

# WORKERS WORLD

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TEN CENTS

## U.S. Threatens To Go To War If Cuba Re-Takes Own Naval Base

### Soviet Union Aids The Algerian Revolution

By V. Grey

The Soviet Union has now accorded a *de facto* recognition to the Algerian Provisional Government and is openly aiding its just war against French imperialism.

This is a progressive development to be applauded by all progressives and friends of the oppressed everywhere. *Workers World* has been calling for Soviet recognition of this struggle ever since its first issue of March 9 1959. And it now hails this recognition as a giant step forward.

But once again, this event proves the paramount importance of the struggle. For the Soviet recognition came after six years of heroic and bitter fighting in the face of apparently insuperable odds. (Out of 10 million Algerian people, nearly half a million soldiers and civilians have been killed by French imperialism since 1954.)

According to Ferhat Abbas, Premier of the revolutionary Algerian Government:

"The Communist leaders in Peking and Moscow explained to me that their aid was not only unconditional, but a consequence of the fact that we have im-

mobilized for several years in Algeria a number of divisions of the North Atlantic alliance, and that alone merits deep gratitude."

On the day Abbas said this, a Soviet ship arrived in Tunis with 154 tons of machines, food and clothing for Algerian refugees.

The independence struggle of the Algerians is not only forcing the Soviet leadership to recognize it, but is also pushing up like a mighty volcano under the hard but still warm revolutionary lava of France itself.

The French workers, children of many revolutions, themselves participants in great strikes and political demonstrations, class-conscious and thoroughly anti-capitalist — hate and detest the "Dirty War" in Algeria.

French workers are deserting from the French Army in Algeria in constantly increasing numbers.

This fact has been partly concealed by the imperialists and partly overshadowed by the startling news that 121 leading French intellectuals, actors, writers, teachers, etc. have signed a manifesto

(Continued on page 4)

### Guantanamo Base is Part of Cuba And it's Time for U.S. Navy to Get Out!

Washington, October 27—The Pentagon brass hats have just made known their intention to use military force if the Cuban government exercises its sovereign right to nullify the treaty under which the U.S. occupies the Guantanamo naval base in Cuba.

The treaty was imposed upon the Cuban people in 1903 by imperialist pressure, coercion and threat of military

occupation at a time when Cuba had been reduced to a helpless, defenseless colony of Wall Street.

So flagrant were the terms dictated by the U.S. bankers and generals that the treaty did not even contain any expiration date — a point commonly inserted in their treaties by even the most repressive colonial powers.

Presumably, the treaty was to run "forever." But the U.S. monopolists forgot that the Cuban people have a revolutionary right to nullify or abrogate every treaty imposed upon them by foreign oppressors.

The plan to use force in the event the Cuban revolution decides to annul the vicious treaty, was confirmed in an obviously planted story in the October 27 *New York Times*. It has all the earmarks of an ultimatum handed down by the Pentagon military camarilla to the Cuban Government.

"The U.S. would fight if Cuba should . . . try to take over the Guantanamo naval base," states the *Times*. This Pentagon decision comes exactly two weeks after the U.S. sanctimoniously voted at the U.N. for a resolution aimed at "ending colonialism" — and after the U.S. delegate to the U.N. "condemned the use of force as an instrument of national policy."

### Cuban Masses Voting For the Revolution

The capitalist white supremacists, who disfranchise millions of Negro voters without blinking, are very disturbed that there is no voting in Cuba.

But according to the liberal-capitalist *New Republic*:

"The mass meetings (in Cuba) that are called (by Castro) on an average of once a month . . . are attended by far more people than ever voted for any president in the history of the Cuban republic."

### He Said a Mouthful!

Steel production is "scraping along at a rate, which if anything, reflects the opportunity to improve."

—Roger M. Blough,  
Chairman of U.S. Steel Co.

### Not Unexpected

Corliss Lamont, the millionaire Socialist, is now supporting John F. Kennedy, the millionaire capitalist.

### The "Joke of the Week-End" Not So Funny to Cubans!

How does the U.S. Government of the bankers and bosses run the Latin-American countries and dominate the peoples there?

The *New York Times* on October 24, revealed one of the ways now being used and which it, the *Times*, considers too obvious, too crude, and above all, too public.

The *Times* objects to both Nixon and Kennedy's open talk for counter-revolution, and also has grave doubts about the U.S. boycott of Cuba on the ground that this will inflame the rest of U.S.-exploited Latin-America and kill the goose that lays the golden eggs for Wall Street.

"Nixon's suggestion is that the United States 'quarantine' Castro by bringing home our ambassador and refusing to sell him goods, and that we do in Cuba 'what we did in Guatemala.'"

"We quarantined Mr. Arbenz," (the elected President of Guatemala —WW) the Vice President said . . . 'and the result was that the Guatemalan people themselves rose up and they threw him out.'"

"This is the joke of the week-end in the Latin-American Embassies. For every official who knows anything

about the fall of the Arbenz Government in Guatemala knows that the United States Government through the Central Intelligence Agency, worked actively with, and financed, and made available the arms, with which the anti-Arbenz forces finally 'threw him out.'"

In its worry, and even perhaps panic, over the present violent course of the U.S. Government, the *Times* is really letting not one, but several cats out of the bag. It adds a condemnation of Kennedy's "imprudence" as well as an exposure of Nixon and Eisenhower's overzealousness:

"In fact, the Eisenhower Administration, and Mr. Nixon personally, have taken credit in public for getting rid of Arbenz. They did in Guatemala what Senator Kennedy is proposing to do in Cuba.

"They helped the opposition to a pro-Communist dictator, and the only difference is that the Eisenhower Administration was prudent enough to keep quiet about it in advance (but not after the event), whereas Senator Kennedy has been imprudent enough to suggest financing an anti-Castro revolt in advance and in public."

It's hard to add much to this self-exposure by the capitalist class.

## Group Ends Discrimination At Hat Store in Buffalo

By Neva Kecsemti

Buffalo, October 20 — The Mothers Alliance, an interracial organization, has ended discrimination at a chain of hat shops in this city.

The Alliance received several complaints in regard to the Dixie Hat Shops. After a complete investigation a delegation from the M.A. met with a store representative. A reporter from the local Negro press covered the meeting.

Acting as a grievance committee the M.A. charged: "There are no Negro saleswomen at any of the five stores including the Jefferson branch where Negro people are 95 per cent of the customers. Negro women seeking work are not given applications nor extended the courtesy given others."

It was made clear that if these practices didn't cease at once, militant mass action would be taken. The manager knew this meant a picket line around the store which would cut sales drastically. This was the action taken by the Mothers Alliance to break the policy of discrimination at W. T. Grants.

A copy of a statement of policy was

then received by the M.A. from the Dixie management. It read in part:

"We have just been contacted by a committee of the Mothers Alliance . . . This office wants it expressly understood that in the hiring of any personnel no discriminatory practices will be tolerated. Any applicant, regardless of race, will be treated with respect, permitted to fill a standard application card, and her qualifications assessed as fairly as others of different color or faith. It goes without saying that any manager responsible for any discriminatory acts whatsoever subjects herself to immediate dismissal." The statement was signed by Mr. David Gross.

After hearing this news, Mrs. Vera Spruill, president of the M.A., stated:

"We have earned the reputation of militant fighters for equality. With mass action, or the threat of mass action as our weapons we are able to advance our struggle. But words are cheap, and must be backed by deeds."

A few days later the first Negro saleswoman was hired at Dixie's. This victory is an important step towards ending all discrimination in hiring.

# WORKERS WORLD

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LENIN

## U.S. Provokes War in Cuba

Guantanamo, Cuba, Oct. 21—"Under the hot sun, gray destroyers and submarines lay at anchor in the bay and Navy jets shrieked down out of the high cumulus to drop practice bombs on the salt beds behind the base."

This peace-loving item appeared on the front page of the New York Journal-American under a big headline: "Navy Waits at Guantanamo Bay . . . for Trouble."

The U.S. Navy, with the biggest battleships in the world "defending" a powerful country of 180 million people against a poor island of 6 million, is "waiting for trouble" in Cuba!

Dropping "practice bombs" on Cuba just two days after the U.S. government announced it would try to strangle Cuba economically—is not exactly "waiting" for trouble.

## Nixon's "Best Man" Hoax!

After Lodge made his contradictory Harlem and Virginia statements about a Negro Cabinet Member, Nixon said he would "appoint the best man, regardless of race."

We have utterly no confidence in a Nixon-Lodge Cabinet and the same goes for a Kennedy-Johnson Cabinet—regardless of race.

But this statement of Nixon's repeats a reactionary refrain we have been hearing for a long time, and we take this opportunity to answer it.

To talk about the "best man" is sheer deception and hypocrisy.

Why? Because the whole point is precisely that the capitalist oppressor claims that the black man cannot be the "best man."

And the whole concept of special Negro representation arises in the first place because the Negro people cannot

trust the white capitalist oppressor to decide who is the "best man."

When there is an oppressed minority group which has been denied representation, then its first need is to guarantee its representation.

To call this "jimmie in reverse" or "black supremacy" as some do, is to fall victim to the worst kind of white-supremacist demagoguery.

Progressive whites recognize and oppose the heritage of race prejudice that the majority of white people have been saddled with by the capitalist class. Therefore they struggle not merely for better "understanding"—not merely to "convince" the white masses that Negro people are their equals in every way. They struggle also for the principle of equal representation, regardless of who Nixon or any other white-supremacist may say is the "best man."

## Why They Fear Disarmament

Big Business is openly preparing for war.

But of course, as always, it is trying to put the blame on the other side. It is hard at work "explaining" that Khrushchev's disarmament plan is a fake, and in reality Khrushchev is "plotting war."

The truth is that the Soviet Union lost more lives and wealth in the last war than any other country. And the Soviet people dread a new war more than any other people.

The truth is that the Soviet Union is terribly handicapped by spending nearly a quarter of its income on armaments. And because of its system of planned production, it could outstrip the U.S. capitalists almost immediately if it did not have this handicap of arms production.

Capitalism, on the other hand, is a system of boom and bust — and must spend billions on arms if only to prevent a serious depression.

This is one good reason why the U.N. recently voted, 54-13, against Khrushchev's plan for total disarmament.

Khrushchev, in frustrated desperation at the war-like intransigence of Wall Street, said that the real issue would be

decided by the Soviet economy, and not by the U.N. votes.

He was right. But the capitalist leaders understand this all too well. That is why they want to do everything they can to destroy the Soviet economy. And this means war.

They pretend they are afraid the Soviet Union will attack them. But they are most frightened that the Soviet Union will outstrip them, help their colonies get free from them and turn them into out-of-date and helpless slave-masters of those who will no longer be slaves.

If the imperialists wait another ten years, they will be hopelessly outclassed—and they know it.

Nearly everybody in the world wants peace. But U.S. Big Business is hell-bent for war. This cannot be wished away by "men of good will" nor prayed away by socialist preachers, nor maneuvered away by the poetics of Khrushchev.

It is time for Khrushchev to wake up—if he has not already done so. And it is time to tell the workers of the world that capitalism will never willingly disarm, no matter how much it talks about disarmament.

The working class will have to disarm the capitalists. There is no other way.

## MAIL BAG

### The Name "Negro"

We reprint the following for the interest and information of our readers.

It is the major part of a statement issued by the Committee to Present the Truth About the Name "Negro" at its office at 141 West 125 St. when it announced November 1st as the publication date of the book, "The Name Negro, Its Origin and Evil Use," by Richard B. Moore.—Ed.

Challenging this name as derogatory to American citizens of African descent, this book is the first to be issued by a publishing house just started, the Afro-American Publishers, Inc. The book will appear in two editions, cloth bound library edition \$3.00 and popular paper cover \$1.00.

The book will be recognized at once as a timely and topical essay, one which meets an urgent need in view of the great changes now rapidly being made on the national and international scene.

When the President of the Republic of Ghana, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, spoke in Harlem recently, the chairman of the meeting was surprised and awakened at the outset by the protest called forth when he introduced Congressman Powell as a "Negro."

"We are not 'Negroes,'" hundreds spontaneously cried, "we are Afro-Americans." Thereafter, every speaker pointedly refrained from using the term "Negro," speaking either of "Americans of African descent" or of "Afroamericans."

Likewise, when some days later the Democratic party held a rally, a similar reaction caused the speakers, including former Governor Harriman, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, and Congressman Powell, to avoid the use of the rejected name "Negro."

Tracing the origin of the name "Negro" from its use by Portuguese explorers as a name for slaves after they had reached the African region south of the Senegal and had begun the horrible modern slave traffic, the book explains that the name "Negro" has been loaded and used as a weapon of racist discrimination, degradation and persecution.

—New York, October 22

Note: We intend to review the above-mentioned book in the near future. The arguments of the author have great merit. But a generally accepted substitute for the name, "Negro," seems difficult to arrive at. We invite our readers to send us their opinions.

### Cuba like a ripe apple?

Dear Editor:

Fidel Castro, in his recent speech before the U.N., quoted U.S. President John Adams as saying that "Cuba was like a ripe apple that had to fall," and when it did, "the hands of the United States would be ready to catch it."

That certain "hands" in the United States, by lying to both the Cuban people and the people of the United States did "catch it when it fell," and reduced the Cuban people to the most vicious exploitation is a matter of history.

Those certain "hands" which caught Cuba "when it fell" were referred to by the framers of the U.S. Constitution as "the protected minority" which our Constitution was designed to protect from the majority. Today, that "protected minority" has evolved into a vicious circle of predatory corporations.

Cuba is not the only thing that has fallen into those "hands." The entire domain of these United States, from the Canadian border to Mexico—from the Atlantic to the Pacific, has also become "ripe" and these same "hands" were "ready to catch" that domain.

Gustavus Myers, in his "History of the Supreme Court," a fully documented treatise, has set down for all to read, how by connivance and fraud, as much as 35 million acres of land at a time was handed over to these "hands" so ready to catch Cuba. . . .

General James Baird Weaver already in 1892 had these words to say in his "Call to Arms Against the Corporation."

"Through evolution in crime, the corporation has taken the place of the pirate; and finally a bold and aggressive

(my emphasis) plutocracy has usurped government and is using it as a policeman (my emphasis) to enforce its insolent decrees.

"The public domain has been squandered, our coal fields bartered away, our forests denuded, our people impoverished."

Thus, Cuba is not the only "ripe apple" that has fallen into these "hands ready to catch it" . . .

It is time for the American people to take stock of their position in relation to the usurping "protected minority." It is time we threw away the dark glasses placed over our eyes by the corporation press and the other headfixing facilities of this "protected minority."

It is time we took steps both politically and economically—first, to disassociate ourselves from this "protected minority," and second, to organize the massive majority to repossess our country from those who have plundered us. Then and only then can we honestly hold up our heads as a Free People.

Thanks, Fidel, for raising the issue. Your enemy is also our enemy.

C.A., Tampa, Fla.

### U.N. and U.S.

Dear Editor:

The article against the U.N. by Sam Marcy in the September 16 Workers World was somewhat deficient in explaining how the U.N. excuses itself from intervention except when it suits the U.S. . . .

In recent years, the U.N. General Assembly has taken over many former functions of the Security Council. The U.S. felt that its control over the majority of members was secure enough, and General Assembly action prevents the Soviet Union from vetoing the aims of U.S. imperialism. (The Soviet Union, like four other countries, has the power of veto in the Security Council—Ed.)

But the U.N. could not be used as an instrument of progressive forces, even if it were to become dominated by the Afro-Asian bloc in alliance with the Soviet Union. U.N. "aid" can be sent only if requested by a recognized government.

The U.N. recognized the Congo in order to decimate it. As long as Lumumba asked for U.N. help, they were more than pleased to oblige. The U.N. then proceeded to "recognize" the virtual secession of Katanga and the final ousting of Lumumba's whole government. . . .

Now why do you suppose that the U.N. just does not happen to recognize the government of revolutionary Algeria or China? Because the capitalist powers don't want to. And if the U.N. were by some miracle to recognize such a government, the U.S. could challenge the "legitimacy" of that government and thwart action indefinitely.

The U.N., like any political organization, has a class character—and it is of the wrong class. To foster illusions about it can only aid those who control it.

M. M., Chicago

### The "Best Man"?

Do you know how they choose "the best man, regardless of race" when they select the all-important U.S. Cabinet? Here are some of the facts about some of the men they chose lately:

The present Secretary of Labor learned about "labor" by being a boss at the R.H. Macy Department Store in New York.

The present Post Master General learned about the Post Office by long experience as a Chevrolet dealer.

Of three Secretaries of Defense appointed by Eisenhower, one was an automobile man and another was a soap manufacturer.

The recent "ex-officio" Cabinet Member, the all-powerful Presidential Secretary, Sherman Adams, retired with a bad case of "sticky fingers."

Each of the above was of course "the best man, regardless of race."

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# "The Revolution Has Performed Miracles"

—Says a Worker Who Visited Cuba to See for Himself

By Steve Gordon

In a recent three-week stay in Cuba, this reporter visited among others, state co-operatives and the INRA headquarters in Havana.

Lands that formerly belonged to latifundistas and North American individuals or corporations are being nationalized by the popular revolutionary government of Dr. Fidel Castro.

The agency that is responsible for the agrarian reforms in Cuba is INRA (Institucion Nacional de Reforma Agraria). INRA confiscates the land from the former owners and distributes it to landless farmers or forms co-operatives.

Before the revolution, 114 farms, or fewer than 0.1 per cent of the total number, encompassed 20.1 per cent of the land! And 8 per cent of the total number encompassed 71.1 per cent of the land!

The majority of the Cubans living in rural areas had to work for the latifundistas, cultivating the single crop, sugar. A land worker used to be employed by these latifundistas in the sugar fields for four to five months out of the year with wages that could hardly buy the family rice, the basic diet of the Cuban poor.

The rest of the year, the campesinos (agricultural workers) were without work and without any welfare, making a bare living, waiting for the "dead season" to end.

In the fertile soil of Cuba, everything

imaginable could grow, but nevertheless, rice and black beans had to be imported from the United States along with cigarettes and bacon. And this great sugar producing country had to import its *candy*!

Under the Agrarian Reform Law, sugar fields and lands that have never been cultivated are being turned into modern farms producing rice, beans, water melons, potatoes, corn, tomatoes and many other crops that had to be imported from the United States. This way, employment has been secured for the campesinos for the year 'round.

New roads are being built everywhere. Private beaches are now public. New hospitals and free medicine, low-cost for high-quality entertainment, security of employment, are some of the signs that build the confidence of the Cuban workers for a better future.

The Cubans realize that they have to work hard to build this future. Today every Cuban worker contributes on his own free will, part of his spare time working, building new beaches, hospitals, schools, roads, practically everything.

His enthusiasm has never been so high. I have seen enthusiastic campesinos, young and old, after a hard day's work in the fields cutting sugar cane under the hot sun, willingly contributing their spare time to improving the newly-established communities—the co-operatives.

When I asked one of the campesinos who was helping to build the road why they work like this all the time, he put it this way:

"I used to be employed only three months out of the year in the sugar mill

nearby. The rest of the year I had nothing to do. For this reason some people had the idea that we, the campesinos, are lazy. Now we are going to show everybody that it is not so. Besides, whatever we are working on is ours and is going to stay ours for the first time since I can remember."

The revolution has performed miracles all over Cuba in all classes of people. I met many altruistic workers well established in the big cities as doctors, lawyers, accountants, leaving the comforts and pleasures of the cities to come to work among the campesinos in the rural areas where food, housing, climate and mosquitoes are serious problems.

Nearly all the people in Cuba, whether in the big city or in the country, have understood that the meaning of the revolution is a better Cuba, self-supported and independent.

## Big Real Estate Sharks Rejoice As Dante Tenants Face Eviction

By Pedro Sanchez

Buffalo, October 25 — The one-year fight to save the 616 units of public housing in Dante Project received a mortal blow when Supreme Court Justice Michael Catalano refused to enjoin the Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority from proceeding with its plan to convert the project into middle-income housing, privately operated.

The Buffalo Evening News of October 21 quoted Adrian Rowland, President of the Dante Tenants League:

"This decision is a cruel blow to the thousands of working people who are desperately in need of low-cost housing, and is aimed at the Negro people who made up the majority of the tenants. It forces Dante families back into the heavily congested Negro neighborhoods in the Ellicott District in the midst of demolition work, debris and rats.

"The big real estate interests in Buffalo are rejoicing. And no wonder—eleven million dollars worth of public property has been turned over to private interests."

Mr. Rowland and the officers of the Dante Tenants Defense League has issued a statement thanking all the union organizations and community groups who aided the tenants in their long fight.

He made special mention of the Mothers Alliance, an interracial women's organization, who gave all-out aid to the Dante tenants from beginning to end.

"We must also recognize the efforts of our attorney, Ray Ellis Green, who so effectively fought our battle in court," said Mr. Rowland.

Barbara Rowland, also an officer of the Dante League, summed up the gains won by the efforts of the tenants at a recent public meeting sponsored by the Mothers Alliance:

"When the Dante conversion plan was first announced in the papers the idea was for the real estate sharks to take the whole waterfront including Lakeview Public Housing Project.

"We have made it so hot for them and exposed so much dirt that the MHA said in the paper a few weeks ago that no other such conversion would be attempted because there was too much 'red tape' involved. By 'red tape' they mean US!"

### Crocodile Tears

Just in case you are shedding tears over the big steel companies not making much money lately with production down and all—remember this:

In the last 25 years, the steel corporations have made twelve (12) billion dollars in admitted profits.

### —Real Tears

At least 20 per cent of all Americans "live close to the poverty line or below it," the AFL-CIO reported recently.

## Buffalo Civil Rights Party Works to Elect Negro Judge

By Kitty Fisher

The fight for Negro representation in Buffalo got an enthusiastic start last week at the kick-off rally of the newly-formed Civil Rights Party. The effort to elect a Negro judge was described as much more than a local effort. And speakers again and again pointed to the gains made by colonial people in Africa and elsewhere as an inspiration for the civil rights fight here.

Attorney Clarence Maloney, candidate of the Civil Rights Party for City Judge (Last row, 11) relayed the advice given him by a high official of the Ghana government who said he hoped that African-Americans could match the aggressive, progressive Africans now gaining independence. Mr. Maloney contrasted these gains with the fact that *there are 70,000 Negroes in our city and never has one of our group had a part in the judicial set-up of the city.*

Former Buffalonian, Mrs. Yvonne Scruggs Perry, sociologist and Fulbright Scholar of the Year, was the keynote speaker. She called the Committee to Elect a Negro Judge "the social conscience of this city—the harbinger of progress."

Some of the struggles of the party to get on the ballot and obtain publicity were described by Mrs. Deirdre Gris-

wold, a member of the Committee to Elect a Negro Judge and Secretary of the Mothers Alliance.

She linked the local election of a Negro judge to the struggle of oppressed people all over the world.

"We are living in a world that is echoing with the cries of liberation," she said, "with the cry to be treated not just as any human being, but as a people who have a great deal to contribute to the world . . . and who are saying: 'We could perhaps wait a little longer for bread and meat, but we demand honor and dignity NOW.'"

The Civil Rights Party's slogan "For Negro Representation, Vote for Principles, Not Party," points up the discriminatory practices of the Democratic and Republican parties, which have never nominated a Negro candidate for major public office.

Attorney Maloney, in spite of his excellent qualifications, in addition to his 33 years of experience as a prominent attorney, has continually been bypassed by both major parties at election time solely because of color. However, the party and candidate agree that this is not merely a campaign to get a man elected, but is a part of a broader struggle for liberation.

## The Problems of Steel Production — or Lost In The Stars

In our last issue we showed how the financial fortune tellers for the capitalist class figure things out. The stars had told them that the reason for the big drop in steel production was *the compact car.*

The "compact" uses 1,200 pounds less steel than a standard car. And this was supposed to be why things are so tough for the steel industry. But we pointed out that 2 million "compacts" would only use about a million tons less than the same number of standards (*in a year!*) And that this is only a little over two days' full production for the steel industry.

Well, Roger Blough, captain of the world's biggest steel company (United States Steel), not to be outdone by his own star gazers, and not to be fooled by

our cold figures, now has *other* stars to steer his company by.

There's going to be a big pickup in steel *because* of the compact car, he says.

That is, he must mean that the compacts are so popular that they will give auto sales (and steel sales) such a terrific boost as to more than make up for the loss in steel tonnage on each car!!!

Suppose they sold a million extra "compacts" *even without reducing the number of standards* next year — this would come to about a million and a half tons of extra steel. That's *only three days' production* of the U.S. steel industry for the whole of 1961.

If this is what comes of the captain doing his own star-gazing, it's about time for the ordinary seamen to start piloting the boat!

## Negro American Labor Council—Good Idea—But Leaders Hold Back

By Emmett Howard

The formation of the Negro American Labor Council and the Trade Union Leadership Council was a stride ahead in the fight for equality. But you, Philip Randolph, and you, Horace Sheffield, have played the part the Reuthers and Meanys *want* you to play. The struggle of the Negro unionist has been *contained*.

You have offered no program for action. You have done nothing to organize mass protest at the way organized labor is representing the oppressed and exploited workers. You, Mr. Randolph, are travelling the country laying down the talk-talk, legalistic, do-little line of the NAACP.

The Negro trade unionists must realize we hold the key to the struggle of the labor movement because it is we who are most oppressed. We are the last to be hired and now are the first to be fired.

We are given the harder, lower-paying jobs. We are the ones who have to

pay higher rent for poorer housing. And we must be the ones to push hardest because we have the most to gain.

But our leadership doesn't want to fight for labor's needs. They want their soft jobs. They want to live well. They want to live in peace with the company and the white union bureaucrats. But as the struggle advances to a showdown the rank and file will push the conservative leaders out of their complacency and force them to fight, or push them out entirely and take over the leadership themselves.

Industry has waged an all out fight against unions, not only in the shop but also in the community where the laws are made, where industry can get laws passed in its favor. All of these laws are anti-labor.

Since the merging of the AFL and the CIO there has been little union organizing. Some unions have decreased in size. Out of the mass industrial empire in this country the Negro workers make up approximately 10 per cent of the work force. But they make up 20 per cent of the unemployed.

It is hard to believe that a people so oppressed and so discriminated against would be so easy to control, but we must always look and see what kind of role the *leadership* plays. Once the masses of the oppressed workers create *their own leadership* they will find the *right* road to working class emancipation.

### New World Ahead!

Although the U.S.S.R. has less than half the population of the United States and its NATO allies, Soviet universities now enroll more students in science and technology than the entire Atlantic Community. —

—New York Times, October 9, 1960

# Nigeria Workers Weren't as Meek As Her Majesty Pretended!

By Abraham James

Editor's note: The recent "independence" celebrations of Nigeria were notable for their decorum, dignity — and approval by the Queen of England (who is also the open symbol of British imperialism).

But the imperialists are not so firmly in the saddle in Nigeria as they would like to be nor as much as they pretend to be.

The following brief dispatch from our Nigerian correspondent was unfortunately lost in the mails this summer, but the spirit of the Nigerian workers described in it tells quite a different story than the Nigerian compliments to the Queen, or Prime Minister Balewa's pilgrimage to see the racist Eisenhower.

\* \* \*

Lagos, Nigeria, July 20 (Delayed)—The President of the Nigerian Trades Union Congress, Mr. Michael Imodu has now been released from the Prisons, after a three-month sentence for rioting. He was jailed with three other Unionists who had since been released.

The release of President Imodu was marked with a big reception by thousands of unionists in various parts of the country.

In Lagos, the Federal Capital of Nigeria, workers turned out in thousands to meet their leader at the Lagos Broad

Street Prison, from where a series of receptions were held. At about 4 P.M. in the afternoon, more workers joined in the reception and they paraded the streets of Lagos for several hours.

Imodu rode on horseback. The workers carried red flags with a black star in the middle. They sang different kinds of freedom songs.

At a press conference after the big reception, the 56-year-old leader (Mr. Imodu) threatened to mark the coming independence celebrations in Nigeria with a strike or demonstration by the workers. He gave his reason for this. He said the Federal Government should pay the workers three months "bonus" for independence.

He announced that the workers of Nigeria would challenge the economic policy of the various governments of Nigeria (there are four of them—one in each of the three regions of Nigeria, and the Federal Government). He said a policy which denied bread to the working class could never be acceptable.

Mr. Imodu also said that the Federal Government had voted several thousands of pounds to be spent "lavishly" for strangers, Ministers and legislators during the independence without any thought for the peasant-workers who had helped in the struggle to free Nigeria from colonial rule.

# —Soviet Aids Algeria

(continued from page 1)  
encouraging French soldiers to desert from the fighting in Algeria. It was followed up by 60 more signers — and in

## Free Pablo and Santen, Fighters for Algeria!

Comrades Pablo and Santen have been victimized in a dirty frame-up organized by the fascist "Red Hand" for their work in aid of the Algerian revolution.

They were arrested in Holland on a flimsy, trumped-up charge and imprisoned there. French workers and intellectuals such as Sartre and Simon de Beauvoir have petitioned for their release, and called for "workers leaders and students to organize a great wave of protest addressed to the Dutch leaders . . . to unmask this infamous colonialist provocation."

All advanced workers and progressives in the United States will strongly support the struggle to free these liberation fighters.

the face of job and financial loss and mass trials for the first 121! This is a certain sign that the whole French capitalist system is in a deepgoing crisis.

Once more, the capitalist rulers of France are trembling. And de Gaulle, the "iron man" of only a year ago is already rusting somewhat at the joints.

The feeble French capitalists are talking of an even more ironclad rule for the workers in the form of an outright military dictatorship. But the French workers will never submit to a government that tries to carry the already unpopular Algerian war through to a still more unpopular victory.

Thus the Algerian masses are awakening struggles in the very heartland of their oppressors as they are winning assistance from those who at first tried to compromise the struggle away.

What an answer to the cynics and pessimists—some of whom still aspire to lead the working class! What a brilliant reply to the arm-chair strategists! A handful of people, an oppressed nation that history tried to forget, is writing its own history and helping to change the history of the world.

## HELP ALGERIAN PRISONERS IN FRANCE

SEND MONEY, FOOD, MEN'S CLOTHING, MEDICINE & DRUGS

To: Comite D'Aide Aux Detenus Algeriens,

18 Rue Saint-Fernand, Paris (17me), France

# The Truth About the Atlanta Sitdowns And the Role of Martin Luther King

By C. B. Williams

The following is an intimate account of the real story behind the recent sit-downs in Atlanta and the jailing of the student fighters.

The press generally reported the struggle as one led by the Reverend Martin Luther King. And most Northern liberals believe that King is the main inspirer of the movement.

The facts given below will help to set the record straight—Ed.

Atlanta, Ga.—What began so impressively, so strongly and so inspiringly last Wednesday as a higher stage of the struggle of Black Atlanta for equality of service in all areas of department, chain and variety stores here, became on Saturday a naked betrayal of our heroic and self-sacrificing youth by the petty bourgeois leadership both of the student and the adult community.

The demonstrations came at a time when international, national and local pressures were reaching explosive heights. Wires were coming in from all quarters. Mao Tse Tung called his protests from China. Demonstrations demanding the immediate release of King and the others being held in the county jail were taking place in California (and no doubt in other places as well).

### Widespread Support

The flow of money across the counters in the stores downtown was at an all-time low. Support from the white community was obvious.

Just as an example — When some of the sitdowners were in Rich's Department Store, a white woman whom they knew, along with a number of other white women, joined with them and talked with them for more than two and a half hours!

When the 48 were arrested, they went to prison on the 19th with their heads high and agreed they would all take "Jail Not Bail."

Within hours, the mushrooming movement was planning a giant demonstration and march on the county jail where Rev. King and 38 of the students (the

majority of them, young ladies) were being held.

But the "city fathers," very conscious of all this, worked fast. Their major objective was of course to get the student and adult "leaders" to bring an immediate halt to the sit-in demonstrations. Thus the hastily called conference of the big brass on Saturday morning.

The Mayor asked for a 60 to 90 days "cooling off period," during which the prisoners would be out on bail. But the students objected.

### "Jail Not Bail"

The aim of the student rank and file of the group was to obtain immediate and unconditional dismissal of the case against their imprisoned comrades. The whole idea of "Jail Not Bail" was to get a final adjudication which would validate the absolute right of all Black Atlanta to full equality of service in the department, chain and variety stores.

Bail or bond and a "cooling off period" meant that there would be no dismissal of the case, that the government would still continue arrests and that we would still be deprived of full equality of service.

But with the pressure from the city officials and the conciliationism of a number of the "leaders," the meeting agreed to a "cooling off period" of 30 days and the "leadership" left the conditions purposely vague.

In order to carry out this dirty maneuver, the students in the county jail had to be persuaded to sign their own bond, which in effect, was asking them to violate their own oath to take "Jail Not Bail."

And in order to prevent Sunday's mass march on the jail, this had to be done quickly.

### Head Off Mass March

So on Saturday night, Dr. Clement (of Atlanta University), with the high command of the city, including Chief of Police, Jenkins, went to the county jail.

He presented a proposal to the jailed students whereby they could be released

by signing their own bonds and indicated that Rich's Department Store would later drop the charges against them.

This they rejected, and stated that they would leave the jail only if all charges against them were dropped. They went back to their cells — the girls to theirs and the fellows to theirs.

Up to this point, Martin Luther King had advocated "Jail Not Bail." But now, after talking with the big brass, he became a strong advocate of bail. He advised the fellows to leave and have faith in the negotiations. He used his personal prestige to try to reverse the decision of the group.

Even after all this, there was very vigorous dissent from a minority.

But King suddenly decided to go to see the girls and tell them that the fellows had unanimously agreed to leave. This was vigorously objected to. But he told the girls anyway.

### Students Tricked

They felt terribly let down. Some of them cried. King then returned and told the fellows that the girls were leaving. The fellows left one by one until only one remained, who was then viciously attacked and slandered as a disrupter, but he refused to reverse his position. The prisoners appealed to him to leave. (They feared for his safety. They of course knew what it means to be mistreated behind prison walls) . . . The guard finally ordered him out . . .

That they all had been sold down the river began to show itself as they reached the outside of the prison and discovered that the cabs and cars had been waiting for them since about 8 P.M. (It was then around 10:30 P.M.) The girls realized they had been tricked and lied to. They had said strongly that they would remain in jail if only one fellow stayed also . . .

That night there was a very hot meeting and the next day (Sunday at 3 P.M.) another meeting of the released students was held. The students were quieter but they could now see the capitu-

lation crystal-clear. They saw that the attempt was not just to stop the protests for 30 days, but indefinitely.

Of course, there is a great deal of distress in some quarters of the student and adult community as a result of this clear-cut surrender. But the general feeling is that the march of history can't be stopped. They can stop the misleaders, but they can't stop the rank and file, the masses.

Finally, a word on Rev. King's own case:

From all this, you would gather that King should have been released on his other charge. (King had a one-year suspended sentence hanging over him on an automobile license charge—Ed.)

### Victim of His Own Folly

But as so often happens in history, those who pursue the line of surrender in the hope of squeezing out some piddling concession, themselves become the victims of their own false policy.

As you probably know by this time, King was arraigned before Judge Oscar Mitchell of DeKalb Civil and Criminal Court on his old traffic charge, and given a four-month sentence in Georgia State Prison at Reidsville.

Mayor Hartsfield, who pressed a "negotiated settlement" said so plaintively:

"I have made requests of all the news agencies that in their stories they make it clear that this hearing (King's hearing on the suspended sentence) did not take place in Atlanta."

Thus this slippery character tries to show his "innocence." But he only differs in words from Georgia Governor Vandiver, who says:

"I think the maximum sentence for Martin Luther King might do him good, might make a law-abiding citizen out of him and teach him to respect the law of Georgia."

Naturally, there is a great deal of sympathy for King as a result of this trick the white supremacists played on him. But there is also the general feeling that the days of the reformist Uncle Tom-oriented leadership in the community are about over.