

# WORKERS WORLD

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10 CENTS

## Johnson Plots A Sneak Attack on China!



"This is what I mean by 'Unconditional Discussion'"

### The Speech That Soothed the Doves (The Chief Hawk Hates War!)

What at first appeared to be a peace talk by President Johnson last week, turned out on closer attention to be a war talk, a wretched attempt at justification of the U.S. war in Vietnam. In essence, it was a demand for the submission of North and South Vietnam to the military power of the United States. The iron hand was only slightly concealed in a billion-dollar velvet glove. This was the so-called "Marshall Plan for Asia," an economic bribe for Vietnam's political surrender.

If there was any doubt about Johnson's real intentions, if anyone really believed Johnson was sincere in his folksy anti-war sentiments, he had only to read the papers 36 hours later. At that time, the biggest U.S. air raid of the war gave the lie to the peaceful trimmings of Johnson's speech.

Johnson agreed to have "unconditional discussions," but these discussions have at least two very real—and very unacceptable conditions.

First condition: The discussions are only to be with the government of North Vietnam. And what the discussions are about is the revolution in South Vietnam. The liberation front is only a puppet of the North, according to Johnson, who cannot imagine anybody more independent in Vietnam than the U.S. puppet government of Saigon!

Second condition: Johnson agrees to "unconditionally discuss" with the country he has attacked, but not to have an armistice or cease-fire for the discussions, much less to remove his troops, which are the only foreign troops in Vietnam. He expects a country to "dis-

cuss" while he is raining bombs upon its people—and then expects to be thanked as a humanitarian for suggesting that the surrender will be salved with U.S. dollars!

The liberation front, with whom Johnson refuses to negotiate, controls over half of the country of South Vietnam. And nearly 400,000 government troops armed, equipped and "advised" by the United States, plus the 7th Fleet and 31,000 U.S. troops with their planes, tanks, helicopters, bombs and poison gas can't defeat them.

Obviously, the liberation front is not a handful of North Vietnam "agitators," but the whole South Vietnam people in arms!

"Terror strikes in the heart of the cities," said Johnson. But he neglected to say that it is precisely "in the heart of the cities" that the biggest demonstrations have been mounted against the U.S. terror. Last August 21, nearly a thousand students marched to the then-President Nguyen Khanh's office in Saigon carrying banners which demanded an end to "military dictatorship." A similar march took place the same day in the city of Hue. A few months later in that city, 15,000 demonstrated against the war. One of their demands was for the Americans to go home. On March 17 of this year, UPI said 1,700 persons marched in the village of Phumy coming from several other villages in the province. (Government forces shot at the crowd killing several.)

Last September 3, the New York Times reported about an upheaval of

(Continued on page 4)

### The Long Planning for Aggressive War on China Now Leaps From Drawing Board to Reality

"Is the next Pearl Harbor to be an American bombing of China?"

That question was contained in a letter from Owen Lattimore to the New York Times, published the second morning after Johnson's "peace talk" last week.

Owen Lattimore was a U.S. State Department consultant for many years. Before being witch-hunted by the infamous McCarthy Committee, he was dean of the Walter Hines Page School of Foreign Relations at Johns Hopkins and recognized as the foremost authority on China in the service of conservative U.S. power politics.

The ominous question this man asks is therefore not motivated by caprice or sensationalism, but based on wide knowledge and inside information.

Moreover, his question, really a rhetorical one, is an open generalization of what has long been a half-hidden and half-admitted policy of the Pentagon and in fact, the White House itself.

For example, the following information was "leaked" to the public via Stewart Alsop in the Saturday Evening Post last November 14:

"A single big 'iron bomb' (non-nuclear) in the right place delivered by a plane flying at altitudes which would prevent it being intercepted or even identified, could damage the Chinese (atomic) plant to the point where it would have to be rebuilt from scratch. Before President Kennedy died, 'contingency plans' for what is called the 'nuclear sterilization of the Chicom's' (Chinese Communists—ed.) were drawn up and have not been thrown in the waste basket."

This almost incredible statement by an authoritative writer in a large-circulation magazine was not repudiated by the Pentagon nor was it condemned by the White House. And why should it have been? These centers of government were the sources for the statement in the first place!

How can this be known? First, by the fact that Alsop has made a whole series of "leaks" public that were later verified. Second, by the negative fact that in all the White House press conferences since this news was "leaked," no reporter dared to ask Johnson if the story was true, and Johnson himself volunteered nothing. It was almost as if nobody read the Saturday Evening Post!

Actually, the Alsop leak was intended to galvanize right wing opinion and prepare it for just such an outcome as Lattimore is so rightly horrified about.

The words "target areas" in Alsop's story, like the words, "nuclear sterilization," have a technical and clinical sound that does not immediately conjure up thousands or millions of human beings killed. And of course that is the purpose of such language. But the truth is that the Pentagon has been consciously planning just such a slaughter.

Shortly after Alsop had "leaked" his story for the Pentagon, Drew Pearson revealed on Nov. 20 that the U.S. Air Force generals want to build "cobalt bombs which could contaminate great

### Honest Peace Program

APRIL 14—Hanoi has just issued a peace program that differs from Johnson's only in that it is an honest one. In essence, it is this:

1. Withdrawal of U.S. Troops.
2. Re-instate 1954 Geneva Agreement.
3. Affairs of S. Vietnam to be settled by people of same under program of the Liberation Front.
4. Peaceful re-unification of North and South without foreign intervention.

The world's oppressed support this program. And so do we.

areas with radioactive dust. A few cobalt bombs could wipe out the whole Chinese population. . . ."

In an even earlier Saturday Post editorial (February 22, 1964), Alsop had quoted an anonymous "policy maker," apparently on the White House staff—judging by the context:

"If the Chinese intervened," says one policy maker, "we would at least have a heaven-sent opportunity to hit certain target areas in China." The targets are, of course, the Chinese atomic plants."

The U.S. generals, however, are not waiting for "heaven" to send this "opportunity." Everything they are doing in Vietnam is calculated to provoke China.

First, they have invaded South Vietnam, which is itself a violation of the 1954 Geneva Treaty. Second, they have bombed the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North Vietnam) which has a common border with China. Third and most ominously, they have invaded the air space of China itself and fought an air battle over the Chinese island of Hainan. This was on Friday, April 9.

Obviously, the U.S. militarists are trying ever more desperately to provoke China into actions that call for "massive retaliation."

But if these tricks fail, they are perfectly willing to start the thing themselves by a "preventive" bombing of China as provided for in their "contingency" plans and warned about by Lattimore's urgent letter.

They have already ringed China with the nuclear-armed ships of the 7th Fleet, to which a few months ago, they added the nuclear-armed "Polaris" submarines. This is clearly in preparation for a U.S. aggression against China.

Johnson and the U.S. militarists are even more tempted than Tojo was, in his time, to make a Pearl Harbor-type move, because they calculate that the Chinese economy is much more vulnerable than was that of the U.S.A. in 1941. The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor was only a delaying action against the U.S. war machine, but U.S. bombing attacks on Chinese industries, they reason, might destroy the heart of Chinese weaponry.

What the military mind fails to understand, however, is this: No Pearl Harbor-type attack on China, no matter how effective militarily, is going to destroy the Chinese people's will to fight.

—Nor will it stop the American people's fight against a reactionary war.

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## Not Everybody Suffers From Viet War!

### The Profits of Human Slaughter — 162%

By Ellen Pierce

Bringing death and destruction to Vietnam is part of Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporation's "business as usual."

This giant corporation has been making profits at the rate of 162% (that's right—162%—it's no typographical error) on sales of gun powder to the U.S. Army. The overcharge—over and above normal profits—has amounted to more than one million dollars in terms of cold cash.

Olin Mathieson also admitted conspiring to "defraud the government in obtaining foreign aid financing in the sale

of drugs to Vietnam and Cambodia" (New York Daily News, April 1, 1965). This piece of thievery was relatively small pickings for an international crook like the Olin Mathieson Corporation—only \$150,000 was involved.

The Army asked Olin Mathieson to make a voluntary refund on part of the one million dollars involved in the gun powder sales, but the chemical corporation was not in a volunteering mood when it came to returning profits.

These swindles are not just the ordinary get-rich-quick, wheeling and dealing type. Olin Mathieson's profits are directly linked to U.S. imperialism in Vietnam.

How proud the board of directors of Olin Mathieson must feel when they see Vietnamese children blown to bits with their brand of gun powder. How happy the big stockholders must feel when they hear of new bombings and greater expansion of the war against Vietnam. After all, the bigger the casualty lists, the bigger the war—and the bigger are their profits.

#### Self-Defense in Louisiana

JONESBORO, La., Apr. 6—The Deacons for Defense and Justice, an armed black self-defense guard, are patrolling the black section of this town of 4,000 (one-third Afro-American) with four cars on a 24-hour basis.

"If we see a Klansman, we might just get on his bumper and trail him a while to let him know we're here," said Ernest Thomas, vice president of the body.

#### —To American Mothers

(Continued from page 1)

force your husbands, your sons, your brothers, your friends to go to Vietnam to kill and be killed. . . .

With the best wishes of good health and success in your struggle for peace in Vietnam and the world.

Madam NGUYEN THI THUC VIEN, Professor, President of the Vietnam Women's Union; Madam VO THI TRU TUC, Doctor of Sciences, Professor of

Chemistry, the Hanoi University; Madam BUT THI CAM, Doctor of Law, Deputy to the National Assembly; Madam AI LIEN, Actress; Madam LE THU TRA, Vice-President of the Committee for the Defense of Children; Madam NGUYEN VAN DUYET, Housewife; Madam XUAN TINH, Housewife; Madam NGUYEN AN NINH, Director of the Kindergarten for Children regrouped from South Vietnam; Madam DO THI THIEP, Worker in the Dong Xuan Knitwear Factory, Deputy to the National Assembly—and many others.



Seven girls of Ne Village in North Vietnam. They are growers of water lentils and preparers of green manure in the Minh Duc Cooperative. They are also in the militia and practice target training to defend their country.—Photo by Tran Nhue

## Benefit for Widow & Children of Malcolm X

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## The Bombing of the U.S. Embassy

How did the people of Saigon react to the bombing of the U.S. Embassy last week? Were they indignant? Were they more determined than ever to defeat the revolution the U.S. is trying to put down? Did they close ranks with the U.S. Armed Forces and demand an immediate offensive against North Vietnam?

Not exactly.

Some South Vietnam officials, to be sure, said to the Americans, "Now you have no choice; now you (!) must bomb Hanoi."

But the people reacted otherwise.

Proof:

On March 31, the Saigon government called a protest demonstration in downtown Saigon, to condemn the bombing of

the U.S. Embassy. Press dispatches said 500 showed up. (This was out of a population of more than one million in the city.) The U.S. capitalist press would hardly have minimized the size of the crowd. (It later was "corrected" to 2,000!)

Moreover, the government had asked—or ordered—all employees of City Hall to attend the demonstration to swell its ranks a little. (Some of them must have played hooky!)

Why do the people of Saigon show such indifference to the fate of the U.S. when the U.S. is fighting for them? The answer is simple: the U.S. is not fighting for them. It is fighting a reactionary, anti-popular, imperialist war against the whole Vietnamese people.

And nearly all of them know it.

## Their Hearts Bleed, But for Whom?

Rev. Martin Luther King has proposed a boycott of all goods exported by manufacturers in Alabama to other states of the United States.

This is a moderate and modest proposal if ever there was one. And it would appear that the only criticism of it might be on the ground that it could hardly be very effective since it is so much more difficult to organize buyers (who are scattered and belong to different classes) than it is to organize workers (who are concentrated and belong to the same class).

But lo and behold, the government and every big newspaper in the country has suddenly leaped to the defense of the black workers of Alabama with the argument that they would be the ones to suffer, since a decline in the profits of their bosses would result in lay-offs or reductions in pay for them!

Touching as is this tender concern for the Welfare of the Black People, we fear it has some other motive than pure unadulterated sympathy for freedom. Such, for example, as an even more tender concern for the profits of the landlords and manufacturers—the ruling class of Alabama.

There is, of course, a grain of truth for the oppressed in the oppressors' op-

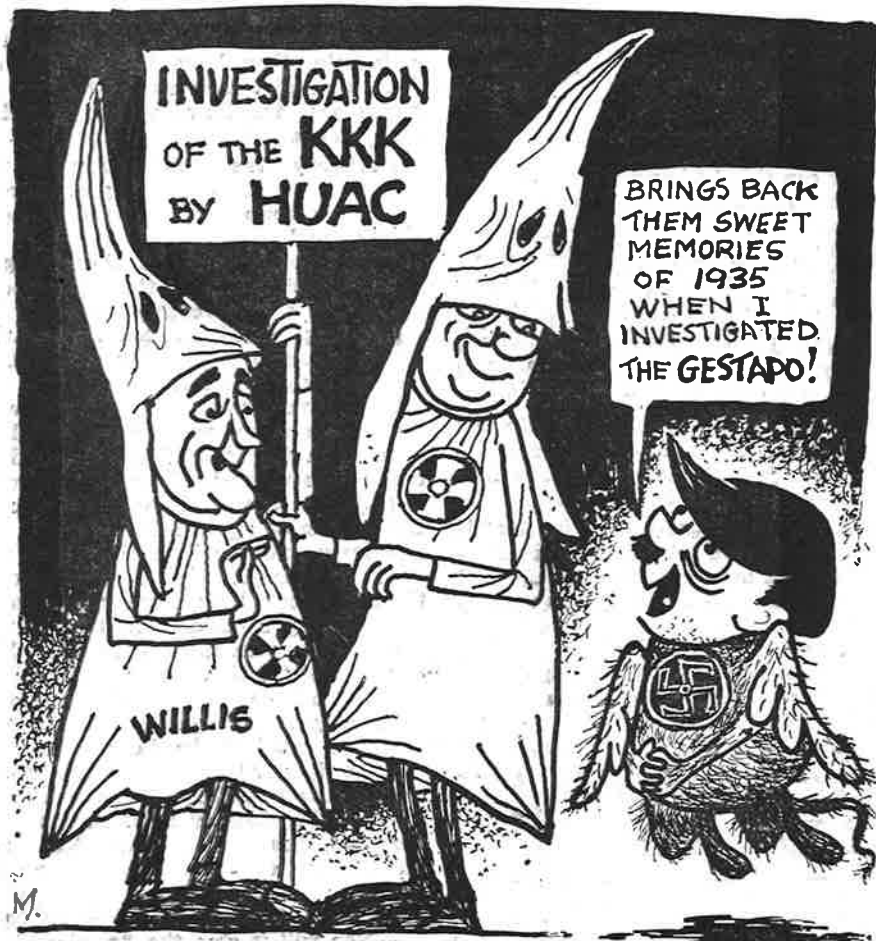
position to the boycott. It is true that the boycott is a weapon that hurts the workers as well as the bosses, and for that reason is a dubious weapon. But the black workers of Alabama are usually barred from the factories which sell products to the North, anyway. Or else they work only as janitors or in some other menial capacity.

However, since this boycott might hurt the workers as well as their enemies, all the interested government bodies, multi-million-dollar newspapers and other exploiters who are so worried about the workers could easily remedy the situation. They could raise a few million dollars to be given directly to the black workers who will be injured by the boycott. This would isolate the profiteers of the jimcrow system and make them suffer exclusively.

But somehow, the whole government in Washington, with all those big brains from Harvard, hasn't come up with any idea like that. And somehow all those smart newspapers haven't thought of it either.

Could it be that they aren't interested in the Black People at all, and their opposition to the boycott is entirely motivated by their concern for the rich?

It could be.





## "Act of God"—Or Crime of Man?

# 214 Needless Deaths in Chile Earthquake!

By Phyllis Fishberg

It wasn't just a natural disaster that took the lives of over 400 people in the recent Chilean earthquake.

The evil effects of nature were given a head start by the evil effects of capitalism.

One of the areas that suffered most from the quake was the mining town of El Cobre, where more than half the casualties occurred.

All of El Cobre's deaths could have been avoided! They were caused not by the earthquake itself, but by an avalanche (started by the quake) of an enormous slag heap of waste from the nearby copper mine that had been accumulating for years.

The potential danger of this slag heap had also been warned about for years. But even so prominent a person as the internationally-known leftist Senator, Salvador Allende, who was recently defeated by the bourgeois candidate Eduardo Frei in the Presidential elections, could not, for all his warnings, get the

mineowners to turn away from their financially profitable operations and spend a little of their capital to get rid of the slag heap. The only profit in that, after all, would be some workers' lives!

One would think that when this scandalous situation finally caused the death of 214 people, it would be big news. But here, the few other newspapers that did cover the disaster in El Cobre gave no indication of the years of warning that preceded it.

And our friends in Chile inform us that the press is keeping a tight lid on the scandal there too.

It was a French-owned mining company, Disputada de las Condes, that was responsible for the slag heap and the deaths it caused. But the capitalist press of the U.S. and Chile is keeping it quiet because U.S. imperialism and its Chilean puppets are just as involved in the exploitation of the Chilean workers as is this French company.

The Rockefellers, the Guggenheims

spirit is holding up. Workers are demanding a \$2 per hour minimum wage; a general increase for commission salesmen; the right to transfer to local store branches; improved guarantees for part-timers and a number of departmental requests.

"We are striking to win all of these demands," said District 65 Executive Vice-President Bill Michelson who is leading the strike, "but more importantly, to end once and for all an intolerable arrogance by management towards the employees. We are striking to end unilateral action by the management on hours of work, night openings, work rules and other matters. This management has shown contempt for its employees and seriously underestimates their willingness to struggle to improve their lot."

The spirit of today's line shows that their willingness could not be overestimated!

## Bloomingdale Workers Strike for Living Wage

NEW YORK, N.Y., April 5—"You're stepping on our bread and butter!" yelled an angry striking picket who works for Bloomingdale's Department Store, at one of its rich customers, who had just crashed through the picket line to do a day of bargain hunting. "Greedy scab!" pointed another worker.

Bloomingdale's was struck on Wednesday, March 31, by 3,000 workers under the leadership of District 65, after the local rejected a "wage offer" of 21 cents an hour to be stretched over three years. The picket line has continued during all business hours of the store ever since. The pickets urge customers to stay out, as well as employees, and have been successful in cutting down Bloomingdale's business.

Compliance is not universal, but the

## Puerto Ricans Hit Police Brutality

By Peter Storch

NEW YORK, March 27—Two militant protest demonstrations today in lower Manhattan ignited a movement of resistance in the Puerto Rican community against Commissioner Murphy's racist killers in blue.

This morning, the Pro-Independence Movement of Puerto Rico (MPI) held a rally on the Lower East Side at the corner of Eldridge and Stanton Streets in front of more than 200 people, mostly Puerto Ricans from the neighborhood.

The speakers denounced the police brutality and many times the people shouted: "Despierta Boricua, Defiende lo tuyo!" (Wake up Puerto Ricans, defend your own!)

After the rally, the MPI marched with over 100 people to Central Police Headquarters and doubled the size of a picket line which was started at noon by several more conservative Puerto Rican political and social organizations.

## U.S. Police 'Third Degree' Methods in Vietnam

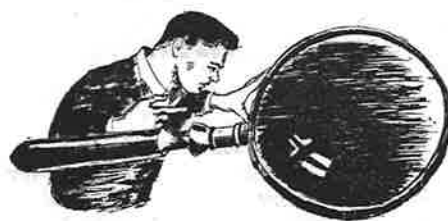


Under the caption, "Red Guerrilla Decides to Talk," the New York Journal American explained that "the interrogator has made a persuasive point with (the guerrilla's) own captured spear. He told where fellow Reds had hidden a cache of Chinese grenades."—Too bad he didn't have a grenade himself, instead of a spear!

and the First National City Bank crowd control a majority of the Chilean mines, and that means they control the lives (and deaths) of the mineworkers. Like the French company, they are more concerned with profit than preserving workers' lives. If a "natural disaster" should strike one of their mines and "a few broken boards protruding from the sticky red mud, half-buried utensils and

bodies of victims were the only signs left of the workers camp" (Times, March 30), they wouldn't be too disturbed, so long as their precious capital investment wasn't harmed.

That's why they must stifle public outrage against the French capitalists who played so loose with the lives of their workers. If they didn't, maybe workers in the U.S.-owned mines in Chile would begin to demand better and safer working conditions. Indeed, maybe even U.S. workers in U.S. mines would start fighting for better conditions here, where workers die every day, too, because better working conditions aren't "profitable."



## Through the Magnifying Glass

By John Moore

### So, What's the Answer?

It was on the radio late at night. The interviewer was talking to a military officer just back from Vietnam. The officer in a strident, panic-button-pushing voice was telling of defeats and ever worsening problems there for U.S. forces.

The Viet Cong were everywhere. They controlled everything. You couldn't go anywhere. Etc. etc.

The interviewer (listening apparently with bulging eyes and mouth agape) would say after each bit of bad news: "So, what's the answer?" and the officer instead of supplying the solution would go on to relate further problems and catastrophes and the interviewer would again stop him with the desperate demand: "So, what's the answer? What's the answer?"

We could not but help see this same conversation going on between Johnson and Taylor describing the situation and Johnson demanding, "So what's the answer?"

We can see in the newspapers now the answers Taylor gave: more soldiers, more guns, more bombings.

Yet the Viet liberation fighters keep scoring victories.

It hurts when we hear of these fierce attacks by U.S. planes on Viet liberation fighters who must fight back against tremendous military odds—small caliber guns against jet bombers.

We picture them from our own combat experience dug in (deep and safe we hope) but facing the shattering impact of the bombings and searing napalm.

But when the attack is over and when we hear that they are still firing back ("heavy fire" from the ground reported observers after the recent attempt to burn out a whole area of forest) we feel a deep awe and admiration for these men and women who are showing what human will can do when it is backed by revolutionary conviction.

So what's the answer?

We need to find ever more ways of stopping this Nazi-like U.S. military assault on the Vietnamese people.

### A Turn of the Screw

Compared to the war in Vietnam and the Afro-American struggle, the threatened New York State sales tax may seem a minor thing. But it would be wrong to dismiss its importance.

With big business draining off billions in profits, and with corruption by businessmen and politicians siphoning off countless dollars, and with the federal government spending billions of our dollars on war which therefore can't be used for our needs, it is naturally necessary to levy new taxes.

And who should pay these taxes? The big business interests who've got the dough? No! Of course not.

Working people must be taxed some more, say business interests. Sales tax is the method they may choose.

Though the sales tax takes only a few cents at a time, in most cases, to the most oppressed who must literally count their pennies, this means a turn of the screw, the tightening of the vise, a cutting out of something else they need.

And involved in this personal pain is a principle—one that eventually will drive working people to fight back against not only this tax but against the big business government which makes war both abroad and at home.

Just remember, it was a matter of taxes (without representation—and we ain't got none either) which caused these guys back in 1773 to throw the tea in the sea and start a revolution.

### And the News That's Fit To Be Hid

When bourgeois factions fight, they sometimes uncover each other's dirty shirt-tails. That can be interesting.

The "liberal" New York Times recently had a spat with "liberal" friend and "statesman" Senator Fulbright. They used statistics showing that no Afro-Americans were registered in one Arkansas county.

Fulbright from Arkansas felt his "liberalness" was being challenged and made the Times editors look like fools when he showed that there were only two Afro-Americans in the whole county.

But the Times, their all-wise ego stung by this public lambasting, dug into their "liberal" friend in an unaccustomed way. They presented further statistics on other counties showing how widely in Arkansas blacks are deprived of the vote (24% registered in one county, 13% in another, etc.). Obviously Fulbright knew this well and was covering it. In short, he was exposed as a hypocrite.

That Fulbright is a hypocrite comes as no surprise, but this unusual exposure of a fellow "liberal" by the "liberal" Times makes you want to speculate a bit on how much exposing could be done by anyone who had access to the files and informational resources of the Times . . . someone, that is, who really wanted to do some exposing.

# Johnson Escalates Vietnam War In Face of Rising Mass Opposition

## Black Robes and Brass Buttons at the Hilton Quite a Communion Breakfast!

NEW YORK, April 5—About 6,000 New York City policemen cheered the Selma cops yesterday at the annual Communion Breakfast of the police department's Holy Name Society.

After attending mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral, they trooped over to the Hotel Hilton, where they heard William F. Buckley, the semi-fascist editor of National Review, tell them how restrained and patient the cops were in Selma, Alabama.

They clapped, cheered and whistled when he said such things as, "Nobody is more sacrosanct today than he who strikes a policeman" and that Mrs. Liuzzo purposely ignored possible police protection and since she was "sitting on the front seat with a young Negro" she got shot as might have been expected.

"Something was happening" to a world in which there was "a general hostility to the police," said Buckley. This got a big hand, too.

"Four weeks ago at Selma," intoned the intellectual darling of the ultra-right, "the television cameras showed police nightsticks descending on the bodies of demonstrators" . . . but they did not show "the period of time—20 minutes, 1,200 seconds—when the demonstrators faced each other." The demonstrators "refused the order" not to march "in defiance" of the cops and the cameras showed "nothing of the policemen's restraint."

The 6,000 Holy Name Society members clapped, cheered and whistled for over a minute at the end of Buckley's Communion address and the moderator, the Right Reverend Monsiegnor Joseph

A. Dunne, said his talk had been "full of consolation and hope."

This brought still more whistles.

Mayor Wagner and Police Commissioner Murphy were on the platform, too. Did these characters (who are supposed to represent "the people") express any disapproval of Buckley's Hitler-like harangue?

They did not.

## U.S. Casualties Mount; Hint Call for 375,000 GI's As Youth All Over Country Demand End to the War

Never have the American people been so opposed to a U.S. war as they are to the present one in Vietnam. And never has an American government ridden so roughshod over the antiwar feelings of the U.S. masses as it is doing now in Southeast Asia.

In the face of a January Gallup Poll that showed 81 per cent of the people to be opposed to the war in one way or another, Johnson ordered the spreading of the war to North Vietnam in February. Then, after literally hundreds of

demonstrations against the war inside the U.S., Johnson sent the U.S. planes still further north almost to the outskirts of Hanoi.

Such high-handedness shows that the U.S. warmakers think they are going to maneuver the U.S. masses into a Korea-type or even bigger-than-Korea-type war. This may be so. But they are not going to maneuver them into liking it—or even passively supporting it.

This was proven by the people's reaction to the bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Saigon. Lyndon Johnson and the New York Daily News were shocked and highly indignant. But not much of anybody else was. Even the most non-political and patriotic of the workers take it for granted that the Embassy is the headquarters for the U.S. conduct of the war—and naturally must be a target in the war!

When 4-star General and now "Ambassador" Maxwell Taylor conferred with Johnson during the week of March 29, it was taken for granted that these war-hawks were planning to get the people into a bigger war. But the people didn't like it.

And when it was "leaked" out the following week that maybe 375,000 American GI's might have to go to Vietnam pretty soon, nobody was very much surprised. But nobody liked it either.

The opposition is becoming broader and deeper. The reactionary character of the war is only dimly comprehended by the great masses, to be sure. But the aggressive nature of the drive against a people's self-determination is instinctively understood by millions.

And this is only the beginning.

The lack of support for the war will at a certain point inevitably be transformed into a militant and revolutionary opposition by the great 75-million strong working class, itself.

And that will take care of Johnson, Taylor—and a lot of other things, too.

## Rob Williams to Help Embattled Vietnam People



NEW YORK, April 4—Rob Williams (shown above on recent visit to Canton, China) is now rumored to be going to Vietnam.

According to a CBS broadcast yesterday, he has volunteered to go to Vietnam and fight on the side of the liberation movement against U.S. aggression.

## From Vietnam's Mothers

# A Letter to American Mothers:

HANOI, March 2, 1965.

Dear Friends,

Today, in the afternoon, American aircraft again came from the Seventh Fleet carriers and U.S. air bases in South Vietnam to bomb and strafe peaceful villages of Quang Binh and Vinh Linh. We feel we must write this letter to you.

The people of Hanoi, like those of all other parts of North Vietnam, stand ready to fight and to give deserved punishment to the air and sea pirates seeking to destroy their homes and sow mourning among them. But all the while, we Vietnamese women are thinking of you. Because we are confident that at this time in the United States, you are also engaged in protest actions against the American unjust aggression on the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

After a previous American air raid, on February 7, some of us saw with our own eyes, among the debris of a U.S. plane lying in a paddy field, a pilot's helmet riddled with bullets. Where was the pilot, we thought. Had his body been reduced to ashes? Or had he jumped into the sea and been drowned? We felt a pang thinking of his mother, his wife,

his children, his brothers and sisters, his friends. We too have husbands, children, brothers and sisters; and so we felt deeply with that man's mother and wife in their sorrow. And we asked ourselves for what reason, for whose sake, in whose interests, are American mothers and wives suffering sorrow and grief?

Innocent children have been killed by American rockets at Quang Binh, Vinh Linh! We know that you yourselves, American mothers and wives, feel pain and anger. We know that following the American air raids of February 7, 8 and 11, 1965, the American people, American women in particular, immediately voiced their protests. Deeply engraved in our minds will remain the pictures of American mothers with their children staging protest marches and meetings before the White House, the Pentagon and the United Nations building; those of students of Missouri state colleges, Columbia University and other places staging hunger strikes to protest against the air raids on North Vietnam and demand the withdrawal of American troops from South Vietnam. We feel deeply grateful and moved before those fine and courageous actions undertaken by American women and the American people. . . .

We earnestly call on you American mothers and wives to do everything in your power to stop the war, which is robbing us all of our dear ones, and to prevent the U.S. government from trampling upon the most elementary human rights, upon international law and upon the 1954 Geneva Agreements. Whatever may be your profession or religion, you are mothers, you have created life, you want to protect the happiness of your homes and the lives of your children, you will not allow the U.S. warmongers to

(Continued on page 2)

## Enlistments Down; Draft Up

The number of volunteers for the Army, Navy and Air Force has dropped sharply—in the face of the increasing military "needs" of the U.S. in Vietnam.

Consequently, the draft has increased from 3,000 in February to 13,700 in April, and it is planned to call up 15,000 in May.

The Army plans to extend the draft even more sharply when Johnson further extends the war against Vietnam.

## —Johnson Plots

(Continued from Page 1)

that date that "The South Vietnamese people challenged the entire war effort of their shaky government."

"Why are we in South Vietnam?" asked Johnson. And he answered him-

self: "We are there because we have a promise to keep . . ." a promise of "support to the people of South Vietnam."

The only "people of South Vietnam" Johnson is supporting are the military warlords and landlords, the puppets, the tradesmen and hangers-on of the U.S. forces.

The "people of South Vietnam" never had a chance to record their feelings about the U.S. and the liberation forces in a free election. And Johnson, who pretends to be so concerned about their welfare, is absolutely silent on the question of why the North-South unity vote was never held. (The 1954 Geneva Treaty provided that it be held in June-

## Mass March on D.C. Saturday, April 17

The student March on Washington to protest the war in Vietnam is expected to break all records for anti-war demonstrations in the capital next Saturday, April 17.

Although the principal sponsoring organization is the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), many other youth groups are supporting the March and all serious opponents of the reactionary U.S. war will participate.

SDS is pressing for an immediate end to the Vietnam war.

In New York City, buses will be leaving from 6th Avenue and 41st Street at 6:15 A.M.

July, 1956. But the U.S. set up Diem in 1954 to subvert and evade the terms of this treaty.)

There have been eight governments in Saigon in the last year and a half. And not a single one of these governments represents the people. It has been often admitted in the conservative as well as the liberal U.S. press that if U.S. arms and money were taken out of Vietnam, the Saigon government would disappear like a snowball in July.

The real truth is that Johnson, McNamara and the whole military camarilla of U.S. big business are in Vietnam, not to defend the people of that country, but to attack them, not to aid them, but to subjugate them and establish the rule of Coca Cola, Chase Manhattan, First National City and Henry Ford over the masses of Southeast Asia.