

# WORKERS WORLD

Vol. 10, No. 2

January 18, 1968

Ten Cents

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## Pathet Lao Planning Attack on U.S. Puppet



### Guatemala Rebels Kill U.S. Intruders

JANUARY 16 — It was announced today that the Rebel Armed Forces (FAR) successfully carried out an attack on two top U.S. military personnel in Guatemala in command of the illegal interventionist U.S. forces in that country.

U.S. Army Col. John D. Webber Jr. and Navy Lt. Comdr. Ernest A. Munro were killed. Army Sgt. Maj. John R. Forster and Marine Sgt. Harry L. Greene were wounded.

According to the New York Post of Jan. 17, "The FAR said Webber and Munro were chosen as targets because Guatemalan army groups created under U.S. orders 'dedicated themselves to sow terror and death in the entire country.' The group charged that 'the genocidal work of such bands of assassins has resulted in the death of nearly 4,000 Guatemalans.'"

### WALKOUT CONTINUES DESPITE TERROR

## Striking Saigon Workers Forced Back at Gunpoint

JAN. 15 — While puppet President Van Thieu insisted the war must be fought to the last American GI (and American generals quietly applauded him) the ordinary people of Saigon — the workers — went on strike today.

The strike, at first simply for higher wages for electrical workers who walked out two days ago, turned into a near-general strike and showed signs of materially checking the course of the war itself.

The electrical and power plant workers caused a blackout by their strike. And 4,500 dock workers joined in sympathy when police arrested six electrical union leaders just after a bargaining session with management. The dock workers had been unloading military supplies to carry on the war.

## Phouma Near Collapse After Pathet Lao Victories

### U.S. DIVERTING BOMBERS TO LAOS TO SAVE THEIR PUPPET REGIME

It was suddenly revealed last week that U.S. planes were dropping more bombs on Laos than on Vietnam itself. "Neutralist" Laos Premier Souvanna Phouma, who is becoming more and more of a U.S. puppet, has made no complaint, on the contrary, he has collaborated with the U.S. bombers in order to try to crush the revolution in his country.

Having readied the home population

for widening the war to Cambodia, the U.S. propaganda machine is now turning up the volume on its steady barrage of lies about "North Vietnamese troops attacking Laos." This lie campaign is to justify present U.S. military intervention in Laos and future aggression which is being prepared.

Washington is trying to hold back the

### Pathet Lao Take Nambac Despite U.S. Bombing

On January 13 the Pentagon revealed, for the first time, the extent of U.S. aggression in Laos. It was reported that "the main thrust of United States action in Vietnam has temporarily shifted to Laos" allegedly to stop North Vietnamese supply convoys.

Two days later, on January 15, the truth behind these reports came out when the U.S. puppet government in Vientiane announced that the key town of Nambac in Northern Laos had fallen to the revolutionary forces of the Pathet Lao. The 4,500-man royal garrison in Nambac, which has been U.S. protected and supplied, abandoned its position.

Laotian revolution while the U.S. military suffers defeat after defeat in Vietnam. Such a desperate situation impels the militarists to try to erase both problems with one blow — an attack on Laos

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## So-Called "Sneak Attack" No Surprise to Johnson

# Why Did Fulbright Tone Down Tonkin Gulf Inquiry?

By Peter Storch

Was the whole so-called "Tonkin Bay Incident" a hoax concocted by the Johnson Administration?

Senator Fulbright's Foreign Relations Committee has just shifted 180 degrees in its investigation into the truth of the government's version of the 1964 Gulf of Tonkin events, and turned the inquiry into a wholesale cover-up of that infamous aggression. The Senate Committee is now focusing on extraneous details dealing with whether Johnson used proper procedure in exercising his authority at the time.

The conclusion from evidence compiled by the Committee is what Fulbright and many of the other liberals in Congress have all along refused to admit: That the Johnson Administration planned the whole Tonkin Gulf operation in advance as an excuse for expanding the war to North Vietnam.

In fact, according to the New York Times Magazine of November 19, 1967, William P. Bundy, Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs, had a draft of the Tonkin Gulf Congressional resolution in his hip pocket weeks before the "incidents" ever took place. A huge mobilization of marines from the U.S. to Tokyo and from Tokyo to Thailand within 12 hours of the so-

### Loyal Opposition



Senator J.W. Fulbright doesn't want to "impugn the integrity of the government."

Fulbright is an integral part.

Whether it's Fulbright, Morse, or Johnson, they have all proved time and again that when it comes to hiding the predatory nature of U.S. imperialism,

called "first attack" also pointed the finger at a pre-conceived U.S. offensive.

And why did Fulbright refuse to expose the Administration for its criminal aggression against North Vietnam? Because the Arkansas segregationist could never expose the same imperialist monster that oppresses the people of Vietnam as well as the Black people of Arkansas, a monster of which

"doves" and "hawks" alike are all in the same imperialist camp. Fulbright's loyalty to his imperialist bosses in this latest Senate inquiry was well characterized in the January 8 edition of the New York Times by John W. Finney:

"Senator Fulbright still has the initiative within the committee, but he is moving cautiously. He does not want to place himself or his committee into a position of launching an investigation that seems to impugn the integrity of the Administration."

The Senate committee recently received evidence on the Tonkin Gulf events such as a letter from John W. White of Cheshire, Connecticut, a former lieutenant of the U.S. Navy. The letter was later published on December 6, and revealed that,

"North Vietnamese boats might have been in the area and engaged in harassing maneuvers, but they had not fired shells or torpedoes at the United States destroyers."

Mr. White, serving on the first U.S. ship to enter the Tonkin Gulf area in response to the so-called shelling of U.S. destroyers, was in contact with the chief sonarman of the Maddox, one of the two destroyers allegedly hit by North Vietnamese torpedo boats. The

Maddox sonarman had said to Lieutenant White that no torpedoes had been fired on his ship.

More evidence has come into the Committee's hands lately, but nervous Pentagon and State Department officials have now given Fulbright and his colleagues "secret" Defense Department information in order to dispel all doubt of the "official" version. In other words, Fulbright's committee has made an outright deal with the Johnson Administration to keep the issue quiet.

Behind the inquiry, of course, is an attempt by moderates in the Senate, such as Fulbright and Morse, to slow down Johnson's ruthless escalation of the war before it ends in disaster for U.S. imperialism.

But these liberal demagogues voted for the Tonkin Gulf resolution which gave Johnson and the military a blank check for future adventures.

They all thought at the time that the U.S. could easily defeat little North Vietnam, and naturally they backed their commander-in-chief to the hilt. But now that the war is a lost cause, these fake liberals want to take back their blank check and perhaps try their luck in a more successful (they hope) war, such as in the Congo or the Middle East.

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**Dr. Spock & the Anti-War Movement**

The indictment of Dr. Spock and his co-defendants for counseling resistance to the draft is an attack on the anti-war movement, which as all other such attacks, must be answered with the full force of the movement.

The indictment was meant by the Johnson Administration to serve a two-fold purpose. First, by threatening to jail such a prominent figure in the anti-war movement, the government was announcing to the world and to North Vietnam in particular, that the kings of U.S. finance capital do not intend to be moved off their course of aggression in Asia by any amount of mass opposition.

Second, the Justice Department has made a direct assault on the anti-draft movement which, up until now, has been the most militant section of the anti-war movement and which poses the direct threat of actually undermining the effectiveness of the imperialist war machine.

At the present juncture, the ranks of the anti-war movement are growing in both numbers and militancy as has been shown by the demonstrations at the Pentagon on Oct. 21, the militant stop-the-draft struggle in Oakland, the anti-Rusk demonstration in New York, etc.

Under such favorable conditions the best defense for Dr. Spock, or any of the hundreds of other victims of government repression, is for the movement to go on a militant offensive. It must broaden its scope by bringing as many students, workers, and other sections of the population into struggle in the spirit of hitting back at the imperialists, their officials, their oppressive institutions, their war machine, etc. This should be done in such a way as to heighten the anti-imperialist consciousness of the broadest number of people and throw the greatest obstacles in the way of the repressive apparatus of the ruling class.

**4 Soviet Writers: The Line of Western 'Liberalism' and Proletarian Democracy**

The U.S. press was a lot more concerned about the trial and conviction of four Soviet writers in Moscow last week than it was about the legal lynching of LeRoi Jones by a judge who read Jones' poetry in court to prove what a bad man he must be.

The "freedom" for Soviet writers advocated by the alleged friends of democracy in the U.S. ruling class is not the freedom to battle against exploitation and racist oppression. It is the freedom to introduce "Western" — that is, in this case, bourgeois — ideas, and to justify inequality in one way or another.

If these writers were demanding freedom for LeRoi Jones, if they were demanding that Kossygin send a thousand Migs to Vietnam, the U.S. press would have either buried the news, or else regarded the Soviet courts as too lenient and howled for their blood. If the writers were advocating liberation and the removal of U.S. troops from Panama, Puerto Rico, Hawaii and Okinawa, it would be hard to imagine a "free speech" editorial being ground out by the New York Times.

But in spite of the attitude of the imperialist press, it is still necessary to ask: Did it help socialism and world revolution to imprison these writers, even though they represent a tendency hostile to the Soviet system?

We think it did not. We think they should have had freedom of expression — but for diametrically opposite reasons than the imperialists and the Social Democrats. All of these shout for "civil liberties" for the writers. But the truth is that they are in reality supporting the political line of the writers.

The imperialists, Social Democrats, etc., support these writers not because they support freedom of speech as such, but because they are calculating on a capitalist restoration in the Soviet Union. And they think that one way or another, the writers will help to bring this about.

As genuine proletarian supporters of the Soviet Union, we, on the other hand,

are totally opposed to what these writers stand for, but strongly feel that an open discussion is just what the Soviet workers need. It would pinpoint the dangers to socialism and greatly strengthen the revolutionary forces.

These writers give public voice to the private murmurings of a whole layer of privileged people — a neo-bourgeois stratum that looks toward a restoration of capitalism, private property in production, exploitation of the workers, bringing back, willy nilly, all the vices of the old society.

The people that the writers speak for have relatively big incomes, and want bigger ones. They are narrow-minded and conservative, like the petty-bourgeois types they admire in the United States. They hope the war in Vietnam will "go away"; they couldn't care less about the success or failure of socialist Cuba; and they are openly hostile to revolutionary China. If one-quarter of the reports about them are true, they are disdainful and snobbish toward the Soviet working people, too.

Why, then, are we for the writers' "freedom"?

We want to expose and defeat them politically, that's why. When Pasternak's anti-Soviet book, *Dr. Zhivago*, was banned in 1958, the internal right-wing clique that supported it merely grew and flourished. Had the book been published, and had there been a public debate over it, the right-wing, restorationist stratum would have been exposed, when it was much weaker than it is today. And the proletarian position would have been greatly strengthened.

If the reverse is true — if the writers' freedom would really endanger the existence of the Soviet Union as a socialist republic rather than strengthen its foundations — then we would have to change our opinion.

But the Soviet Union is strong and powerful — certainly strong enough to publicly admit that a privileged caste exists behind the writers, and to fight

**Youth to Demonstrate****Protest Festival of Vultures**

Last year on Jan. 25, more than 400 members of "high society" gathered for their 8th annual Diamond Ball in New York. The ball was a "by invitation only" affair with guests chipping in \$100 apiece. As a little take-home favor, each one got "small gold-plated picture frames adorned with a chip diamond (New York Times, Jan. 26) which were used to hold place cards.

According to tradition, the women wear their diamond jewelry at this ball. But Mrs. George A. Braga, last year's chairman in charge of planning the event, was worried whether her diamonds went with her mink-bordered gown.

This year, Mrs. Braga and her friends will have more than their disgusting appearances to worry about — because anti-war activists plan to protest this "Festival of the Vultures" and picket the decadent display of blood-soaked wealth gotten from war profits and imperialist exploitation.

In a call issued by the initiators of the demonstration, Youth Against War & Fascism and the U.S. Committee to Aid the NLF, some of the Diamond Ball guests are revealed — not as well-mannered socialites but as vultures celebrating "the profits that the war has made for them and what they hope is the safeguarding of their world-wide financial empire with the blood of our sons and brothers."

Among those who will attend, the leaflet listed:

Charles W. Engelhard — largest U.S. investor in South African slave labor diamond mines, largest slumlord in Newark, one of the largest contributors to the Democratic Party. Lyndon Johnson took him to Australia as an "advisor" after the death of Prime Minister Holt.

Roger Lewis — President of General Dynamics — major recipient of defense contracts — profits shot up 30 per cent with the '65-'66 escalation of the Vietnam war.

George D. Woods — was president of the so-called "World Bank" — main U.S. weapon for the financial penetration and domination of foreign countries and economies.

Gov. Nelson Rockefeller — his family owns: Chase Manhattan Bank (heavy investor in South Africa); McDonnell-Douglas Aircraft (every one shot down makes his stock shoot up); RCA-NBC (electronics-radio-TV); Standard Oil (supplies fuel for the planes, takes 1.6 million barrels a day from Mideast oil fields).

Sen. John Sherman Cooper — Kentucky "dove" and loyal servant of the above monopolists.

Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey — Johnson's best round-the-world war salesman.

In contrast to the celebrating war-profiters, the leaflet lists dozens of political prisoners in jail or facing prison terms for opposing the war, the draft, and the military; or for fighting for Black liberation.

Among them are Black liberation fighters Rap Brown (faces over 10 years), Huey Newton (faces death penalty), Martin Sostre (faces 30 years), Rob Williams (faces 40 years), LeRoi Jones (sentenced to 2 1/2 years), Max Stanford (faces over 20 years); and anti-war GIs — the Fort Hood Three (Pvts. Dennis Mora, James Johnson and David Samas, each serving 3 years), Pvt. Andrew Stapp (faces undesirable discharge); draft resisters David Mitchell (serving 5 years), Muhammed Ali (sentenced to 5 years), Edward Oquendo (sentenced to 5 years), Joel Meyers (faces 5 years), anti-war activists Maryann Weissman (sentenced to 6 months), Key Martin (sentenced to 6 months), Walter Teague (faces 15 years), Mike Gimbel (faces 7 years); and many others.

Besides calling for freeing the political prisoners, the leaflet urges "mounting an offensive" against the new wave of government repression signalled by the indictments against Dr. Spock and his co-defendants.

The demonstration is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. outside the plush Plaza Hotel on Fifth Avenue and 59th Street. At this writing the sponsors are: Youth Against War & Fascism, U.S. Committee to Aid the NLF, SNCC, BAND (Blacks Against Negative Dying), Free School SDS, MPI (Movement for Independence of Puerto Rico), Black Mask, Organization for Revolutionary Action (ORA), and the Committee to Aid Activists.



## Exiled Black Freedom Fighter Writes from Peking

## Rob Williams' Plan to Come Back and Expose U.S. "Justice"

Robert F. Williams, who organized the first modern, armed Black self-defense guard, in Monroe, North Carolina, is now in China. The following excerpts from his newsletter, *The Crusader*, for Dec., 1967, tell of his plans to come back and fight against legal lynching.

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## By Rob Williams

On July 28, 1967, I wrote a letter to the Union County, North Carolina Clerk of Court which simply stated: "Even though I have never been officially informed as such, I understand from press reports that I am under indictment in Union County. Inasmuch as I contemplate an early return to Monroe, will you please be so kind as to inform me specifically of the charges and statutes under which I am indicted? Also please inform me as to what amount of bail bond your office will require."

This inquiry was carried by one of the wire services and was very widely circulated internationally. As a result of this somewhat unexpected turn of events, many friends and interested parties wrote to me directly expressing disbelief. My close friends are expressing serious concern for my welfare. There is an almost unanimous chorus of voices from abroad warning me that almost certain death awaits me if I return to the so-called free world. The smaller segment not completely convinced that the U.S. is totally controlled by incorrigible homicidal maniacs, as far as black men are concerned, merely warn me of certain long-term incarceration as the power structure's method of gagging and emasculating me...

I am indicted in Monroe, North Carolina. The charge against me is "kidnapping." I am charged with kidnapping a racist white Ku Klux Klan couple that my generosity actually saved from death at the hands of an angry group of abused and terrorized Afro-Americans. The woman of the so-called kidnapped couple, Mrs. G. Bruce Stegall, stated in a taped interview that she "never thought of the incident as a kidnapping until the

law came to our house, took us to town and told us that we had been kidnapped.... The press was there and they got into it and that's what made it a kidnapping.... We had gone home and forgotten the mess until they (the law)



Rob Williams

come after us."

The so-called kidnapping is supposed to have taken place on August 26, 1961. Racial violence flared in the wake of a week of hazardous anti-segregation demonstrations by advocates of non-violence. These bi-racial demonstrations were supported by the local branch of the NAACP of which I was president. Personally, I was not involved in these demonstrations because I was an advocate of armed self-defense. This was to be the first time and first place where nonviolence was to be tried under parallel conditions that would have allowed it to demonstrate its "superiority" to violence. It was a dismal failure and it also undermined a six-year campaign of successful armed self-defense...

Though I was especially singled out as a most urgent target of the spleen of racial vindictiveness, others were also ensnared in the viciously racist power structure's net of vengeance and hate. Mrs. Willie Mae Mallory of New York, an Afro-American mother of two chil-

dren who was a guest in my home, Richard Crowder and Harold Reape, local Afro-American youths and John Lowery of New York, one of the 17 white freedom riders in Monroe at the time, were also falsely indicted for "kidnapping." This so-called "kidnap case" was tried on February 28, 1964 resulting in the conviction of the four defendants present for the trial. I had escaped an international shoot-on-sight police dragnet and was living in political exile in Cuba. Mrs. Mallory was sentenced to 16 to 20 years in prison, Richard Crowder 8 to 10 years, Harold Reape 5 to 7 years and John Lowery 3 to 5 years.

The trials and indictments were invalidated by the North Carolina State Supreme Court on the grounds that Negroes were systematically excluded from jury duty. This ruling was based on the fact that the county used the designation col. (colored) behind the names of Afro-American taxpayers from which the names of jurymen were drawn.

Despite the fact that Mrs. G. Bruce Stegall has publicly stated that she and her husband did not consider the incident an act of kidnapping and had gone home and forgotten the matter until the police picked them up and coerced them to charge kidnapping, and that the sensational press entered the picture and blew the case up to a big kidnapping mess; all the Monroe defendants were reindicted in February 1965. The state has not moved directly to bring the defendants to retrial, however, it has claimed the \$37,000 bond posted by a bonding company....

I have no personal desire to go to Monroe, however, the state insists that I must return there to answer trumped-up criminal charges. The F.B.I. has been utilized to assure that I will not be able to reside within the USA without facing extradition to the racial vengeance of Monroe. This challenge must be met and its threat executed or resolved.

Monroe is not to be just a provincial case of sectarian or personal value. The Monroe situation has far-reaching potentials as it did in the beginning of the fight-back era. There are certain positive factors to be considered in the equation of human injustice that

singles Monroe out as an ideal proving ground for the development of new tactics, a rallying point for an anti-fascist crusade, a new drive for solidarity and to test the impact of the exposé of internal tyranny on the politicians' hypocritical justification of a fascist war in Vietnam on the basis of America's love and commitment to universal democracy and social justice. The Monroe Court-in, seminar on kangaroo justice, conference and encampment should be planned to coincide with the coming U.S. farce called elections. The Monroe campaign must also be the beginning of a drive to effect the release of all political prisoners incarcerated inside America.

The outline presented herein is tentative. Suggestions are now being received and urged. All just-minded individuals are asked to make suggestions, present more detailed plans, to volunteer and submit names of persons believed to be qualified for specific tasks of organization, publicity, international liaison, fund raising, legal bureau, coordination, logistics, security, etc. Persons wishing to join in the preparation of the crusade or to make positive offers for the movement can contact me directly by using the address of THE CRUSADER or can write me in care of Attorney Conrad J. Lynn, 401 Broadway — Suite 911, New York, N. Y. 10013 USA.

Yes, I propose to return to confront the racist kangaroo justice of Monroe, North Carolina, USA, because the ultimate mission of the freedom fighter must be to wipe out all forms of unbearable social injustice. The ultimate aim of a Revolutionary Black Nationalist must be to forge the closest possible unity based on common heritage, common suffering and a common faith of common resistance in a common endeavor to overturn a common tyranny. The Revolutionary Black Nationalist must turn his first attention to those who suffer most as brothers in travail and are most victimized by an alien and restrictive society, however, in the final analysis, the Black Nationalist's struggle is a front of the universal struggle for the liberation of all mankind, for human dignity, peace and justice in a prosperous people's world.

## Martin Sostre Tells Racist Judge To Resign in 'Sanity Test' Frame-Up

On December 10, 1967, from his cell in Erie County Jail, Martin Sostre, commenting on future developments in his case, wrote the following to his Defense Committee:

"I believe the next step is to try to 'bug' me. The court will question my sanity (because I am refusing to cooperate in my legal lynching) and order a psychiatric examination to determine whether I am capable of understanding the charges against me..."

On December 11, 1967, Martin Sostre, by pre-arranged court order, was committed to Meyer Memorial Hospital for psychiatric observation. In another letter, dated December 25, he states:

"I was returned from Meyer Hospital on the 21st; had to refuse drugs in psycho ward which they tried to give me to dope me up and have me walking around in drugged stupor like other patients there. My lectures on Black Power, Vietnam, American racism and oppression to other patients were not liked by psychiatrists and hospital staff; they were glad to have gotten rid of me."

Once back in Erie County Jail, Sostre demanded a hearing to make public the results of the psychiatric report. On

January 4, he appeared before Judge Marshall in Erie County Court — the following notes were compiled by members of the Martin Sostre Defense Committee during the hearing.

BUFFALO, Jan. 4 — Today, Martin Sostre, Black liberation fighter in Buffalo, appeared in Erie County Court before Judge Frederick Marshall in order to challenge a "psychiatric report" issued by the state authorities on Sostre in their latest gambit in the frame-up attempt. Martin Sostre moved to contest the report, denouncing it as an attempt to further the frame-up by intimidation and trickery.

Judge Marshall stated that the report said that Sostre was indeed sane and that he is "definitely capable of intelligently, knowingly, and understandingly waving his right to counsel."

Earlier, on Dec. 11, Marshall had issued a pre-arranged court order to have Sostre committed to psychiatric observations when he (Sostre) had appeared in court to argue his right to defend not only himself, but to act as attorney for his co-defendant, Mrs. Geraldine Robinson.

"Everybody knows that I am not in-

sane," Sostre retorted, "the purpose of this court order, committing me for ten days to the psychiatric ward of Meyer Memorial Hospital, was to intimidate me into accepting court appointed attorneys, thus violating my rights under the 6th and 14th Amendments, which guarantee me due process, equal protection of the law, and the right to counsel." Martin said that on December 11, he had been taken by a court officer into the guards' room and hidden there while Judge Marshall was preparing the court order in advance and while his co-defendant was before the court.

Sostre said that he was further challenging the court and the psychiatric findings because, he told Judge Marshall, "One week after I was committed, you coerced and intimidated Geraldine Robinson because you questioned her sanity, while I was already committed to the psycho ward. This was intimidation that she would be committed, too, if she did not accept the court appointed counsel you were trying to ram down her throat!" Martin stated that this was a violation of the 5th and 6th amendments because she

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## Group Backs Rob Williams For President

NEW YORK, Jan. 10 — A group here has announced its determination to back Rob Williams for President.

Conrad Lynn, well-known civil liberties attorney of Lynn, Spitz and Condon, 401 Broadway, revealed to the New York Post that he had written Williams as follows:

"I have been requested by an ad hoc political committee to arrange for you to return to the U.S. immediately so that you may become a candidate for President.

"You are violating no law by returning to the U.S. If you are imprisoned, you may still run for President, as Eugene V. Debs demonstrated. But we are prepared to raise bail in any amount to free you so that you may campaign."

The Post added a number of "scare" stories about the hard-fighting refugee from jimcrow justice, including the allegations in the RAM frame-up case. It said further that U.S. Post Office efforts to stop mailings of the Crusader "at the source" in Hong Kong had proved "ineffective."

## Invaders Under Attack from Danang to Saigon Outskirts to Mekong Delta

# NLF New Year Offensive Shatters U.S. 'Progress' Myth

By F. Richardson

"Guerrilla war in South Vietnam is a sea of flames, seething with the hatred of the entire people; it is a gigantic net surrounding the enemy." (Nguyen Thi Dinh, deputy commander-in-chief of the South Vietnam Liberation armed forces.)

At 3 a.m. on January 9 the attack on Kon Tum began. First there was firing. NLF troops had snipped their way through the barbed wire surrounding the large Central Highland base for helicopter troop carriers and gun ships. Then, after the heavy fire had turned the surprised airfield into a mass of confusion, heavy blasts shook the flight line of the airstrip itself. The Liberation fighters were blowing up the helicopters. Explosions also shook the motor pool. Trucks and other vehicles were destroyed. A half hour later it was all over. Most of the attackers had escaped through the same path they had come in. A number of U.S. soldiers had been killed or wounded. Smoking ruins covered the area.

This was just one of the scores of attacks that strong NLF forces were launching daily all over South Vietnam since the New Year's truce ended.

For months up until the new year, U.S. authorities had stated that while U.S. forces might be having trouble with pacification and there might be political problems which weren't getting solved, one thing was sure and that was they were making steady military progress.

During the final months of 1967, newspaper reporters, columnists, editorial writers, politicians and military experts echoed and re-echoed this assessment of the military situation in Vietnam. Readers were assured and reassured that whatever other problems there were, real progress was being made by U.S. forces — militarily. Attacks by Vietnamese guerrillas were characterized as desperate and suicidal. And there was the "body count" to prove it.

Furthermore, continued the picture painted more and more confidently by military men and again echoed by newsmen, the Vietnamese liberation forces

were being ground down to the point where their only large forces had to be grouped across the Cambodian border. U.S. forces were becoming the undisputed master in South Vietnam itself — at least militarily.

News since the beginning of the new year has shattered the picture painted by the Pentagon.

From below the demilitarized zone to the delta region, the NLF was on the of-

Vietnamese Army outposts were also hit. There were six attacks in a fifteen-mile radius of Danang.

On January 4, a 25th Infantry Division unit was attacked only fourteen miles from Saigon in one of many attacks launched by the NLF throughout the country.

On January 6 there were wide-ranging attacks, including one on the vacation resort of Dalat northeast of Saigon.



South Vietnamese Liberation Forces gunners prepare to fire a recoilless rifle. These accurate and destructive weapons are ideally suited to guerrilla warfare.

fensive. Attacks smashed at U.S. camps, airfields, artillery positions, and at towns held by U.S. or U.S. puppet troops. And these attacks could hardly be labelled forays across the border from Cambodia since many occurred along the coast and in the highlands midway between the coast and the border as well as in the western part of South Vietnam. Furthermore, they showed large units, well coordinated, successfully making bold, precisely planned attacks.

On January 3 "heavy" Vietnamese forces launched a series of coordinated attacks in the northern provinces of South Vietnam. Danang was hit with a barrage of 122mm rockets destroying or damaging two dozen planes. U.S. air cavalry troops near Danang and South

In Tay Ninh province U.S. reports said the 271st and 272nd "Viet Cong" regiments had staged a daring attack on the district capital of Khiem Cuong, overrunning it and putting up the NLF flag.

On January 7 five Marine posts near the coast south of Hue were hit hard.

These were but a few of the heavy attacks that shook and continue to shake U.S. forces the length and breadth of South Vietnam.

Many U.S. "victories," like those claimed by the Nazis near the end of World War II, were exposed by their geographical location. Nazi "victories" at that time occurred closer and closer to Berlin. Similar U.S. "victories" now were occurring too near to Saigon and Danang to inspire even the

most credulous pro-warrior with confidence.

Some 30 miles south of Danang was the Queson Valley, the scene of recent Vietnamese attacks on U.S. artillery bases. These are tiny islands, armed forts in territory which U.S. troops have been unable to conquer.

"Despite scores of American sweeps, the heavily populated valley, an important rice-producing area, has remained under guerrilla control." (Tom Buckley, New York Times, Jan. 7)

The Jan. 10 New York Times said of another area: "In the virtually unpopulated area of War Zone C, which has long been an enemy jungle sanctuary northwest of Saigon, there are probably more enemy troops today than there were more than a year ago before American forces conducted appreciable operations in the area."

Says a Jan. 12 Life editorial on how to conquer the Vietnamese by drawing the NLF into a U.S.-controlled government: "There are areas like the Camau Peninsula in the Delta and isolated strips in the central highlands and along the coastal plain where the VC have ruled so long that their uprooting would not be worth the necessary bloodshed."

Last February the greatest U.S. offensive of the war was launched to conquer War Zone C. It failed. Its commander was dismissed in the middle of the campaign in which the NLF outmaneuvered and outfought the massive 45,000 U.S. force. This mighty effort by the U.S. invasion army climaxed a series of U.S. sweeps which were supposed to subdue the country once and for all.

The country is still not subdued and U.S. forces are not being sent to sweep large areas and "pacify" the country militarily. U.S. commanders are posting home-hungry GIs in stationary bases, as the military bosses seem able only to hang on to defensive positions in the midst of the hostile sea of the people's war.

As well as failing in its more insidious "pacification" program, the U.S. ruling class is failing militarily as well.

## — U.S. Bombing Laos

Continued from page 1

which would enable the U.S. to strike at the Vietnamese National Liberation Front from behind, and open fire with massive air-power on the Pathet Lao.

"A precarious balance has so far been maintained," warns Business Week of Jan. 6, "largely because the U.S. has supplied T-28 attack aircraft to the Laotian government and provided an unofficial, CIA-financed airlift for troops and supplies through a civilian airline known as Air America. The U.S. has also fought a limited clandestine war of its own against North Vietnamese (Pathet Lao) in Laos, bombing the Ho Chi Minh Trail and sending in small units of special forces (the Green Berets) for commando-style raids."

Business Week's article, which "predicts" a wider war involving Cambodia and Laos, then ventures a "guess" that Souvanna, "like Sihanouk — may back away from his stance and invite direct U.S. intervention."

Thus, this organ of the monopolies is "predicting" what it already knows: that U.S. imperialism is getting ready to escalate across the Southeast Asian revolutionary front, which is growing every day and spreads from Vietnam to Laos to Northern Thailand.

Prince Souvanna Phouma, the "neutralist" who has fallen under complete control of Washington, made a belligerent New Year's Eve speech in which he spoke of how "the aggression by the warmongers of North Vietnam has been increasing all over the kingdom and

their plan is to introduce a new leadership."

It is common knowledge that the "plan to introduce a new leadership" in Laos, by overthrowing the puppet government of Souvanna, belongs to the Laotian Liberation forces, the Pathet Lao, who have exercised military and political control over more than half the country since 1962. Only U.S. military aid has kept Souvanna in his place.

Nevertheless, the big business press in this country touted his speech, which might have been written by Dean Rusk, as the gospel.

The New York Times of Jan. 9, in an article falsely entitled "Royal Troops Step up Battle on North Vietnamese in Laos," described a U.S.-supplied attack on the Pathet Lao in the area of Nambac in northern Laos. To justify the lying headline the Times dragged in a sentence about one (!) prisoner alleged to be wearing a uniform of North Vietnam.

There is an invader in Laos — Wall Street!

"While lumbering United States C-123's roared over this command post," wrote the New York Times in describing the battle at Nambac, "dropping ammunition and rice ... Laotian Air Force T-28 divebombers swooped low over the valley pouring napalm bombs, rockets and machine-gun fire" on the Pathet Lao troops.

The royal garrison in Nambac has "the benefit of United States logistic

## In Peace or War, Lockheed Makes Millions — But Likes War Best!

It may be tough to get shot down in those vulnerable helicopters. (Over 1,100 got it in Southeast Asia up to last November, according to the highly minimized U.S. official figures.) But it's a little nicer for the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation.

For every Lockheed helicopter destroyed, the company gets about \$1 million. (It just sold 375 "Cheyenne" model helicopters to the Army for \$375 mil-

lion.) For every helicopter gunner killed, the family survivors get about \$10,000.

A still nicer part of all this for Lockheed is that after the war, according to company executives, they can use the valuable experience acquired on the Cheyenne to sell a lot more helicopters — for inter-city transport — since the company has stepped up the speed to over 215 miles per hour.

Thus, post-war prosperity is assured, and "peace scares" cannot hurt the company too much.

And the men who are sitting ducks in the "choppers" can take comfort in the knowledge that they are earning millions of dollars for somebody. If they are uncertain what they are fighting for, let them remember that the Lockheed Corporation, at least, will not think they have died in vain.

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# LeRoi Jones Gets 2½ Yrs.: Found Guilty — Of Being for the Black Revolution



LeRoi Jones

The grinding sound of tanks is temporarily gone from the streets of Newark. The whine of bullets and the sickening chorus of riot clubs on Black skulls has also subsided. But the sound of ruling class revenge against the great Newark rebellion reverberated on courtroom walls last week as an Essex County Judge sentenced LeRoi Jones to 2½ years in jail and \$1,000 fine for being "a participant in formulating a plot to ignite the spark... to burn the city of Newark."

Of course the militant Afro-American poet and playwright is formally being framed-up on charges of unlawful possession of two revolvers. He and two of his co-defendants, Charles McCray, 33 (sentenced to one

year in jail and \$500 fine) and Barry Wynn, 24 (sentenced to 9 months and \$250 fine), were grabbed by the police during the July rebellion. After beating them brutally (Jones required 9 stitches in his head), the police planted revolvers on them.

But racist Judge Leon W. Kapp made it clear to all that the charges were just a legal pretext and that Jones was being sentenced for being defiantly in favor of the rebellion. To make his point, Kapp read a poem by Jones which glorified the rebellions of the Black people and then raved at the "diabolical prescription to commit murder and to steal and plunder..."

Kapp, mouthing the venom of the ruling class which has murdered, robbed and plundered the Black people for 400 years, denounced Jones for being "in the vanguard of a group of extreme radicals who advocate the destruction —"

"The destruction of unrighteousness!" interrupted Jones.

"The sentence of this court on the

basis of your conviction for unlawful possession of two revolvers —"

"And two poems" Jones shot back. "Black people will judge me, Brother Kapp, don't you worry about that!" cried Jones. "...You represent the will of a crumbling structure and I am a free Black man..."

## AN HONORABLE MAN

Accused of conspiracy to murder a Government witness in the sensational Marcus case in New York, "the suspect, Robert Schwartz, 43 years old, was described by his lawyer at a bail hearing as 'an honorable man' in his home community of Melville, Long Island. (He is) a Boy Scout leader, a former American Legion post commander, a vice president of the Kiwanis and an official of a chapter of B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League."

-- New York Times, Jan. 16



The above photograph shows People's Liberation Army commanders and soldiers, in solidarity with the peasantry, helping to harvest the wheat in Kweichow province. Bourgeois prophets of doom have been predicting (i.e. hoping) for some time that the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution would cause chaos in China's agricultural production. However, People's China gathered the largest crop in her history this year.

## People's China Exporting Textile Plants to 30 Lands

People's China has enormously increased its production of cotton cloth. The U.S. magazine *Textile World* (published in New York City) estimates that China exported 300 million square yards of this material in 1957 and 700 million in 1967. Moreover, it adds that China has also exported textile machinery and whole textile factories to 30 foreign countries. The magazine fears that this "will soon be a serious threat to all textile-producing nations."

Now according to the enemies of socialism, China's Great Leap Forward in 1958-59 was really a great leap backward. If they were right, then where did all that cloth and machinery come from and what "serious threat" is *Textile World* worrying about?

## - New Frame-Up of Sostre

Continued from page 3

was a witness of his and under section 658 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, this was a violation — intimidating a witness.

Mr. Sostre said that he was questioned by the psychiatrists about his case and that he had shown them the newspaper clippings relating to the arrest. "They questioned me about why I was framed, what literature I sold at the Afro-Asian Bookstore, why I was against the war in Viet Nam, was I a communist, etc. I answered that this was part of the frame-up because this case was a frame-up, a political conspiracy to destroy the Afro-Asian Bookstore and get me out of the way." Martin asserted that despite this exchange with the psychiatrists, "Not one word of this was in the report which reached the conclusion that I was a so-called paranoid personality!" Martin stated that it is clear that the court used the order to intimidate him and coerce him, that the unreasonable bail (so that he could not find his four witnesses, forcing him to go to trial unprepared) was all part of the frame-up.

Martin then demanded a "full hearing, an open hearing, so that all of Buffalo can know how the biased and racist judges are trying to oppress the people and what is going on in this rac-

ist, bigoted town!"

At this, Judge Marshall asked Sostre whether or not he accepted the findings of the report that he was sane. Martin quickly retorted that his legal motion was one of challenging the entire report since it was based upon fraud. Marshall asked, "Then you are stating that you are insane." Martin responded, "Those are your words Judge Marshall; those are not my words. I am challenging and contesting this entire report." Martin then asked the Judge to set up a time when he could have a hearing, examine the psychiatrists, and subpoena witnesses from the court and the hospital. He asked to subpoena the court guards, badge number 255 in particular, and the patients from the hospital. Judge Marshall quickly denied both requests.

At this, Martin stated boldly, "There is no use going on with this since you are covering up for yourself and denying me my witnesses. This is a KANGAROO COURT! How can you judge yourself in this hearing?"

It should be remarked that during the entire procedure, about twelve court cops stood around Sostre in a semi-circle while he was arguing the case before the court. This did not at all intimidate Martin, who turned per-

iodically to address the gallery and to smile towards members of his Defense Committee sitting in the audience. After the appearance, when leaving the courtroom, Martin gave a militant, clenched fist sign of revolutionary determination to his supporters.

## Sostre Forced To Appear In Court

BUFFALO, Jan. 8 — Today Martin Sostre appeared before Erie County Court Judge Marshall in a motion to postpone the scheduled hearing into the state's attempt to intimidate and frame-up Sostre by having him committed to the mental ward of Meyer Memorial Hospital, attempts to drug and interrogate him there, and the issuing of a "psychiatric report" to the court on the defendant. Martin called for a postponement of the hearing, stating that he had written to the D.A. on January 5th requesting a postponement, and he had received a letter on the same day from the D.A.'s office (from Mr. Burke) informing him of the postponement until the 15th of January.

Martin said that he needed time to do research and prepare for the hearing and that, as the officials well knew, the conditions in the "dungeon" made doing research extremely difficult, forcing him to read and write in a cell dimly lighted by a single filament bulb.

Martin also made a motion in writing

## Ed Oquendo On WWRL, Denounces War

By Naomi Goldstein

NEW YORK, Jan. 14 -- Eddie Oquendo, a Black draft resister recently sentenced to five years in jail, predicted to a radio audience today, "The Nuremberg laws will some day be used to prosecute the war criminals in the U.S."

In a broadcast on WWRL, a station widely listened to in the Black community here, Mr. Oquendo and two pro-war speakers were invited to answer questions from listeners during a 1½-hour program entitled "The Negro and the Draft." Mr. Oquendo is Chairman of Blacks Against Negative Dying (BAND), a group formed to help Afro-American youths resist the draft, and is a member of Youth Against War & Fascism.

The pro-war speakers were Fred Goldberg, Public Information Officer for Army Recruiting in New York and Lt. Col. George A. Jones, an Afro-American commander of the 369th National Guard.

As questions were phoned in by listeners, it quickly became clear that the Black community was with Mr. Oquendo in his fight against the draft, racism in the Army and the war in Vietnam.

Oquendo pointed out that the Black man was discriminated against in the Army and was only used to fight the rich man's war. When both pro-war speakers tried to argue that the Army gives men a chance to get an education and train for a career, one caller asked why Black youths had to "risk their lives in the Army to get a decent education."

Mr. Oquendo told the radio audience what he said to the Federal Judge who sentenced him last Dec. 15. "I support the National Liberation Front and the struggle of the oppressed all over the world to liberate themselves from U.S. imperialism." He asked, "Why should we be forced to commit violence against the Vietnamese people and then be expected to remain non-violent at home? Our fight is here!"

Goldberg, in his eagerness to avoid the Vietnam issue said, "The U.S. Army isn't just in Vietnam, it's all over the world." Eddie quickly agreed that the U.S. Army was all over the world -- to oppress people. "The U.S. Army is also in Watts, Newark and Detroit. That is why no Black man should enter the Army."

As this is being written, Martin Sostre begins his sixth month in jail. Funds are urgently needed for his defense. Send all donations to:

Martin Sostre Defense Committee  
P.O. Box 382, Ellicott Station  
Buffalo, New York 14205

to Rochester to the State Appellate Division requesting under statute 7801 that Judge Marshall disqualify himself from being acting judge at the hearing into his own actions. Martin said he had mailed this motion on January 7th.

Despite the postponement, Martin said that this morning the Sheriff's goons had forced him bodily to come into court, grabbing him in his cell by force and taking his legal papers away. Martin called this "an escalation of brutality by the court in order to cover-up their own wrongdoing." He said that this kind of brutality was why the Afro-American people are not going to fight in Vietnam. He said that the "escalating brutality and Nazi methods" used by the authorities will only mean that "we will escalate our resistance."

Martin asked Marshall whether this was the new program, to use force against him. Marshall stated that "that was right ... whether you like it or not." Martin retorted "Judge Marshall, you are a dangerous man."

# Pvt. Andy Stapp Kidnapped By Brass While Seriously Sick During Xmas Leave

## Spirited from Hospital on Stretcher While Recovering from Operation

On January 2 the U.S. Army virtually kidnapped seriously ill Pvt. Andy Stapp from a hospital near his home. They hauled him some 1,500 miles to Fort Sill, Oklahoma for the purpose of pressing charges against him for his anti-war activities and for his recent action in beginning the organizing of a GIs' union.

In the process they brushed aside all standard medical practice. They also tried to prevent his wife from seeing him.

On December 25, while visiting his parents in Philadelphia, Andy Stapp had an attack of acute appendicitis. He was rushed to the Graduate Hospital in that city where a hurried operation removed his appendix but only after peritonitis had begun. With the advent of antibiotics, peritonitis no longer means death but it still means danger. To further complicate matters Andy was suffering from tonsillitis. Because of the complications he had to be fed intravenously for several days. Tubes in his arm caused an inflammation, adding still more to the problems. During this time he had a fever of 101 to 102 degrees.

A telegram was sent to Fort Sill Army authorities asking for postponement of a scheduled hearing. But the Army brass had set the Field Board hearing for January 9 at Fort Sill as a part of their attempt to discharge Pvt. Stapp with a "less than honorable" discharge—and they gave orders to bring him back to Fort Sill. His physical condition be damned.

The Army authorities told his doctor that they were going to move him to an Army hospital at Valley Forge some twenty miles away. The doctor agreed that this could be done on January 2.

By this time Andy had lost fifteen pounds, was very weak, had a drain in the incision, and was unable to move. In spite of this the Army loaded him aboard an ambulance.

When his father later called the Army hospital at Valley Forge, it turned out that Andy was never taken there!

Instead the Army authorities had rushed him to Fort Dix to be flown immediately back to Fort Sill, Okla. News of this came out only when arriving at Fort Dix, Andy was able to phone his wife, Deirdre, in New York.



Pvt. Andy Stapp

She rushed some 70 miles to Fort Dix that evening and found herself barred entrance to her husband's room. Orders had been given that he have no visitors and he was to be shipped out the next morning. Guards were ordered to close his door when she called to him from the hospital corridor.

After an hour and a half of protest,

(it was now 12:30 p.m.), during which she threatened to stay all night if necessary, his wife was finally allowed to see him — for five minutes.

Because of a heavy snow his flight was held up for one day. Then at 7 a.m. on January 4 he was loaded on a stretcher and taken to an ancient C-47 "Medivac" plane.

In a flight which would weaken any patient in his condition, the plane stopped at so many places that by 7:30 p.m., twelve and a half hours later, it had only reached Charleston, South Carolina.

Here Andy was unloaded on a stretcher to spend the night at a hospital. He was reloaded to begin the flight again the next morning, still unable to move, still with a drain in his side.

After a flight of another twelve or thirteen hours, he reached Fort Sill on January 5.

The next day the Army authorities finally decided to have him given a thorough examination — to see if he could undergo the hearing scheduled for January 9 or whether it would have to be postponed.

They had not considered it necessary to examine him previously to see if he were able to undergo twenty-five hours of flying.

The doctors said he would be unable to undergo the hearing on January 9. (He would have had to attend on a stretcher.) The hearing was then postponed.

But Andy's operation and all his physical problems did not stop him from carrying on his campaign for a GIs' union. On January 8 he gave a TV interview from his hospital bed stating the case for a union of rank and file servicemen. Reports from Fort Sill said that it came over well on local TV.

# Support for GI Union Grows in Anti-War Movement

## Demonstrations In 4 Cities To Support Stapp & A.S.U.

Draftees in the West German Army now have the legal right to refuse to obey an order that violates their conscience. If GIs in the USA refuse such an order, they can be court-martialed and put in the stockade.

Many GIs are beginning to wonder if they shouldn't join the new American Serviceman's Union, and get at least as much rights as soldiers in reactionary West Germany.

They need collective bargaining — if only to limit the arrogance of the officers, who are just bosses in uniform, but with more power.

Although the anti-draft movement grows daily, unfortunately there are already three and a half million men who have been dragged into the imperialist army. But these men are devising ways to make their captivity more endurable, where they are not trying to get out of it altogether.

The American Serviceman's Union offers a way to do the same things, but with infinitely more power. The union's demands are:

- \* The right to organize and bargain collectively with the brass (the boss) as in the West German Army
- \* The right to free political association, to read any material and join any political group
- \* Seats on court-martial boards for enlisted men
- \* Election of officers by the troops, as in the Chinese Army
- \* An end to saluting and yessir-ing officers
- \* The right to refuse illegal and immoral orders, guaranteed by the Nuremberg Trials, such as orders to Vietnam
- \* An end to racial discrimination



'Milwaukee youth march at induction center.

## NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Jan. 15 — "Support the GIs' Union!" shouted the pickets as they circled in front of the military recruiting booth in Times Square this evening.

It was cold, wet and windy as dozens of youthful demonstrators picketed and chanted their backing of GIs forming an organization of their own — a union.

Many passersby stopped, struck with the novelty of this bold idea which has, in fact, already won the support of numerous soldiers.

Signs proclaimed: "Stop the frame-up of Pvt. Stapp," and "Unionize the Army!"

TV lights blazed as cameramen covered the picket line and interviewed Mrs. Deirdre Stapp, wife of the GI who

who would then be forced to move by the squad of cops.

As the noise and hubbub grew a mounted policeman rode up and conferred with another cop. The watching people took leaflets passed out explaining the picket line. The attitude of onlookers was one of puzzled interest as they came out of the work-a-day fog on their way home.

Thousands of leaflets were distributed to those stopping or passing by.

## MILWAUKEE

MILWAUKEE, Jan. 10 — Seventy spirited demonstrators turned out today to show their solidarity with draft resister Richard Atlee and pre-induction agitators from the Wisconsin Draft Resistance Union, Madison, Wisc. and to demonstrate support of Pvt. Andrew Stapp in his "inside" fight against the anti-labor Military Command.

Committee for GI Rights signs and picket chants also defended Milwaukeean PO3 Dennis Ciesielski, remembered here for his tireless anti-war activity before being activated from the Navy Reserves. Ciesielski has recently refused orders to board ship for Vietnam.

Organizers of the demonstration, Wisconsin Draft Resistance Union, Milwaukee Youth Against War & Fascism, Milwaukee Organizing Committee, the Committee for GI Rights (and supported by local SDS chapters), joined hands to link the issue of draft resistance and the class issue of Unionization for American GIs, now bound to the brass's attempt to rid serviceman's ranks of Andy Stapp.

Although Richard Atlee was handed a medical deferment before being given a chance to refuse induction, two leaders of the W.D.R.U., Dan Swinney and Joe Chandler, were hauled out of the Milwaukee induction center on disorderly conduct for distributing literature inside. They were released on \$100 bail.

The picket line moved the 15 degree

Cont. on following page

has taken the lead in organizing anti-war GIs and in beginning the campaign to unionize all rank and file soldiers.

Discussions and arguments, often fragmentary and disjointed, developed on the sidelines as the action continued. One thing was clear: the idea of a union for GIs made a lively issue for debate and it aroused the interest of even somewhat jaded Times Square habitués, workers and also middle class types who have seen many kinds of things take place in the area.

As people gathered, police began forcing them to move along but the loud shouts of the demonstrators: "...a GI union NOW!" and the glare of the

TV cameramen's lights and the interviews with microphones all combined to attract other groups of onlookers



# Barrientos Comes to U.S. for Payoff

## Texas Trained; Helped CIA Murder Che; Now Needs Guns Against Bolivian Masses

One of Washington's most loyal puppets in Latin America came to the U.S. two weeks ago, just as a hired killer would have gone to Mafia headquarters, for his big payoff. After three years of shaky existence, General Barrientos and his military clique in Bolivia impressed their North American bosses by murdering Che Guevara, guerilla hero of a continent inhabited by more than 200 million people. And the "big payoff" is U.S. military and economic support sufficient to save the crumbling dictatorship before it is overthrown by the Bolivian masses.

At a press conference in New York, Barrientos spoke as a true lackey of U.S. monopolies by singing the CIA song of "Castro subversion":

"Castro and his Communist allies will spare no effort to avenge the defeat of the guerillas and the death of

Ernesto Che Guevara by initiating a new phase of subversion in Bolivia.... Their objective is to create an atmosphere of terror that will deter foreign investments and cause economic unrest." (Our emphasis.)

It was these "foreign investments" from the U.S. that installed Barrientos in the first place, back in 1964, when miners threatened takeovers of the imperialist-dominated mines. The Paz Estenssoro regime could no longer hold the miners in line and the U.S. brought in, through a military coup, Bolivian Air Force General Rene Barrientos, trained and graduated at the Air Force Academy at Randolph Field near San Antonio, Texas.

In return for Barrientos' political survival, the large U.S. corporations will be able to pour in additional huge investments and loans into Bolivia

designed to reap super-profits for the Wall Street monopolies. The gorilla general was also shopping for more heavy weapons to meet the next political crisis within his country.

The U.S.-run Inter-American Development Bank has poured in millions in Bolivia's tin mines in the last few years, and has retaken control of the mines for the big U.S. companies. U.S. corporations such as Gulf Oil, W. R. Grace & Co., Lockheed Aircraft, U.S. Steel, and Chase Manhattan have also brought in large investments, all of them robbing the Bolivian people of their labor and natural wealth.

U.S. Special Forces (Green Berets) have been instrumental in the last two

years in propping up Barrientos' weak army. They have trained several Bolivian Ranger battallions in "counter-insurgency" combat and have provided them with large quantities of napalm.

But Barrientos is living on borrowed time and the imperialist press admitted it in a dispatch last July written from La Paz, capital of Bolivia, by New York Times correspondent Barnard Collier:

"United States policy is to keep the Barrientos regime in power as long as it can, the theory being that the handsome former air force general is the best of a mediocre lot of reasonable alternatives."

One "unreasonable" alternative for Washington and Wall Street, but more than "reasonable" for the Bolivian people, will be when the Bolivian workers and peasants overthrow the gorilla regime.

## Big Brass Plays Down Record U.S. Casualties

Washington's claims of "military progress" are not only false but the only "progress" which the militarists can truthfully point to is the sharp increase in the rate of GI casualties. 1967 was a record year.

Piecing together and extending Pentagon figures for the year indicates that as many as 150,000 GIs were wounded, killed or infected with disease in 1967, 90,000 of them seriously.

The Pentagon casualty release of Dec. 27, 1967 admits to over 70,000 casualties for the year.

Killed or died from combat wounds	9,613
Wounded	61,567
Missing or captured	866

The release also reveals that 1,629 died for "other" reasons: "Casualties Not the Result of Actions by Hostile Forces" — this presumably might mean such things as those killed or crippled by bombing "accidents" by U.S. planes.

What is still hidden is how many

other casualties occurred from "non-hostile actions." An earlier Pentagon release at mid-year which received little publicity, revealed that since 1961 a total of 161,250 servicemen had been wounded by "non-hostile action" or infected by disease.

Most of these casualties had occurred since the large scale aggression in the past two years, and if the 1967 figure for these casualties kept pace with the increase in "hostile casualties," we could assume that perhaps 80,000 of them occurred last year.

Added to the 70,000 "hostile casualties" this would add up to 150,000 casualties among the total force of 450,000 to 500,000 U.S. men in Vietnam.

About 60 per cent of the "hostile casualties" were either hospital cases or deaths in 1967.

If this same percentage is true of the "non-hostile casualties," it would mean that some 90,000 U.S. servicemen in Vietnam were killed, crippled, infected with disease or seriously wounded in 1967.

Or about 250 GIs every day!

## Real Defense of U.S. \$ — Viet War

Lyndon Johnson is determined to save the dollar.

And he's determined to spend a million lives to do it.

Furthermore, the main and preponderant section of big business wants him to.

This was the real meaning of Johnson's Jan. 1 announcement that extreme measures would be taken to stop the outflow of gold from the United States — that travel abroad (by civilians) would be curtailed, taxes would be raised and even that holy of holies, corporate foreign investment, would be somewhat checked.

But in this unprecedented U.S. action, not one word was said about removing one of the greatest single drains on the dollar: the war in Vietnam.

All capitalist economists are agreed that the war is precisely what increased the gold outflow the most — aside from the fall of the British

pound (which itself was largely caused by military expenditures).

And yet, Johnson, who says every other day that he wants "peace," forgot all about Vietnam in this dramatic call for manning the dikes against the gold outflow!

Neither the pro-war nor the "anti-war" press of big business breathed a word about this glaring contradiction, and confined itself to moaning about the schoolteachers, who now could not visit the Coliseum or the Acropolis.

If any naive economist dares to tell the bankers (who ordered Johnson's move before he made it) that the Vietnam war should be closed down as a gold-and-dollar losing proposition, the bankers would correctly answer them:

"Don't be so formalistic and silly. What do you think we're defending in Vietnam in the first place? Why, the dollar!"

## Support for Serviceman's Union

Cont. from preceding page

Wisconsin air with chants of:

\* Stop the war in Vietnam—Unionize the Army

\* Resist in the Army, Resist the Draft — Resist, Resist, Resist

\* Hell No, we won't go, we won't fight the bosses war

\* the songs Solidarity Forever and Marat, we're marching on.

Signs read: Defend Pvt. Stapp from union busting brass, Support GIs' right to organize, Unionize the Army, The rich get richer; you get drafted, and Pvt. Stapp, all anti-war GIs, we're with you!

### CLEVELAND

CLEVELAND, Jan. 8 — Two demonstrations by the Cleveland Draft Resistance Union and the Direct Action Committee were held on Saturday, Jan. 6 and Monday, Jan. 8.

These actions were both protests against attacks on the anti-war movement, nationally and locally. Both actions denounced the indictments of Dr. Spock and the Resist Five as really an escalation of the war on the home front against those who oppose the war against the Vietnamese. The slogan and chant "Jail Johnson, Free Spock," symbolized the feeling of the demonstrators that the ruling class, whom Johnson represents, is the real criminal and not the anti-war movement.

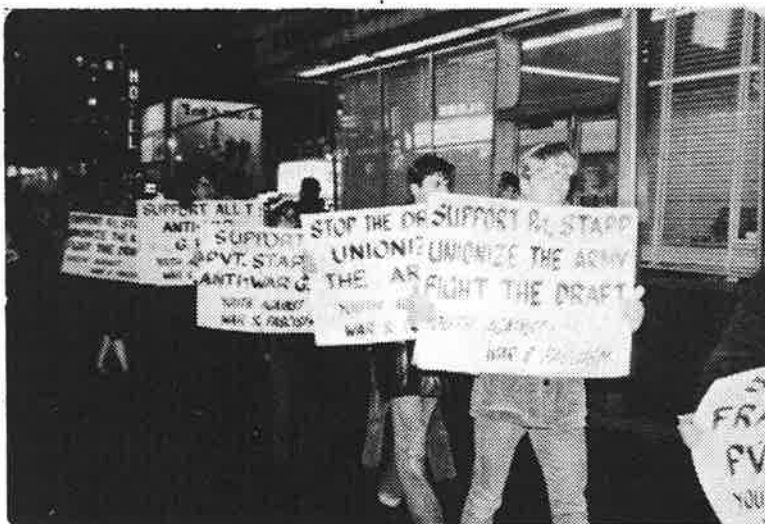
The Saturday demonstration came out in full support of the local opponents of the war and indicated their opposition to local police harassment, intimidation and arrest of anti-war leaflet distributors. (Dave Gass, leader of the local chapter of YAWF was arrested on Tuesday, Jan. 2, for distributing leaflets at the city-owned airport. This arrest was

made "allegedly" because of an ordinance prohibiting such distribution. This ordinance is being contested in the courts and recently the ACLU has agreed to assist in the case.)

Mark Stevenson, who opposes the war, was held for 24 hours without charge, and then released. These harassments are part of a plan to try to

this activity and association with members of YAWF, the brass is trying to give him a dishonorable discharge. The Cleveland Draft Resistance Union and Direct Action Committee support the actions of Stapp.

Many on-lookers approved of this union organizing idea, and several joined the line and became involved for the first time in the struggle against the war.



Picketing Times Square recruiting center in New York.

discourage anti-war activity.

On Monday, Jan. 8, in zero weather, pickets demonstrated again on the square, this time for Dr. Spock and for Pvt. Andy Stapp. The signs for Andy Stapp called for "Unionize the Army," and "For Political Freedom, Support Andy Stapp."

Andy Stapp, as is quite well known by now, is one of the leaders of the movement to organize GIs, and because of

### PHILADELPHIA

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 8 — As temperatures hovered just above zero and icy winds swept across the city, 15 hardy activists from Philadelphia Youth Against War & Fascism and the Anti-Draft Union picketed outside the induction center at 401 North Broad Street to protest the Army's attempt to oust an anti-war GI who is organizing a ser-

vicemen's union, Pvt. Andrew Stapp of Fort Sill, with an undesirable discharge.

The entire Civil Disobedience Squad of the Philadelphia Police Department was on hand for the protest and photographed demonstrators as they chanted "Support a GI Union," "Stop the Frame-Up of Pvt. Stapp," and "End the Draft."

Leaflets announcing the picketing were distributed to soldiers at the Greyhound and Trailways bus terminals to let them know about the formation of a union to demand rights for GIs. "The response to the leaflets was great," said YAWF Philadelphia coordinator Larry Nicodemus. "A couple of soldiers started whooping it up for the union right in the bus station. Others let us know quietly that they liked the idea." A woman with a son in Vietnam and another expecting to be drafted soon, took a leaflet and promised to show it to her boys.

Even the local USO was leafleted by Ed Vogel, a seaman recruit who refused to report for active duty last fall. He distributed to GIs in the poolroom and then left a stack of leaflets on the reading table.

### Hershey Cancels

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 12 — The threat of an anti-war demonstration — including draft card burning — forced draft director and chief body-snatcher Lewis Hershey to cancel a speech scheduled for delivery to the annual business meeting of the Valley Forge Council of Boy Scouts. The Philadelphia Anti-Draft Union called for the demonstration.

This was the first time, said Hershey, he had to cancel an appearance because of protest threats.

— But not the last, we hope.

# One Million Poor to Lose Medicaid

## STATE NEEDS FUNDS; BANKERS, GRAFTERS, COPS COME FIRST

Governor Rockefeller lined up with the reactionary enemies of Medicaid last week when he stated, "We're simply going to have to revamp our Medicaid program to reduce the cost." Using the excuse of federal cut-backs in funds, state officials are now clamoring to drastically reduce Medicaid benefits and deprive over one million people of the right to free medical care.

To Rockefeller, who could himself buy half a dozen hospitals without denting his fortune, Medicaid is quite expendable. But to the six million poor people of New York State who qualify for the program, the proposed reductions are a cruel blow.

Medicaid, free medical care for a small number of low income families, is just a tiny concession from the ruling class. The right of free medical care was only won by the poorest workers under the threat of a nationwide crisis in medicine caused by the outrageously high costs of medical

care. But as the cost of the war in Vietnam continues to rise and as the government continues to spend more on the war against the Black people at home, the ruling class has decided to cut back on even the smallest progressive programs which they were forced to initiate.

At public hearings of the Joint Legislative Committee on Public Health and Medicare last week, State Senator Lent (R-Nassau) proposed the following drastic cuts in the Medicaid program:

1) reduce the maximum income for a family of four to qualify for Medicaid from \$6,000 to \$5,500

2) require patients to pay part of the medical bills

3) limit in-patient care (i.e. hospital care) to those between 21 and 65.

Lent's proposals are calculated to disqualify at least one million of the six million persons now qualified for Medicaid. In fact, only three million of these are actually enrolled. Two-thirds of those enrolled live in New

York City and Lent's proposals would disqualify 200,000 Medicaid patients in this city alone.

While state officials are clamoring for cut-backs on Medicaid, evidence at the public hearings showed that doctors and hospitals participating in the program have been making costs skyrocket by billing the state for outrageous fees. One general practitioner billed New York City for \$21,000 for one month (this would mean he examined 160 patients a day.) In most cases, however, doctors have deliberately boycotted the program to ruin it. It was disclosed that on Staten Island, not one single doctor will accept Medicaid patients.

In addition to sabotage by the medical profession, it was revealed that some Welfare Departments have made it almost impossible for applicants to get Medicaid in the first place. They have used such methods as not having applications available, refusing to accept mail applications, mailing Medicaid cards to applicants after the cards had expired and harassing the applicants by requiring frequent visits.

On Jan. 6, the New York Times disclosed that 14 private nursing homes in New York City had rejected or evicted Medicaid patients on the

grounds that the state was not paying enough to cover costs. However, a Health Department spokesman said that these homes were charging phenomenal fees. In one case the owner of four homes claimed a salary of \$165,000 as part of his operating expenses and also asked \$38 a day per patient. (The state has set a maximum of \$21 a day.)

One investigation of the program revealed that despite the evidence of overcharging by doctors, the Health Services Administration has only three auditors to check on the 4,000 doctors enrolled in the Medicaid program. Thus the abuses and corrupt sabotage of the program are overlooked.

### African Image Not So "False"

When Vice President Humphrey returned from his African tour he complained bitterly about the "false" image Africans have of the U.S. Below is an excerpt of his remarks from the New York Times of Jan. 13:

"Owing to a lack of accurate information, most Africans believe that all United States Negroes fall into two categories: the despairing masses still in the slums or those who have 'arrived' economically or socially and have no 'conscience' about the plight of their brethren."

"The only United States Negroes that the average African seems to have heard about are Stokely Carmichael and Rap Brown."



### The Right to Act Like a Man

It may not seem like much, but when Slim stood up for our right to eat a sandwich at 10:30 in the morning, I saw things in a different way. I got a little idea of what workers' rights are all about that I never forgot.

It was in the early 50's when I worked with Slim on a new construction job in Seattle. I needed the job and I was trying to make an extra good showing even if it killed me—as you had to do on the non-union jobs I was used to. I had been taught to believe that I, as a worker, had no rights—that the boss, wherever I worked, was doing me a favor by giving me a job, that anything he ordered was a command of God.

This was a union job, one of the first I'd worked. We were grading an expanse of ground for the pouring of a concrete floor.

Slim was a thin-faced guy of about 45. He worked at a deliberate, steady pace, doing a good, careful job.

When the foreman rushed up and ordered, "Move that pile of gravel over here!" I thought I had to run and jump. But Slim right away said, "You want us to do that now or after we finish this job?"

When the foreman had gone, Slim said to me: "Take it easy, kid. They'll run you into the ground if you let 'em. He don't have nothing to do but run around and holler; you got to put in eight hours work. You got to set a pace you can go at for eight hours. This is a union job and you got union rights."

"What's that mean?"

"It means you got the right to act like a man. It means you don't have to squat and shiver every time a boss comes around. You just do your work. Eight hours of it. That's all they're paying you for."

His words struck me. It was a new way of looking at things that I had begun to feel was right. I had earlier always accepted the fact that the boss owned my soul as well as my labor and that he had all the rights. I liked the idea that I actually had some rights. But I still wasn't sure.

At 10:30 I was starving but it would be an hour and a half before lunch time. Slim laid down his shovel and said, "Well, I'm going to have my sandwich. You gonna have one?"

"The foreman'll be back, won't he?"

Slim said, "I don't care if he is. I always have a sandwich at 10:30."

Slim got his lunch box. He took out a sandwich and poured himself a cup of coffee to go with it.

"Get yourself a sandwich!" he told me.

I went and got one and sat down with him. It tasted good but I was nervous.

"What if the foreman comes back?" I said.

"Listen, I always have a sandwich at 10:30, no matter where I work. We were on a job up in the mountains once. That's when the union was really a union. I mean," he chuckled, "we really stuck together. We used to all stop and have a sandwich at 10:30 every day. Then one day a new superintendent came by and saw us and told the foreman we couldn't do it. Our job steward says 'All right, boys, lay 'em down,' and we all walked off the job right then and there. It didn't take long before that superintendent changed his mind. And when we went back we had a sandwich at 10:30 and another coffee break in the afternoon. Hell, I gotta have a sandwich at 10:30. I always have a sandwich at 10:30 no matter where I am."

Just then I saw the foreman coming. Slim poured himself some more coffee.

The foreman walked toward us and stopped. He didn't seem sure what to say. Slim went on eating as if he were home in the kitchen. The foreman looked at us and at the grading job we were doing and then kicked at some gravel.

"There's a high spot over here!" he growled.

"I'll take care of it just as soon as I finish my sandwich," Slim said. "I always have a sandwich at 10:30," he added. He went on chewing at the same speed and took another sip of coffee.

The foreman glanced at Slim, looked around again at the grading job and then left. "I thought sure he was going to give us trouble," I said.

"About what?" Slim said.

"About our eating a sandwich."

"Well," Slim said, "I always eat a sandwich at 10:30. I guess he'll just have to get used to it."

# New Mexico Governor Sparks Racist Witchhunt

By Ellen Pierce

A key witness against Mexican-American liberation fighters has been mysteriously murdered in Albuquerque and the "liberal" governor of New Mexico has seized the opportunity to launch a new hysteria against the Federal Alliance for Land Grants.

Dead is Eulogio Salazar, who was to be the star prosecution witness in a case pending against 20 members of the Alliance. He was found beaten to death outside Tierra Amarilla, New Mexico.

And New Mexico Governor David Cargo, a "liberal" Republican called a special press conference to warn that "The people that killed him (Salazar) are most certainly going to pay for it. This is a matter of enforcing the law and the law is going to be enforced."

Cargo then announced that he "personally asked Judge Joe Angel of Las Vegas to either revoke or increase the bonds of the 20 persons facing charges in connection with a raid on the Tierra Amarilla courthouse last June 5," according to the Albuquerque Journal. This statement made it clear that Cargo wanted the Alliance members against whom Salazar was due to testify immediately considered guilty of murder.

Warrants were issued for Cristobol Tijerina (brother of Alliance leader Reyes Tijerina) and Felix Martinez, naming them as material witnesses. Bond was set at \$10,000 each.

Bail on the 20 defendants was revoked and they were taken to jail.

The June 5th "courthouse raid" to which Governor Cargo referred was an incident in which two policemen were shot as Tijerina and other Alliance members who tried to retaliate against Tierra Amarilla DA Sanchez who had jailed 11 of their group on petty charges to prevent a planned demonstration.

At that time 350 National Guardsmen and 200 state police armed with tanks and tank destroyers were sent into the area by the governor; 500 people were arrested as police broke into homes in New Mexico; 40 wives and children of suspects were herded into cattle pens by National Guard General Jolly who told reporters, "Let's don't get involved in civil liberties." Finally, 20 Alliance members, including Tijerina and his 18-year old daughter were arrested on a total of 26 charges including assault with intent to commit

murder and kidnapping. They were later released on bail.

Since the Mexican-American War and the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo which finalized the U.S. conquest of New Mexico and other states, Mexican-Americans have been robbed, terrorized and cheated out of the land supposedly guaranteed to them in that Treaty by ranchers and by the Federal government. Poverty is so extreme that, according to a recent study in northern New Mexico, the slow learning rate of the children is due to malnutrition.

In a typical community "two-thirds of the houses are sub-standard, two-thirds have no indoor plumbing, an average of two persons inhabit each room and half the labor force is unemployed in the winter months when temperatures often drop to thirty below zero." (New York Times, June 13, 1967). In Rio Arriba County almost half the population of 23,000 is on state relief. In the three most depressed counties the average income is \$700 a year.

The hysteria against the Alliance was no doubt heightened by the fact that the Mexican-Americans have expressed solidarity with Afro-American liberation fighters. And last Oct. 23 at an Alliance convention in Albuquerque, representatives of the Black Panthers, CORE, SNCC, and the Black Anti-Draft Union signed a statement of mutual support with the Tijerina group.

### Father Says —

### "He Can't Go"

BOSTON, Jan. 10 — Two young men who vowed to refuse induction were sent home from the Boston Army Base today, while another youth burned his draft card and 300 supporters of the draft resisters picketed outside the base.

Refusing induction were Corey Brown, 22, of Roxbury, and Howard Martson, Jr., 20. Thomas Jarrell of Newton, Mass. was the draft card burner.

The father of draftee Martson who accompanied his son to the pre-induction physical said that he would "absolutely forbid" his son to join the Army. "He is a minor and I am not giving him my permission."