

Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite

WORKERS WORLD

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From Vietnam to W. Germany ...

GI'S BATTLE AGAINST WAR AND RACISM

by **Andy Stapp**

(Special to Workers World
by the Chairman of the
American Servicemen's
Union)

In the 1971 Army Green Book, a status report on the U.S. Army, Colonel Robert E. Riggs writes in the lead editorial, "The fact that there is ample evidence that the services are indeed having problems, some of them the most perplexing in their history, gives credence in the minds of many citizens to the idea that the Army is falling apart." What is Colonel Riggs referring to when he writes about "problems"?

To answer this question let's examine what happened simultaneously in South Vietnam and at the Alameda Naval Air Station in California October 11. On this date 90 infantrymen of the 1st Air Cavalry Division were pulling routine duty at Fire Support Base Pace on highway 22 on the Cambodian border northwest of Saigon. Everything was routine that Saturday, including the commanding officer's order to go out

on a dusk patrol. The GIs' response to this order was also not particularly unusual these days for the "grunts" stationed in combat areas. They simply said, "No!"

In fact, over two-thirds of the base had signed a petition saying

that they did not intend to go out on any more patrols. The only really unusual aspect of this case came from the fact that a member of the capitalist press who had been reporting on developments in the two-week-old battle for Kreck near the Cambodian border where Fire Support Base Pace is located, witnessed the refusal and wrote it up for the stateside newspapers.

Within hours the actions of Company B, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry of the First Air Cavalry Division had become national news. The press readily conceded that this had happened many times before. It seems that the reporter's interest was sharpened by the fact that this particular night patrol was going to cross the Cambodian border. Major General Jack J. Wagsstaff, Commander of U.S. forces in the 3rd military region, which includes Fire Base Pace, stated that "some of the members of the patrol express

(Continued to page 3)

Ex-inmate tells of Attica terror

See four-page supplement from Prisoners Solidarity Committee

Victory! Champaign 7 force court to back down

by ALICE ROBINSON

CHAMPAIGN, Ill., Oct. 28—After more than one year of fighting frameup charges that could have landed four leaders of Youth Against War & Fascism here in jail for 10 to 40 years, the Champaign 7 today won a striking victory over the courts and the ruling class of Illinois. The state dropped all felony charges against the defendants, proving that in a political frameup only a consistent and determined revolutionary defense, both on the streets and in the courts, can force the government to retreat.

The state was forced to concede in its efforts to railroad the Seven after two days of jury selection when it became obvious that YAWF's activities in publicizing the case as a political frameup had succeeded. Juror after juror disqualified him- or herself as unable to be impartial. Others had received leaflets talking about "railroading," or seen demonstrations proclaiming the innocence of the Champaign 7.

D.A. FORCED TO DROP FELONIES

The D.A. several weeks before had arrogantly told the defendants' lawyer he would get John Lombardo for 2 to 7 years and the others for two years' probation or jail sentences. But in the end, the state

was forced to approach the defendants with an offer to drop all felony charges if the Seven would plead guilty to one misdemeanor each. (Actually, only 5 defendants of the Seven were on trial. One case was severed as she was a minor, and one because he wanted a different lawyer.) The result of this was that three defendants were fined \$200 each with no probation while Sharon Sindelar and John Lombardo—YAWF leaders and the objects of the frameup—were sentenced to 15 days and 60 days, respectively. Both had faced a possible 20 years or more on the assault charges.

The state's attack was designed to crush Champaign YAWF. In particular, the state wanted to silence YAWF's support for the Black people of Cairo and the Black United Front of Cairo.

The frameup charges against the Seven arose after an assault on a peaceful picket line set up by YAWF in the Law Building of the University of Illinois on March 26, 1970. YAWF went there to confront Illinois Governor Ogilvie—who was attending a University Police Training Institute graduation—on his fascist occupation of Cairo. YAWF had set up a picket line in the lobby when, from out of the surrounding crowd, they were suddenly attacked by plainclothes university police. The attackers, who were at the time in no way identifiable as police, viciously beat and maced the demonstrators and then arrested seven. They were then charged with varying counts of aggravated battery and resisting ar-

rest. The battery charges carried from 1 to 10 years on each count.

YAWF BUILDS PUBLIC SUPPORT

YAWF's response to the frameup was to fight back politically at every opportunity. In the two weeks before the trial, YAWF intensified its efforts and countered every tactic used against them by the state with one of their own.

The state's first move was to refuse to give out a trial date. YAWF's answer was to get out leaflets explaining that a secret date was equivalent to a secret trial, since it would isolate the defendants from their supporters and allow the court to railroad them to jail.

Next, YAWF organized a march and demonstration from the campus to the courthouse to demand a date be set for the trial. About 65 people participated in the demonstration, which was widely covered in the local media.

Throughout the week preceding the trial, YAWF distributed on the campus at class changes, at social events there, and at movie theatres downtown. They never let the students and community forget that a frameup was taking place under their very noses. This effort culminated on Saturday at the university homecoming football game. YAWF put out a special leaflet designed to embarrass the university in front of the out-of-town parents and alumni.



KARL K

Tito "discovers"

capitalist tendencies

President Tito of Yugoslavia recently indulged in a little "self-criticism" at a meeting discussing the Second Conference of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia. "We must cleanse the League of those elements which have sneaked into it in various ways," he said. "The class enemy lives, he shows himself now, he resorts to nationalism and chauvinism as the basis for his struggle against socialism."

Tito even went on to confirm what many critics of Yugoslavia's headlong retreat toward capitalist restoration have charged for years: "a new capitalist grouping is developing within our socialist system." These are welcome words. But unfortunately, they can scarcely be interpreted as more than that, even

though Tito may be wanting to impress revolutionary critics at home and abroad.

A few days later, Tito was chatting comfortably with Nixon about increasing the \$100 million trade between Yugoslavia and the U.S. This economic intercourse includes such items as the publication in Yugoslavia of the Reader's Digest and the establishment by the Tito government of large gambling casinos on the Mediterranean coast to entice Western tourists.

U.S. imperialism is actually interested in much more than mere trade with Yugoslavia. And Tito's long-time decentralization of the socialist economic plan to provide incentives for individual industries plays right into the hands of Wall

Following the Monday demonstration in which 35 people participated, a leaflet was distributed calling for people to pack the courtroom on Tuesday, the day finally set for the trial. When defendants and supporters arrived at court Tuesday, they learned the judge had ruled that no spectators would be admitted during jury selection. YAWF answered immediately with a leaflet denouncing this as a continuation of the court's tactic of giving them a secret trial. Banners were held up outside the courthouse. The signs were seen by prospective jurors and passersby entering and leaving the courthouse. The next day the judge was forced to rescind the ruling and supporters entered to witness the jury selection.

The jury selection was used by the defendants to continue their political defense within the ruling class' court itself. Prospective jurors were questioned on their political opinions and prejudices.

All these efforts both on the streets and in the court forced the concession from the state to drop the felony charges. The defendants' strength and the support from the campus and community forced the D.A. to approach them with the offer.

YAWF accepted the arrangement after bargaining the D.A. down to an agreement on their conditions: no probation for any of the defendants, short jail sentences, and small fines as listed above. YAWF publicized this too, refusing to keep the agreement secret in a back room away from jurors and supporters.

Thursday, November 4, Sharon Sindelar and John Lombardo will enter the county jail here to begin serving their sentences. YAWF is calling for a demonstration in their support and to demand their freedom.

Street's desire to open up the socialist countries to exploitation, that is, the investment of capital.

The reinstitution into Yugoslavia of economic incentives, the work of none other than Tito himself, laid the basis for the "new capitalist grouping" he now speaks of. The personal conduct of Tito and his fellow bureaucrats, many of whom once lived the spartan life of guerrilla fighters, makes the revival of privilege in Yugoslavia all the more apparent. Tito's visit to Washington was preceded by a side trip to the obscenely lavish ceremonies at Peseopolis given by the fascist Shah of Iran. He also made news in the imperialist press this summer by living the "good life" aboard the yacht of Richard Burton.

But there have been signs of an opposition within Yugoslavia that identifies with the revolutionary socialist countries and is genuinely opposed to the bureaucrats and high-living managers. The youth and the working class, plagued with unemployment, national oppression, and other features of capitalist regeneration, are the real hope for a force that will oust the "class enemy" in Yugoslavia, not Tito, who long ago surrendered the cause.

New Orleans support for Cubans

Cubans defy State Dept. ban

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 28—The arrival of 22 Cubans to attend an international conference on sugarcane technology has electrified this Southern city. Denied visas to enter the U.S., the Cubans came anyway, touching down at the local airport in a Soviet-built plane to the consternation of the air traffic controllers and federal and local officials.

This bold and imaginative move of the Cubans aroused enthusiastic

support among those who were outraged at Washington's highhanded censorship of an "international" meeting, and the subsequent attempt by the FBI and immigration officials to isolate the Cubans. In a gesture of solidarity, there was a demonstration today outside the hotel where the Cubans were being held.

The demonstration, called by Concerned Groups in Solidarity with Cuba, a coalition including YAWF and the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, managed to get within

fifteen feet of where the Cubans were. They held banners which read "Government Hands Off an International Assembly" and "Solidarity with Cuba Against Yankee Imperialism." They had also demonstrated the previous day but the police prevented them from getting close to the hotel.

Wynn Murrell of Youth Against War & Fascism told reporters that, in addition to the fact that Cuba is the world's largest sugar producer and thus has the most vital interest

in such a conference, it is absolutely clear that the Cubans came to share ideas and thus it is a violation of everyone's rights to lock them up. She also pointed out that while freedom fighters like the Cubans are prevented from entering the U.S., racists and fascists from all over the world have unrestricted access to every part of the country.

Terrified by the political implications of this tremendous act of solidarity, the authorities quickly moved the Cubans on to an isolated naval air station. A State Department spokesman in Washington stated after the Cubans were moved: "People seem to have forgotten that these people are in the custody of immigration officials."

No, it isn't that. It's that the people are beginning to realize that the Cubans are their friends and the U.S. government is their enemy.

— GIs battle war, racism

(Continued from page 1)

a desire not to go," then backtracked and said that there had been no refusal of orders but only a "small misunderstanding." He told the press "no further action was taken," then hurriedly abandoned Fire Support Base Pace and ordered the soldiers "investigated."

The brass has become very panicky about increasing GI resistance in Vietnam. Recently the Commanding General in Vietnam, Cretin Abrams, issued a directive to all field commanders to be on guard against the activities of the American Servicemen's Union in South Vietnam. Part of Abrams' directive read, "The casual observer might label the Bond (ASU national newspaper) a 'gripe sheet' but even a superficial analysis will dispel this inaccuracy. The real purpose of the newspaper is to foster unrest, encourage active or passive dissent, polarize and create distrust between the careerist and the young enlisted man and to replace honorable service with apathy or outward dissent."

In California at the Alameda Naval station on October 11 (the same day the GIs refused the order at Fire Support Base Pace), a demonstration was held to support 300 sailors aboard the aircraft carrier USS Coral Sea who had signed a petition demanding that the ship not sail to Vietnam as scheduled on November 11. Part of the petition read, "The Coral Sea is scheduled for Vietnam in November. This does not have to be a fact. The ship can be prevented from taking an active part in the conflict if we, the majority, voice our opinion that we do not believe in the Vietnam war...."

Less than two weeks previously four enlisted sailors had walked off another aircraft carrier bound for Vietnam from San Diego, the USS Constellation. They took public sanctuary in the town and refused to have anything more to do with the war. Soon they were joined by a fifth sailor. By the time the Constellation left port, nine sailors had openly gone AWOL. All nine were arrested together and flown to the ship for court-martial at sea.

On September 25, at about the same time the sailors began to walk off the USS Constellation, fourteen armed Black GIs barricaded themselves in a bunker against their racist officers in an isolated base in Vietnam called Whiskey Mountain

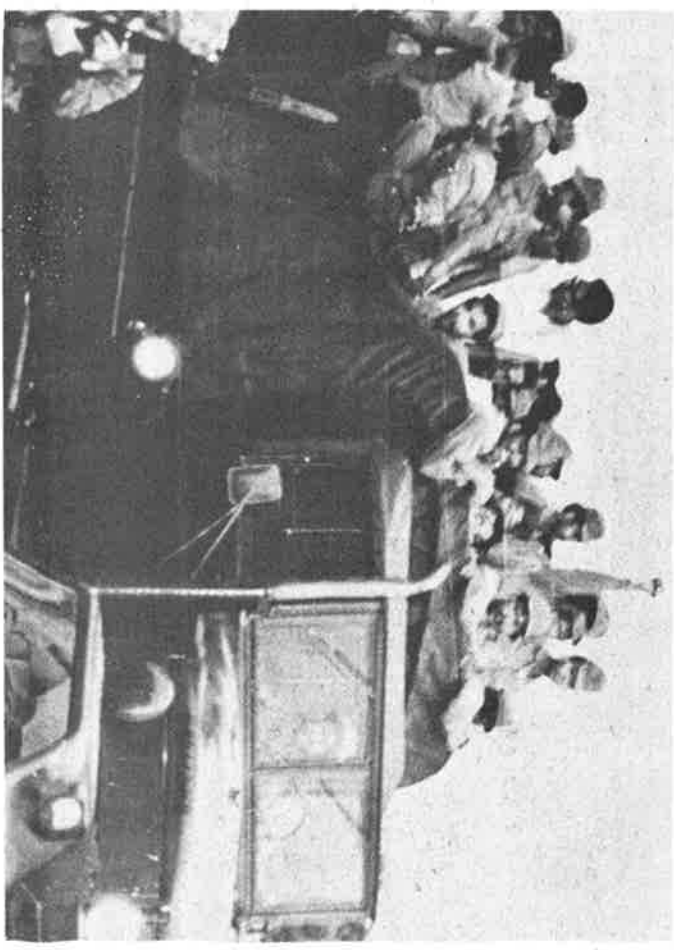
about 100 miles northeast of Saigon. The rebellion was crushed and after the men were held for a week on mutiny charges, Military Police were flown in by Chinook helicopters to take the soldiers in chains to the Long Binh Stockade. The mutiny charges have been dropped, and Lt. Col. John S. Egbert, commander of the 35th Engineering Group of which the men were part, has refused comment.

The rebellion in the armed forces is not confined to the war or to the Army and Navy alone. There has been tremendous unrest by Black airmen, marines, and even guard enlisted men caused by the military's blatant racism. Protests against racism are snowballing at the large Army garrisons in West Germany also. When over 50 Black GIs stationed in Darmstadt protested the arrest of Spec/4 Larry Dixon, who had been taken into custody after being beaten by white racists, they were all arrested on orders of a white lieutenant colonel. He had an impromptu concentration camp set up and the men spent the night out of doors surrounded by barbed wire.

The next morning he ordered 52 of the Black soldiers court-martialed. The Darmstadt 52, as they came to be called, contacted lawyers and all pleaded not guilty. They also sent a delegation to Paris and contacted the Provisional Revolutionary Government of Vietnam at the peace talks. A few days ago the brass dropped all charges, thus virtually admitting that the whole thing had been a racist frame-up.

Outbreaks continue unabated in the military stockades where GIs are held under the most inhuman conditions. On October 27, prisoners in the Ft. Gordon Stockade learned that a Black GI prisoner was being denied emergency leave. Other inmates seized a cell block in protest and threatened to burn it down unless the man got his leave in half an hour. When half an hour had lapsed with no positive action taken by the brass, the men burned it to the ground.

What do all these mutinies, fraggings, petition campaigns, stockade rebellions, AWOLs, and refusals to obey orders mean? Has the imperialist armed forces completely fallen apart? Not yet. A better characterization would be to say that the military machine is beginning to crumble around the



Black GIs arrested for fighting brass racism in Darmstadt, Germany. edges, much the way a myriad of other institutions that have propped up U.S. capitalism for many decades are crumbling.

The military, of course, does play a special role, as it is the core of the state apparatus, which itself is in essence nothing but organized violence. The ruling class knows very well that in the final showdown of the class war they will be naked without a disciplined and obedient

armed forces, and their hearts must pound with dismay as they see the rebellious winds sweeping through America finding a reflection in the military itself. For the truth is that enlisted men not only fail to show "proper" respect for their officers, but in fact hate their guts and increasingly show it these days.

As General Westmoreland said last week, "Our most perplexing problems are human."

Iran terror continues

OCTOBER 25—Reports from inside Iran reveal that the Shah's recent festivities celebrating his so-called "2500 years of Iranian monarchy" actually was launched on a wave of terror. Over 4,000 persons were arrested by the Shah's police and army in the month preceding the "festival of vultures," as the Shah attempted to strangle criticism of his U.S.-backed dictatorial rule. The whereabouts of many of those arrested is still not known.

In another development of mounting fascist oppression in Iran, the Shah's Military Tribunal has handed down death sentences to five Iranian patriots, one other patriot having been given an unknown sentence.

According to the Iranian Students Association, the military prosecutor is also asking the death sentence for 37 other political prisoners. Their situation is reported to be especially critical as the Shah's usual practice is to "try" political prisoners in secret military tribunals and announce their execu-

tions afterward. This has been the official policy in Iran since the CIA coup of 1953 overthrew the republican government and restored the Shah to power.

The World Confederation of Iranian Students, of which the Iranian Students Association in the U.S. is a member, has demanded an immediate stop to the inhuman behavior of the Shah's regime. The students demand an open trial based on the human rights provision of the U.N. Charter, the presence of an international observer at the trials, and acknowledgement by the Shah's regime of the fate of all 37 political prisoners.

"Hereby we appeal to all democratic minded people of the United States," said the Iranian Students Association, "to make their objections known to these inhuman acts."

SEND TELEGRAMS to:

The Office of
Prime Minister Hoveida
Teheran, Iran

Editorial comment

People's China and the UN

by NAOMI COHEN

The 20-year-old China debate in the United Nations came to a sudden end on October 25 with a resounding victory for the People's Republic of China. When the votes were tallied, an unprecedented demonstration of joy by the sponsors and supporters of the Albanian resolution broke out. Every progressive-minded person, and needless to say, every revolutionary, must have watched that scene with the same sense of victory. It marked the end of 20 years of efforts by U.S. imperialism to isolate and destroy the revolution in China.

The celebration of China's victory was also clearly an anti-imperialist demonstration—as Washington immediately recognized. An angry protest from President Nixon was quick to characterize the outburst as offensive and undignified, a "shocking demonstration" of "undisguised glee" and "personal animosity" toward American policy.

The vote of the General Assembly was a major setback for U.S. imperialism and a striking reflection of the decline of U.S. monopoly capital internationally. Not only had the socialist and newly independent, anti-imperialist countries voted against the U.S. phony "two Chinas" resolution, but Washington's most powerful allies (with the single exception of Japan) deserted the U.S. cause like rats from a sinking ship. Britain, Belgium, Canada, France, Israel, Italy, Portugal, and Turkey, to name only a few, voted to seat People's China and throw the Chiang clique out. The bankrupt U.S. policy unceremoniously collapsed.

END OF AN IMPERIALIST ERA

This setback for the bankers on Wall Street and their faithful representatives in Washington confirms what Sam Marcy wrote in this newspaper in the July 13, 1971 issue. Analyzing the significance of the publication of the Pentagon Papers, the chairman of Workers World Party concluded, "It is the end of an epoch for the U.S. ruling class. That phase of American history which began with the termination of the Second World War and saw aggressive American finance capital reach the pinnacle of its power on the world arena, has forever vanished.... All of this flows from the catastrophic defeat handed to U.S. imperialism by the Vietnamese people, and by the ever deeper and wider opposition to the war here at home."

In the same article, (written before the imposition of the 10 percent surcharge), Marcy predicted the emergence of sharper and sharper conflicts between imperialist rivals, ending in unbridled trade wars. The Nixon Administration, he wrote, "is seeking to unload the economic burden of the mad adventure in Vietnam, not only on the backs of the American working class and poor people generally, but also on its 'free world' allies."

Herein lies the fundamental significance of the rebuttal handed the U.S. by her imperialist "allies" at the UN. Their angry anti-U.S. vote reflected a growing attempt, particularly in Europe, to resist U.S. threats to force them to devalue their money and a protest against protectionist trade policies (such as the 10 percent surcharge levied by Nixon last August). Only the most direct dependents of Wall Street's "generosity" wound up on the U.S. side. Even U.S.-sponsored puppet governments like those in Greece, Thailand, Indonesia, Jordan, and Argentina thought it the better part of wisdom to straddle the fence—and abstained.

Washington's new aggressive economic policy, coupled with Nixon's stunning announcement of plans to visit China, have sent the imperialist allies scrambling to protect their own economies and make their own accommodations with Peking.

HISTORICAL ROLE OF THE UN

During the past decades when the U.S. ruling class was so desperately trying to keep China out of the UN, it was the duty of all who defended her to demand China's right to be represented

there. Now that battle has been won, whether China's admission will change the character or historical role of the United Nations cannot be predicted. Certainly the UN can be used as a forum for revolutionary ideas—as Fidel Castro did so effectively when Cuba entered in 1960—but one need only examine the UN's history to see its infamous role in deeds, as an instrument of U.S. imperialism and an agent for counterrevolution.

The list of UN crimes against liberation struggles around the world is long—notwithstanding the presence of many socialist and anti-imperialist countries. Heading the list are the U.S.-inspired and UN-sanctioned war against the Korean people, the invasion of the Congo (with the ensuing murder of Patrice Lumumba), and the partition of Palestine, which resulted in the expulsion of over one million people from their homeland.

Equally damning is the UN's failure to even consider U.S. aggression and genocide in Vietnam after ten years of war. The UN has also turned its back on the slaughter of Palestinian guerrillas in Jordan, the U.S. invasion of the Dominican Republic in 1965, the CIA-backed Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in 1961, and the U.S.-financed slaughter of about 500,000 Indonesians in the 1965 rightwing coup.

As recently as this September, the UN ratified the fascist dictatorship in Indonesia, and its foul massacre, by electing Foreign Minister Malik to the post of President of the UN General Assembly with a nearly unanimous vote.

The attitude of revolutionaries toward such an organization is best exemplified by Lenin's characterization of the League of Nations (the UN's predecessor) as a den of thieves, an instrument of imperialist bandits whose sole purpose was to crush the revolutionary struggles of the world's peoples and to prepare for future imperialist wars. The infamous record of the UN has shown that it is no different from the League.

WW CALLED FOR AN ANTI-IMPERIALIST UN

In September of 1960, during the Congo crisis when world attention was riveted on the debate at the United Nations, this newspaper stated the main task for revolutionaries was to draw a clear dividing line between the imperialist and anti-imperialist forces in the UN. An article in the September 16, 1960 issue of WORKERS WORLD, headlined "In Place of the UN," proposed a resolution to be submitted to the UN that demanded, among other things, an end to colonialism and U.S. aggression against Cuba, denounced the invasion of the Congo, and called for China's seating in the UN.

"If such a resolution is framed," we wrote at that time, "it will clearly isolate the imperialist powers. And if the imperialist powers defeat or sabotage such a resolution, then it would be proper to organize into a bloc all those who voted for the resolution and so to constitute a new organization—an ANTI-IMPERIALIST UNITED

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NATIONS. Such a body would be the decisive section of humanity and have the sympathy and support of most of the world."

It is still true that the socialist and anti-imperialist countries need a federation of their own, to speak in the name of the workers and oppressed and defend their interests against imperialism. Despite the fact that the U.S. ruling class is suffering a decline both internationally and at home, the workers and oppressed are at a disadvantage because they have no international organization of their own. Imperialism can suffer many blows, even defeats, and still retrench, consolidate, and reorganize on a new basis if it is not opposed by a strong, worldwide working class organization.

It is an irony of history that today the capitalist class has a world organization and the workers do not. The whole idea of internationalism originated with communists, Karl Marx and Frederick Engels in particular. In 1864 they founded the First International to unite the struggles of working people of all countries. In 1919, after the collapse of the Second International, Lenin and the Bolsheviks founded the Third or Communist International, again to fight for proletarian revolution and national liberation on a world scale.

PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE OR WORLD REVOLUTION?

Certainly the seating of People's China is a world historic event and a victory for all the workers and oppressed. But it only sows illusions to say, as does the organ of the revisionist CPUSA, the Daily World, that the vote had "delivered the world organization from more than two decades of infamy imposed upon it by the counter-revolutionary policies of U.S. imperialism." (This rings particularly hollow since the Daily World has falsely characterized People's China in the past as a military dictatorship.) To say this is to create the impression that the UN is really a people's organization somehow gone astray.

So glowingly does the Daily World editorial speak of the UN that it predicts the vote "will turn the world organization from its path of declining authority and prestige as an arm of the U.S. State Department and head it in the direction for which it was founded—the direction of establishing and maintaining peace and of promoting the security and social progress of mankind."

Did U.S. and British imperialism, with the unfortunate acquiescence of the USSR, engineer the UN after World War II to establish "peace and security"? The whole violent history of the UN has demonstrated that this idea is just another example of the dangerously false concept of peaceful coexistence promoted by the Soviet leadership and adopted by the reformist CPs around the world. The world's oppressed and working people are not interested in "peace and security" under imperialist rule. Rather, they need a revolutionary reconstitution in the entire capitalist world.

Hailing the UN as if it were suddenly a united front against imperialism can only foster illusions of peace on the basis of class collaboration at a time when the workers and oppressed need to sharpen the class struggle to win their liberation.

The UN, like its predecessor the League of Nations, is still composed of mainly bourgeois and imperialist nations despite the presence of the People's Republic of China, the USSR, and other socialist countries. The purpose of the bourgeoisie and imperialists generally is to utilize the UN in order to divert and sabotage, wherever possible, the liberation struggles of the oppressed peoples and the class struggles of the workers of the world. The UN's slogan of "peace, security, and peaceful coexistence" on the basis of the status quo is a medium for stifling the socialist revolution everywhere.

The workers and oppressed need proletarian internationalism above all. This is what must not be forgotten.

The Knapp Commission hearings Cleaning up corruption?

Not exactly...

by BOB MCCUBBIN

When events such as the Attica uprising and massacre unfold, events which offer basic lessons about the real nature of U.S. society, it can be seen, time and time again, that the truths they call attention to are exactly the opposite of what the people have been taught to believe. For example, it is crystal clear to anyone who bothered to examine the situation that it was the prisoners at Attica who upheld justice, fair play, and decency. The guards and those, like Rockefeller, who control them, clearly demonstrated their deceit, cowardice and murderous natures.

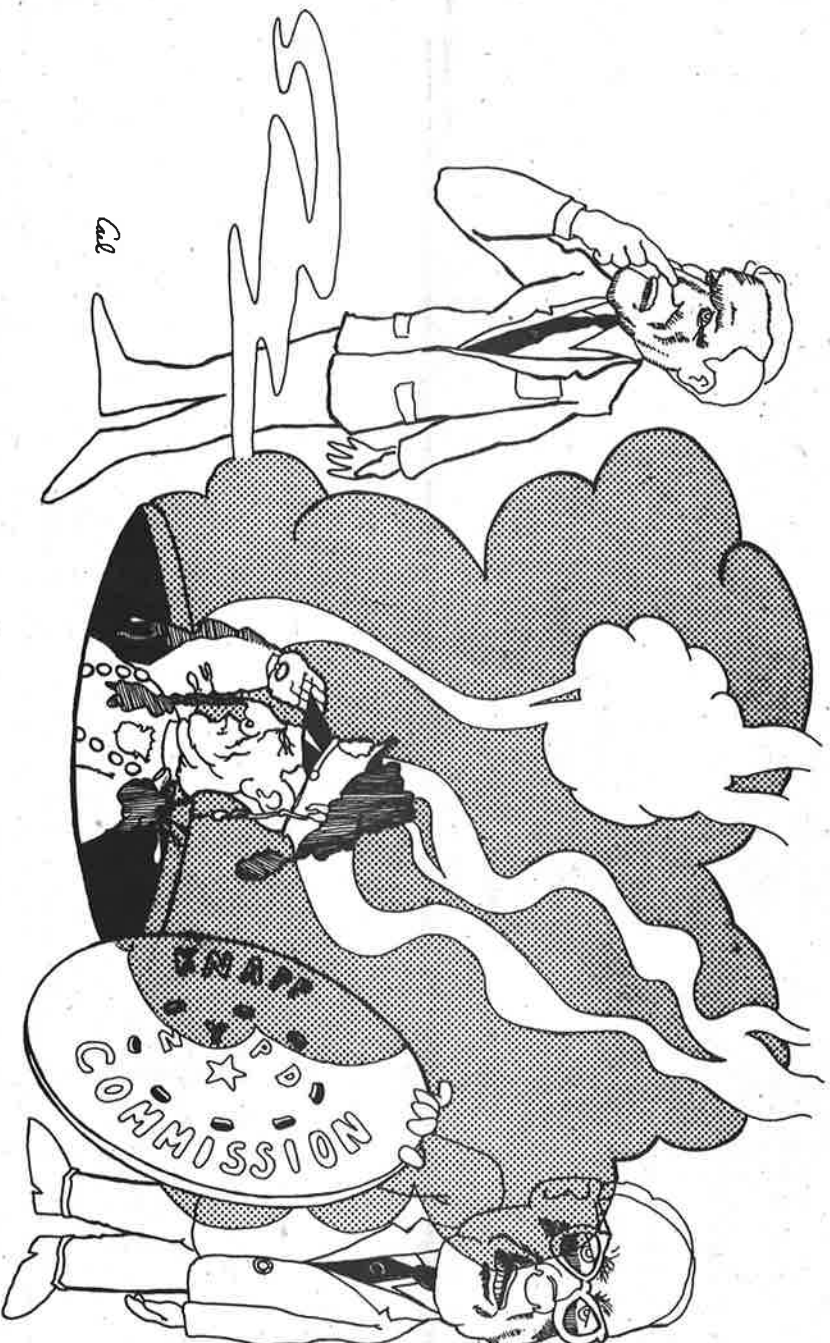
The New York City Knapp Commission hearings have exposed another institution to the glaring light of day: the police. Everyone is taught from an early age that the police exist to protect the people. Police, it is said, are particularly fond of children, and where is the cop who hasn't gone out of his way to help an elderly woman across the street? These

guardians of justice and protectors of the weak are engaged in a constant battle against crime and anti-social behavior. So the people are told.

The testimony of several policemen before the Knapp Commission glaringly contradicts this view. William R. Phillips, a cop who was caught arranging protection for a prostitution operation on the East Side, agreed to work for the Knapp Commission to get himself off the hook. He has testified that every plainclothes cop he knew in the city is "on the take." Weekly and monthly "protection" payoffs are collected by virtually all the cops at every level from both legal businesses and illegal rackets throughout the city. When arrests are made, part of the reward for the police is the booty they get to keep: money, drugs, and stolen goods.

COPS ARE DOPE PUSHERS

The payoffs, the dope dealing, the protection rackets and traffic in stolen goods, these and many criminal activities were corroborated by other cop witnesses and by tape recorded con-



Wilmington longshoremen

A strong link in coastal dock strike

—Ray Cecil, Local 1694 I.L.A.

WILMINGTON, Dela.— When the New York locals of the International Longshoremen's Association were forced to go out on strike to protect the gains made in their 1968 contract, locals all along the Atlantic coast went out in solidarity with their union brothers in New York. We knew that if the shippers got away with what they were trying to do in New York, it wouldn't be too long before they would begin the same attacks against the rest of us.

The strike is different from past ones. Previously, perishables were unloaded even while the strike was in progress. Some companies didn't think we were serious when the I.L.A. said we weren't going to unload perishable cargo. The Del Monte company brought \$200,000 worth of bananas into Philadelphia. When Philly dock workers refused to unload the bananas, the company ordered the ship thirty miles south

to the port of Wilmington.

Wilmington is a small port with a small local (1694) and the company thought they could intimidate us. For months they have dangled before the local the prospect of a big, new warehouse with increased shipping orders. But the workers would not budge. The company went to court and got an injunction ordering the union not to interfere with the unloading of the bananas, but NOT preventing us from picketing. For two days Black and white workers walked the picket line while waiting trucks remained empty. Not one scab even bothered to show up, let alone try to unload the ship.

While on the picket line, one worker said, "I don't care how much money the company loses, let all the bananas rot." To which another worker responded, "Yeah, let all the fruits of the big monopolies rot." The company quickly learned by our determination and ordered the ship to sail unloaded. At last report it was headed for Tampa.

versations. The picture that emerges is vastly different from the one painted by the daily mass media propaganda. It's simply not a case of a few "bad" cops. What the Knapp Commission testimony makes clear above all is that the police as a whole are active, organized participants in and protectors of the very criminal activities they are supposed to be fighting. It is the scum in blue who promote and abet, on a daily basis, narcotics traffic, prostitution, gambling, and other rackets.

These revelations are certainly a devastating indictment and even on the basis of what has been revealed (the investigators have admitted that they're not telling all) it is clear that the New York City Police Department is rotten through and through. No patchwork quilt of reform could possibly remedy this condition within the existing social order. Yet the Knapp Commission and Mayor Lindsay are pressing for a very different interpretation. Whitman Knapp, the Wall Street banker who heads the Commission, said in an interview last week that he had not lost confidence in the police. "Corrupt or not, the police respond to duty." And Lindsay has indicated that he intends to use the findings "...as the basis for a major campaign to build public confidence in the Police Department and the integrity of our law enforcement processes."

Thus, according to the way that Lindsay and his class see it, the problem is to clean up the image of the police a little and reduce corruption to certain limits where it won't interfere so much with the other function of the police: protecting the interests of the bankers and big businessmen. Unlike the rest of us, the ruling class by and large accepts the idea that graft and corruption are an acceptable part of police activity. But this lucrative sideline cannot be allowed to interfere with the principal reason for the existence of the police: protecting the rich and their property and keeping the workers and oppressed people "in their place."

POLICE PART OF THE STATE

Another problem that the rulers have with the police, from time to time, involves the fact that the police sometimes forget that they owe their existence to the capitalist class. They, like the U.S. military establishment, tend to get overly involved with their own "pursuits" and this sometimes cripples their effectiveness in serving their masters. The Knapp Commission is a reminder that although the police carry the guns, it is the capitalist class which wields the fundamental economic power and therefore calls the shots.

At least one prominent member of the commission has a background steeped in ruling class politics. Cyrus Vance, posing as a fearless crime buster, was Secretary of the Army under Kennedy and then Johnson's Deputy Secretary of Defense. This means he personally prepared and ratified the most ferocious period of the war against the Vietnamese people, one of the most criminal acts in the history of U.S. foreign policy.

His responsibility for mass murder makes Calley look like a flea. A man with such a background is not motivated by any idealistic feelings for his fellow humans, but by the "greater good" of the ruling class.

So the Knapp Commission really represents the interests of the ruling class as a whole. Lindsay may use it in his effort to gain the Presidency but this only proves that the Commission has the backing of a major section of the billionaire class. The Commission has no intention of really doing away with corruption any more than the many previous investigations, begun before the turn of the century, had. And the hysteria against the Commission is coming strictly from the ultra right-wing, those neo-Nazi elements whose connections inside the police forces are strong and direct.

Friedrich Engels explained it very well a long time ago. He showed that the capitalist state may be opposed to individual corruption in a general sort of way. It is itself, however, the organized apparatus for the systematic robbery and murder of the oppressed. No characterization of the New York City police (or any other "law enforcement" organization in the U.S.) could be more fitting and nothing could be truer than the fact that, in their relations with the workers and oppressed, they represent nothing but the brute force, criminality, and viciousness of the capitalist state.

Women show the way in fight against Ma Bell

NEW YORK, October 26—Between 400 and 500 phone workers, wives, their children and friends picketed along the entire block at 195 Broadway, the headquarters of American Telephone and Telegraph, today. A busload of wives of Local 1108 from Suffolk County came to join in solidarity with the chants of "Ma Bell—Go to hell!" and "Scab, scab, scab," as men in business suits skittishly entered the building's revolving doors.

Homemade picket signs reading "New York Telephone tortures mothers and children" and "Suffolk County housewives against New York Telephone" told the story of why the women were there. One sign, "Yes, Virginia, Ma Bell says there is no Santa Claus," reflected the women's preparations for an extended strike. It was a dramatic statement of support by the workers' wives and children for the union's 3-1/2 month long strike.

Most of the organizing for the demonstration was due to the efforts of two women, Dorothy and Joanne. Solidly supporting the union's struggle against the world's largest monopoly, they decided to actively join the fight when negotiations became bogged down due to the company's refusal to bargain in good faith and because there was no press coverage of the strike. The two women have been walking the bricks for several weeks now, marching at different central offices around the city.

At the demonstration today, Dorothy and Joanne surrounded a manhole and pasted "scab" labels on those within—with the enthusiastic support of other union workers, bus, cab and truck drivers. From a sound truck looming over the picket line, Dorothy talked about the need

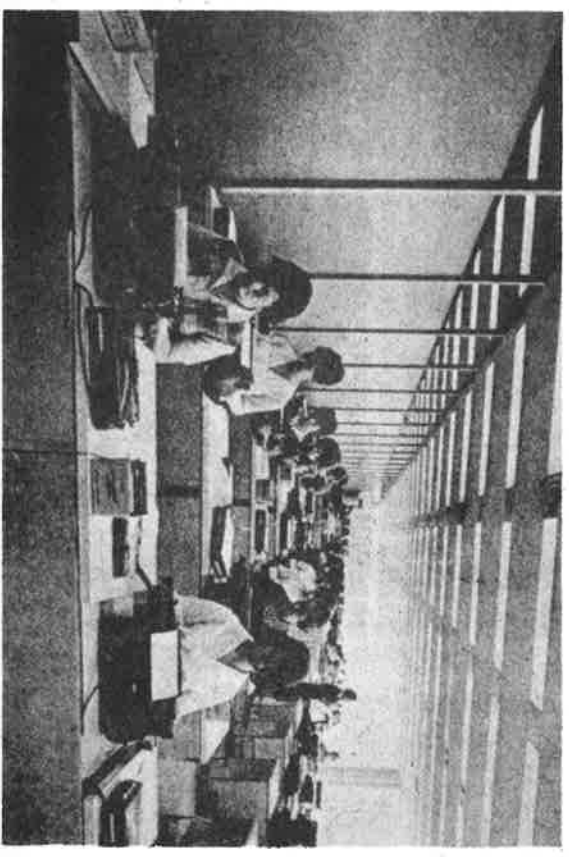
for "visibility" to let people in the city and the state know that a strike is going on. She said that she wanted everyone to know that the housewives support the union's struggle and are in total agreement with the workers' demands on AT&T. What is behind that statement is that strikers' fami-

lies have been living on food stamps and welfare checks, and without medical coverage, which AT&T cancelled at the onset of the strike. Dorothy wanted everyone to know, especially the New York Telephone bosses, that the families will continue to sacrifice until the strike is won. After the union leaders spoke, Joanne closed the rally with the demand that the AT&T negotiators begin to treat the workers as equals and bargain seriously. In the planning stage, also, is another demonstration of wives of telephone workers in Suffolk County, with women coming this time from New York City. That's the kind of solidarity that makes the bosses tremble.

**Working Women—
Our Stories and Struggles**
a pamphlet
prepared by
Women of the
Center for
United Labor Action

167 West 21st Street
New York, New York 10011

25¢



Nixon's wage freeze boards

by SHIRLEY JOLLS

Who's who on the pay board

The Pay-Price Boards just set up by the Nixon administration have been presented as impartial panels that will see that justice is done for all in Phase II. But these boards and the coordinating agency, the Cost of Living Council, aren't impartial at all—they are, in fact, a composite super-boss, put together like a big-business Frankenstein which will try to squeeze more and more profits out of the American workers. Just take a look at the "credentials" of the Pay and Price Board members.

Price Board Chairman Charles Jackson Grayson, Jr. was, until his appointment, the dean of the Business School of Southern Methodist University. That is, he was in charge of training the bosses' sons and daughters to be bigger and better bosses. For two years in the early fifties, Grayson was a special agent in the FBI. And he's the son of a plantation owner—Grayson still manages the C.J. Grayson Plantation in Fort Necessity, Louisiana.

Backing up Grayson on the Price panel are a professor of economics and dean of business at the University of Florida who is also a consultant to the Justice Department's antitrust division, Robert F. Lanzilotti (The antitrust division is known more for protecting big business than for really trust-busting); and a former head of Dunn & Bradstreet, J. Wilson Newman. Also on the panel is a former manager of the huge international accounting firm, Haskins and Sells, John W. Queenan. This array of open representatives of business is not likely to cut into corporate profits by rolling back inflationary prices.

The Pay Board is supposed to have three sections: business, labor, and public. The "business" members' qualifications read like an application for a job as union-buster. Robert C. Bassett runs two publishing outfits and is a trustee of the National Small Business Association. Benjamin F. Biagini is president of the Southern Pacific Company and director of the Association of American Railroads. He's described as a "hard-driving, tight-fisted executive."

Virgil B. Day is the top labor negotiator for General Electric and a director of the Chamber of Commerce. Day is well known for his urging of a "tough stance in labor negotiations." Leonard F. McCollum is Board Chairman of Continental Oil and a director of Morgan Guaranty. Rocco C. Siciliano heads a big insurance holding company and was Under Secretary of Commerce until six months ago. He's a former president of the Pacific Maritime Association of big ship companies and a specialist in their bargaining with the dock workers.

Pay Board Chairman George Hugo Boldt is a judge in the Seattle U.S. District Court. He won the admiration of the liberals for his handling of the Seattle Seven frame-up trial, which they thought exposed less of the real nature of the courts than the Chicago Conspiracy trial under the infamous Judge Hoffman. Boldt's more important qualifications are, however, his long experience in judging inter-business cases. He's handled hundreds of price-fixing cases, dismissed an anti-trust suit against two Idaho banks, and it was Boldt who in 1959 sentenced Teamster head Dave Beck to five years in prison for income-tax

THE "PUBLIC" REPRESENTATIVES

Then there are those Pay Board panelists who are supposed to represent the "public sector." There's William Caples, President of Kenyon College and also President of the multimillion-dollar Inland Steel Products Company, who was also a director and Vice-president of Inland Steel Company. Kermit Gordon comes from the Brookings Institute, but his real credentials are his service on two past wage control commissions, the Office of Price Administration during World War II and the Office of Price Stabilization during the Korean War. Dr. Neil H. Jacoby is a leading conservative economist from UCLA's Business School, but the real reason he was selected is that he is a director and major stockholder of one of the world's largest monopolies, the Occidental Petroleum Corporation. The final "public" member, Arnold S. Weber, left his appointment as Director of the Cost of Living Council to take his seat on the Pay Board, and before that was deputy director of the Office of Management and Assistant Secretary of Labor for Manpower.

These people don't represent the "public," of course, because there is no one public. Instead there are on the one hand workers, employed and unemployed, exploited and super-exploited; and on the other hand there are the bosses and the owners of the factories and the land.

And no amount of talk about "public" members and the qualifications of Professor This or Professor That can hide the fact that the Pay-Price Boards are an arm of the big corporations and banks, set up in an attempt to gloss over the Phase II crack-down on the American workers.

Prisoners Solidarity Committee

NEWSLETTER No. 3

58 West 25 St. NYC 10010

Sharean of
Auburn 6
describes
Attica terror

see centerfold

Why we say . . .

Tear the prisons down!

by TOM SOTO

The following article was written by Tom Soto of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee. Tom was in Attica during the rebellion as a representative of the PSC at the prisoners' request. Since that time he has written and spoken extensively on the events at Attica (see PSC newsletters 1 and 2). The article below expresses the position of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee on prisons, political prisoners and the whole question of the U.S. system of concentration camps for the poor and oppressed.

Prisons are concentration camps for the workers and oppressed peoples. What does this mean? And how do we draw such a conclusion?

First of all, let us investigate the class and national character of the prisons. It is common knowledge that 99 percent of all those incarcerated are poor, working class people; less than 1 percent are rich. Second, 85 percent of all the prisoners in american jails are non-white peoples—Black, Puerto Rican, Chicano, etc. Why is there such a stupendous imbalance with respect to the racial (national) composition of the prisons? This is so because within the confines of what are called the "United States" there does not exist "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all," but there exist several nations.

It is an objective deductible fact that there exists within the U.S. a privileged white oppressor nation dominated by the rich capitalist ruling class through its exclusive organization, the state apparatus (federal, state, and city governments). In addition, there are several oppressed nations and national minorities—the Black nation, the Chicano nation, the Puerto Rican nation, and others.

These oppressed nations in actuality are internal colonies of the imperialist system which also super-exploits the South Vietnamese, the Dominican, the Congo Kinshasan peoples and generally the people of Asia, Africa, and Latin America who are under the yoke of imperialism. Of course the workers within the imperialist white nation are also exploited and oppressed, but not with the same degree of intensity, and certainly the people of the white community are not faced with fascist, racist terror as a normal way of life.

In addition, it would be objectively incorrect to conclude that every white person oppresses every non-white person. What objective conditions show is that the workers of all nationalities, which include the oppressed peoples (oppressed nations), are all exploited by the banks, corporations, bosses, landlords, and factory farms, that is, the capitalist ruling class. The instrument or organization which they use to enforce and legalize their exploitation of the poor is the government.

At their disposal they have a fascist, frame-up, kangaroo court system and bodies of armed men (the police and military) to terrorize and eliminate those who would oppose their "law and order." Therefore, when we analyze the nature and character of the prisons, we must first take note of whose prisons they are.

Are they the prisons of the workers? Are they the prisons of the oppressed peoples? Certainly not! They are the prisons of the rich, the capitalist class.

We live under an economic system that from its inception, two hundred years ago, has never provided full and equal employment! There has always been and will always be under this present system (capitalism) large masses of people with no means of livelihood.

The reason for this is that in order for the bosses to maintain and increase their level of profit, which they make from exploiting the working people, they must keep the wages of the workers as low as possible.



(Continued on PSC-3)



Sharaan of Ar

Following is an interview with Shaarean Justice Tel-staar hiem. Shaarean is one of the Auburn 6, a group of six Black prisoners who were framed up after the rebellion at Auburn prison last November 4. After spending several months in the special housing unit at Auburn and in segregation, Shaarean was transferred to Attica and was there during the uprising in September. He was recently bailed out by the Prisoners Solidarity Committee after having spent five years in New York's concentration camp system.

PSC: When did you first become aware of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee?

SHAREAN: The second time I went to court was the first time I found out about the Prisoners Solidarity Committee. They were demonstrating outside of the courtroom. When they (the guards) brought us around in a van, I saw the red banners brought us around in a van, I saw the red banners — it was totally beautiful. It just made me feel stronger. I felt like I was just obligated to support our supporters.

What really made it beautiful to me was how the comrades spoke out in court when the judge denied us due process of law. The PSC comrades would get up and tell the judge, "This is wrong; why don't you disqualify yourself," etc. I have never had an experience like that before. I figured I would go to court and be railroaded. But this really inspired me. It was so important to know the comrades were behind us in that remote area. (Auburn prison is in a small town in upstate New York-ed.)

PSC: You were brutally beaten and teargassed in Auburn after the PSC brought a busload of relatives to visit last April. Could you tell us about that?

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"We knew we were right"

Attica ex-inmate explains rebellion

The following is an extensive excerpt of an interview with Tom W., who was an inmate at Attica for almost two years. He is currently out on parole.

PSC: Attica is over 85 percent Black and Puerto Rican. Can you describe the conditions or racism they live under?

Tom: Look at some of the jobs inside the prison and look at the jobs up front where it's clean. Like clerk jobs, where you're around visitors, not just prisoners' relatives, where you'd be noticed. None of these jobs are given to Blacks; they're all for whites who have money, and own their own white shirts and pressed pants. People who can't afford their own clothing to look half-way presentable, are given the menial shop jobs. Ninety percent of the men working there are Black and Puerto Rican.

Everything in the yard is segregated, because the hacks want it that way. They want conflict among the inmates, to keep inmates at each other's throats, so they won't get together. But recently the inmates have been coming together, holding classes, finding out why they're in prison, and becoming politically conscious.

PSC: Could you explain how this consciousness is developing?

Tom: They're becoming aware of the way they're made to work in these mills, getting only a dime a day, while the state is making millions off their labor.

PSC: You were in the cell next to Sam Melville.

Samm was no alien! What was he then? Sam was a great guy. He was treated bad for his political thoughts and because of what he was in for. They tried to keep him segregated from everyone else, by putting him in keep-lock. They'd get him for refusing to work because his hands were crippled, but they wouldn't do anything for him. They'd lock him up for having books in his cell, even books that had gone through censors.

PSC: How did you and the other prisoners know about the Prisoners Solidarity Committee?

Tom: Sam had informed us of the PSC and of other

groups who were fighting outside for us, we were lucky one day to catch part of a program on the radio with members of the PSC. A great number of guys in the place heard it and that's all they talked about during lunch. Some of them couldn't believe it, they didn't know what it meant, so they'd

come and ask some of us. It wasn't long after that groups started forming.

In the yard we'd have educational. A couple of guys were teaching law. There was a food collective, where guys would put money together to get food. If someone got locked up, we'd protect him after he got locked up. We showed a lot of love for our brothers. We started our own library, of books guys had sent out for, so we didn't have to use the prison library.

PSC: How did the racist murder of George Jackson affect everybody?

When we found out that George Jackson was murdered, we knew that he died for fighting back—for no other reason. He was spotted out, just like Sam Melville, and got gunned down. He was fighting; he was right; and they knew he was right. When he was accused of killing this cop in the prison—the state had no case—the defendant had a good case, that the state knew—so they exterminated him—we knew that guards are paid off to murder prisoners that they want to get rid of.

We knew that George Jackson was murdered; we knew it for the simple reason that we lived in the same kind of environment he did. I know there's nobody who would take a chance of busting out—maybe sneak out on a truck or something but as far as trying to shoot your way out—there's no way to do it. The backs on the towers have machine guns. It was one big conspiracy to gun him down. There were deep feelings about this in Africa, among everybody—whites, Blacks, and Puerto Ricans. They wanted to hear the truth on the radio.

PSC: What action did the prisoners take around George Jackson's death?

Tom: We got together to show our support for what George Jackson was fighting for. We knew he was fighting for the freedom of all prisoners, justice in the courts, and the feelings were strong. We had a day that we selected in his memory, where we went into the mess hall and had a peaceful demonstration. Everyone was quiet, there was complete quiet, and they didn't pick up any food. About 95 percent of the group, from the whole prison population went down with us.

PSC: What led up to the rebellion at Attica?
Tom: Naturally, the prison conditions by themselves were enough to cause a war, if not a rebellion. We were in the process of going through the courts, with a petition and a manifesto of demands. Everything was turned

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Tom: Naturally, the prison conditions by themselves were enough to cause a war, if not a rebellion. We were in the process of going through the courts, with a petition and a manifesto of demands. Everything was turned

PSC demonstrating in Auburn snowstorm for prisoners.



down, and we weren't even accepted in these courts because of our backgrounds, etc. We knew we couldn't win, but we just kept fighting. A lot of our papers, etc., were being torn up and thrown away—they never got to their destinations. Letters to governors, assemblymen, and senators—weren't even leaving the joint—they were being thrown away.

One man who talked to a newspaper reporter was locked up in his cell for 30 days. This man was sentenced to life—and will probably spend the rest of his life in prison. He knows that he has to fight for change, because he has to live in that place. When work stoppages happened in the metal shop, they'd pick out 10 or 20 guys and ship them down to another place. The reason I think it happened now—an all out rebellion—was that the guys in there knew we were being backed—and we knew we were right.

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Auburn 6 reveals Attica terror

SHAREAN: On April 18, the pig came over to my cell and said I had a visitor. I got dressed and went down to see my two sisters. I told them that the pigs had only given us one hour and I didn't agree with that because I hadn't seen my sisters in quite a long time. So (when the time was up) I went out to speak to the lieutenant. I explained to him that I hadn't seen my sisters in years and that I would like a little more time. He said, Lewis (Sharean's slave name is Michael Lewis-ed.), we can't do anything about it. I told him I wasn't going to leave. He said, "Lewis, visiting hours are up."

So I said I wanted to say good-bye to my sisters. As I turned this lieutenant grabbed me around the neck and they had about 15 officers grab me and throw me on the ground. They put shackles on my ankles, a restraining belt and handcuffs and they began punching and kicking me. As this was going on they were saying, "Why don't you report this to the federal judge?" (The Auburn 6 were suing the guards for brutality in federal court-ed.) Then they carried me up to segregation; they maced me, punched me, and threw me in a cell. About two hours later they took me back to my regular cell. I told them I wasn't going to lock in until I saw the warden and got an explanation of why I wasn't able to have a decent visit with my sister."

TEARGASSED FOR 17 HOURS

They said, "Lewis, if you don't lock in we have ways of putting you in there." Then the sergeant opened up the gate in back of segregation and threw a tear gas grenade in. It exploded. I tried to get the first one he threw. The second one he threw I grabbed to throw down the

toilet, but it exploded in my face. The gas was so vicious I had to run into my cell to get away from the smoke. Then they threw a grenade through my ventilator so the tear gas was coming from both sides and there was no place I could go. I had a towel around my face but I could hardly breathe. I tried to holler out and ask the other brothers how they were, but I couldn't say anything. I laid there and laid there on the floor for 17 hours. I believe their intention was to kill me.

PSC: Would you describe what it was like in Attica during the rebellion?

SHAREAN: Well, I was taking a shower one day, it was September 9. All of a sudden, I heard the escape whistle blowing, so I figured somebody made a dash for liberation. As time went on, I found out that the inmates had seized the majority of the concentration camp. And I said "Right on!" to that! The pigs cut off the radio so that in segregation we couldn't get news of the rebellion. They just played continuous music.

On the morning of the 13th, I was watching out my window and saw about 200 state troopers going around the bend in back of segregation. They had shotguns across their chests and they were laughing and joking. I assumed they had already gotten the order to storm the prison. I guess they were just overjoyed at the opportunity to shoot the people down. About five minutes later, I heard a National Guard helicopter start warming up its motor outside the wall.

About five minutes later the helicopter left the ground and began to circle. Then I didn't see it any more. But I assumed it went down to D Block. Then I heard a lot of gunfire and I could hear very clearly another helicopter announcing, "Surrender with your hands over your head, you will not be harmed," over and over. (I heard later on that at that time they were just beating people to death while they were saying, "you will not be harmed.")

WITNESSED ATTICA BEATINGS

A little while after that, I heard that they were going to bring inmates up to segregation. The guys had to walk from D Block all the way over to the receiving center (which is segregation) in the nude. The pigs all grabbed their sticks and lined up on the stairwell leading up to segregation. I heard the first individual they brought up hollering and I heard a lot of sticks coming into contact with the body. I found it somewhat hard to control the impulses of my emotions.

I could hear the pigs downstairs say "run." Then the inmate had to run up the stairs with their hands behind their head, in the nude. And the police would start beating them. They would knock them down the stairs and the brothers would have to get up and go right through it again. I heard the pigs say, "Come on, nigger, get up there, get up there." It was intensifying. The pigs were totally savage. All that day I heard them bringing inmates up. "We got another one coming," they would yell and all line up. When

who might otherwise refuse.) In this way, the bosses keep the wages of all workers down, because they can always replace a worker who demands too much with a worker who will take much less because he or she is starving. What this in effect does is to pit one worker against another worker, dividing them, and further intensifying the exploitation of all workers, employed and unemployed.

The same tactic, to divide and conquer, is used by the bosses to divide the workers of the oppressor and the oppressed nations. The ruling capitalist class being white, hires proportionally more white workers than non-white workers. (Non-whites have double and triple the unemployment rate of whites.) In addition, the white workers are paid more than the non-white workers for the same jobs. This objectively has the effect of first, dividing the workers on the basis of nationality, and second, increasing the profits of the bosses by super-exploiting the workers

-Tear the prisons down

(Continued from PSC-1)

To do this, the capitalists deliberately create a large labor force of unemployed workers. There are millions of people available to work, who can't find jobs for the simple fact that there aren't any. Because of their extreme poverty, they will work for the lowest salaries when an opening finally turns up. (Through work-for-welfare programs, the state is now forcing workers to take sub-standard wages



SHAREAN JUSTICE TEL-STAR HIEM

they finally began to bring the inmates into the north side, where I was, I could see the brothers as they went past my cell.

I recognized the voices of a few comrades I knew hollering, "Stop, you're killing me." And the pig would say "You're not dead yet!" They would say, "Black is beautiful, especially when blood is running out of it!"

At this time they brought an inmate down whose hand was hanging off. He also had shot-gun pellets in his eye. He was laying on the floor of his cell; I could see blood dripping out of his cell next to mine. He told me he was shot but didn't want to go to the hospital. "They're gonna kill me on the way and say that I died from these wounds," I said, "You're losing a lot of blood, brother. Your best bet is to go to the hospital." He said, "I realize that brother, but I know they're gonna kill me on the way. I don't mind dying for the cause, man, but I don't want to die when I can't defend myself."

He finally agree to go. I called the pigs, but before they took him away I said, "Listen, I remember your face, your face, your face, I remember everybody's face here. This man is not critically wounded. He's not gonna die. I want you to get him to the hospital safely. I am a witness that the man is living and I get out in September-you know what I mean." I don't know what happened to the brother, but I listened to the radio and at that time I didn't hear that he had died.

THE STRUGGLE INTENSIFYING

PSC: How do you think the prisoners feel about the rebellion now?

SHAREAN: The brothers don't regret what happened. They regretted that a lot of comrades were assassinated, but they did not regret the education that the uprising gave the people on the outside. It showed the people how the fascist system is, what Rockefeller or any branch of the government would do in cases like this. I believe the people learned a whole lot from the Attica rebellion. And I sincerely believe that the Attica rebellion will definitely intensify the struggle in the concentration camps everywhere.

Finally, I'd just like to say, right on to the struggle. Freedom will be ours in the very near future. And I will be doing everything in my power to see to it.

Power to the people!

..... of the oppressed nations!

The masses of unemployed, who consist of the Black, Puerto Rican, Chicano, and poor white peoples, are forced because of their ongoing poverty to commit crimes of survival. We do not support or condone robbery, muggings, blackmail, fraud, prostitution, or any other anti-social acts, but we know that if every man and woman had an education and a job with pay sufficient to meet the material needs of food, clothing, and shelter, there would be no basis for crimes and all people could be productive members of society. Therefore, the bulk of those incarcerated in the jails of the capitalist class were forced to commit their so-called crimes. They are in effect prisoners of a political system which does not offer them any legal way to survive. That is why we say that all prisoners are political prisoners.

(Continued on PSC-4)



soners.

Help the PSC help the prisoners

Tel. 989-3932

The Prisoners Solidarity Committee is urgently in need of funds, both for our continued support of all prisoners and for the Relatives' Transportation Fund. Please send donations to: Prisoners Solidarity Committee, 58 West 25 St., NYC.

Anyone wishing to help in the work of the PSC should also contact us at the following chapters:

BUFFALO, NEW YORK
939 Main Street (716) 882-1112

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK
69 Rohr Street

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA
1024 Jackson Street

SYRACUSE, NEW YORK
120 Dell Street (315) 474-5551

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
P.O. Box 8875 (617) 661-0345

CLEVELAND, OHIO
Box 2576, East Cleveland (216) 231-8456

DETROIT, MICHIGAN
2515 Woodward (313) 962-4979

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN
150 E. Juneau Avenue (414) 273-8089

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE
P.O. Box 972 (302) 656-8451

What the PSC does

by JOHN DIAZ

After the Auburn Prison rebellion last November 4, many of the brothers who were being held in segregation as punishment for the rebellion there wrote scores of letters to a lot of different organizations asking for help in exposing the brutal, inhuman treatment they were receiving, and requesting support for the struggle they were waging against the fascist prison system. Youth Against War & Fascism was the only organization that responded to the brothers' cries for help. Recognizing the need for a special group to work around the question of prisons, we formed the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, which includes prisoners and their relatives and has branches in many cities around the country.

Since its formation, the PSC has helped a great many people in a lot of different ways, and continues to do so today. For example, we help with legal aid; we send packages to the prisoners whenever we can; through lawyers we stay in contact with those incarcerated in concentration camps throughout the country; we keep the brothers and sisters informed on what's happening on the outside; we send them literature whenever possible; we mobilize people to show support for them when they go to court; we organize protests and demonstrations against the brutal, repressive and oppressive penal system; we try to mobilize support for the demands they make and the rights they are supposed to have; we help them get jobs when they are released; we raise funds for bail; and we provide transportation so that their relatives can visit them.

Our activities began around the case of the Auburn 6. These six brothers were picked out and charged with being the leaders of the rebellion at Auburn Concentration Camp. The racist authori-

-Tear the prisons down

(Continued from PSC-3)

If the poor, by their material needs, are forced to commit "crimes" to survive, should they be tried by the same capitalist parasites who force them to commit "crimes" to begin with? Do the bosses have the right to put the workers on trial? Does the ruling capitalist class have the right to try the poor for rebelling against exploitation and injustice? Does the oppressor have the right to try the oppressed? Certainly not!!! Then what is the solution to the so-called problem of the prisons?

Is the solution to incarcerate the poor, throw them into concentration camps, to be beaten,

ties have been trying to use these brothers as examples of what they'll do to the other prisoners if they don't stay in their place. Two of these brothers recently became eligible for bail and thanks to the untiring efforts of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, Hassan and Sharean are now out on bail.

TRANSPORTATION FUND

Since last winter, when we mobilized hundreds of people to demonstrate, time after time, in Auburn, N.Y., for the prisoners, our activities have become known to prisoners throughout the state and in many parts of the country. And when the Attica uprising occurred, the prisoners requested that the PSC be there to speak in their behalf.

One of the most pressing problems for prisoners and their families is the problem of relatives getting to see their loved ones in the prisons. For this reason, the PSC has made transportation for relatives to various prisons one of its primary activities. Many relatives are not able to see their loved ones for months and sometimes years at a time because they are too poor to make the long trip.

The fact is that the ruling class in this country has deliberately built the so-called prisons (which are nothing more than concentration camps for the poor) far from the populated areas. This is done in order to isolate the struggling brothers and sisters, who are prisoners in this society because of circumstances forced upon them by the capitalist system of oppression and exploitation.

The Prisoners Solidarity Committee not only unconditionally supported the demands of the brothers in Auburn and Attica, but at the same time we raised money to charter buses to take relatives to see their loved ones. Immediately after the Attica massacre, when many relatives did not know if their people were dead or alive, the PSC took a busload of relatives to the prison. At times when we don't have enough money to charter a bus (which costs between \$450 and \$500), we use our own cars for transportation.

The problem of transportation for relatives is particularly pressing because all the brothers and sisters confined in these concentration camps are poor. Their families don't even have the money to supply them with proper legal aid, nor to send them packages, let alone visit them hundreds of miles away. And when they somehow do manage to visit, the people face the racist harassment of the prison officials, who make them wait hours before the prisoner is brought down—if he or she is brought down at all.

I have experienced all of these hassles myself because my father recently got out of prison after spending nine years of his life incarcerated. During those nine long years, I think I visited him

gassed, maced, forced to work at 25 cents a day, execute them as they did in Attica, Dade County, or San Quentin? Is the answer to put them in the box (solitary confinement), suspend their visiting privileges, raise their commissary prices (in those prisons where there are commissaries), transfer them to "institutions for the criminally insane" like Dannemora State Hospital, the worst of all concentration camps in New York State? The answer again is no!

There is only one solution, and that is to tear the prisons down, and free all the brothers and sisters from the hands of the greedy rich and their fascist stooges!! We say, the workers and oppressed people are the only ones who have the right and capability to truly rehabilitate the so-called criminals. The capitalist class, the oppressor nation has no right to try anyone. On the contrary, it is the working people who will ultimately try these parasites! If we were to take the position of other political tendencies, such as the so-called Communist Party, that only certain

less than eight times and, needless to say, it wasn't because I didn't want to. But I have also seen this terrible harassment of relatives on many trips organized by the PSC. Yet, in spite of all the hassles, the prison officials can't take away the happiness felt in a mother's heart to be able to see her son, or in a wife's heart to be able to see her husband, after not being able to see them for months, or sometimes years. It really made me feel good to see how happy the relatives are to be able to visit their loved ones.

Thanks to the many friends who have donated funds, the Prisoners Solidarity Committee has been able to take relatives to Attica, Auburn, Comstock, and Green Haven prisons. Another trip to Attica is now being planned for the first week in November. A chartered bus to Clinton is also being planned for some time late in November.

There are brothers and sisters incarcerated in the concentration camps who need help in so many ways. The Prisoners Solidarity Committee will try to aid them and their families in every way possible. As long as these so-called prisons exist, the PSC will be around to help the poor people incarcerated, and eventually the PSC will be instrumental in either tearing down these prisons, or using them to incarcerate the real criminals in this society.



Relatives of Auburn prisoners.

prisoners who are in jail solely for their political activities should be released, then in effect we would be saying that the Rockefeller's, the Kennedys, the DuPonts, the Mellons, and the rest of the capitalist class, have a right to incarcerate the poor for crimes of survival, and we would be legitimizing the dehumanization of the rest of the brothers and sisters.

We will not give anyone up to the capitalist class. We will never legitimize the ruthless oppression meted out to the poor in the concentration camps. The poor and oppressed everywhere are struggling to take control of their own destinies. They are challenging the most repressive institutions of this society, often from inside the walls of the hellholes called prisons. The PSC stands in solidarity with these brothers and sisters, fighting the same enemy and determined to win.

All prisoners are political prisoners!
Tear the prisons down!

Prelude to defeat for British imperialism

Irish struggle intensifies

by ROD COLBY

British troops have unleashed a fury of terror and murder on northern Ireland this month, killing six Irish men and women on the weekend of October 23-24 alone. Homes have been illegally broken into and ransacked, civilians, including women and children, shot down in the streets, while British prisons overflow with Irish who are daily subjected to brutal physical and psychological torture.

This recent intensification of Britain's centuries-old tyranny over Ireland is the result of an extraordinary conference held on September 28 at Chequers, the country estate of British Prime Minister Edward Heath. There, in the placid country-club atmosphere of rolling green hills and ice tinkling in glasses, Heath was joined by two other Prime Ministers, Brian Faulkner of Ulster and John Lynch of Ireland. The meeting, described as "very friendly," was a crucial attempt to chart a long-range strategy that would allow Britain to retain its stranglehold on its oldest colony, Ireland, and thereby prop up a crumbling British empire. The immediate target of such a strategy was obvious—the Irish population of Ulster and the militant Irish Republican Army (IRA).

The meeting was more than "very friendly." In the best tradition of vultures, it was obscene. As Reginald Maudling, British Home Secretary, described it, the key agreement at the Chequers Conference was to crush the IRA, first militarily, then politically. The political strategy, however, was more difficult to agree upon.

The British imperialists wanted to broaden the upper class base of the Ulster regime to also include Catholic capitalists and "laborites," like those of England's Labor Party. This, they hoped, would undercut the Catholic support for the IRA and split the revolutionary movement between civil rights reformers and revolutionaries who want to unite Ireland and free it from the yoke of London. As Maudling explained, the problem for British imperialists is to bring in some token "loyal" Catholic representation without alienating the rightwing Protestant elements who are the base of the Ulster regime and continued British domination.

Toward that end, both Heath and Faulkner wanted Dublin's Jack Lynch to use his influence

on the moderate Social Democratic and Labor Party, the "loyal opposition" of Catholic capitalists, petty capitalists, and labor bureaucrats in Ulster, to end the boycott of the Ulster Parliament that was begun to protest Faulkner's fascist policy of arbitrary imprisonment without trial. Lynch was more than happy to comply, urging talks between Faulkner and the Social Democrats "very, very quickly" before the IRA gains more popular support. As a sop to his constituency, Lynch went on record with a plea that the internment decree be lifted.

Little more than a week had passed after the Chequers Conference when the newest phase of the war against the Irish people was launched. On October 7, Heath sent three more battalions of 1500 combat-ready troops to Ulster to strengthen control of the border, raising the total British occupying force to 13,500. By the end of the week, scores of Irish, including a five-year-old girl, had been shot down by British troops.

Some 2500 British soldiers were massed along the 250-300-mile border between Ulster and the rest of Ireland to try to seal off the area from popular support from the rest of the country. On October 12, the British army began blowing up 50 rural roads crossing the border in a desperate attempt to stave off an extended guerrilla war that would cripple not only the exploitive economy of Ulster, but also Britain. As Roy Bradford, Ulster's Minister of Development, admitted the same day, if the Irish guerrilla war continues, the capitalist economy of Ulster could collapse in a matter of a few weeks.

Irish farmers along the border, Catholic and Protestant alike, couldn't care less by now. Long the victims of British food monopolies on both sides of the border, they rose in anger over the roads being destroyed by the British army, and even built their own temporary detours overnight. On October 14, a two-hour gun battle finally erupted between a British army patrol and IRA guerrillas along the border. British armored car reinforcements chased the guerrillas across the border into the waiting arms of Jack Lynch's Irish troops and police. Four IRA members were arrested and imprisoned in Dublin.

Under the pretext of hunting down the IRA, the British mounted heavier and heavier terror



Irish guerrilla is held by her imperialist captors.

attacks on the Irish Catholic population in Ulster. On October 23, two sisters were killed in Belfast by British troops, without provocation, say witnesses. An elderly bystander was also cut down. The IRA responded with attacks on tommyes, wounding three. The next day, British troops opened fire on a car after it allegedly was involved in a robbery and failed to obey an order to halt. Three Irish occupants were shot to death. Witnesses, however, claim the British never gave an order to halt but merely fired randomly into the car. Moreover, the local civil rights association of Newry produced evidence that the three slain occupants were unarmed. A demonstration called to protest the murders was then fired upon by British troops. Before the weekend was over, six Irish civilians had been reported killed, scores wounded.

Meanwhile, news of torture being applied to Irish prisoners began leaking out to the press. On October 17, the Sunday Times of London printed the statements of eleven prisoners testifying to brutal physical and psychological torture.

Of course, the U.S. is delighted with the terror strategy that emerged from the Chequers Conference. "We have been encouraged by the conversations between Prime Minister Faulkner of northern Ireland and Prime Ministers Heath and Lynch," commented Charles Bray of the U.S. State Department on October 21, "and are hopeful that they can find a solution." But the "final solution to the Irish problem" has not been successful. To the mounting anxiety of London and Washington, the Irish will to struggle has not been broken.

The economic crisis resulting from the worldwide decline of British imperialism, anticipating the decline of its major supporter, U.S. imperialism, is still sending shock waves through the English and Irish working classes. Unemployment in Britain and northern Ireland is the highest since 1940, almost 4 percent or 883,000 workers. In northern Ireland, unemployment in the working class areas of Londonderry and Strabane has hit 8.8 percent and 20 percent of all employable Catholics are jobless.

At Chequers a death warrant was issued for the IRA and the Irish people of Ulster. But it was premature. It is for British imperialism, not the Irish people, that the bell tolls.

Lifting of U.S. immigration quotas for Israeli Jews, the right of return of Palestinian Arab refugees to their former homes and territory, a halt to the cruel and inhuman treatment of Arab prisoners, the end to the Israeli oppression against the Arab People, a halt to the arbitrary detention of Palestinians, equal justice for all, and called on the people at the dedication ceremony to support a democratic and socialist solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

YAWF supporters were present and were helping distribute the leaflets when a group of uniformed, swastika-bearing Nazis appeared on the scene. YAWF had known about their presence in Seattle for several months, and had been seeking some place to confront them. The Nazis, seeking publicity for their filthy racist ideology, had counted on

the presence of the Mayor to protect them, along with a passive attitude from the Jewish participants who were restrained by Zionist leadership, in complete league with the Mayor.

There were five of them carrying plywood signs on wooden poles, but soon they were sent scurrying away a little bloody and bruised by three YAWF members (one woman and two men) who then went about their business distributing the Arab-Jewish message to the crowd. Some of the crowd picked up on the idea that the answer to racism, in general, and anti-Semitism, in particular, lies within the political ideas of the working class and the left, instead of blocking with the Mayor and the imperialists; and our leaflets were eagerly read after the fracas was over.

YAWF trounces Nazis during action against Zionist rally

SEATTLE.—On Wednesday, October 14, an imperialist-contrived Zionist "Freedom Bus" started from Seattle on a tour of 34 cities to demand Soviet Jews be allowed to go to Israel to fight the Arabs. In response, a local group of

anti-Zionist Jews and Arab students drafted a leaflet denouncing the whole thing as "motivated...for the purpose of fanning hostility towards the USSR" and duping U.S. Jews into being pawns of U.S. imperialism. The leaflet also demanded the

On the organizing

NYC

Tribunal convicts Rockefeller

BROOKLYN, October 31—Today the People's Tribunal indicted Richard Nixon, Nelson Rockefeller, Commissioner Oswald, Superintendent Mancusi, Captain Henry Williams, and two other state troopers, on charges of first degree murder, attempted murder, conspiracy, and other charges stemming from the murder of forty-three inmates and guards at Attica Prison during the recent rebellion.

The People's Tribunal was sponsored by the Black Panther Party (Oakland). It was held in the Grand Ballroom of the St. George Hotel here in Brooklyn, where the large crowd made it a standing-room-only event. The jury of 50, comprised of Blacks, Puerto Ricans, Asians, other Third World peoples, and poor whites, was truly a people's jury. The three presiding judges included a sister named Audrey from the Black Panther Party and a white brother named Stu, John Diaz of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee was the Puerto Rican judge.

Witnesses for the defense, namely the defendants, were absent. Though notified and subpoenaed to appear to defend their actions, they failed

to attend. So they were tried in absentia. Witnesses for the prosecution were attorney William Kunstler, state assemblyman Arthur O. Eve, Chairman Bobby Seale of the Black Panther Party, Carmen Garriga, wife of an Attica inmate and a member of the P.S.C., Abu Kali, an ex-inmate, and Tom Soto of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee.

Tom Soto spoke on how the struggle in the prisons is tied to the National Liberation struggles of Blacks, Puerto Ricans, Chicanos, and all oppressed peoples. He explained how the prisons are no more than concentration camps for the poor, how all prisoners are political prisoners, and why all prisons should be torn down.

After the defense attorney, a stand-in for Richard Nixon, gave his summation to the jury, Charles Garry, prosecuting attorney for the people, waived his right to a summary. The jury was then instructed on how to go about the process of deciding on a verdict and, in a unanimous decision, the defendants were found guilty as charged.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE!

NYC

Filipinos protest rigged elections

NEW YORK, October 31—The Philippines elections scheduled for November 9 came under attack today by 65 people, mostly Filipino and Asian, demonstration against the Marcos regime as a puppet of U.S. imperialism and American corporations in the Philippines.

A paradise for such U.S. monopolies as Dole Pineapple Company and the Rockefeller family's Standard Oil Company, the Philippines has become a fascist hell for its people. Terrorism by the Marcos regime against Muslims, opposition candidates, and the Filipino population in general backs up a colonial system where 10 percent of the population owns 90 percent of the country's total wealth.

The demonstration here was to protest these conditions and called for the support of the American people in protesting the regime's rigged elections, warning that the Islands are "rapidly becoming another Vietnam."

Called by the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy in the Philippines, the demonstration was begun around 1 p.m. at 59th Street and Fifth Avenue and marched to the Philippine consulate seven blocks away. There, consulate agents snapped pictures of the demonstrators, many of whom are in

the United States on student visas. The demonstrators, however, were not intimidated, but answered with angry shouts exposing the officials as agents for Marcos.

The demonstration, with representatives from I Wor Kuen, Youth Against War & Fascism, and the Asian Coalition also participating, then moved on to rally at the United Nations to express solidarity with all oppressed people of the world, and indicting the major corporate exploiters on the Islands.

"We are protesting the Philippine elections," the sponsors stated in a press release, "because the Philippine governmental system allows only the rich and powerful to run the system...The Philippines are rapidly becoming another Vietnam as shown by the absence of opposition candidates in many provinces."

As late as August 27, a "mysterious" bombing at a rally of the party opposing Marcos in the coming elections injured seven of their eight senatorial candidates. Since then, the Marcos regime has imposed martial law over the country, suspending the Writ of Habeas Corpus, conducted mass arrests and only last month killed three activists as they peacefully demonstrated against Marcos' regime and the drift toward fascism endorsed by the U.S. State Department.



Demonstrators demanding freedom for Humberto Pagan.

and sister, and handcuffed two friends who happened to be there at the time. Humberto was then charged with having killed one of the two police who died in the battle of March 11. His bail was set at \$30,000; now how many Puerto Rican families do you know that have that kind of money?

Humberto's trial was set for September 21, but he knew that the puppet government, the press, and all the other reactionaries had already found him guilty and would "legally lynch" him as an example for other students involved in the growing Puerto Rican revolutionary movement. So Humberto decided to leave the country.

Now Humberto Pagan has been arrested in Ottawa, Canada, and charged with entering the country

by JOHN DIAZ

NEW YORK, Oct. 22—On March 11, 1971, the riot police in Puerto Rico went into the University of Puerto Rico and provoked a confrontation with the students. The police hoped to massacre the students as they had done many times before, but the students fought back. As a result, two members of the colonial police and a lackey R.O.T.C. student died.

Almost a week later, the colonial police invaded the house of Humberto Pagan, a 20-year-old student at the University of Puerto Rico and a known militant in the struggle for the independence of Puerto Rico. The police arrested Humberto and beat him up in front of his family. They also roughed up his mother

illegally. The FBI has already told the Canadian government that it wants Humberto extradited to Puerto Rico. If Humberto is extradited he will be murdered.

A demonstration in support of Humberto Pagan sponsored by Resistencia Puertorriquena was held here today in front of the Canadian Embassy, including delegations from the Prisoners Solidarity Committee and Youth Against War & Fascism. It was a very angry and militant demonstration of a few hundred brothers and sisters which attracted many sympathizers. After the demonstration, a brother from Resistencia Puertorriquena announced that this was just the beginning of actions to free Humberto, and that when Humberto appears in court in Canada, a demonstration

Nick/VW Photo

will also be held there. He then announced that contacts have been made with the governments of Cuba, Chile, Algiers, Mexico, and Syria to obtain political asylum for Humberto.

One thing is for sure, we're not going to let these colonialist pigs keep locking up and murdering our brothers and sisters struggling for Puerto Rican independence. Humberto Pagan must be freed, along with all the other Puerto Rican independence fighters who have been locked up. And if our brothers and sisters aren't freed, the day will surely come when the people will rise up and tear the jails down, freeing all political prisoners.

FREE HUMBERTO PAGANI
FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS!

front

Trenton

Militants cripple white power rally called by Nazis

TRENTON, N.J., October 31.— Militants from New Jersey and surrounding states picketed directly at the site of a Nazi-white power rally here today, striking a hard blow against the nation-wide fascist organizing drive. The counter-demonstration was called by the Trenton Committee Against Racism and New Jersey YAWF. Scuffles with fascists and police protecting the fascists resulted in a demoralizing defeat for the White Action Movement, the sponsor of the rally. One protestor, however, Bob Dorsey of the American Servicemen's Union, was arrested by police.

Billed as a mobilization drive of the White Action Movement, a racist splinter group of the American Nazi party, the rally was an attempt by fascists to profit off recent racial disturbances at Trenton High School.

In fact, the rally had the sanction of Trenton's Mayor, who awarded the fascists with an official rally permit and police protection.

At about 1 p.m., demonstrators from New Jersey, New York, and Delaware converged on the Nazi rally site at Riverview Park in Trenton. Over 70 people from New Jersey Youth Against War & Fascism, the Trenton Committee Against Racism, the Delaware and New York chapters of YAWF and the Center for United Labor Action, and the American Servicemen's Union marched through the streets, into the park, and right up to the rally site, chanting "Stop the racist terror against the Black people of Trenton!" Scuffles with white racists and fascists, many of them young and long-haired, brought a line of police and a truckload of police dogs to protect the fascists.

As the rally began under a grey overcast sky and drizzling rain, the protestors marched directly up to the crowd listening to the anti-semitic, racist ravings of representatives from the American Nazi party/ and its splinter groups, the White Action Movement and the National Renaissance party. When the protestors began chanting "Fascists are the enemy of all working people!", again a line of police armed with clubs and guns blocked the protestors' advance.

Police, however, did not prevent fascists from trying to break into the YAWF picket line. About 100 fascists moved against the counter-demonstration twice, but were repulsed by YAWF defense squads as demonstrators chanted "Death to the Nazis!"

At one point, police arrested a young fascist who had been throwing



YAWF marching to site of fascist rally.

rocks at members of the Jewish War Veterans, also on hand to protest the rally with a picket line. Apparently, the youth's rocks missed the veterans and instead almost hit police watching nearby. After his arrest, Trenton police then decided to launch a charge on the YAWF picket line.

Bob Dorsey of the American Servicemen's Union, who was answering harassment from approaching fascists, was arrested for "obscene language" in order to even up the score and prove that the police weren't really opposed to the Nazi rally. The angry picketers immediately began chanting "Cops and Klan work hand in hand!" Dorsey, charged with "disorderly conduct", was later released on \$100 bail.

The fascist rally, however, was

a complete failure. Expecting thousands, the Nazis found more protesters than sympathizers. Of those 150 who listened to their sick fascist madness, most were racists who were clearly intimidated by the unified militancy of the counter-demonstration and with being labeled anti-labor Nazis.

As the Trenton Committee Against Racism and the New Jersey YAWF explained, "More violence against an already victimized Black people will not end unemployment, frozen wages and high taxes. Only a unified movement of all working people can do that. Racism is just the tip of the fascist iceberg, which is directed against the struggles of all poor people and workers, Black and white."

NYC

Chicago

Puerto Rican leader killed

CHICAGO—Carlos Perez, a fighter for Puerto Rican independence, is dead. He was shot by a bartender who Carlos was supposedly robbing, and critically beaten. Before he died he was charged with assault, not robbery, and pig reports are still contradicting the original story. All that is known positively is that the pigs wanted Carlos dead because he was a dynamic organizer of the Puerto Rican community of Chicago.

Carlos was one of the primary organizers of Frente Unido Independentista. The organization has strong ties to M.P.I. Their work is centered around building a strong

independence movement in the Puerto Rican community of Chicago. F.U.I. was organized shortly after Carlos returned from Cuba last June, and in a few short months has raised the consciousness of the entire community about the independence struggle.

Whether his death was a planned assassination or a senseless murder, the effect on the revolutionary movement of Chicago is the same. Chicago has lost one of its most dedicated revolutionaries.

F.U.I. still exists and is growing, and Carlos' death has only made its members stronger. Viva Puerto Rico Libre!



Racist gives Nazi salute.

Puerto Ricans protest,

"U.N. — Yankee corporation!"

NEW YORK, Oct. 24—Over 100 demonstrators, mostly Puerto Rican, protested U.S. colonial rule in Puerto Rico at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, 45th Street and First Avenue. The demonstration was organized by the Puerto Rican Anti-Colonialist Congress to protest U.S. sabotage of discussions at the UN raising the colonial status of Puerto Rico.

The Puerto Rican organizers had demanded that the entire picket line be held in front of the U.S. Mission, but police restricted the number of pickets to a total of 15. The rest of the demonstrators gathered at 47th Street and First Avenue. However, the protest was militantly anti-imperialist at both ends with loud

chants, such as, "U. — S. — A., Out of Puerto Rico!," "United Nations, Yankee Corporation!" and "Jibaro Si, Yankee No!"

Also represented at the demonstration was the Pro-Independence Movement of Puerto Rico (MPI), Casa Betances, the Instituto Legal de Puerto Rico, the Committee to Defend Carlos Feliciano, Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF), the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, and the Center for United Labor Action (CULA). The last organization featured a large banner which read, "U.S. Bosses, Out of Puerto Rico." There were several other banners and posters carried by the various organizations and a huge Puerto Rican flag carried by ten demonstrators.

Ceylon

Struggle continues despite massacre

by M. MARGOLIES

New evidence has appeared which shows the depth of the terrible counterrevolutionary massacre that has occurred in Ceylon.

Beginning on March 3, a section of the Ceylon masses rose up against the capitalist government of Madame Bandaranaike. An estimated 80,000 people led by the People's Liberation Front (Jannatha Vimukthi Peramuni) took part in the rebellion, storming police stations and other agencies of oppression. (Ceylon is a country of only 12.6 million; it would be as if 1,300,000 people had participated in an uprising in the U.S.)

The rebellion was broken-but only after helicopters and other military supplies were rushed in by Britain, the U.S., India, and the Soviet Union. The Bandaranaike regime counterattacked and indiscriminately murdered tens of thousands. Bodies were found floating down the rivers; some were found nailed to poles along the roads outside Colombo, the capital.

On April 19, Associated Press quoted Lt. Col. Cyril Ranatunga as saying, "Once we are convinced prisoners are insurgents, we take them to the cemetery and dispose of them."

MASS ARRESTS, MASS MURDERS

In Indonesia, whose population is about 100 million, almost 500,000 people were murdered during the U.S.-sponsored counterrevolution in 1965. Countless others were exiled to prison camps on isolated islands. Lord Avebury, an official of Amnesty International (a bourgeois, far-from-revolutionary organization), who was recently expelled from Ceylon for investigating its prison camps, believes that the Ceylon death toll in April and May was close

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United Fund: Another racket for the rich

In the past few months the corporation-owned government has waged an all out attack on the poor and working people of this country. In the midst of the ruling class' program to systematically control all working and oppressed peoples, in the midst of massive unemployment and layoffs, of racist, imperialist wars costing billions of dollars and countless lives, of exorbitant taxes, utility rates and food costs—we are being solicited for more money!

Last week the United Fund started its annual campaign to bleed the workers of every cent they possibly can. The torches were lit and the blood-sucking began. Major corporations took time out during the day to show cleverly put together film clips; "personalized" IBM cards were printed up with your "fair share" already computed for you (usually 1 hour's pay a week!); prizes were offered to bribe people into giving; pins

and stickers were given to those who gave to make those who didn't (or couldn't) feel guilty—as if they don't care about people. They try to force the working people to pay for "charity" the bosses owe them!

This constitutes millions of dollars in advertising. Why is this large sum spent by so many companies? You can bet your bottom dollar (which is what most of us would be betting) that they are "donating" their services because there is money in it. The bosses also have large sums of money set aside to directly "donate" to "charity and community" organizations. Both methods help increase profits through tax-deductible manipulations.

The United Fund exists for one purpose, and one purpose only—to directly or indirectly increase profits for the corporate contributors. It is run by the same rich bosses who rob us every day. They

own the same corporations, who under the cover of stockholders and executive anonymity, exploit, deprive, dehumanize and kill in search of profit. These are the same corporations financing the napalming of millions of people in Southeast Asia.

The agencies of the United Fund range from controlling the minds of the young (Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts) to the disposing of the old (homes for the aged); they profit from life (houses of detention for unwed mothers) and death ("health services").

Say you donate a pint of blood to the Red Cross which in turn "donates" it to a hospital. This hospital, which undoubtedly made a large contribution to the United Fund, turns around and sells the blood to someone for a transfusion. Now, this is a matter of life or death—but that makes no difference—you still pay.

Look at the associations for the

to 50,000. The extent of the massacre is easily comparable to the one in Indonesia. And it would be as if 800,000 were murdered in the U.S.

According to Avebury, a Ceylonese government statement made on September 19 admitted that there are still nearly 15,000 people in custody. "Not one of the 16,255 detained since the rebellion began in March has been charged or brought to trial, and no one has been permitted to consult with his legal advisors.... arrests are still continuing....the Government has plans to open two new camps, accommodating 1,000 prisoners." The arrests would be equivalent to about 175,000 in the U.S.

"Withdrawal of labor," that is, strikes or slowdowns, are now illegal throughout "essential industries." "...a curfew still operates every night in the Colombo area, and travelers are stopped at roadblocks by the military in the country. Police and army officials have power to take possession of, and bury and cremate, any dead bodies without any witnesses being present."

LEFT PARTIES BETRAY THE PEOPLE

The capitalist ruling class has shown once again the incredible, inhuman measures that they will use to maintain their power. And they must take full responsibility for the massacre. Nevertheless, the cowardly, reactionary role played by the so-called Marxist parties in Ceylon should be thoroughly exposed. Both the Communist Party of Ceylon and the so-called "Trotskyist" Lanka Sama Samaja Party have for years helped prop up a capitalist regime by joining popular front governments with the capitalist party of Madame Bandaranaike, the SLFP. Both parties have received cabinet posts in exchange for keeping the highly organized proletariat of Ceylon in check. In fact, the "Communist" Minister of Housing, Peter Keuneman, accepted a post on a seven-man government committee to adopt "emergency measures" to end this spring's crisis—a crisis of the capitalist class.

The heroic young revolutionaries of the People's Liberation Front have been accused of being ultra-left, of acting in a completely separate manner from the bulk of the working class. This is far from true. But if these so-called Marxist parties were sincerely worried about a lack of working class support of that struggle, why did they hold back their large number of worker-supporters? They should have resigned from the government and rallied their supporters to back the uprising. The revolution would then have had a great chance of succeeding, but instead, in effect, they helped to crush it.

The monstrous betrayal by these parties, combined with the massacre which they allowed to take place without protest, could set back the struggle for generations. But the masses of Ceylon are far more communist than these parties and opposition continues.

Some observers believe that the regime is unable to maintain control. In the largest prisons, and even in the small ones, prisoners are refusing to work. The Ceylon government fears that many of the prisoners and ex-prisoners are now joining the People's Liberation Front, and that the organization in Colombo remains intact. According to Avebury of Amnesty International, "The Government of Mrs. Bandaranaike is unlikely to last very much longer.... Class-conscious workers throughout the world look forward to the eventual victory of the Ceylonese proletariat."

handcapped. They are taught to staple boxes together or make aprons to sell at state fairs. They work in deplorable conditions (which they aren't supposed to mind because they now have a "place" in society) sometimes for as little as a few dollars a day. They are prisoners without bars.

Every year, however, the workers are leaving more and more of the financing of the United Fund up to the corporations. The bosses are trying to claim it is apathy on our part—but we know it isn't! We are concerned about people—the working, oppressed and exploited people all over this world—and that is why we aren't giving. There is a growing awareness among the working class—the corporations want us to up our "pledges" to them—but we have barely enough to survive on. We will give only when our money is going to fulfill the needs of the people—to a united people's fund.

Supreme Court vacancies

Liberals pacified by "prestigious" racists

by MAX LEVY

The United States Supreme Court has two functions: the arbitration of disputes between competing sections of the capitalist class and the sanctification of the illusion of justice in an unjust society. This dual function was made unusually clear this month when Nixon, within 22 days, floated rumors that he would propose "mediocre" Poff, then six racist hacks, and finally the "distinguished" Powell and Rehnquist as Court nominees.

Though all of the court candidates are so far

Lewis Powell, one of President Nixon's Supreme Court appointees, is among the richest men ever nominated to the Court, the guardian of propertied interests. He holds over one million dollars worth of stock in over 30 major corporations, including AT&T, General Electric, Eastman Kodak, IBM, Xerox, and S&H (green stamps). A member of

to the right that it is not even possible to pick the most reactionary, many liberals in Congress cried hysterically that certain of these would-be "justices" weren't as "excellent" as others. As always, the liberals, never forgetting wherein lies the Court's illusion, care more about "excellence" in style than in substance.

When the "respectable" racist Richard Poff withdrew from consideration and was replaced by the uglier likes of Robert Byrd, Mildred Lillie, and Herschel Friday, the liberals switched gears. With Poff they had been miffed that the Court was about to be stacked against their section of the ruling class. Now, however, their sense of partisan disadvantage was suddenly overcome by their horror that Nixon, in naming the most vulgar of racists and the most obvious of hacks, would seriously damage the Court's deceptive majesty.

TIMES WARNS OF DAMAGE TO COURT

In a panicky editorial, the New York Times warned that if Nixon and Attorney General Mitchell "deliberately set out to destroy the prestige and authority of the Supreme Court of the United States," they could hardly pick a more likely course. Humpty Dumpty seemed to be in every liberal's mind: the grand illusion, once broken, could never be put back together again. So unnerved was New York Post editor James Wechsler that, quoting a "private communication" from Roy Wilkins to the American Bar Association, he spilled the beans.

Making clear that "substantive" disagreement with the positions taken by the prospective nominees was not "our basic concern," Wilkins reminded the ABA that "the most critical function of the Court is that of securing the confidence of the people in their government," but that "the qualifications of those now under consideration appear to be so minimal as to endanger the Court's role." Oblivious to the question of justice for the oppressed, Wilkins begged that "this legitimating

the rich ruling class, Powell has sat as a director on the boards of Philip Morris, Inc., State-Planters Bank of Commerce and Trusts, Ethyl Corp. Commonwealth Natural Gas Corporation, United Virginia Bankshares, Inc., Miller & Rhoads, Inc., David M. Lea & Co., B.T. Crump Co., and the Richmond Cold Storage Co.

The economic origins of the Supreme Court - Part II.

The Guardians of Wealth

by JERRY ZILG

"There is perhaps no business which yields a profit so certain and liberal as the business of banking and exchange."

— Chief Justice (and banker) Roger B. Taney, 1837

"A corporation is, indeed, a mere artificial being, invisible and intangible; yet it is a person, for certain purposes in contemplation of law, and has been recognized as such by the decisions of this court."

Taney, 1839

In 1803, nine black-robed men climbed slowly to their seats behind a high wooden bench. Then they peered out at the room's occupants, including the lawyer for the defendant, James Madison. Their drawn faces wore the stern looks of judges, which they were. In fact, they were justices of the highest court in the United States, the Supreme Court. In the center sat John Marshall, Chief Justice, also a large holder in land, insurance companies, canals and banks. Marshall may have been looking at Madison's lawyer, but he had other things on his mind.

Since the early tumultuous days of the Revolution and the Confederation, when popular uprisings threatened propertied interests, Marshall and others of his wealthy class had been deeply concerned with setting up a strong centralized government that would ensure protection for their holdings. As a member of the Virginia gentry and a slaveholder, Marshall was ecstatic over the Constitution of 1787, and personally helped push it through as a member of the exclusive Virginia convention that ratified the document. Since then, he had been firmly en-

role of the Court" be maintained in the interest of order.

Small wonder then that when Nixon finally nominated two Phi Beta Kappa reactionaries, men whose "distinguished" credentials disguise their contempt for democracy, the liberals jumped to congratulate the president on returning the Court to its traditional "standard of excellence." Their relief was due entirely to the fact that Lewis Powell, a millionaire former-president of the ABA, and William Rehnquist, an assistant attorney general known for his "keen intelligence and professional skill," looked good.

SCHOLARLY FACADES

Beneath their scholarly facades, nevertheless, lies the vicious reality. Both oppose the Miranda ruling, which grants defendants protection from illegal questioning by the cops; both openly advocate increased governmental wire-tapping; both favor preventive detention and were pleased by the mass arrests of innocent thousands in Washington last May. Powell's views on surveillance are so repressive that J. Edgar Hoover, calling him a "very great American," reprinted his remarks in the FBI bulletin.

Rehnquist has worked closely with Attorney General Mitchell, with Deputy Attorney General Kleindienst (who last year warned ominously of detention camps for dissenters), and with Barry Goldwater; his stated position is that "law and order will be maintained at whatever cost to individual liberties and rights." Powell, no less hostile to dissent, insists that student activists be expelled from their colleges, along with "their faculty sympathizers."

These reactionaries, as dangerous as any Ku Klux Klanner, are a good deal more insidious because of their subtlety. However, it is precisely their subtlety that pleases the liberals. "My attitude about both is very positive," said Senator Edmund Muskie.

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them, "un-American." In the 1830's, however, the Supreme Court upheld the right of businessmen to form their own unions — corporations — even recognizing the corporation as a legal person. This was a turning point in American political economy: the corporation was given a political character that legally shared in the civil government of the country. Begun for the purpose "of effecting something else," as John Marshall had understood it, the corporation had now become an entity defended for its own sake as a fundamental institution in the new capitalist order of society.

But while the Court gave the corporation legal rights as a person, it refused to do so with millions of Black Americans, consistently denying human slavery. To the Supreme Court, the "right" to human property held sway over the right to life and freedom. In 1857, in fact, it upheld the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 and went even further by denying citizenship to the Black Americans and opening all federal territories to slavery. This was an undisguised vicious attack against all Black people, as well as against wage labor in the North. In the Dred Scott decision of that year, the Supreme Court defended slavery on the basis of the southern slaveholder's "right" to be an equal competitor on the frontier marketplace with the northern capitalist, opening the trans-Mississippi market to human bondage.

Never let it be said, however, that the Court closed the frontier to anyone among the American capitalist class. Throughout the 19th century, it was consistently a supporter of westward expansion. The conquering of new continental resources from the Indians by U.S. armies provided not only a market for capital investment to keep the economy booming, but also a frontier vent for class contradictions and their accompanying social pressures.

"Whether America is capable of indefinite extent," boasted Senator James Barbour, "must be left to posterity to decide." Chief Justice John Marshall had agreed, setting the tone for the Court. "Throughout this vast republic," he asserted in *American Insurance Co. v. Canter* (1828), "from the St. Croix to the Gulf of Mexico, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, revenue is to be collected and expended, armies are to be marched and supported." Thus the Supreme Court gave its full blessings to continental imperialism riding roughshod over the bodies of Mexicans and American Indians.

By the eve of the Civil War, the Supreme Court had firmly established itself as the guardian of the dictatorship of wealth, piously appointing the chains of humanity. (Next issue: Part III — War on labor.)

trenched in ruling class circles as Secretary of State under Adams.

REMOVED FROM POPULAR CONTROL

Marshall was particularly fond of the constitution's Supreme Court. Designed as a guardian over the property of established wealth, the Court was also free from popular control. All its justices were appointed by the President with the agreement of the Senate, neither of whom were popularly elected, but chosen by state legislatures and special "electors." Popular government was indeed the furthest thing from the minds of the "founding fathers."

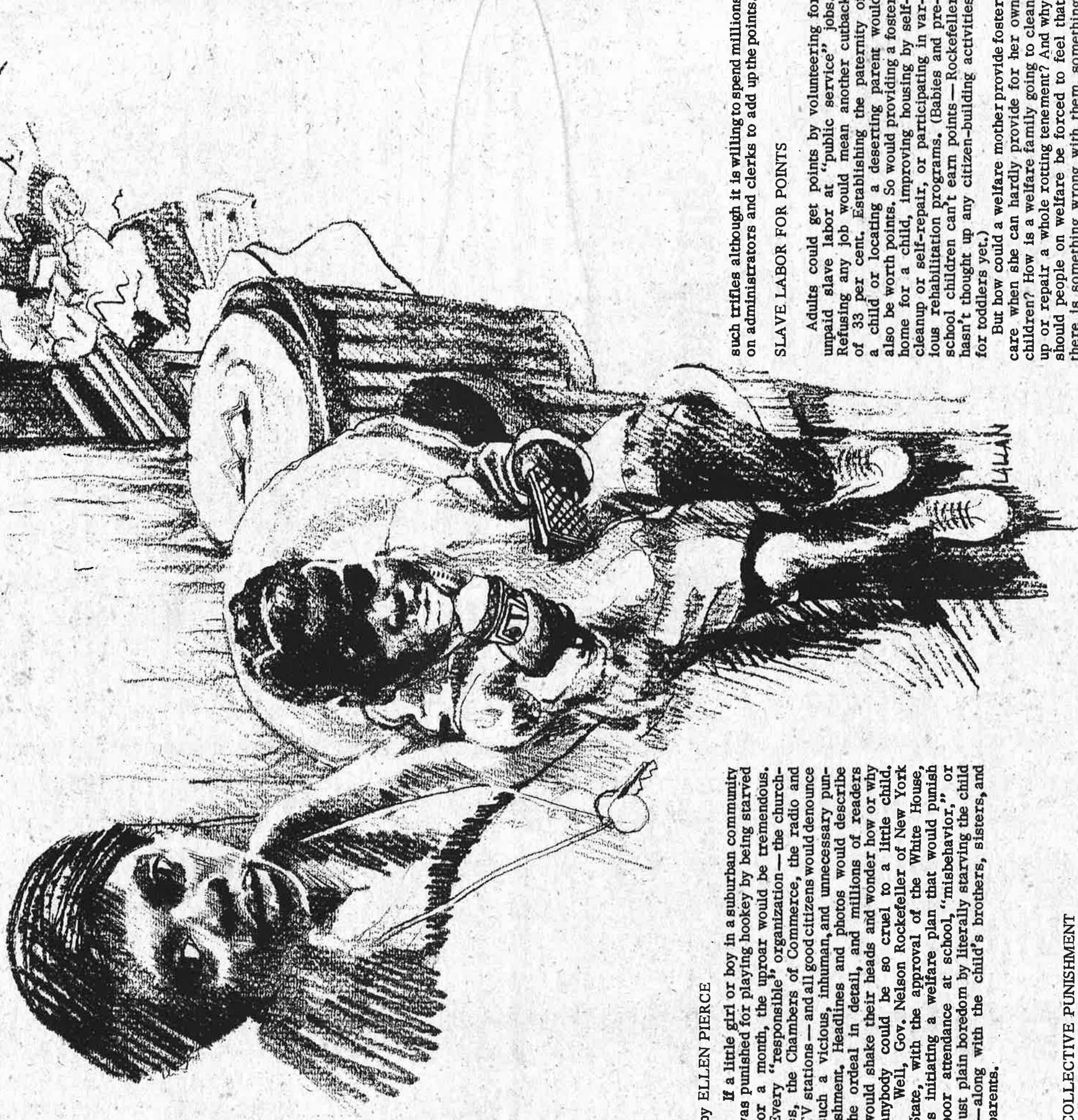
"The powers of the legislature are defined and limited," stated Chief Justice John Marshall in 1803, "and that those limits may not be mistaken or forgotten, the Constitution is written." The case, *Marbury v. Madison*, provided the first example of the Court stating for itself its "right" to annul laws passed by Congress. Marshall called it the right of "judicial review." After quickly finding in favor of his fellow Virginia slaveholder, James Madison, Marshall chose to take the opportunity to deviate from the case and announce the power of the Court over legislation. To Marshall, having the Court define clearly its own powers was all important as the class struggle intensified in America with capitalism's development. "To what purpose are powers limited," he asked, "if these limits may, at any time, be passed by those intended to be restrained."

BLACKS NONPERSONS, UNIONS UNAMERICAN

And restrained, even chained, the people were — with the full blessings of the Supreme Court. Despite constant pleas by the poor and working class, the Court refused to acknowledge the right of workers to form into unions, terming

Rocky's program for the poor

"Behave or starve"



by ELLEN PIERCE

If a little girl or boy in a suburban community was punished for playing hockey by being starved for a month, the uproar would be tremendous. Every "responsible" organization—the churches, the Chambers of Commerce, the radio and TV stations—and all good citizens would denounce such a vicious, inhuman, and unnecessary punishment. Headlines and photos would describe the ordeal in detail, and millions of readers would shake their heads and wonder how or why anybody could be so cruel to a little child.

Well, Gov. Nelson Rockefeller of New York State, with the approval of the White House, is initiating a welfare plan that would punish poor attendance at school, "misbehavior," or just plain boredom by literally starving the child—along with the child's brothers, sisters, and parents.

COLLECTIVE PUNISHMENT

The Nazis might call this "collective punishment"—terrorizing a whole community into submission by making everyone suffer for the actions of any one individual. Rockefeller calls it "incentives for independence."

This is how the plan will work, once it gets the expected go-ahead from Nixon and is put into effect on a so-called experimental basis in Harlem and Rockland County. To begin with, welfare benefits would be cut back drastically. A family of four, now receiving \$313 a month, would get only \$200—a reduction of more than 33 per cent! But, through a complicated "point system," with each point worth \$12.50, the family could be eligible for as much—but no more—money as before the cutbacks.

such trifles although it is willing to spend millions on administrators and clerks to add up the points.

SLAVE LABOR FOR POINTS

Adults could get points by volunteering for unpaid slave labor at "public service" jobs. Refusing any job would mean another cutback of 33 per cent. Establishing the paternity of a child or locating a deserting parent would also be worth points. So would providing a foster home for a child, improving housing by self-cleanup or self-repair, or participating in various rehabilitation programs. (Babies and pre-school children can't earn points—Rockefeller hasn't thought up any citizen-building activities for toddlers yet.)

But how could a welfare mother provide foster care when she can hardly provide for her own children? How is a welfare family going to clean up or repair a whole rotating tenement? And why should people on welfare be forced to feel that there is something wrong with them, something bad about them, that has to be "rehabilitated"?

"Shut up or I'll take your welfare money away," teachers can threaten a child.... "Tell us where your husband is or no more money," caseworkers can tell a mother.... "Take this job without pay, provide your own lunches and carfare, or lose your welfare benefits," the employer can coerce a recipient....

It is the "crime" of poverty that people on welfare, especially children, are being punished for. And the same exploiters responsible for the poverty are the ones carrying out this new racist assault on the poor. Rockefeller, with all the resources at his command, all kinds of scientists and sociologists working for him, has come up with this plan to try to enslave the poor, body and soul.

Points could be earned by children for good attendance or behavior in school or by participating in a school work program. Joining the Boy Scouts or 4-H Club (like a good middle-class kid with parents to chauffeur him to meetings) or other "citizen-building activities" would also be worth points. Who would pay for uniforms, membership dues, or carfare to meetings? It's not spelled out but it is doubtful that the same system that takes food out of children's mouths would want to "squander" its money on