee and shipped them on a weekly basis to Vietnam. The GIs never saw them. Completely rotten by the time the ships reached Saigon, they were regularly dumped into the harbor. The Pentagon has played a similar role during the lettuce boycott.

LIFE EXPECTANCY OF 49

The primitive character of sanitation facilities, the rat-infested shacks, the below-minimum wages, the lack of medical care, the back-breaking work, the desperate day-to-day struggle for survival all add up to a brutal statistic: the life expectancy of migrant workers is 49 years, 20 years less than for the population at large.

To complete the circle of tyranny, in the world of migrant labor, the farm owner's word is law. Within the camps, the owners and their foremen dispense "justice" as they see it. There is no appeal from their rulings and, if and when things "get out of hand," the local sheriff and state police are always ready to "help." No feudal lord ever had more power over his serfs than this.

And what are the "crimes" that are submitted to the farm owner-turned-cop, judge, and jury? Well, it happens that occasionally a worker questions why, when the contract he was forced to sign specified that he would receive \$50 per week, there is only \$30 in the envelope. The official name for someone who makes this inquiry is "troublemaker." He may simply be warned to shut up or, for persistent offenders, very grave punishment may be forthcoming.

The farm owners' tyranny will not last much longer, however. As consciousness of their oppression grows, migrant workers are beginning to organize in many different areas of the country. The struggles of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee and others have been a tremendous inspiration to Chicano, Black, Puerto Rican, and white workers in camps all across the country. The day of the "troublemaker" is dawning!

800,000 child slaves

Carlos is eleven. He and his brothers and sisters live with their parents in a shack in a migrant labor camp. They are part of the children's army of 800,000 who perform one-fourth of all agricultural labor in the U.S. today. Here in Star County, Texas, on land belonging to the La Casita Farms, they stay for about six months of each year. Seven days a week, shortly after dawn, the truck comes to get Carlos and the rest of his family. Carlos goes to school only a few weeks out of the year. When classes are held, they begin at noon, leaving the morning free for field work. Adding the after-school field work, Carlos often puts in a 12- or 14-hour day.

The teacher at the school speaks only a few words of Spanish and demands that Carlos, a Chicano, speak only English. She expects him to learn, among other things, that George Washington is the father of "his" country.

There is no plumbing in the shack where Carlos and his family live. The toilet facilities are totally inadequate. There are plenty of rats. Garbage lies uncovered 20 feet from the shack. Carlos and his sisters and brothers are ten times as likely to suffer from malnutrition as are non-migrant children in the U.S.

The man who owns the farm advocates the "liberal" use of fungicides and pesticides. Sometimes the toxic chemicals from the crop-dusting airplane rain on Carlos as he labors in the fields. It won't hurt anyone. It only lasts a minute," says the manager when Carlos' father complains.

The farm owner is killing Carlos as surely as he kills the aphids on his tomatoes. The poison he uses on his crops destroy the livers of human beings. The labor he demands of the workers breaks people at an early age. The isolation he imposes on them, the education he denies them, make it harder to fight back. The low wages keep them enslaved.

They say that Carlos and the 800,000 other children who slave in the fields of the U.S.A. live in the most modern country in the world. Technology, they say, has freed the people from backbreaking labor, and "enlightened" laws forbid the brutality of child labor. But for these children, and their parents as well, the promises of "progress" and "enlightenment" are a cruel lie. Among these children, stunted by hard labor and sickened by poisonous chemicals, can the real story of U.S. agriculture be told. It is a system built on their bones.



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ing people and the poor can examine the conditions.

A Black woman from the audience addressed the crowd and spoke about how her husband had been murdered by the racist prison system while in jail by being denied medical treatment.

The rally then moved down the main street to the Delmarva Power and Light Company, a corporation which intends to raise rates 20 percent. An impromptu street meeting was held which got good response. Later that night a public trial, which was also announced in the leaflet, was held. Rockefeller, Oswald, Peterson, and Moran were all condemned for their crimes against the working people and poor and especially the Black and Puerto Rican people.

—Charlotte F.

North Cell Hall where windows and light bulbs were smashed. The afternoon before, a demonstration of about 75 people had marched around the prison protesting the massacre at Attica and hailing the struggles of prisoners around the country. During the march, shouting was heard several times from inside the prison, only to be abruptly cut off. The warden, Elmer Cady, immediately blamed the demonstration for the rebellion, although the real reasons lay in the prison conditions.

There is a strong possibility that punishment was also dealt out to inmates who had nothing to do with the rebellion. Booker Collins, who has been in either solitary or segregation since last April because of a letter he had written to his congressman about conditions at Waupun, wrote a letter out that he had been put back in the "Green House," the maximum segregation unit, although he was already separated from the rest of the inmates anyway. Booker is one of the Milwaukee 3, Black Panthers framed for supposedly shooting at a rookie cop and sentenced to 30 years.

The October 2 demonstration was sponsored by Community Rally in Madison and supported by the Prisoners Solidarity Committee in Milwaukee. Earlier in the day, the demonstrators had marched in front of the State Home for Women at Taycheedah, Wisconsin, where a number of women watched the demonstration and cheered the banners and flags about Angela Davis and the struggle inside the prisons. In front of Waupun a short rally was held at which Lee Zeldin of Community Rally spoke about the relationship of Attica to My Lai, and a statement of Black Assemblyman Lloyd Barbee was read on conditions inside the prisons. Jim Miller of the PCS spoke on some of the Attica demands and the need to build a movement of support on the outside, and Benita Orozco of the PSC spoke on the growing struggle of the Third World people for their liberation.

MILWAUKEE, Sept. 25 — "Stop the Racist Brutality at Smyrna and Attica Prison," read the leaflet passed out all over Wilmington by the Prisoners Solidarity Committee of Delaware Youth Against War & Fascism. And more than 50 people responded to hear Doug Cox, Chairman of the Delaware Prisoners Solidarity Committee, explain the Attica uprising.

Cox emphasized the justness of the prisoners' demands and the role that Rockefeller played in the massacre. Sara Flounders and Charlie Carroll explained to the rally that jails are concentration camps for the poor and that the struggle for self-determination of oppressed nationalities is part of the prison struggles. Other speakers exposed the brutal beatings that took place at Delaware's Smyrna prison following the September 2nd rebellion. Demands were made calling for the criminal indictment of Governor Rockefeller, Governor Peterson and top prison officials Oswald, and Moran, Anderson, and Towers of Smyrna prison; the meeting of all the prisoners' demands; and an end to racist brutality; and that the prisons should be open so that work-

tion, inside and outside of the prisons. Tom Chase of the Camp McCoy 3 spoke about the case of Robert Wyland, an inmate who testified later in the week to being teargassed and beaten in his cell at Waupun in a court case demanding damages.

Wilmingtton Rally links self-determination to prison revolts

Attica protesters

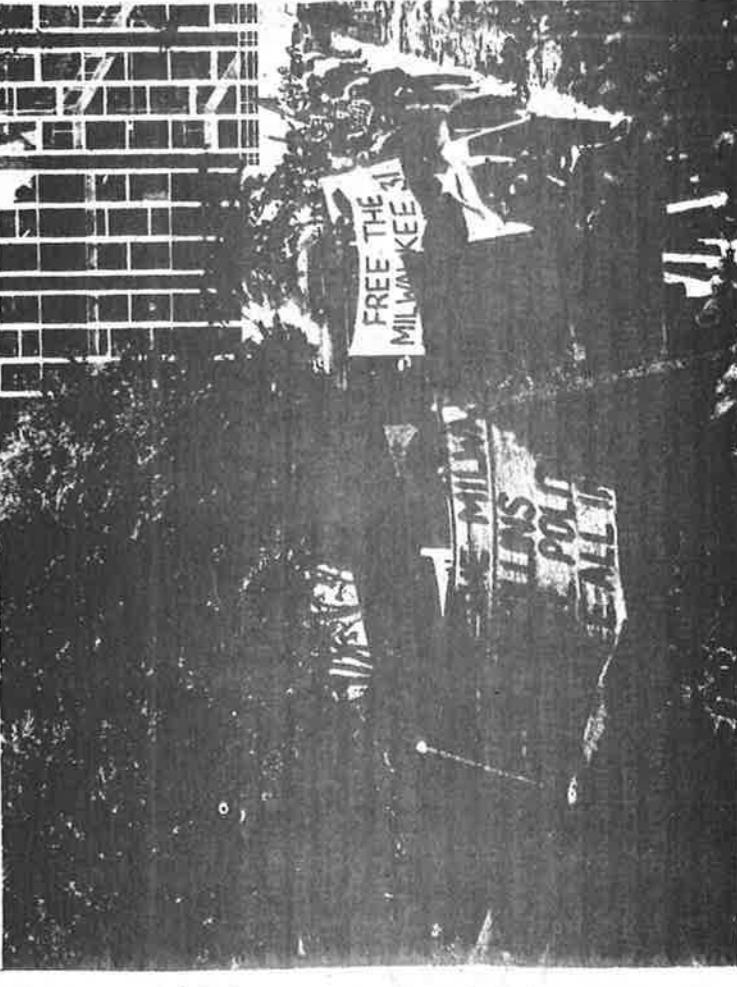
Champaign march on county prison

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Champaign Youth Against War & Fascism marched through downtown streets to the county prison here September 22 chanting slogans against the Attica massacre by New York Governor Rockefeller and against the repression of the Black community in Cairo by Illinois Governor Ollie Gilvie.

The demonstrators rallied at Hen-dricks Jail, the county prison, to the shouts and cheers of prisoners inside. John Lombardo spoke about the Prisoners Solidarity Committee and its struggle in support of the prisoners incarcerated in concentration camps for the poor around the country. "Attica is Rockefeller's Mylai," said Lombardo, connecting

PSC demands inquiry into prison revolt

MILWAUKEE, Oct. 7 — The Prisoners Solidarity Committee called today for a people's investigation into a rebellion that took place early October 3 at Waupun State Prison, the state's maximum security prison for men. Five inmates were put into solitary confinement and sentenced to 30 days in segregation from the rest of the prison population as a result of the rebellion, which took place in the



Prisoners Solidarity Committee march in Milwaukee in support of Waupun prisoners.

RED BANK, N.J., Oct. 13 -- YAWF, ASU, and PSC join the Monmouth Peace Center in a rally and march against the war. A militant picket line was set up in front of the Red Bank Draft offices chanting, "Big firms get rich, GIs die" and "No more Vietnams, no more Atticas."

the violent repression of the Vietnamese national liberation struggle with this country's national liberation struggles of Black and Third World nations. Lombardo also spoke of how Rockefeller and Oswald had used the negotiations as a smoke-screen to hide the 28 demands of the prisoners and prepare the massacre.

"Demands for reforms are necessary for the prisoners to survive and ease their oppression," he pointed out, and must be immediately implemented. "But reforms are not enough, for until the class nature of the prisons — where prisons are concentration camps for poor, Black, and Third World people — is eliminated, there can be no end to the oppression of those imprisoned." The oppression and struggles of women," said Ellen Wilker of the Anti-Imperialist Women's Caucus, "are bound up with the oppression and struggles of all people fighting the exploitative, murderous rule of the rich." Her statements were supported by Kathy Jones of the John Lombardo-Champaign 7 Defense Committee (Lombardo, a prominent leader in the Champaign area, is facing 15 years for flag desecration charges), who spoke on the mutual cooperation of all State and Federal institutions and officials in crushing political dissent.

The demonstrators then marched to the women's section of the jail chanting "Free our sisters now!" The march and rally were covered by local media on September 22, including a live interview with John Lombardo.

— Doug Jones and Mary Kay

Detroit

Police terror arouses angry rally

DETROIT, Sept. 23 — On September 17, the Detroit STRESS squad (Stop the Robberies, Streets) of the police department murdered two young Black men (15 and 16 years old) outside of a community center. These are the ninth and tenth victims of this new, gestapo unit, made up of pig yodelers who disguise themselves and trap poor people, particularly Black people, into some act of survival, and then pick them up or, sometimes, execute them on the spot.

In response to this genocidal attack, as well as to the massacre at Attica, and to the recent attacks against the RNA (see last Workers World), a State of Emergency Committee was established in the Black

community. Included are the Black Panther Party, the Republic of New Africa, the NAACP, the Black Workers Congress, the Wolverine Bar Association (Black lawyers), and the Guardians (Black Detroit police). The Committee called for a rally and a silent march to the Wayne County Jail to be held on September 23 at noon.

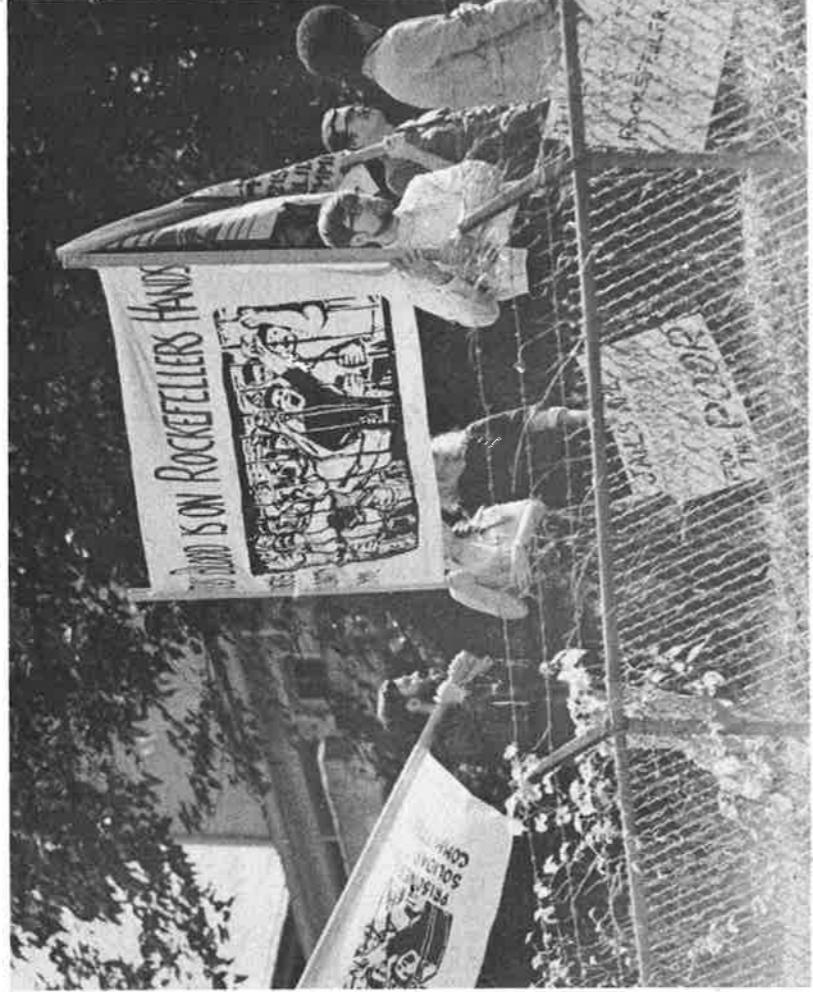
About 1500 people, almost all Black, gathered at a park and began marching down Woodward Avenue (Detroit's main street). When the march reached downtown, huge numbers of people, again almost all Black, joined in. By the time we reached Wayne County Jail there were over 5,000 people! A giant roar arose from the prisoners in the jail, to which the crowd responded "Stop STRESS!" The jail is opposite Detroit's police headquarters, outside of which cops were taking pictures and insulting people.

The march then returned to Kennedy Square, where a rally was held with speakers from several groups. There was a letter read from one of the prisoners in Wayne County Jail. A reporter from the Michigan Chronicle, a Black weekly, who had been inside Attica as a negotiator during the rebellion, spoke on Attica. The mother of a wounded Attica prisoner spoke as did the mothers of the youths murdered by STRESS.

— Chris Fry

DETROIT, Sept. 23 — Seven thousand demonstrators turned out tonight to show Nixon and his ruling class cronies of the Economics Club, who had invited Nixon to speak at their plush dinner in Detroit's Cobo Hall, exactly what the working class, Third World peoples, and youth think of the wage freeze. Many different groups had called for this show of resistance to Nixon's wars against the poor and oppressed in the U.S. and all over the world. These groups included the Center for United Labor Action, the AFL-CIO, and the Nixon Demonstration Coalition.

There were a large number of workers and Third World people in addition to the youth who have been voicing their opposition to the war in Southeast Asia for years. Many of the chants on the militant



Prisoners Solidarity Committee demonstration at Charlottesville, Va.

After the picket line had gone on for a couple of hours, YAWF and CULA led a march of 85 people to the Wayne County Jail chanting "Avenger Attica, tear the walls down." Cops tried to stop the march for going through red lights, but the angry marchers just marched right around their cars. The jailors had the windows of their concentration camp locked up tight for fear that the sisters and brothers inside would hear the supporters, but chants of "Jail the rich, free the poor" rang right through the prison walls. Throughout the Nixon demonstration and Wayne County Jail march, the chants of the demonstrators centered around the idea behind a CULA banner which read "Nixon's wars: wage freeze, Attica, Vietnam, Palestine."

Nixon visit

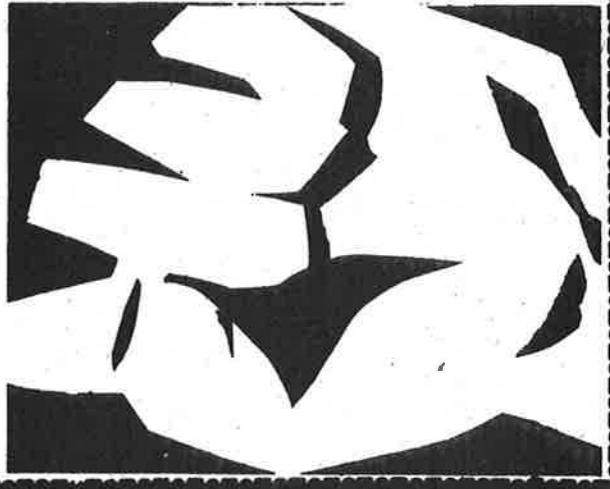
7,000 denounce

BE IN THE STRUGGLE WITH YAWF

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

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

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U.S.-backed terror in Dominican Republic

by P. MEISNER

A fascist wave of terror is sweeping the Dominican Republic and it has Washington's bloody force behind it. The Balaguer regime, in its attempt to crush any and all opposition, has even assassinated members of the bourgeois liberal party of Juan Bosch—the Revolutionary Dominican Party (PRD)—not to mention the murder of hundreds of revolutionaries.

Balaguer's National Police have also killed several leaders of the Dominican People's Movement (MPD) in the most vicious police manhunt ever held against progressives in the Dominican Republic, outdoing some of Trujillo's repressive measures.

Balaguer's terrorist apparatus is a complex network of organizations including the Dominican military, national police, government-hired paramilitary groups such as "La Banda," the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID), and the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Just last month, the National Police in Santo Domingo staged another gestapo murder, this time killing Hornero Hernandez Vargas, 28-year-old leader of the Union of Struggle for a New Quisqueya

(Dominican Republic). At the scene of the assassination, reporters witnessed the presence of J. Thompson, CIA agent assigned by AID as an advisor to Balaguer's National Police.

Fascist goons of "La Banda" and National Policemen killed two more youths on September 26, one with a bullet through his head, and the other tortured to death. The latter was an 18-year-old student and member of the PRD.

More than 1,000 Dominicans have been murdered by the U.S.-puppet regime in Santo Domingo since the 1965 U.S. military invasion. At the same time, 200 U.S. corporations operate in the Dominican Republic along with 5,000 U.S. military personnel. In a recent interview, PRD leader Juan Bosch, denouncing "the wave of official crimes," noted that ultra-rightwing groups like "La Banda" were active in Guatemala, Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, and Mexico, and that they "all form part of a continental plan of U.S. origin."

On September 18, almost 1,000 demonstrators, mostly Dominicans from New York City, protested in Washington, D.C., against the U.S.-instigated terror perpetrated by the Balaguer

regime. The New York-based Committee for the Defense of Human Rights in the Dominican Republic issued a statement saying:

"Penitentiaries are full of political prisoners, mainly because of ideological differences with the ruling class. The press is constantly coerced and journalists systematically threatened and injured, due to the 'mistake' of informing the people of the truth of events. Unemployment has increased in great proportions bringing along with it hunger to the Dominican family. The cost of living has also increased accordingly...."

"Terrorism is already an inherent element to the existence of the government itself. Within it, the government would not live 48 hours. The people are angry, even though in a repressed form, and are ready to struggle...."

"That is why our organization exists today: because of the bitter experiences being felt in the Dominican Republic. We will protest before the American people and also before world opinion; and we will demand an immediate stop to all types of degradations committed against the lives of our people."



Carlos Feliciano being interviewed by John Diaz

BY JOHN DIAZ

NEW YORK, Oct. 2.—A block party of mainly Puerto Ricans and Blacks was held here today on 118 St. between First and Second Avenues. The street was full of music, people, drinks, refreshments, and the smell of rice and grandules being served on the sidewalk.

The people were full of joy and happiness as they sang, drank and ate in the street. It was a celebration of a small but significant victory for the Puerto Rican people and the Independence movement—Carlos Feliciano was finally out on bail. Carlos is one of those brave men who served in the ranks of the Nationalist party of Puerto Rico along with Don Pedro Albizu Campos in his younger days.

He also spent some time in jail with Albizu Campos. He left Puerto Rico two years after his release from prison to join his family in New York.

(They had left Puerto Rico because they were constantly being harassed by the FBI.)

On May 16, 1970, Carlos was arrested in the Bronx on trumped-up charges of having placed bombs in about 41 buildings around New York City. His bail was set at \$150,000 in Manhattan and \$100,000 in the Bronx, a total of \$250,000 for a poor Puerto Rican father of six children. Finally,

\$1.00on August 17, 1971, Carlos had his first hearing in court after having spent 15 months in jail. At this hearing, after District Attorney John Fine made his frameup presentation of charges against Carlos, the judge had to lower the bail to a total of \$50,000. After several crude attempts by the DA to add more charges and delay Carlos' release he was finally bailed out the first week of October 1971, almost 19 months since his arrest.

After the block party, I was fortunate enough to be invited to Carlos' house to speak with him. In addition to talking about his case I asked him if he had any comments on the recent rebellion and massacre at Attica. Carlos answered saying, "I think what happened there was a crime, and everybody knows that those brothers were murdered with police bullets, because the inmates didn't have any guns or rifles. So it's very plain that the police had all the power there. It was outright murder. I think they could have solved that problem another way, and I think that with the actions they took, Rockefeller, Oswald, and Mancusi just murdered these brothers to make an example of them, the same way they made an example with the Kent students. So they figured they can do the same thing with the

militants in prison and on the outside."

I asked him how the other prisoners who were in jail with him reacted to the Attica situation: "They were really mad, all of them," he replied. "As far as I know, people all over the United States were angry and with good reason. I lost two good friends I had met in jail, one of them was Sam Melville whom I met in the Tombs. He was killed in Attica. The authorities claim that he was attempting to bomb a gasoline tank in prison. Now, who's going to believe that? I mean, who ever heard of gasoline tanks in prison yards? And bombs—even if he did know how to make them, where could he get the materials; I'm sure he would need some materials, where did he get them, he can't get them in prison. I believe they killed him because they just wanted to get rid of him."

As I left Carlos' house, I noticed that there were still hundreds of people in the street waiting to see him. All around, the festive mood was still very evident as people were drinking, eating, and singing Nationalist songs and songs of Independence.

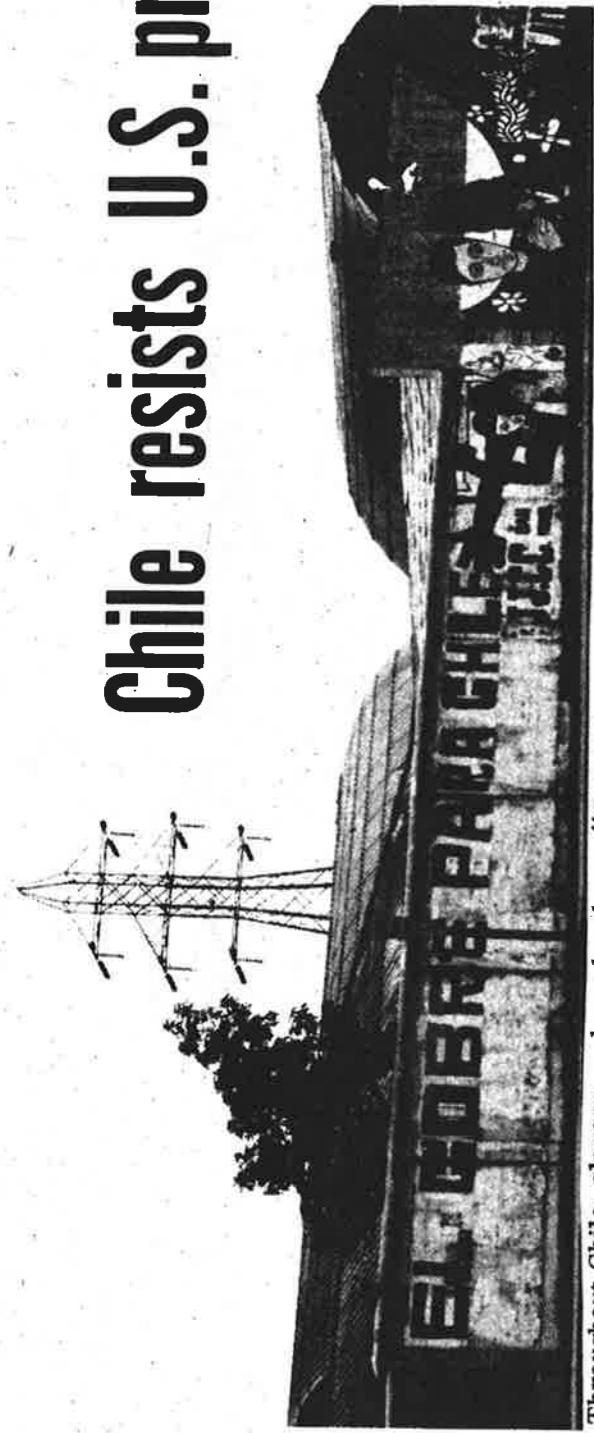
Although Carlos is out on bail, this is only the beginning of the fight. He still has to go to trial and he still faces imprisonment in the concentration camps of this country. So he's really not free yet. He needs the support of all the people at his trial. His next appearance in court will be on October 18, at 100 Centre Street on the 13th floor, part 37.

The Carlos Feliciano Defense Committee is asking all those who can possibly make it to please do so. Funds are also needed to prepare a good defense. For donations and information contact the Carlos Feliciano Defense Committee at St. Marks Church, at East 10 Street, telephone OR 4-6377.

"QUE VIVA PUERTO RICO LIBRE"
"QUE VIVA CARLOS FELICIANO"
"PATRIA O MUERTE; VENCER-EMOS!"

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Chile resists U.S. pressure;

expropriates copper

Throughout Chile, slogans such as the above, "Copper for Chile," have appeared supporting Allende's confiscation of U.S.-owned copper mines.

by ELLEN PIERCE

Officials of the U.S. Treasury Department recently refused to help Chile finance the purchase of airliners, saying this was the first application of a new policy towards countries which had nationalized U.S. industries. Actually, this form of blackmail is not new at all. And while it is intended to throttle the efforts of Chile to free itself from U.S. domination, this policy reflects not Washington's strength but its present inability to send gunboats or Marines at the slightest mention of nationalization.

COPPER GIANTS NATIONALIZED

Three giant U.S. corporations controlled 80 percent of total Chilean copper production (copper accounts for 80 percent of Chile's export earnings) until they were nationalized in July: Kennecott, Anaconda, and Cerro. Profits on this copper were tremendous; in 1969 Anaconda's rate of return on its Chilean investments was 39.5 percent and Kennecott's was 24.1 percent. This accounted for 79.2 and 21.4 percent of the total worldwide profits of the two companies respectively. In the history of Latin American nationalizations, only the assets

expropriated by the Cuban Revolution surpassed the value of these copper mines.

Over the past 60 years, copper, nitrate, and iron extracted from Chilean soil by Chilean workers brought earnings of \$10.8 billion to U.S. companies — more than the total gross national product achieved during the entire existence of Chile. But U.S. corporations have the nerve to ask for "compensation" for the nationalization of their property.

The Allende government is now settling accounts with these robbers. Compensation will be paid, they say—minus outstanding taxes, depreciation, deductions for depletion and excess profits. In the case of three of the mines involved, \$774 million in excess profits has been deducted from a book value of \$629 million, leaving the companies owing the people of Chile \$145 million. U.S. COMPANIES CRY FOUL

The copper companies are crying foul, indig-

nantly accusing Chile of undermining international "law and order." However, they will be compensated by the Overseas Private Investment Corpor-

ation, a U.S. government agency that insures corporations investing abroad and pays them out of the pockets of American workers.

The copper corporations have been the biggest, but not the only Yankee exploiters of Chile's natural and human resources. ITT, Ford, General Tire Corporation, First National City Bank, Bank of America, and many other U.S. firms have, or had, large and profitable operations in Chile. And the workers have initiated several nationalizations of their bosses' plants.

On May 24, workers seized 14 textile mills in Santiago. A Ford Motor plant was taken over by workers to prevent the layoff of 400 employees. These actions were followed by the government taking over administration of the factories to maintain production. Workers also seized Chile's brewing monopoly, Cervecerias Unidas, and the largest tire producer, both U.S.-owned, and are continuing the struggle to control the destiny and resources of Chile.

(The NACLA (North American Congress on Latin America) Newsletter for September 1971 is the source of the statistics used in this article.)

The economic origins of the Supreme Court

by JERRY ZILG

Almost a century after John Locke explained the purpose of the state, and decades before Marx was even born, a small group of men met in a hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Dressed in fine clothes befitting their upper class positions as Northern merchants and Southern landed gentry, they all wore stern looks and worried brows. Their purpose in meeting was to do just what Locke explained — establish a centralized armed government for "the Preservation of their Property."

Property is the primary object of society," explained Rufus King, constitutional delegate from Massachusetts. But King was only saying what the other men gathered there already knew. New York's Gouverneur Morris put more to the point. What they needed, he declared, was a government by those "of great and established property — aristocracy.... Such an aristocratic body will keep down the turbulence of democracy."

Morris, no friend of democracy, knew what he was talking about. His state had already been the scene of popular uprisings against the rule of the rich, when crowds stoned the homes of judges who favored wealthy patricians like Morris in their decisions. Throughout the new United States, the propertyless mass of the people, inspired by the revolutionary struggle, were rising against the wealthy holders of property.

In Rhode Island, New Jersey, and North Carolina, state legislatures were attacking the privileges of property and the courts which defended them. James Madison, wealthy Virginia planter and "father of the Constitution," fearing "the laboring population," warned the Philadelphia convention that "symptoms of a leveling spirit, as we have understood have sufficiently appeared.... give notice of the future danger." Only the previous year, in 1786, Shay's Rebellion had cast an ominous cloud across the future of established wealth.

CONSTITUTION A COMPROMISE

Madison, of course, had a solution — an armed centralized national government that would protect the property of the rich. "The most common and durable source of faction," he observed in Federalist 10, "has been the various and unequal distribution of property." These interests, he explained, form "classes" which must be regulated by legislation. Disputes would be settled by judicial arbitration; that is, judges appointed by the rich and backed up by the armed might of the

government's troops.

Thus the Constitution of the United States was drawn up establishing a Supreme Court (as arbitrator between contending ruling classes of the time, i.e., the Southern slaveholders and the Northern capitalists, as well as an arbitrator between competitors within a ruling class), a House of Representatives (at that time to represent propertyholding free farmers, workers, artisans, and a rising petty bourgeoisie of small shopkeepers), a Senate (to represent, as Alexander Hamilton put it, "the rights of property against the people"), and a President as administrator and commander of the armed forces.

The "founding fathers" were taking no chances of losing control over the government to the people. Neither the Senate nor the President was directly elected by popular vote, but by "electors" appointed by the state legislatures. State elections, in turn, barred women, Black people, American Indians, and a large proportion of adult white males who owned little or no property, from voting. In other words, the propertyless, or most of the country's population, were excluded.

SUPREME COURT THE ARBITRATOR

In this dawn of the age of free enterprise, the American mercantilists led by Jefferson and Adams, and the new rising financial and industrial bourgeoisie led by Hamilton and Madison, knew that an internalized restraint within the ruling classes had to be developed. Indeed, the Constitution itself was a compromise between the Southern planter class and the Northern bourgeoisie, who often had conflicting interests. The Supreme Court was to serve as a mediator between the ruling classes.

The checks and balances of the Constitution, including the Supreme Court and judicial review, were an attempt through government to graft order onto economic anarchy, to graft order onto a young, expanding capitalism driving head-on into virgin markets and unrestricted profits. The new federal, centralized government was not only an attempt by the ruling classes to protect their property and forcefully impose their rule on the propertyless mass of people, but also a futile attempt to resolve the anarchy within the system. In the new capitalist state, law became the secular equivalent of feudalism's religion, attempting to cement together a social order, and the holy interpreters and arbitrators of the sacred word were the black-robed justices of the Supreme Court.

Erecting the dictatorship of wealth

Labor group pickets

WASHINGTON, D.C., Oct. 9— Militant groups opposing Phase 2 of Nixon's program to lower the standard of living of American workers opened a campaign here in the capital with a two-pronged attack this week. The first target was the Treasury Department, where Secretary of the Treasury Connally presides over much of the mechanics of the wage freeze. A group of people from the Delaware and Maryland offices of the Center for United Labor Action yesterday got into the Treasury Building and demanded that Connally stop the wage freeze and instead clamp down on corporate profits.

are profits. Workers and unemployed from Baltimore to Richmond, Virginia, heard of the action that night through TV coverage. (The cameras had been in the building to cover a Connally press conference on the freeze.) Representatives of the CULA groups explained their demands to the press while others held two squads of special government police at bay.

The second action was held at the White House today by a coalition of organizations that included CULA chapters from Maryland, New York, Delaware, and New Jersey, in coop-

White House over wage freeze

eration with the United Farmworkers Organizing Committee and Mother Jones Information Center (a worker-oriented group in Baltimore).

Outside the palatial home of the President (whose salary is "frozen" at \$200,000), the demonstrators explained with chants, banners, and a rally what their protest was all about. The effect of the action on passersby was visible, with quite a few joining the line while traffic on Pennsylvania Avenue slowed down to hear the chants and read the banners.

"Stop Nixon's attack on the poor and working people!" "Freeze, corporate profits, not workers,"



CULA demonstration was first protest against wage freeze held in Washington, D.C.

Attica massacre sparks

BUFFALO — While Rockefeller and his political pals continue to build more lies and more "special investigation panels" to cover up the facts of the Attica rebellion, the effect of the prisoners' heroic struggle continues to be felt across the country. Over the past few weeks, students in high schools here have been rebelling against the prison-like conditions and racism they face in the public schools.

At Bennett High School, Black and white students walked out over the suspension of four students who refused to salute the American flag. They demanded that students be allowed to pledge to the Black Liberation flag and requested a session to discuss the Attica rebellion.

Over 500 Black students from several Buffalo high schools, calling for an indefinite strike against the schools, held a rally to raise the issues of racism within the schools, unemployment, and the wage freeze and to call for the indictment of Rockefeller for the Attica murders. At Grover Cleveland High School, where there has been a tradition of fights between Black and white gangs, Black, Puerto Rican, and white students called for a truce to end the antagonisms between

school revolts

Black and white students. They were refused a meeting place by Principal Meier, however. Meier insisted that the "problems" in the schools were only among the students, and that the "students had no grievances against the teachers and administration" (implying that situations like Attica had no relevance to the students).

Like Rocky's lies about Attica, Meier also lied to cover up the real perpetrators of violence and racism in the schools. From first grade on, racism is used by the schools to keep students divided, just as it is used in prisons to keep prisoners from rebelling against officials, and in factories to prevent workers from fighting together against the bosses.

To be sure that students don't have a chance to get together, the Buffalo School Board and Mayor Sedita, have placed cops and security guards in all the secondary schools. But there can be no negotiations between students and administrators under the gun, and there can be no solution to the problems in the schools until the racism and prison-like conditions in the schools are eliminated.

councilman's home

The treatment of worker-prisoners at Attica was described by a representative of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, John Diaz, who told how the men there had been ready to lay down their lives for basic labor demands like safe working conditions, federal minimum wages, and the right to unionize. He urged that workers recognize the similarities of this struggle to their own and support the prisoners.

wages," and "Phase 2 — bankers' tool for fascist rule" were the encapsulated messages. The speakers expanded on this theme. One woman worker and a striking longshoreman told, from their own experience, how the wage freeze hit hardest at the poorest, most oppressed workers: the Black, Puerto Rican, Chicano and women workers and, of course, those workers on strike. Ramon Romero of the Farmers Organizing Committee explained that a boycott of Safeway stores is underway and urged everyone to support it.

The treatment of worker-prisoners at Attica was described by a representative of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, John Diaz, who told how the men there had been ready to lay down their lives for basic labor demands like safe working conditions, federal minimum wages, and the right to unionize. He urged that workers recognize the similarities of this struggle to their own and support the prisoners.

Angry gays storm

NEW YORK, October 3 — Over one thousand gay people, women and men, workers and students, took to the streets last night in a militant demonstration opposing discrimination against homosexuals. The specific demands being raised were an end to job and housing discrimination and free access to public accommodations. The target of the action, organized by the Gay Activists Alliance, was the Greenwich Village home of New York City Councilman Saul Sharison. As chairman of a Council committee that is supposed to be considering a homosexual civil rights bill, Sharison has refused to convene the committee for nine months now.

The march was preceded by one of about 400 people on Thursday night. At the climax of the earlier march, the angry crowd stormed into the lobby of the fancy high-rise where Sharison lives and demanded to see him. The police, unprepared for the boldness and determination of the sisters and brothers, vainly pleaded that they leave. After about twenty minutes, when it became clear that Sharison was not in the building, the protesters left, marching several times around the building to make sure that the residents were aware of the pig they had for a neighbor. The Saturday night demonstration,

These actions reflect the growing anger that homosexuals feel against the sexist society that demands they either hide their sexuality or suffer harassment and discrimination at every turn. Sexist bosses and landlords, however, are finding more and more gays standing up to them, resisting their tyranny and the capitalist system of which it is a part.

Feminism and Marxism

by Dorothy Ballan

A materialist view of women's oppression

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S. Vietnam election returns:

SuperEnterprise

by CARL GLENN

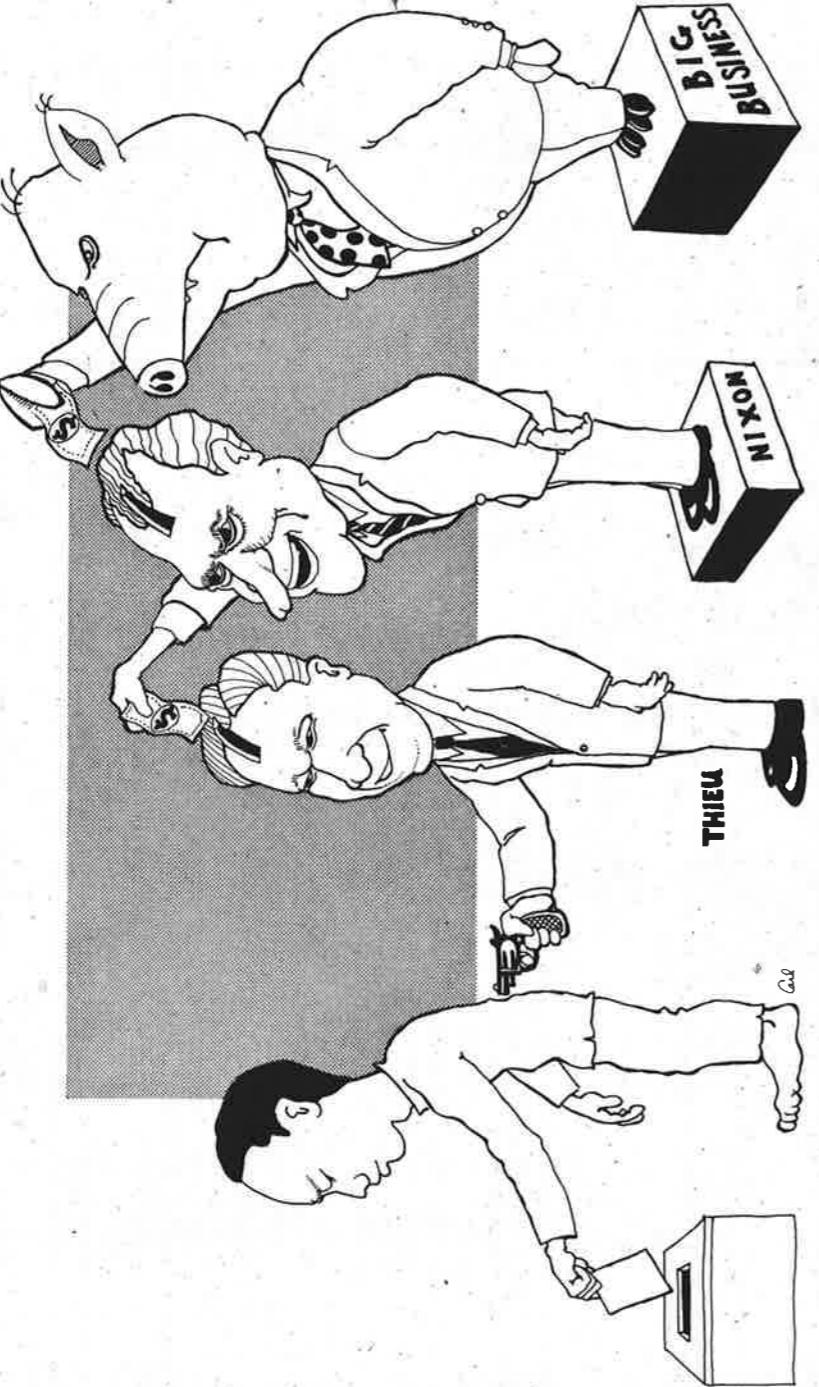
"Obviously the elections in a country like Vietnam are not pristine and pure. But neither are ours for that matter," So said U.S. Secretary of State Rogers at a recent press conference. Quite an admission for a country that has been in a massive war for a decade now—all supposedly to bring "democracy" to Vietnam! But Rogers knows whereof he speaks. Because whether the contest is in Vietnam with Thieu, the only candidate, pulling down 95% of the votes, or in the U.S. where the office of President goes to the candidate who can spend the most millions of dollars advertising his candidacy, U.S.-style elections benefit only America's thieving super-rich corporations.

Dictator is lone candidate

On June 3, 1971, the Vietnamese congress passed a bill sponsored by President Thieu with the purpose and effect of keeping Vice-President Nguyen Cao Ky off the ballot as a competing candidate. At one session before the final vote was taken, a congressman opposed to the measure filibustered by threatening to detonate a hand grenade, delaying the vote for several hours. The bill, requiring a candidate to collect a certain number of validated signatures of provincial leaders or congressmen to get on the ballot, was passed.

President Thieu, whose appointment of many of the province chiefs assured him of the required support, had written into the law the virtual exclusion of other candidates, Vice-President Ky in particular. On August 5, the Supreme Court dutifully ruled off Ky's name, thus leaving two names on the ballot as candidates for the presidency: General Nguyen Van Thieu and General Duong Van "Big" Minh.

"Big" Minh, who played a leading role in the American-sponsored plot to overthrow and murder President Diem in 1963, as was widely publicized recently, was spoken of as the "peace" candidate. In an effort to split his rival's support, as well as discredit his tactics, Minh demanded that Ky's name be placed back on the ballot, and if it wasn't he himself would resign from the race. This threat did not disturb Thieu. He knew that he was Nixon's choice.



In recent months thousands of protesting Vietnamese have been jailed. On September 24, the military command announced that U.S. troops would be put on alert until after the election, ostensibly to prepare for attacks but also, and significantly, to prevent GIs from demonstrating alongside the Vietnamese people. And the South Vietnam Senate by a vote of less than half of its members passed a resolution recommending that the elections be postponed and reorganized.

Nixon admits rule by assassination
Amid demonstrations of students, war veterans and Catholic and Buddhist religious groups, President Nixon made the amazing admission in a press conference, "I would remind all concerned that the way we got into Vietnam was through overthrowing Diem and the complicity in the murder of Diem."

The people of Vietnam were not taken in by the sham elections. They have been voting continuously for 25 years, casting their lives as curb ballots. The war will go on until the real election is won.

Pickets hit Nixon - DuPont parley

WILMINGTON, Oct. 5 — This morning the press announced that President Nixon was coming here tonight to wine and dine with Mayor Haskell, Governor Peterson and Reynolds duPont, reputed financial backer of the KKK, at the mansion of Delaware's media millionaire John Rollins.

Within an hour Youth Against War & Fascism had called a demonstration with leaflets and a press release which announced, "We do not intend to let this exclusive meeting of a small clique of the super-rich with a president who represents their interest go unchallenged. We know that the results of such meetings are grand and larcenous conspiracies against the poor and working people as evidenced by the wage freeze."

The press release continued, "When Nixon personally intervenes

1,500 protest Agnew dinner

BUFFALO, Oct. 7 — Super-racist Agnew came to Buffalo today to attend a \$100-a-plate fund raising dinner—and the poor and working people of Buffalo came out in mass to protest. Around 1500 people attended a rally co-sponsored by BUILD (a community organization of oppressed peoples) and the People's Coalition for Peace and Justice. Speakers from BUILD, the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, Rochester People's Coalition, Vietnamese Veterans Against the War, and the ADHOC Committee to Support the Attica Prisoners condemned Agnew and his ruling-class pals for the racist massacre at Attica and the blatant attacks on the workers in this country and around the world.

Close to 25 people gathered to march to the Rollins estate carrying banners and chanting "Nixon is the enemy of the poor and working people!" A picket line was rapidly formed despite harassment from the lines of state and county police, secret service troops and snarling dogs from the K-9 division. Afterwards a short rally was held where a YAWF woman exposed the class interests that Nixon represents. And if the warm response to the leaflets is any indication, more and more people are becoming aware of Nixon's role as a tool of the bosses.

both the same" (Youth Against War & Fascism), "Agnew speaks for Rocky—Attica's blood on their hands" (Prisoners Solidarity Committee).

The militancy of the crowd progressed with each speaker. In the middle of the rally, around 40 American Legionnaires marched towards us. Three or four people from Young Americans for Freedom tried to disrupt the rally by holding up pro-Agnew signs, but these were soon ripped up by the people.

A march following the rally led past Erie County Concentration Camp and back up the main street to a church holding a Poor People's Dinner (to contrast the million-dollar politicians' banquet).

Chants were indicative of the crowd's militancy—"Jail Agnew—Free the prisoners!" "Freeze profits—not wages!" And when the cops tried to disperse the march, they were answered with—ATTICA MEANS FIGHT BACK!!

"Agnew-Hitler. Attica-Auschwitz,

Black-white solidarity in Mississippi strike

by ALICE ROBINSON

"People are beginning to see that the rich people are out for just one thing — more money. The only way to stop it is for all poor people to get together, no matter what color their skin is. Black and white is brothers."

This was a white worker speaking, one of the thousands of Black and white woodcutters and haulers in Mississippi who are out on strike against several paper mills. These words, dramatic in a state infamous for its racism, typify the new solidarity being built among Black and white workers in the course of a long, hard struggle.

Members of the Gulfcoast Pulpwood Association, these workers are about 60 percent Black and the rest white. They went out on strike in early September when Masonite Corporation, one of the huge paper plants there, tried to cut down their already meager wages.

These paper workers, who, starting at 5:00 or 6:00 a.m., put in an average of 12 or 13 hours a day, are paid on a piecework system. Though the companies make a fortune from paper goods and other wood products, the workers, who cut down the pulpwood trees and who haul the wood, earn an average of \$3,000 a year.

In early September, Masonite tried to cheat the workers even more by instituting a new system for measuring the wood hauled in. The new method, based on weight rather than quantity, forces each worker to cart an additional 1900 pounds of wood per load to earn the same as before. And since the workers often have to haul the wood many miles over backwood roads, this increases the danger and difficulty of the already exhausting job. In truth, the new system decreases the workers' pay per load between 20 and 25 percent.



Militants picketing Rockefeller, butcher of Attica, at Hilton.

1,000 protest Oswald appearance

NEW YORK, Oct. 6 — About 1,000 people, mostly young, demonstrated here today to protest the appearance of State Corrections Commissioner Oswald. Oswald, who was scheduled to speak before the graduating class of the New York City Police Academy, was branded by the demonstrators as a mass murderer.

Called by the United Front for Attica, a coalition of various left organizations, the demonstration began at 10:30 a.m. with a march from Tompkins Square to John Jay College, home of the New York Police Academy. There, a crowd

of over 500 people listened to speakers from the organizations within the United Front, including Tom Soto of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee and Juan Ortiz of the Young Lords Party, before resuming their march on George Washington Hotel, the site of Oswald's appearance.

By noon the marchers reached the hotel at 23rd Street and Lexington Avenue, where they joined a long rally denouncing Oswald, whose citation for "the year's outstanding penal work" from the New York City Police Department was personally endorsed by Mayor John Lindsay.

When Masonite first tried to institute the new system September 1 in its Laurel, Mississippi plant, 200 workers refused to go along. The strike rapidly spread to other companies trying the gimmick — until now thousands of Mississippi's woodcutters and haulers are out. Approximately one-fourth of the state's pulpwood production has been affected.

In a state such as Mississippi, a stronghold of racism and the KKK, the unity shown by the Black and white workers is remarkable. This is not the first in which Black and white workers have joined together in Mississippi, however. Four years ago, after a strike at the Masonite plant, Black and white workers began to unite. But now the current struggle has gone further. Several white workers are reportedly ex-members of the KKK. But due to the economic oppression felt by both Black and white workers, racism has given way in the common fight against a hated company. As one worker put it, "We're just a bunch of poor people trying to make a living."

Picket lines are staffed by both Blacks and whites. Strike operations are carried out under joint leadership of Black and white workers. Moreover, the wives and sisters of the brothers have joined in carrying out the struggle by walking the picket lines. In the last couple of weeks, the strike has picked up additional strength as railroad workers, beginning to honor the picket lines, have refused to freight wood into the companies. Since a large percentage of the wood was shipped in by rail, this support has really added power to the strike. In addition, many people in the surrounding communities are supporting the strike. Contributions for striking workers can be sent to the central strike headquarters, c/o Tonny Algood, Apt. #1, 535 Eighth Avenue, Laurel, Mississippi.

NEW YORK, October 14 — A mass murderer receiving the "humanitarian of the year" award? Does it sound like something out of a nightmare? It happened tonight at the Hilton Hotel.

While twice their number gathered outside on Sixth Avenue to protest, 1,000 of this city's "high and mighty," met inside the Hilton to honor Nelson Rockefeller, the governor of New York and the butcher of Attica. The occasion was the presentation to Rockefeller of the 1971 Humanitarian Award of the United Cerebral Palsy Association of New York City.

The anger and size of the demonstration made it necessary to sneak Rocky in through a side door. Still, he must have heard the loud chants: "Rockefeller! Murderer! Tear Down the Jails!" and "Jail the Rich! Free the Poor! Power to the People!" The demonstration, called for by YAWF, the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, and other organizations, lasted several hours. A number of prisoners, relatives, some with brothers and husbands in Attica, demonstrated with the PSC contingent.



Palestine - a land to be reclaimed

U.S. State Department. The reply to the Ad Hoc Committee was signed by:

Faez El-Afendi Evelyn R. Zakhary
Nuhar Housepian Mohamed Abdo
Mousa Murad Nagib R. Azba
Richard Baron Selma Waldman
Amin Kahale Michael Rubin
Jerry Rosen Sid Brown

* * *

We begin our criticism with a sentence which surfaces in the fourth paragraph: "Today both Israeli and Palestinian political leaders refuse to recognize the legitimate rights of the other side to exist as a people." Why should the facts be distorted? Many statements by official leaders of the Palestinian peoples refuting this view have appeared over the past several years....

We excerpt a quotation from a lecture on the theme "Palestine of Tomorrow," delivered by Dr. Nabil Shabani, at the Second International Symposium on Palestine held in Kuwait, February 13-17, 1971: "Two years ago, the Fatah delegate to the Cairo Conference in Support of Arab Peoples, declared confidently, in the name of the Palestine Revolution, 'We are fighting today to create a new Palestine of tomorrow, a progressive, democratic, and non-sectarian Palestine, in which Christian, Moslem, and Jew will work, worship, live peacefully, and enjoy equal rights.... Our revolution still stretches its welcoming hand to all human beings who want to live in Palestine, irrespective of race, color, or religion....' In the statement which appeared in The New York Review, the writers themselves admit that people already exist who 'hope...some-day to reunite in some form the areas where Israelis and Palestinians now live.'

The Ad Hoc Committee apparently, then, gives this hope their blessing—but only with the righteous suggestion that "peace is required so that both peoples may make free choices." We insist on asking here: Whose peace? It is necessary to examine critically and expose the contradictions in what is at best a hypocritical use of the word "peace" as applied to the "present human reality" of the Middle East.

"It seems that the armed liberation struggle of the Palestinians is somehow not "revolutionary" since it forces Israel (who is "the more militarily powerful partner") to "abandon self-determination, and prevents the Israeli Left from "creating a socialist reconstruction." Here, then, is one of the chief contradictions in the statement. The Palestinian peoples hardly lifted a finger against Israel for twenty years: they were languishing all that time in refugee camps. And, they were peaceful. They suffered through one UN resolution after another, while their plight

(credit: LNS/Kamal Boullata)

Below are excerpts of a reply by progressive Jews and Arabs to a statement published in the New York Review of Books (July 1, 1971) by the Ad Hoc Committee for the Liberation of Palestine and Israel. The latter group is composed of mostly Jewish intellectuals and rabbis and an assortment of social democrats. It includes names such as Noam Chomsky, Todd Gitlin, Abbie Hoffman, Paul Jacobs, Sidney Lens, Stewart Meacham, Benjamin Spock, and Arthur Waskow. Essentially, the Ad Hoc Committee recognizes Israel as a legitimate state, and not as an occupying force, and demands that the Palestinian people negotiate a new Palestine carved around Israel—a solution already long advocated by the

was ignored by Israel—and by most of the world, including the "progressive" world. Only in 1967, after the regular Arab armies were defeated by Israel, did the Palestinians take destiny into their own hands. The point here is just this: what stopped the Israeli Left from creating the socialist reconstruction during all those (substantially peaceful) years?

...It seems that the Jewish-American Left (and Western progressives in general) never gave much attention to the anguish or even the existence of Palestinians until the issue was armed struggle! And now, since liberation is definitely on the agenda in the Middle East, these "sensitive" intellectuals of the Left have finally awakened to the militant presence of the Palestinian peoples—and to show their awakening consciences, they issue an exemplary call from a distance of 5,000 miles for the Palestinians to be pacific and accept them by persons who are neither Palestinians nor Israeli nationalists! If this is not arrogance, it is certainly blindness. For example, when did the Palestinians ever arrive at the unanimous decision "as a people" to lay claim on "a state of their own where they now live, including the East and West Banks and Gaza?" In any case, "where they now live" includes Tel Aviv, Hebron, Jerusalem, and almost all areas within the present State of Israel!

It is our opinion that, in attempting to keep your left-radical integrity, you have chosen TO RECONCILE IRRECONCILABLES. You have attempted to place on equal footing as equally oppressed, the Jewish people who are colonizers (the oppressor nationality) and the native Palestinians (the oppressed nationality) who once lived in Israel, but who are now dispersed and in exile in their Palestinian Galuth. It is the Israelis as a group who are oppressing, expropriating, and exiling the Palestinians (with imperialist support)—some few courageous individuals notwithstanding. If "militarily stronger" Israel ignores the demands of your statement and refuses to "take the first steps," if your counsel goes unfulfilled and unexamined by the ruling party of the State, and if the Israeli people do not apply popular pressures in significant numbers—would you then at least condone (if not materially support) the necessity for the Palestinians to struggle for liberation no matter what form this struggle takes—by any means necessary?

...In conclusion... Although the statement was issued by the Ad Hoc Committee for the Libera-

tion of Palestine and Israel, there is significantly not one Palestinian co-signer among those whose names were gathered in support of the statement. With that, we let our comments rest.

While the Zionist officer was bending over, the prisoners attacked him with their fists and broomsticks; the officer died inside the cell. Prison guards attacked the prisoners and tried to quell the revolt, but the prisoners didn't give up easily. They resisted courageously with their fists and sticks. They were shouting "Long live Palestine. Long live our brothers in Attica. Death to the Fascists." During the battle, ten guards were wounded seriously. Doors, windows, and furniture were smashed.

After the revolt was quelled, the prison administrator held a press conference in which he said that "18 prisoners, the leaders of the rebellion, were transferred to other jails, some will be transferred soon, and some were put in isolation." He failed to mention how many prisoners were killed or hurt. The jail is one of the worst prisons in Israel: It contains 480 commandos, 260 of them for life.

Jailed Arabs revolt in Israel

The following article is translated from an Iraqi newspaper
One Israeli officer was killed and ten other guards were wounded, some of them seriously, when several Arab prisoners revolted in an endeavor to take over the jail of Ashkelon inside Israel, October 1. The revolt started when one officer and a prison guard entered a cell which contained 20 prisoners.

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Angry dock workers buck Nixon, bosses

by M. SEAMAN

From New York to California, from Maine to Texas, longshoremen are witnessing a plot by the Nixon Administration and the maritime bosses to roll back their wages and working conditions. This conspiracy has been made clear by Nixon's order to the 17,000 International Longshoremen's and Warehouse Union rank and file on the West Coast and 250 workers in Chicago to return to work under the Taft-Hartley law, and his refusal to use the law to restrain the 45,000-member International Longshoremen's Union from their strike on the East and Gulf Coasts.

This manipulation of the Taft-Hartley law by the Nixon government to aid and assist the maritime bosses in the middle of two strikes has infuriated the dock workers throughout the country. From San Diego to Seattle thousands of angry West Coast dockers crowded into their hiring halls to bitterly denounce President Nixon's use of Taft-Hartley to drive them back to work.

The ILA members have been on the picket line for over three months. They have tied up 250 ships at 24 United States ports for 100 days and were bitter when they heard they were being forced back to work without their pay raises, job security, and other benefits, especially at a time when the Pacific Maritime Association's bargaining position had been badly weakened by the length and militancy of the strike. While Harry Bridges, president of ILWU, was quick to comply with Nixon's back-to-work order, angry rank-and-file workers were defying the federal court order in some areas and only trickling back in others.

At the Long Beach and Oakland docks three locals refused to go back to work in spite of the court order. In Seattle a job slowdown is so effective that the shipping bosses admit that not much cargo is moving. It is reported there that 50 percent of the work gangs have been fired. In Los Angeles 1,500 men showed up for work and they cheered the news that there would be no work due to a machinists' strike.

This determination to fight the government and the bosses comes at a strategic moment when their brothers in the International Longshoremen's Union on the East and Gulf Coasts have been locked in a bitter strike for over two weeks.

For both unions, the issue is the loss of

jobs from containerization. This automated process that ships goods in giant steel containers has cut the work gangs down to a crane operator and a few workers. On the West Coast, these crews have watched their work force cut by 10,000 jobs. It is their fight for a "work opportunity guarantee," that will give them work or pay for a 40-hour week and lessen their shift time from 8 hours to 7 hours that has brought Nixon and the maritime bosses down on their backs.

On the East and Gulf Coasts, increased containerization in the last six months has cost the ILA stevedores a 12 percent loss in their jobs. This year they have moved 330,000 more tons of cargo over 1970 with 12 million fewer man-hours. Their strike is to preserve and extend their "Guaranteed Annual Income" (GAI) which assures them 2,080 hours of work or pay a year. It is to destroy the workers' GAI that the New York shipping bosses have not requested a Taft-Hartley injunction from Nixon. During the 80-day cooling-off period, they would have had to live up to the GAI agreement.

This assault on the workers is in spite of the attempts by East Coast president Gleason to placate the bosses. He has ordered that ships with war material for Vietnam be loaded despite the strike, thus pitting these U.S. workers against their class sisters and brothers in Vietnam. The waterfront bosses have been preparing for this strike since the beginning of the year. What has now become clear to the rank and file longshoremen throughout the country is that there is a plot by Nixon and the maritime bosses to drive them off the docks in one giant crunch.

Miners defy wage freeze

by SHIRLEY JOLLS

Miners walked out 80,000 strong on October 1 in the Appalachian soft coal fields and within days the total United Mine Workers 100,000 membership was out in 20 states. The strength of the strike took mine owners and their friends in the Nixon administration by surprise. Official reports first anticipated only a one-day strike, but that prediction was quickly withdrawn as rank-and-file miners demonstrated their determination to put up a long, hard fight against dangerous working conditions and dwindling employment in the underground mines.

The UMW is negotiating with the mine owners' Bituminous Coal Operators Association for an increase in wages from \$37 to \$50 a day and a doubling of the payment to the union welfare fund to 80 cents per ton. So far, little has happened at the bargaining table, where union president W. A. Boyle faces a bosses' team headed by R. Heath Larry, who is also chairman of U.S. Steel.

In the coal fields, miners made it clear that safety and aid for injured and sick miners, especially black lung victims, are the main issue.

A program recently won by the miners to provide benefits and treatment for miners with black lung disease has turned out to be almost totally ineffective. The burden of proof is on the miners, and few can qualify for the program. Some, whose ruined lungs can't pump even enough oxygen for them to walk by themselves, are turned down because one quick X-ray doesn't specifically show black lung. Many are now traveling to a special hospital in the Kentucky coal fields and forcing their weakened bodies through a more extensive series of tests for

the disease. Still, most are turned away, without medical treatment and without the promised benefits.

DEFY WAGE FREEZE

This strike is particularly important not only because it delivers another blow at Nixon's wage freeze, but because the union miners face an ever-tightening squeeze on days of work available. UMW members now produce about only one-half the soft coal mined in the U.S. Most of the rest comes from the new strip mines, which are nearly all non-union and employ far fewer miners. The urgency of the miners' situation is clearly shown by comparing some production figures for the last 25 years. In 1945, about 400,000 miners produced 577 million tons of bituminous coal, worth just under \$2 billion. In 1969, soft coal production amounted to less, 560 million tons, but the value to mine owners was inflated to nearly \$3 billion — and only one-quarter as many union miners still had jobs.

RISING UNEMPLOYMENT

Each year, more miners are thrown out of work by the changeover to mechanized surface mines. The bosses increasingly refuse to make needed repairs in the old shaft mines and open up more and more strip mine ventures that produce coal by completely tearing up whole hills and valleys from the top. And they pay the non-union miners only \$17-18 a day, half the union rate.

The devastation of acres and acres of Appalachian land has created such opposition that Nixon himself planned an "environmental inspection tour" of the strip mines earlier this year.

Coal miners, however, have a long tradition of putting up a determined struggle against great odds. The UMW led a strike of 400,000 against federal control in 1946, and struck again in 1952 against a Korean War "anti-inflation" measure, the Wage Stabilization Board rollback of wage gains won from the bosses.

Rank-and-file miners want to carry on the same kind of fight this time, too. Miners came out of the pits two weeks ago saying they were ready for a long strike and a better than "good" contract.

