

workers world

Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite

Farmworkers fight for union contracts p. 5

Wheat prices and the Soviet grain deal p. 7

Analysis of Watergate, by Sam Marcy p. 8

Chilean crisis deepens p. 13

EXPOCUBA p. 16

Vol. 15, No. 14

August 3, 1973

25 cents

We're being robbed!

Meat shortage hoax drives prices up

See article, page 3

Historic precedent set by Chrysler workers

By VINCE COPELAND

DETROIT—When Larry Carter and Isaac Shorter cut off the power at Chrysler's Jefferson Avenue assembly plant here last week, they made history and the company knew it. In fact, all Detroit knew it.

They locked themselves in the power controls cage after they turned the assembly line off. The workers throughout the plant all supported them, and by the end of the day the company gave in to their demands, also making a written agreement that there would be no reprisals.

Nothing like this has happened here for years, maybe not for decades.

The radio was blasting away with the news of the stoppage within an hour or two of the time it started (6:04 a.m., Tuesday, July 24). Carload after carload of cops were emptying onto the Jefferson sidewalk, standing around "awaiting orders"—orders that never came.

The orders didn't come because 3,000 day shift workers were so obviously backing up the two working class heroes

(Continued on page 3)



After forcing Chrysler to meet their demands, auto workers celebrate their victory by raising Isaac Shorter and Larry Carter to their shoulders.

Shopless day organized as food prices leap again

2 - Shopless day organized; Bosses profit from "phases"

3-Workers win victory in Detroit; Victory in Farah boycott

4-Massacre in Mozambique; Cambodia on road to liberation; YAWF routs Nazis

5-Farmworkers under attack; Drought in sub-Sahara

6-Editorial: Phase IV; Decline & Fall: Ten years ago in WW

7-Two Germanys—East and West; Soviet wheat deal

8-Sam Marcy on Watergate; Ehrlichman—no. 3 Nazi

10-Bosses want death penalty; Retired workers

11-Welfare families fight inflation; Clinics sterilize oppressed

12-Saigon prisoners; Korean people demand U.S. withdrawal

13-Rightwing offensive in Chile; Argentina in crisis

14, 15- Political prisoners

16-EXPOCUBA; District 1 School Bd; Junta Escolar del Districta 1

By RUTH McCORMICK

Eggs, \$2.00 a dozen? Meat, \$5.00 a pound? \$1.50 for a quart of milk? If those figures sound fantastic, there is no reason why they should now that Phase IV is here. If you've been to your local supermarket within the last two weeks, you have already experienced Phase IV, and if way back in June you thought food prices couldn't possibly go any higher, you now know that under Nixon's endless "Phases," anything is possible.

At the office of Women United for Action, a grassroots organization of housewives, working women, mothers, welfare recipients, students, and senior citizens who have been fighting against continually rising food prices for over a year, the telephone rings continuously. Most calls are from angry shoppers reporting new horrors at their local supermarkets.

A New Jersey woman, living on a pension, expressed stunned disbelief when, on her weekly shopping trip the last week in July, she discovered that eggs were selling for 99 cents a dozen, bacon for \$1.39 a pound, tomatoes for 79 cents a pound, and her favorite brand of cream cheese had jumped a full 10 cents for a small packet. Even she was more fortunate than a Latin working mother who reported that in her supermarket in New York's Spanish Harlem, eggs were going for \$1.19 a dozen and chicken for 89 cents a pound!

FOOD PRICES SOAR

Food prices, as of the writing of this

article, have already soared over 10 percent since the beginning of Phase IV was announced, and can be expected to go even higher during the next weeks, especially after September 12, when controls will be lifted from beef prices.

In his announcement of Phase IV, Richard M. Nixon, hero of Watergate, secret bomber of Cambodian peasants, and bosom buddy of many of the richest and most powerful people in this country, undertook to inform us that "there is no way, with or without controls, to prevent a substantial rise in food prices."

He called upon "the farmer" to "produce as much as he can," in order to stave off the shortages he says cause inflation. However, if Nixon really wants agribusiness to produce as much as possible, why didn't he say anything about abolishing the huge subsidies that are paid every year by the government to the large farming interests not to produce vital food items?

As a spokeswoman for Women United for Action put it in a recent press release: "The giant agricultural, dairy, and meat corporations that have driven out the small farmer over the past decades have now been given the green light from the government to raise food prices to levels that will cause hunger for millions and hardship for millions more."

"Children of the poor will suffer most of all. Pay increases for all working people are still frozen to 5.5 percent under Phase IV; people living on welfare, social security, and

pensions will have to feed themselves on incomes already below the poverty level."

CALL FOR SHOPLESS DAY

It is with these facts in mind that Women United, and many other related community-based groups, are calling for a "Shopless Day" on Tuesday, August 7. Women United is piloting a leafleting campaign in concert with numerous groups nationwide at supermarkets calling upon shoppers to "Turn Your Complaints into Action" by picketing, leafleting, organizing demonstrations and motorcades, and expressing the deeply felt bitterness of all poor and working people to supermarket managers. The point is that the anger and frustration of consumers should be seen and heard, loud and clear, all over the nation, so that the agribusiness thieves and their friends in Washington will know that we're not kidding.

The New York Chapter of Women United for Action is planning a major action, at a supermarket in Chelsea, for Saturday, August 4, and people in the metropolitan area interested in participating are urged to contact WUA at 58 West 25 Street, New York City 10010, or by telephone (212) 989-1252, for further details.

Women United and other consumer groups across the country are planning a variety of actions, and all are urging shoppers to make August 7 a day when we empty the supermarkets who have emptied our pockets for so long.

Bosses make record profits under Nixon's "phases"

By GRACE STILES

There are a lot of liars in Washington. They have offices in the White House and at the FBI, man tape recorders at the CIA, live in the Watergate, run the IRS. They also sit on the Cost of Living Council, and make "official" statements that are obviously ridiculous to most workers and shoppers.

The latest of these came on July 12, when the CLC reported finding "only a few" violations of price guidelines under Phase 3.

Robert Parks, chief economist and vice president of a Wall Street firm, took issue with the CLC, and stated:

"The Council claim runs counter to the overall data for several industries, which show rapid price rises (wholesale and retail) in the first half of this year, a large

climb in total profits, and a significant rise in profit margins... with many of the margin levels rising above the average of the best two of the past four (or five) fiscal years."

Phase 3 lasted for five months and produced a 24.4 percent annual rate of price increases!

Then there was the Phase 3-and-one-half "freeze," which ended after 6 weeks and brought us—with threatened shortages of food and fuel—to Phase 4. Nixon introduced Phase 4 as "tough... in some respects tougher than Phase 2" (which produced a 6.9 percent rise in prices with wage increases still limited to 5.5 percent) as he unfroze prices and gave big business the go-ahead to raise everything sky high.



The administration's statements on the economy are as unreliable as its statements on the Watergate. Through all the "phases," government spokesmen have tried to cover up their biggest conspiracy—the all-out attack on the living standards of the American poor and working people.

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Meat "shortage" hoax drives prices up

The people of America are being robbed by the great meat trusts. Millions today have forgotten what meat tastes like, while tens of millions of others who still have the money to feed themselves and their families watch in horror as the price of food, and particularly the price of meat, continues to soar beyond their worst nightmares.

The billionaire masters of the meat industry have deliberately created an artificial shortage (85 percent of the meat wholesalers in New York City have shut down operations) in order to drive up the price of beef by September, when the "freeze" is lifted, and then rake in even more enormous profits.

The paid propagandists and agents of the super-rich meat kings have sought to

blame the rise of prices on foreigners who are purchasing some U.S.-produced meat. This is a lie. The U.S. only exports 0.03 percent of the meat it produces. In fact, the U.S. imports more meat than it exports.

No, it is not foreigners who are restricting cattle production, it is not foreigners who are closing the meat-packing houses, it is not foreigners who are forcing meat onto the black market in what U.S. Attorney Robert Morse calls a "wholesale holdup of consumers."

Of course, people who live in other countries are familiar with these price-gouging tactics. In Argentina, one of the world's great meat-producing countries, U.S. banker-industrialists and local stooges in their pay drove up the price of meat to

such dizzying heights last year that the working people of Argentina could not afford to buy their main product. The only time poor people saw meat on their table was six months ago, when Argentine guerrillas kidnapped a big boss of the Swift meat trust and refused to release him until the money-grabbing company distributed several million dollars worth of meat free in the poor neighborhoods of Buenos Aires.

WHAT NIXON COULD DO—BUT WON'T

There's a real emergency going on. The question is: What isn't the government doing about it, and why not?

How quick the government is to slap huge fines against a striking union and jail

strikers and union leaders, when the bosses claim that a strike "brings hardship to the community" and "cripples society."

Doesn't the skyrocketing price of meat "bring hardship"? Don't the budget-busting prices being demanded for this basic and necessary food cripple the ability of poor and working people to feed their children?

Nixon could put the meat back on our tables with one stroke of a pen if he wanted to. All he has to do is to sign an executive order forbidding the deliberate withholding of meat from the market, thus making it illegal for the millionaire conspirators to drive up prices by creating artificial shortages.

Nixon has refused to do this because the handful of wealthy plunderers are the same men who helped finance Nixon's rise to political power and are in fact his masters.

We will not surrender the right to eat. Nixon had better bring the price of meat down or the people will bring Nixon down.

Take the profit out of hunger!

Make Nixon roll back the price of meat and other basic foods!

Victory in Farah boycott won in NYC

BULLETIN

NEW YORK, July 30—The boycott campaign against Korvette's department store for selling scab Farah pants, begun just last week by the Center for United Labor Action, has met with immediate success.

In the face of frequent rallies and a massive picket line scheduled for Saturday, August 4, Korvette's managers called a meeting today with the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union and agreed to take the scab slacks off the racks, if only the union would "get that C.U.L.A. off our

backs!"

The 4,000 striking Farah workers in Texas, mostly Chicana women, have maintained their picket lines for over a year now fighting for union recognition while all the nonunion sweatshop bosses in the Southwest and across the U.S. are supporting Farah. Korvette's racist anti-union management has only begun selling Farah pants during the strike.

The Farah strikers need the support of workers all across the U.S. The Center for United Labor Action, which now plans to boycott other stores, has shown how to organize that support to get effective results.



At a street meeting at Korvette's, Beth Marino of the Center for United Labor Action urges shoppers to boycott Korvette's and aid the struggle of the striking Farah workers.

WW photo-Dick

Precedent set by Chrysler workers

(Continued from page 1)

showing definite signs of taking things a little further if the company interfered.

"WE'LL DO IT AGAIN"

This writer arrived on the scene around noon, after the cops had left, and workers were peering warily but triumphantly out of the steel-screened windows that are almost level with the sidewalk.

"They're still in there," the workers said proudly, referring to the men in the controls room. And when we talked about the auto sitdowns of nearly four decades ago, they responded like they thought it was yesterday.

"We'll do it again," they said.

And that's exactly what the Chrysler Company must have thought when they gave in to the demands.

It all started because of a racist supervisor, Thomas Woolsey. This character had been in the department only a couple of months, but he had already been the subject of five grievances and a petition to get rid of him.

Finally, the workers took this action, demanding that the company fire him before they went back to work.

The company fired him.

Shorter and Carter had earlier collected 214 signatures on the petition to remove him. There are about 200 workers in their immediate area. The two men are spot welders in the body shop.

But the union leadership was taking a moderate view of things and going through the slow-motion grievance machinery without getting anywhere—as usual.

"THE ONLY THING THEY UNDERSTAND"

"Finally we decided it was time to move to a different level of action in seizing the plant," said Isaac Shorter to reporters. "The only way they (the company) understand anything is through action, and this is the kind of tactic we have to use to get action."

Shorter and Carter (both are Black), like so many Detroit workers—Black and white—are from the South. Shorter is from Cleveland, Mississippi, and Carter from Pensacola, Florida. Many Southern whites—although in a minority in the department—appeared to support the action.

SOUTH AND NORTH INSIDE THE PLANT

But it was clear that the two Black

brothers who led the action and seized the controls were not only leaders but symbols, in their own persons, of what it was all about.

The South has moved to the North just as the North has moved to the South. The runaway shops have gone South to pay lower wages. And the Southern workers have come North to find higher wages—and better conditions.

There's a lot more to it than that. But Isaac Shorter and Larry Carter, who are 25 and 22 years old respectively, are outstanding examples of this particular social process.

They have brought a three-and-a-half century struggle against chains and whips and lynching ropes into the arena of the assembly line and the power switches to fight one of the most modern kinds of slavery in the world. And they have proved that it is possible to win.

ELEMENTS OF THE COMING STORM

The contradictions were there before Shorter and Carter arrived, of course. The social composition of the workers, the intense exploitation of their labor, and the tremendous concentration of capital that hover over them have all been features of

the Jefferson Avenue plant for some years.

But things are moving now. The workers are catching up to their contradictions. They are on the verge of drawing some drastic conclusions about them.

Chrysler alone has 35 plants and 100,000 workers in the Detroit area—a fact which the Detroit newspapers sourly pointed out as an ominous promise of more Jefferson Assembly events in the near future.

Every single auto worker in Detroit, probably in all Michigan, knows exactly what happened at the Chrysler plant—and why and how. They all hate the work and most hate the companies to one degree or another. And they are all thinking it over.

Everybody knows it's going to happen again.

There are many more Shorters and Carters. And as the Black slaves rebel, the white slaves cannot but do likewise.

Repression and counter-attack by Chrysler and other companies are bound to come—maybe very soon, maybe even before the workers move, so as to frighten them into not moving. But the auto workers are restless. They have a sense of their potential power, which the Chrysler action has now brought home to them.

When a half-million of them even just flex their muscles, no force in the auto plants, or outside of them either, is going to hold them down.

Massacre, U.S. style, exposed in Mozambique



This photograph, showing Portuguese soldiers beheading a rebel in a Mozambique village, was reportedly taken by a soldier who wanted "a war souvenir." Brutal murders such as this are widespread in this African colony.

By GLENN KOLLEENY

"A woman was shot. Her child fell with her, crying. A soldier kicked the boy violently, destroying his head, and saying, 'Shut up, dog.' The prostrate child cried no more and the soldier returned with his boot covered with blood.

"At Antonio 11 children and 4 women were burnt to death after they had been herded into a hut which was then grenaded. The massacre was carried out by Portuguese commandoes who twice asked the women and children where the Frelimo guerrillas were before packing them into the hut."

News like this report in the Manchester Guardian has filled the pages of the British press for weeks. The information comes from a group of ten nuns and missionaries who recently fled the Portuguese-controlled areas of Africa. The worst massacre took place, in the Mozambique village of Wiriyaumu on December 16, 1972, where over 400 unarmed African men, women, and

children were butchered. At Wiriyaumu an eyewitness saw Portuguese commandoes ask a pregnant woman about the sex of her unborn child. When she replied that she didn't know if it was a boy or a girl, they cut her open and ripped the fetus out. Then they burned her alive.

These reports make it clear that the Portuguese are brutally murdering the people of Mozambique in an attempt to terrorize them into submission.

The Mozambique liberation forces, known as Frelimo, presently control large areas of their country. A similar liberation movement is being waged against the Portuguese in Angola. Both colonies have been subjected to 400 years of Portuguese imperialist domination.

The Portuguese military has adopted most of the tactics used by the U.S. in Vietnam. Intensive bombing, the use of napalm, the "scorched earth" policy, and torture have become everyday events in the life of the inhabitants of these oppressed

Cambodia well on the road to liberation

By TOM MITCHELL

The Lon Nol U.S.-puppet regime in Cambodia is collapsing and has been reduced to governing only the besieged city of Phnom Penh.

The military commander of the Phnom Penh defense perimeter estimates that there are 60,000 liberation troops poised on the outskirts of the city for the final battle, and he predicts imminent ground attacks in the innercity itself.

The puppets are in the panic of their death agony as the thunderous explosions of the bombs reach their doorstep and the August 15 cutoff date for U.S. bombing approaches. The U.S. militarists are watching helplessly as the heroic and determined liberation forces steadily advance through the TNT curtain laid down by U.S. B52s, pushing the puppet troops back headlong into the only temporary safety of the city that is already under rocket attack.

In the face of the relentless offensive of the Khmer Rouge liberation army, Henry Kissinger has been forced to cancel his scheduled negotiating trip to Peking until after August 15.

At the same time, after the issue is virtually resolved, the liberal imperialist politicians in the U.S. Congress, anxious to recognize defeat and make a tactical retreat in order to temper the U.S. economic crisis, have suddenly "discovered" systematic illegal bombing raids and military operations in Cambodia and Laos since 1969 by the U.S. military.

And last week federal Judge Orrin Judd ruled that the current bombing is unconstitutional, ordering an injunction that was immediately stayed.

After all the protestations of ignorance

and innocence by top government officials, it has been established that the raids were ordered by Nixon, Kissinger, and Laird, through the National Security Council, at a time when Secretary of State Rogers declared the U.S. was "scrupulously" respecting Cambodia's neutrality.

The raids were covered up by simply reporting the bombing and casualties as occurring in Vietnam. Now it has been admitted that between 1969 and 1972 the total bomb tonnage dropped on Cambodia almost equals the entire tonnage dropped by the U.S. in World War II.

The Cambodian liberation forces announced in response that, in fact, the bombing has been going on since 1963. And the Laotians are all too familiar with the CIA's private air force, Air America, and the Green Beret terror squads.

The news of the "special wars" against Cambodia and Laos is not really new. What is new is that the Congress and the capitalist media have only now come to the point of making an issue of it.

With Nixon on the defensive because of Watergate and an intense inflationary crisis, threatened with impeachment and mass rebellion against his economic controls, the "doves" are speaking up, some pointing out that the unauthorized bombing is even stronger grounds for impeachment than Watergate.

But none of these politicians has pointed out that all the bombing in Cambodia, authorized and unauthorized, is criminal, murdering hundreds of thousands of civilians in a futile attempt to prop up the corrupt dictatorship of a U.S. puppet regime and maintain the U.S. imperialist stranglehold on Indochina.

colonies. However, the similarity to Vietnam does not end there. The Portuguese use U.S. planes, bombs, guns, and napalm in their racist drive to destroy the indigenous rebellions. The U.S. also arms the racist settler-state of Rhodesia, whose white ruling minority has conducted vicious forays into liberated areas of Mozambique, bordering on Rhodesia.

After the barbaric massacres were reported, thousands of progressives in Britain staged demonstrations against a visit by Portuguese Premier Marcello

Caetano. In one demonstration over 5,000 people gathered in London demanding that Caetano be denied entry into Britain. British Tory leaders had invited Caetano to celebrate the 600th anniversary of the Portuguese-English alliance.

The people of Mozambique and Angola are determined to resist the racist oppression of the Portuguese and, like the heroic Vietnamese people, will not be intimidated by the heinous crimes of the Portuguese and their imperialist supporters in Washington.

Nazis routed by YAWF

BUFFALO, July 28 — Thirty-one members of Rochester and Buffalo Youth Against War & Fascism today handed out several hundred leaflets entitled "Nazis have no right to speak" in the Main and Court area of downtown Buffalo. The sign one member carried, read, "Keep Nazi members off our streets."

The action was prompted by an incident which occurred the previous Saturday, July 21, in which YAWF members who were selling Workers World were struck at by one of two Nazis handing out a racist, swastika-decorated National Socialist White People's Party leaflet.

The YAWF members and many of the crowd of 100 passersby who were justifiably enraged by the brown-shirted swastika-uniformed Nazis on the streets quickly countered the Nazi's attack and roughed him up considerably (see photo). Just before being led away, for their own protection, by the police, one of the Nazis threatened to bring his troops "next Saturday" and beat up everybody.

Well, YAWF was there today, that "next Saturday," and not one Nazi appeared!



Lone Nazi is surrounded by citizens of Buffalo after a brief scuffle with YAWF members. Cops hurried to whisk him away "for his own protection." Threats of retaliation from the National Socialist White People's Party never materialized. WW photo

Teamster leaders join bosses in attack on UFWU

By a TEAMSTER, LOCAL 804

The California grapepickers' strike, led by the United Farm Workers Union (UFWU), has become a full-scale battle involving the solidarity and enthusiasm of the mostly Chicano farmworkers against vicious beatings by Teamster-hired goons and mass arrests by the cops.

The crucial stage of the strike will begin when contracts with 29 Delano area growers, who market 40 percent of the table grapes in the U.S., expire July 29. These contracts cover 9,000 UFWU members who have voted a strike authorization.

Earlier in the strike, big growers, whose huge vineyards are like modern-day plantations, went into court for an injunction to stop all picketing, claiming they are the innocent victims of a dispute between two unions!

But the fact is the farmworkers are on strike against the growers who are trying to destroy their union, the UFWU, by refusing to renegotiate the expired UFWU contracts. The growers are trying to force the farmworkers to accept an inferior contract, which they got officials of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT) to sign in secret, without ratification by the workers themselves.

The big growers bought off top Teamster officials by promising them dues check-offs of several hundred thousand farmworkers. These officials have hired more than 125 white punks to terrorize strikers at \$50 a day plus \$17.50 for expenses.

This fascist gang of stormtroopers has attacked picketlines with lead pipes and machetes, shouting racist insults while cruelly beating those least able to defend themselves, as the cops stood by and watched. They have also gone night-riding into the farmworkers' camps, setting fire to shacks and shooting wildly, as well as burning the UFWU office in Calexico, California. Many strikers have been hospitalized as a result of these attacks.

MORE WALKOUTS

But this strikebreaking army of cowards has failed to intimidate the united Chicano farmworkers, who have responded by walking out of the fields in increasing numbers. Production is less than one-half of what it was a year ago, and a serious labor shortage is developing.

Now the big growers are turning increasingly to their official strikebreakers,



The farmworkers' strike grows stronger day by day, despite harassment and terrorist attacks against them.
Photo: El Malcriado

the local sheriffs and courts. Mass arrests in many locations, some beginning as soon as a caravan of picketers arrives, have filled the jails and courts. All told, over 1,000 farmworkers have been arrested.

The UFWU has called a boycott against scab grapes, but the big supermarket chains, which fought against the 1970 boycott, are now coming up with phony pleas of being caught in the middle between two unions. Nevertheless some chains have

given in to picketers.

WHY THE GROWERS-TEAMSTER MARRIAGE?

It's no mystery why the big growers are trying to roll back the victories of the farmworkers under the UFWU. These growers have such political pull that they have in the past successfully kept farmworkers from being covered by the minimum wage law, unemployment insurance, or the child labor laws. And they've been able to buy labor

through contractors who operate like modern slave traders.

Now that the UFWU has overcome the difficulties presented by the power of the big growers, including grower attempts to get the boycott weapon outlawed, the growers have suddenly fallen in love with what they previously would not touch with a ten-foot pole, a union.

In order to resist the UFWU appeals for representation elections, which it has won every time an election has been held, the growers have picked the Teamsters to crowd the UFWU out.

The IBT is shelling out at least \$10,000 a day just to pay the goons to guard the scabs, a sight that sickens every worker who has ever been on strike. They're not spending that money for the benefit of the farmworkers, who are taking the lumps in striking against Teamster contracts that would bring back the contract labor system which the UFWU had replaced with the union hiring hall. If the IBT was concerned with unionizing farmworkers, it would support the UFWU.

But in fact, Einar Mohn, head of the Western Conference of Teamsters, plans that IBT farmworkers won't be allowed to have union meetings for a couple of years. He stated: "I'm not sure how effective a union can be when it is composed of Mexican-Americans and Mexican nationals with temporary visas."

But are these chair-warmers in such racist solidarity with the anti-union growers that they are willing to lay out more than \$1 million to raid the UFWU? Indictments are now pending on charges that the growers supplied funds for the Teamsters to hire goons to break the grape strikes in 1970.

The way IBT President Fitzsimmons has been playing footsie with both Nixon and his pals, the big growers, it's no wonder that IBT-picked lettuce was shipped last fall in boxes labeled "Re-elect the President Lettuce."

But now, with Nixon's ability to support Fitzsimmons weakened by the Watergate scandal, and the determined farmworkers standing strong, Fitzsimmons has been forced to disassociate himself from his union-busting scum. Nevertheless, the farmworkers need mass support to fight the government-inspired campaign against them.

**SUPPORT THE FARMWORKERS:
BOYCOTT LETTUCE
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Drought-stricken sub-Saharan victim of colonialism

By CAL BONNER

Up to 10 million Africans are facing death from thirst and starvation as a result of what has been described as the worst drought to hit the African continent in 60 years. They will be dead by this fall, unless there is immediate and massive aid.

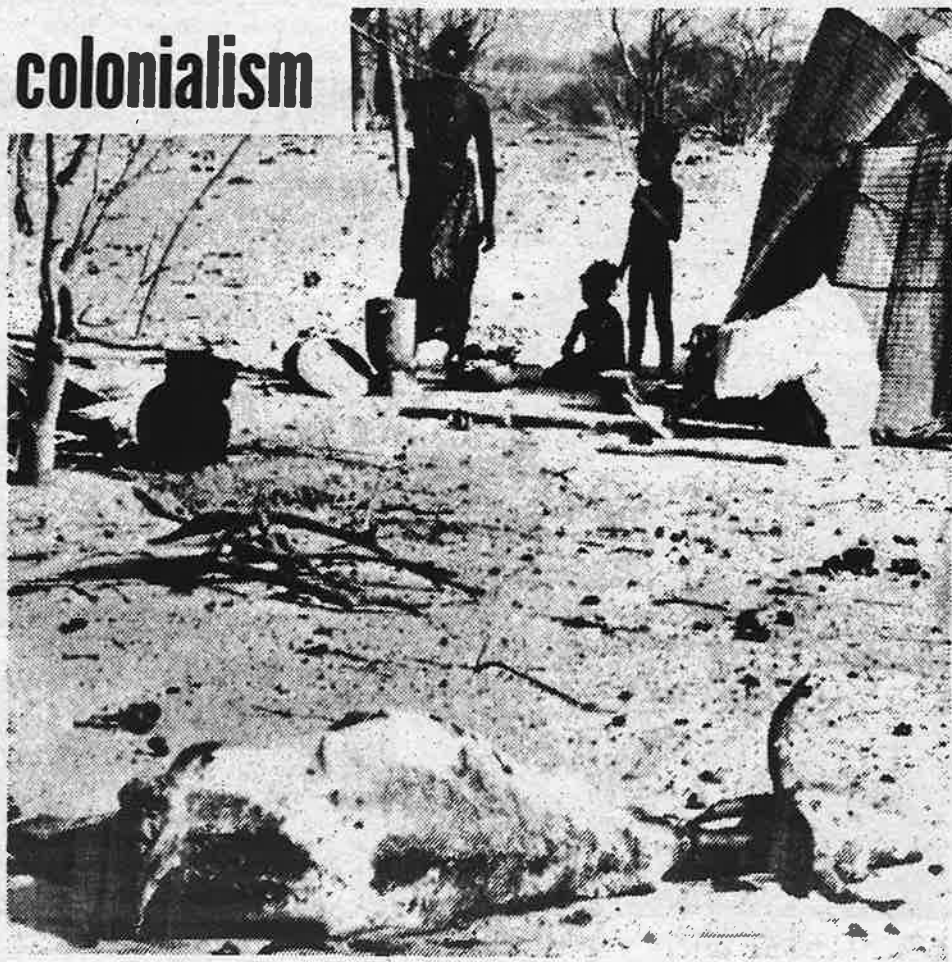
The area stricken by the drought and consequent famine is larger than the U.S. but sparsely populated. Eighty percent of the people living in the affected area are peasants or herdsmen who have clung to their traditional ways of life, in no small part because their nomadic life has afforded them a degree of independence. In stark contrast is the fierce oppression in the social, economic, and political lives of those Africans so unfortunate as to reside in territories desired by the Western capitalist powers for their mineral riches and/or strategic military locations as bases of imperialism.

With the exception of Ethiopia, the countries so affected are the six Black African countries in the sub-Saharan section of North Africa — formerly called French West Africa and now called the Sahel — Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, and Upper Volta.

The cause of the drought is reported to be a lack of significant rainfall for the last five years. Farm production has been cut by 50 percent and some 60 percent of the livestock has been killed.

The lack of internal institutions to deal with the crises of the drought and consequent famine can be traced to the French colonial past. The French imperialists permitted few native Africans to become technicians and administrators. The drive for independence from French imperialist rule left, in its wake, a number of states free of direct political rule from the European power but still not free in the economic sphere. Most of the industrial managers had been trained in the schools of the bourgeoisie and were for the most part the sons of chiefs of the native communities.

The lack of a thorough system of public education (itself a copy of the French lycée system), a reliance on the old, corrupt elites to initiate and implement public policy, and the inherent inability of capitalism to unleash the productive capabilities of the masses are residual effects of the French colonial past which have, in part, contributed to the circumstances surrounding the drought and famine in Sahelian Africa.



editorial

The multibillion-dollar wage cut

While the capitalist-imperialist class is divided and locked in a deadly serious struggle over Watergate, they have united down to the last manufacturer, super-market huckster, and super-soap salesman to gouge the working people out of every cent they have.

"Phase IV" went into effect on July 18 and will have additional delayed-action results on August 12 and September 12 (when beef joins the other foods on the price escalator). It is one more "anti-inflationary" measure actually designed to help inflation along, while making sure that the working people pay for it.

Wage increases are still to be held to 5.5 percent. (And lots of workers can't even get that much!) But prices are just about completely uncontrolled on all foods except beef — and beef is unavailable. Prices are also going up on health care and many other things.

This means the workers' real wages are going DOWN. The workers are getting a wage cut and it amounts to billions of dollars.

Suppose for instance, that a family's expenses are now \$10 a week more than they were last year. That's \$500 a year. With 80 million workers, that's \$40 billion in wage cuts.

The \$40 billion is not lost, however. It will turn up in the pockets of somebody else. And those somebodies are the ones who have billions already.

Food has already gone up an unbelievable 15.7 percent this year, according to the conservative figures of the Bureau of

Labor Statistics. (Other agencies say it is 20 percent!) This same Bureau admitted that actual money wages of a married worker with three dependents went down .01 percent in May.

Some top U.S. labor leaders have of course made noises of protest. But Leonard Woodcock, president of the militant United Auto Workers Union while himself a housebroken lap dog of the big auto bosses, has lain down, rolled over, and wagged his tail for them, yapping pleasantly that "we can live with" Phase IV!

Woodcock may be no worse than Meany, Jennings, Abel, etc. But since he is now conducting negotiations with the auto companies, he wants to reassure big business that he is "reasonable." So he tells the workers that prices won't be so bad and thus forestalls their wildcatting or pressuring him to fight for better raises.

Many workers, perhaps the majority, still believe that somehow the government will protect them from the price-gougers and that holding wages down will somehow stop prices from going up.

But they are being educated very rapidly now on the real role of government. The Watergate revelations, coming out every day over the airwaves, are an eye-opener to the corruption of the White House and military chiefs.

Even more painful are the brutal effects of the employers' government felt every day at the supermarkets and at the dinner table.

This latter experience may prove to be even more educational than Watergate. Millions of people are beginning to realize that they'd better fight back.

And they will fight back.

Ten years ago in WW—

We predicted U.S. would dump Diem

July 12, 1963:

"Ngo Dinh Diem, U.S. stooge-dictator in South Vietnam, has lost his last claim to any popularity in his own country. He sees the handwriting on the wall and knows some forces among the U.S. imperialists are about ready to ditch him as an ally and are considering the idea of helping one of his many non-communist opponents to over-

throw him.

"The U.S. war-makers face an insoluble contradiction in Vietnam. They are well aware of the masses' fierce hatred of Diem and his gang. They know that they must do something about it. (Kennedy has just appointed Henry Cabot Lodge, one of the shrewdest and most experienced politicians, as U.S. ambassador to South Vietnam.)



Court rules that worker's life worth \$21.42

Washington, July 12 (Reuters):

"The builders of a 24-story apartment house that collapsed near here March 2, killing 14 workmen, were fined \$300 yesterday for using inadequate supports beneath the newly poured concrete floors.

"In addition to the 14 deaths, 34 men were injured when the skyline Plaza North Building at Bailey's crossroads in Virginia collapsed and buried the workers."

Marine Brass salute King George III

Iwakuni, Japan, July 7 (AP): "Six United States Marines were stopped by their superiors on July 4 for distributing what military authorities considered a distorted version of the Declaration of Independence.

"A Marine Corps spokesman at the marine base here said their cases were being investigated and that military authorities felt that a modern-language interpretation of the first five sections of the Declaration, in leaflets the six men distributed, advocated the overthrow of the government."

The Precinct Connection

July 9, New York Post:

"The Federal Government is close to exposing a major scandal in the New York City Police Department involving detectives in certain elite headquarters' units who virtually licensed robberies, hijackings, burglaries and the sale of narcotics, the Post learned today.

"High police officials indicated that the

"But if they (the U.S. imperialists) get rid of Diem and put in someone they can trust better, the situation could become even worse for U.S. capitalism. Then, the Vietnamese masses would know without a doubt that they were ruled by a puppet of the U.S. . . .

"After seven years and \$2 billion spent to destroy the Vietnamese peoples' unity and resistance, imperialism's ruthless policies have awakened new and much greater layers of the population, who are now ready to join in the struggle."

situation was quite serious and involved 'more than just a few cops.'

"Most of the charges reportedly involve the Safe, Loft and Truck Squad and the Burglary-Larceny Division. Sources told the Post that some of the detectives involved had made deals with burglars, stickupmen, hijackers and narcotics dealers, permitting them to commit specific crimes with the full knowledge of the police in return for a payoff.

"There were actually hijackings pulled off which the detectives witnessed,' a source said.

"Burglars paid protection and there were some robberies where the detectives knew about them in advance."

"Some of the government charges involving hijacking reportedly involve detectives, who recovered truckloads of stolen merchandise but refused to return it unless they were paid off.

"Reportedly, in a few incidents, detectives threatened to let the perishables rot if they weren't paid off.

"Several weeks ago, five detectives were suspended from duty on charges they allegedly took \$15,000 not to arrest a man and a woman on narcotics charges.

"The detectives reportedly used a phony warrant to search a house in Flushing, where they found narcotics. They agreed to forget the arrest for \$15,000, which was paid to them at a meeting in Maple Grove Cemetery."

Law and Order

Dallas, Texas (AP):

"A 12-year-old schoolboy, handcuffed and seated next to a policeman in the front seat of a squad car, was shot to death Tuesday by an officer seated behind him, police say.



Santos Rodriguez—murdered by cops at age 12.

"Santos Rodriguez, a pupil at Travis Elementary School, was dead on arrival at Parkland Hospital with a bullet wound in the head. A police spokesman said Patrolman Darryl L. Cain, 30, was holding a gun to Rodriguez' head when it discharged.

"Police said Cain and another patrolman went to the Rodriguez boy's home and received permission from his grandfather with whom he lived to take him to a nearby gas station for questioning about a burglary that had occurred there.

"Police said Santos Rodriguez was handcuffed and placed in the front seat of the patrol car. Cain was seated in the back seat. Police said the boy refused to answer questions regarding the burglary and Cain pulled his pistol and pointed it at the back of Santos' head.

"Police said Cain was leaning forward when the .357 magnum went off, striking the boy in the head.

"Two years ago Cain was charged with another killing. But a grand jury did not return an indictment against Cain and Patrolman J. L. Kirksey after the April 1970 shooting death of Michael Moorehead, 18. Moorehead, police said, along with his brother, was surprised by police outside a grill following a burglary. He was felled by a 13-shot volley fired by Cain and Kirksey.

"Police Chief Frank Dyson told a news conference that there was no attempt on the part of Santos Rodriguez to escape from the officer."





In the German Democratic Republic, 500,000 apartments will be completed in the current Five-Year Plan because "the needs of the people come first."

Observations on the two Germanys—East and West

By JOHN OTTO

"Welcome all progressive youth to the 10th World Festival in Berlin, capital of the G.D.R." (East Germany), read signs all over Dresden in July. I walked from the Interhotel Neva toward the Dimitroff Bridge crossing the Elbe River against the stream of Dresdners heading downtown. On this warm summer evening, many were going to the movies or to one of the restaurants or cafes, or just to sit on the wood and iron chairs around the fountains in the central plaza. My only prior impression of Dresden had been from "Slaughterhouse 5," Vonnegut's novel of the firebombing of the city by U.S. and British planes in 1945, when over 40,000 inhabitants died in this one attack. It was a pleasant shock to see the new Dresden, alive with people smiling and chatting in the plaza.

All over the city, attractive prefabricated apartment houses were finished or being built, complete with balconies for each apartment and plenty of light and air. Across the Elbe some of the old buildings are standing, with restoration work begun. One old church will be left in rocky ruins as a reminder of the war brought on by imperialism. The restoration goes slowly, for as a bus driver told me, "the needs of the people come first." Thus, the housing goes up first, and with it kindergartens and schools, hospitals, and clinics.

The peaceful atmosphere and lack of auto traffic in this city of a half million is comforting to a New Yorker, especially one who would rather walk or take one of the ever-present trolleys. Nonetheless, many G.D.R. citizens are impatient to wait the necessary 10 years to buy a private auto.

It was a computer programmer waiting at a station with his 2-year-old son who gave the clearest explanation of what was happening in the G.D.R. Not a party member, he was nevertheless an articulate supporter of his government. I found what he said consistent with what workers and professionals had told me, even those who for one reason or another opposed the government's policies.

HIGH STANDARD OF LIVING

"Our standard of living, highest of the socialist countries, has been improving from year to year over the past 10 years. There is confidence that it will continue to do so. Right now a lot of work is being done on housing, as you could see in Berlin and Dresden. The necessities of life—food, rent, etc.—are very cheap.

"Of course, some of these advances have raised problems. The new housing needs shops and restaurants to serve the

dwellers. An efficient, large cafeteria is not as homey as the smaller private cafes it replaces so people tend to stay home more. Also, the need to increase the productivity of labor and better planning have resulted in increased stress on the workers and a greater need to relax after work. Soon we'll have more auto traffic with its problems. But I think we can solve them all."

I could see that it would be easier to develop the economy if they didn't have to face constant competition from the imperialist countries, in this case especially from West Germany.

"We have no unemployment," he went on, "and all health and education is free. The police here are trained to be helpful and friendly, not like yours. Of course you hear how they shoot at the border, and this is true. But without this to stop the drain of our skilled workers and professionals, who were attracted by higher pay in the West, we would not have been able to stabilize our economy."

The bus driver had personal complaints about the travel restrictions since he wanted to visit his parents in an old folks home near Dusseldorf, West Germany. But even he defended the building of the wall. He and others felt it was necessary for the defense of the gains the workers had made in the G.D.R.

GAINS TAKEN FOR GRANTED

Some of the young people I spoke to seemed to take for granted these gains the workers had made, looking upon them as a natural part of life. They seemed unable to conceive that there could be full stores in the U.S. and that people could still go hungry, that sick people could be denied medical care if they couldn't pay, and they were astounded when I told them of the high rents in New York City (rents are 5-10 percent of salary in the G.D.R.).

A few still believed America was a land of plenty, including a well-dressed couple from Rostock whom I at first mistook for American tourists. Others were more aware of the struggles going on in the U.S.

FEARS IN CAPITALIST WEST

However, there was a general illusion among the people of stability in the imperialist countries. Not only weren't they counting on a revolution soon in West Germany or the U.S., there was an attitude that cool heads among imperialist politicians would prevail and keep inter-imperialist competition within bounds. Reflecting the conservative character of the

(Continued on page 9)

Don't blame prices on USSR!

How the wheat trust worked its swindle

By FRED GOLDSTEIN

Last year a few giant grain companies conspired with the Nixon administration to make hundreds of millions of dollars in windfall profits on a large sale of wheat urgently needed by the Soviet Union. This conspiracy also laid the basis for a sharp increase in the grain price inflation which has brought millions more in profits to rich agribusiness farmers.

However, now that popular anger against inflation is mounting, important spokesmen for big business are trying to shift the blame for high food prices away from the monopolistic greed of the food trust onto the Soviet Union.

The New York Times, which speaks for numerous large banks and corporations, ran a belligerent editorial on Aug. 26, 1972, denouncing the USSR for "taking advantage of a trading partner."

"Soviet buyers," wrote the Times, "slipped into the United States and made secret purchase deals with American grain dealers that did not reflect the real supply and demand situation. Only after the deals . . . had been made did the marketplace suddenly discover the grain shortage and respond to it by bidding up wheat prices well over 50 percent."

At about the same time, rightwing militarist Senator Henry Jackson (the Senator from Boeing) launched similar charges from the floor of the Senate.

The sordid details of this deal, some of which were revealed during the election campaign of 1972, demonstrate that, contrary to the lies of The New York Times and Henry Jackson, it was the majority of the American people and the Soviet Union who were "taken advantage of" by six unscrupulous grain monopolies in league with Nixon, Earl Butz (Secretary of Agriculture and former head of Ralston-Purina and director of numerous agribusiness corporations), and the grain brokers on the Chicago Board of Trade, all of whom had an interest in keeping the magnitude of the grain sales a secret. They were the ones who acted in complete disregard "of the real supply and demand situation."

GRAIN MONOPOLIES' STRATEGY

The basic strategy of the grain monopolies was as follows:

+To sell as much wheat as they could possibly get their hands on in order to take advantage of export subsidies which are based upon volume sales.

+To buy at normal domestic market prices.

+Knowing that the USSR urgently needed huge quantities of wheat—up to 30 million tons—because of a terrible draught, to sell it to Soviet negotiators way above the normal domestic price, thus making their first killing on profits.

+Then to bid domestic prices way up above the sale price to the USSR and cash in on subsidies (which are given when domestic prices are higher than foreign sale prices), thus making their second steal.

SECRECY THE KEY

The key to carrying out this swindle was secrecy.

In early April last year Butz went to Moscow with a team of grain negotiators headed by Charles Palmby. (He resigned in June to become a director of the Continental Grain Corporation, the largest single seller—150 million tons—of grain to the USSR.) At that time Soviet leaders showed the team the damage to their crops and made known the magnitude of their needs.

If the U.S. negotiators had not been a pack of profit-hungry crooks out to make a killing in the market and had one iota of concern for the masses of people in the U.S., the first thing they would have done was to alert everyone to the coming pressure on the market. And at least Butz should have asked

Nixon to open up for wheat production some of the estimated 60 million acres of arable land lying fallow. There was plenty of time to double or triple the wheat supply by planting winter wheat, which would have been harvested early this year and would have negated the market pressure on the prices long in advance.

The six grain dealers did not do that, however, because it would have alerted their equally profit-hungry agribusiness rivals.

NIXON CREATED SHORTAGE

The Nixon administration did not want to alert anyone to a possible future wheat shortage because Nixon and Butz were counting on a huge temporary inflation of wheat prices to bring the rich farmers of the midwest into the Nixon camp for the 1972 election. In fact, with the full knowledge that the USSR was going to purchase large supplies of wheat, Nixon ordered one million acres of wheat land taken out of production! (That amounted to more than 5 percent of the total wheat acreage.) This ensured an inflation which would begin just before election time.

While the negotiations continued through June in the U.S., Nixon gave the six a big assist by publicly stating on June 3 that the deal would probably not be signed until the end of the year. Meanwhile the grain dealers were going around buying up wheat futures at the normal domestic price of \$1.32 a bushel.

The six closed their first contract with the USSR on July 3, forcing the Soviet negotiators to pay \$1.63 per bushel. Nixon announced the deal on July 9, but the grain monopolies were still buying, so both Nixon and Butz tried to minimize the effects of the announcement.

When the deal was completed, the second part of the maneuver took place. Because the domestic price had been lower than the world price in July, there were no export subsidies being paid by the Agriculture Department. The six then began to open up about the sales and tried to scare domestic prices up. This they did. By August 26, domestic prices were at \$2.10 a bushel. Their plans to get a big spread between domestic and foreign prices were fouled up because world prices also shot up and the subsidy had to be cancelled again.

Butz and Co. did not let a little thing like that get in the way of taking care of their millionaire friends. (Assistant Secretary of Agriculture at the time was Carol Brumthaver, formerly of the Cook Co., one of the six; George Shanklin, head of Marketing and Export Services of the department, was from the Bunge Co., one of the six; and on the negotiating team with Palmby from Continental had been Clifford Pulvermacher of Bunge.) They simply passed a special ruling that for one week, between August 26 and September 1, any grain company could apply for an export subsidy for sales made before August 24 based upon the inflated \$2.10 per bushel domestic price. This meant a handover of 47 cents per bushel to the grain dealers in August for wheat they had purchased in July and to which they were not legally entitled except for this fraudulent and illegal ruling.

Furthermore, Nixon and Butz refused to open up more wheat acreage for production despite persistent demands once it became known that the USSR had bought 400 million bushels of wheat.

WHOSE CONSPIRACY?

So who exercised conspiratorial "secrecy"? Who used "supply and demand" to extort supermonopoly profits? Who "slipped" around and forced the inflation in wheat prices? It is typical of big business apologists such as The New York Times and Senator Jackson to blame the crimes of the

(Continued on page 9)

The coalition against Nixon — How far can it go?

By SAM MARCY

Never before in the history of the U.S. have there been such massive revelations of corruption, spying, sabotage, and wrecking—all bolstered by a secret police force—as in the present Watergate hearings.

At last "the leading democracy of the free world" has been exposed as a sham and a fraud. The real relationships are surfacing—those of a ruthless plutocracy where small groups of dynastic monopolist cliques wage a life-and-death struggle among themselves to dominate all phases and areas of life. It is now common knowledge that criminal activity is a way of life for the U.S. government.

"Our government is run by a bunch of criminals," an angry citizen from his hometown told Senator Baker, the vice chairman of the Watergate committee. Indeed, the real criminals are born, bred, and cultivated in the plush offices of the White House, the Justice Department, and the entire governmental apparatus of the capitalist state machine. It is they who prey on society, not the Black, Latin, and poor whites who are driven by hunger, unemployment, and despair, and are dragooned into U.S. concentration camps where they are treated with little more consideration than is accorded animals. Rebellion seems to be the only way to get relief from such barbarous treatment.

After so many weeks of the Watergate hearings, we must ask ourselves: What is the motivation of the ruling class in pursuing the investigation? Is it the so-called Eastern liberals alone who are pushing it? Or is there a stronger current along with them?

A LOOSE COALITION

It has happened many times in history that classes have been propelled by unforeseen events into struggles not of their own making. It is hard to believe that what passes for the liberal bourgeoisie in con-

temporary U.S. politics could undertake such a formidable challenge as the present attack on Nixon and his machine. These same liberals have consistently retreated before the assault of reaction, particularly during the Nixon administration.

No, other groups allied with the Eastern establishment are also in the struggle against the Nixon administration. But it is a loose coalition. The Eastern establishment long ago learned that alone it could not govern for the whole capitalist class. The tremendous industrial and economic development of the West and Southwest have made that plain enough. What this coalition seeks is a broader base which could reestablish the old ties between the Southern racists and the Eastern establishment.

That's the meaning of the Kennedy-Wallace meeting.

The aims of the coalition vary. Some would merely like to discredit Nixon, others wish to cut him down to size, and some want to get rid of him altogether. The last are the least likely to succeed. If the struggle is merely confined to the legal framework under the present constitutional system, Agnew will succeed Nixon. That's hardly a desirable objective of the Eastern capitalist grouping unless they have an undercover understanding to completely subordinate themselves to the Southern racists and ultra-rightists—an unlikely situation under present circumstances.

It is virtually impossible to clearly formulate the aims of the anti-Nixon coalition of the bourgeoisie, not only because they vary but because the various elements in the coalition were forced into the struggle with the Nixon administration. As has happened many times in history when class groupings with divergent views and interests coalesce around an issue where they have only tangential agreement, the struggle is conducted blindly.

Although the objective circumstances are favorable to the coalition—Nixon is already thoroughly discredited with a large,

if not overwhelming, majority of the people—the outcome is uncertain. The Nixon administration and the formidable class groupings supporting him (which may include the military-industrial complex) could very possibly launch a big enough counterattack that the coalition would dissolve.

PROPELLED BY EVENTS

As we said, the anti-Nixon forces did not enter the coalition voluntarily but were propelled into it by a series of spectacular events.

To begin with, the revelations by two Washington Post reporters who diligently and persistently unraveled the Watergate break-in had only the tepid support of the multimillionaire owner and publisher of the Post and its affiliates, Katherine Graham. And it was not until a rightwing Republican judge from the District of Columbia opened the mouth of James McCord by holding a 30-year sentence over his head that The New York Times began full, wide coverage commensurate with the significance of the case.

In other words, the liberal bourgeoisie got into the struggle only after McCord broke the case wide open.

The fact that the networks began to televise the Watergate hearings was a sign that not only was the liberal bourgeoisie involved, but a coalition of ruling class groupings had been formed. Daily coverage by the networks—worth literally millions of dollars—would never have been accorded the hearings unless there were strong class forces behind it.

Aside from the broad political issues involved in the Watergate revelations, Nixon's tenure in office over the years and especially his election campaign methods have stimulated broad opposition to him, involving a multitude of issues, from within

ruling class circles.

CAMPAIGN EXTORTION

The chief executive is, after all, supposed to head the executive committee of the ruling class. He is supposed to be the guardian of their property, and his duty, as they see it, is to enhance that property, not raid it. The millions of dollars that go into the election of a president are regarded by the ruling class not so much as a contribution as an investment.

But as the Vesco and American Airlines cases show, the Nixon clique saw it more in the nature of extortion. For instance, Vesco's enterprise was on the verge of bankruptcy, yet Mitchell and Stans nevertheless took \$200,000 from him as a "contribution" not even legally entered in the books.

The fact that Nixon's reelection committee went out of its way to seek out large corporations that were "ailing," or those that needed administration assistance either to get them out of a hole or to improve their position, produced acute antagonisms in the capitalist establishment.

Graft and corruption are inseparable from the capitalist system and its government, but the administration went beyond the understood bounds and incurred the wrath of a large section of the establishment.

Take, for instance, the quota system where the finance committee of CREEP set a specific amount that each large corporation had to "contribute" to the campaign. This method, as applied by Nixon's fund raisers, or to be more accurate "bagmen," left a lot of room open not only for extortion, but for outright individual expropriation.

When Nixon's attorney (and bagman) "requested" of both American and United Airlines a \$100,000 contribution while he was also the attorney for United Airlines, there was little choice left open for American Airlines but to accept the quota.

The No. 3 Nazi in the White House

BY ANDY STAPP

Restrictions on personal liberty, on the right of free expression of opinion, including freedom of the press; on the rights of assembly and association; and violations of the privacy of postal, telegraphic, and telephonic communications; and warrants for house searches, orders for confiscations as well as restrictions on property, are also permissible beyond the legal limits otherwise prescribed.

*Order For The Defense
Of The Third Reich
Against Communist Acts
Of Violence
Berlin, Feb. 28, 1933*

+++

TOP SECRET

Decision Memorandum

The White House

Washington

Handle via Comint Channels Only

Restrictions on covert mail coverage are to be relaxed to permit use of this technique on selected targets of priority foreign intelligence and internal security interest. Restraints on surreptitious entry are to be removed. C.I.A. coverage on American students and others traveling or living abroad is to be increased.

Organization and Operation of the

Interagency Group on

Domestic Intelligence and

Internal Security (IAG)

Washington, July 15, 1970

John Ehrlichman is a fascist. Of that there can be no doubt. Anyone who has read the newspapers during the last two weeks or watched the televised Watergate hearings during the five days that he testified knows just how close Nixon has come to setting up a virtual police state in this country.

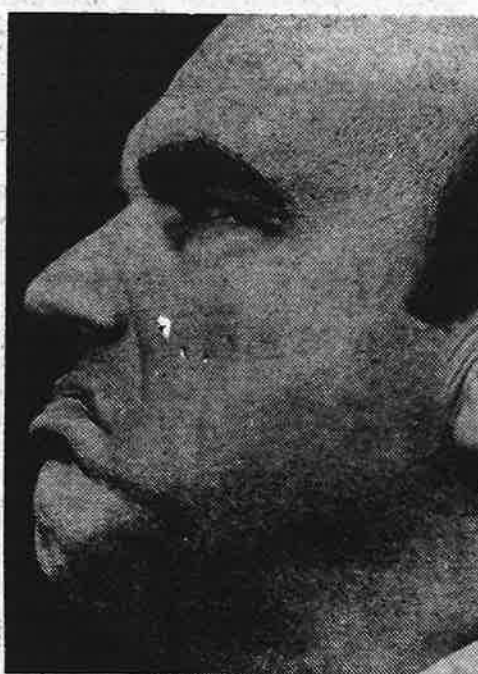
At one point a Senator asked Ehrlichman whether Nixon would have the right to order Daniel Ellsberg's doctor held at gunpoint while his house was ransacked for medical records that might be useful to the White House. Ehrlichman chopped the witness table in karate fashion and replied, "I wouldn't draw the line there. If the information was of high national security need, I would have to say yes."

NUMBER THREE ON NIXON'S TEAM

Ehrlichman is not just your garden variety rightwing extremist nut. He was, until he resigned this April, the number three man in the government, his job a sort of domestic affairs version of Henry Kissinger's foreign policy role.

His face never twitching, Ehrlichman told the Senate Committee, "The Pentagon papers . . . were turned over to the Russian Embassy. The theft had evidently been perpetrated by a number of people, a conspiracy, and some of the people were identified by the Department of Justice as having had previous ties to domestic Communist activities."

Now, everyone knows that the Pentagon Papers, a history of U.S. schemes to crush the Vietnamese people written at the order



of former Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, was turned over to the Washington Post and not the Soviet Embassy. Anyone who wanted to read them could do so by simply paying 15 cents at the corner newsstand.

Thirty-five million people watched their TV sets and heard Ehrlichman raving about "hundreds of bombings of public buildings in this country . . . a campaign to force upon the President a foreign policy favorable to

the North Vietnamese and their allies...a threat to a good result in Vietnam was posed by the combination of street demonstrations (and) terrorism-violence."

Ehrlichman testified how he hired Tony (the bagman) Ulasewicz to spy on political opponents and gather "political dirt." Ulasewicz, a former New York City Red Squad cop, also carried the \$400,000 paid as hush money to the seven men arrested for the Watergate break-in. Incredibly, this attempt to obstruct justice was likened by Ehrlichman to the money publicly raised by the Angela Davis defense fund to cover court costs.

THE WHITE HOUSE S.S.

Of course, large sections of America's ruling class are publicly beating their breasts and declaring how horrified they are that men like Ehrlichman occupied the highest government positions. The New York Times of July 27 states, "Mr. Ehrlichman has outlined the road to a White House S.S." (Nazi secret police).

That same paper, in a portrait of Ehrlichman on November 10, 1969, described him as "charming, quick witted and informative," praised his "natural instinct for candor," and observed, "he has been a force for moderation."

Ehrlichman was just as racist, just as anti-communist, just as fascist in November 1969 as he is today, and they all knew it. The only difference is that in 1969 the bulk of the boss class felt that the reactionary Nixon White House would be an adequate apparatus for carrying out their policies, while today many feel that they helped to create a Frankenstein monster that must be curbed before it engulfs them.

Nixon and his clique were driven to extremes in the election campaign by giddiness over their success in the negotiations with China and the Soviet Union and the virtual certainty of Nixon's election.

The establishment too was keenly aware that the McGovern nomination could not result in anything but a Nixon victory given the circumstances of 1972—the year of the consummation of the detente, the year of industrial boom, the year of the most virulent racist propaganda by Nixon and his cohorts. All the more, therefore, did practically every huge corporation make it its business to invest in his campaign. But the widespread knowledge that the Nixon administration then catered only to a particular grouping in the class antagonized the others.

(By the way, never in U.S. history has an incumbent presidential candidate accumulated so much cash for his campaign.)

It should be noted that when Nixon was about to mine the harbor of Haiphong and other ports in Vietnam, he was invited to Connally's Texas ranch where virtually the entire who's who of Southwest multimillionaires treated him royally. If this grouping is still strongly supporting him, as it did then, it has not made itself visible. The fact that Connally resigned from his role as an advisor to Nixon would seem to indicate uncertainty.

DETENTE AND PROFITS

The Eastern liberal establishment, through its principal organs The New York Times and the Washington Post, had long been a proponent of detente and in a general way expressed the position of the whole ruling class on the issue. But the way Nixon consummated the detente virtually froze the Eastern establishment out of participating in its benefits (also known as profits). This is particularly true as it relates to the various commercial agreements executed between the U.S. and the USSR.

The loudest proponents of detente found that its virtual consummation brought immediate profits not to themselves, but to their competitors.

Large sections of the ruling class are further alarmed by the political implications of the Watergate break-in: Nixon's attempt to set up what virtually

amounts to a private gestapo, without congressional sanction and without a specific financial appropriation from Congress, which was intended moreover to actually supersede the FBI.

It was confirmation of John Mitchell's assertion as early as 1970 when he was still Attorney General that "this country is going so far right you are not even going to recognize it" (quoted again July 27, 1973 by William Shannon in The New York Times.)

Such a perspective holds unlimited dangers not only for the Eastern establishment and its allies but for the ruling class as a whole—dangers of evoking a potentially revolutionary response from the masses, Black, Latin, and white, which would imperil their very existence. So while many in the present anti-Nixon coalition had felt earlier that he was the answer on the issue of "law and order" and on foreign policy, particularly as it related to the detente with

the USSR and China, nevertheless the dangerous course on which he was embarking has made them fearful.

STRUGGLE NOT OVER

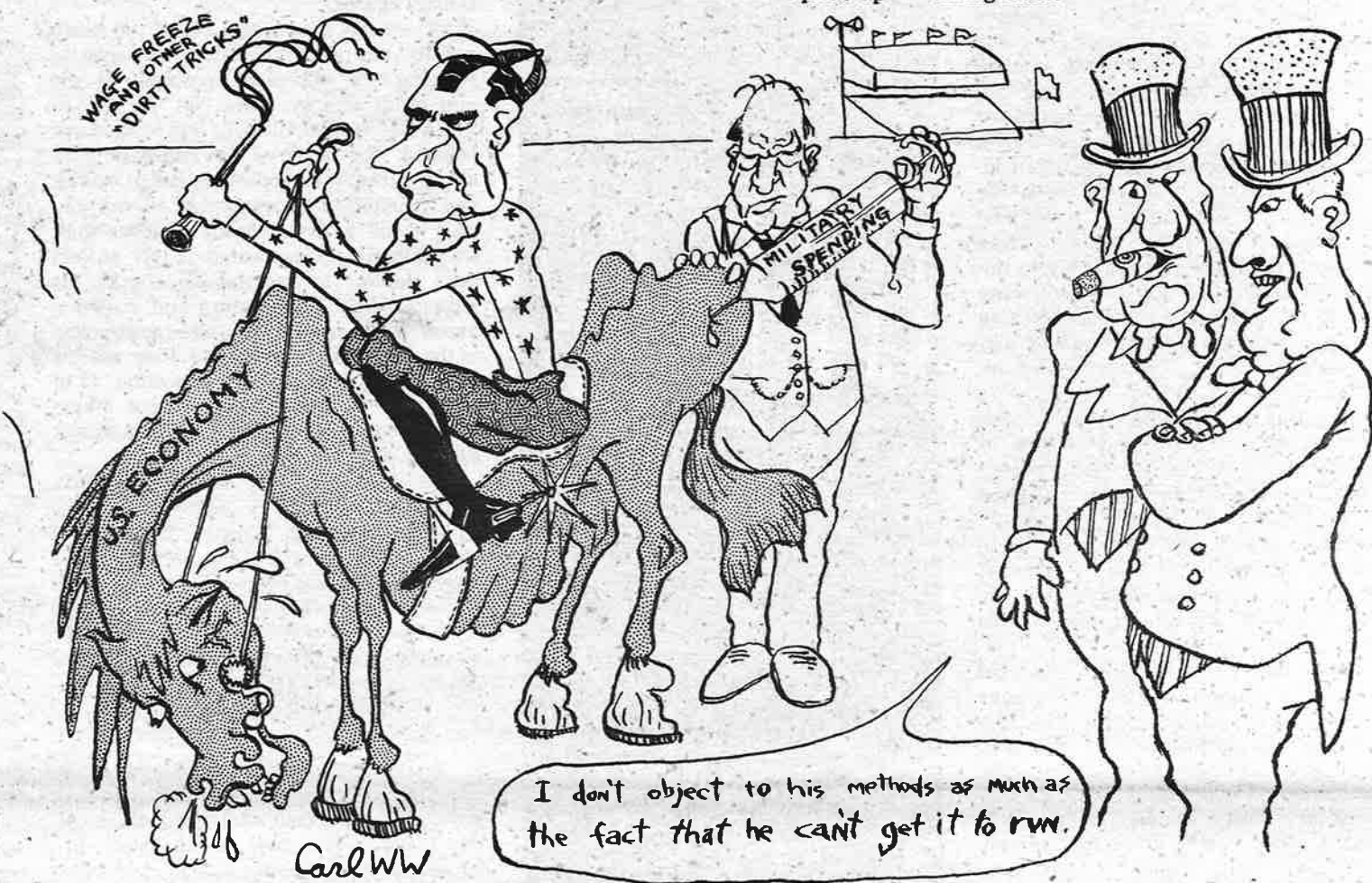
At this writing, Nixon seems to be thoroughly discredited and more and more of the people who voted for him are becoming disillusioned and cynical. But there is still a strong reservoir of political apathy and backwardness in a large section of the population. The struggle between the anti-Nixon coalition of the ruling class and the Nixon administration is by no means over and its outcome is highly uncertain.

If the course of the struggle deepens and Nixon's isolation becomes more pronounced, it is likely that the military-industrial complex will have to show its hand. The appointment of General Haig as his chief of staff and the subsequent ap-

pointment of former Secretary of Defense Laird as his chief domestic advisor were cunning moves calculated to demonstrate that the military is behind Nixon.

Whether that would be so in the event of a real showdown, no one can foretell, if one considers how low Nixon's fortunes are at the moment.

In the meantime, the Watergate episode, its revelations, and the protracted hearings have awakened new layers of the population to political consciousness. Unlike the McCarthy hearings, which came at a low point in the consciousness of the masses and at a time when the progressive movement was virtually in a state of disintegration as a result of the witchhunt and the repression, the present era characterized by growing political awareness, a resurgence of the movement, and, most importantly, an awakening of ever larger sections of the working class.



—Wheat swindles

(Continued from page 7)

ruling class on a socialist country.

The Soviet Union or People's China or any other socialist country has a perfect right to purchase grain to feed the workers and peasants. The only thing wrong with the purchase of wheat by the Soviet Union was the accompanying friendly gestures by the leadership toward war-criminal Nixon.

What the Times is really complaining about is that if more of its agribusiness friends had known what was going on earlier in the game they, too, could have taken advantage, possibly more advantage, of the USSR and the American taxpayer.

To the capitalist exploiter, "taking into consideration the real supply and demand situation" means charging the highest possible prices at any given moment based upon the desperation of the customer and the amount of money that can be extorted—in other words, squeeze the people for all that "supply and demand" will allow!

The question to be asked about the Soviet wheat sale is: How did a tiny clique of Wall Street farmers get their hands on one-fourth of the wheat supply of the U.S. (if there ever was a monopolistic practice that is it!) and why aren't they and their co-conspirators from Washington in jail where they belong?

The lesson of the U.S.-Soviet wheat deal is not the red-baiting, anti-Soviet one that The New York Times wants to teach, but just the opposite. The lesson is that the masses of people have to take their food supply out of the hands of unscrupulous monopolies and into their own.

—Two Germans

(Continued from page 7)

Soviet leadership and their own, they also felt Soviet strength and the policy of peaceful coexistence would keep the imperialists from lashing out at the socialist countries.

No such confidence was felt in fashionable, middle class Dusseldorf, one of the prettiest and most prosperous of the West German cities. Though the special oppression of foreign workers, the sleaziness of the blocks of go-go bars, and the general filth of Frankfurt am Main—like an American city—was not apparent in Dusseldorf, the tensions of capitalist society remained.

My hosts, credit analysts in a multinational company, were nervously discussing the weakness of the American dollar. Their company had made a killing on a prior revaluation of the Deutsch-Mark but new laws hindered them from taking advantage of this summer's situation. "If the dollar sinks lower," they said, "the European countries will have to put a tariff on U.S. goods. There will be a trade war, and who knows what will follow that." The higher interest rates and increasing bankruptcies in West Germany threatened their own jobs, not to mention those of so many workers, and a growing rate of inflation cut into the living standards and made strikes inevitable.

Central Dusseldorf was attractive and clean compared with most U.S. cities. The main street, divided by a stream, was lined on one side with shops full of quality goods,

unfortunately even beyond the means of my host. I convinced him to park a half mile from the old city, instead of driving a half-hour looking for a parking place.

As we walked down the Rhine toward the old tower marking our goal, we could see the skyscraper headquarters of Thyssen Steel in the background. The narrow streets

of the old city, lined with shops, restaurants, and bars, were filled with people on a night out, smiling and chatting as their counterparts in Dresden did, seemingly untouched by the shadow of Thyssen Steel. But if my hosts were right, their affluence was shaky and their smiles might soon disappear.



While the Shah of Iran has a tete-a-tete with Nixon on July 24, members of the Iranian Students Association demonstrate in front of the White House. Masks are worn to prevent students from being recognized and deported for their protest.

Why bosses want to restore death penalty

By EDDIE YOOD

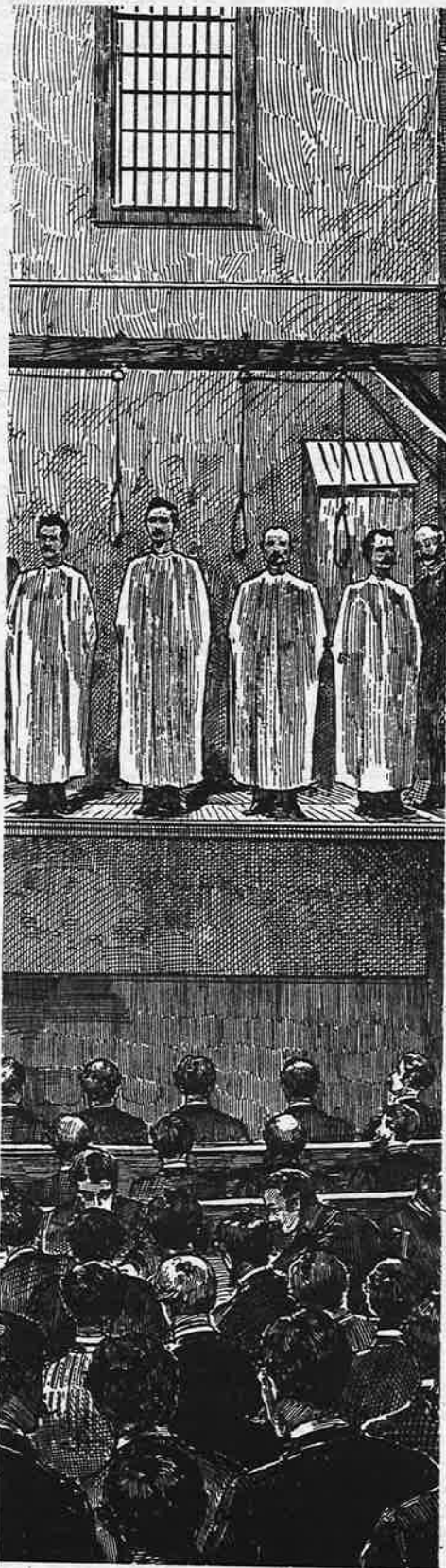
JULY 1973—Today, when rising food prices and other living costs are making the plight of America's poor and working people more desperate, the U.S. government is waging a deliberate campaign to bring back capital punishment. This is a very dangerous measure which has been used in America almost exclusively against the poor, the Black and Latin people, and those who have fought back against exploitation and oppression (after all, who ever heard of a millionaire going to the electric chair?).

In recent months, no less than 13 states have enacted new death penalty laws despite the June 1972, five-to-four Supreme Court decision declaring capital punishment "unconstitutional." However, the Court cited its reason for the decision as only the infrequency and arbitrariness with which the death penalty had been applied, saying this was the way it violated the Eighth Amendment's ban on "cruel and unusual punishment." Nixon-appointed Chief Justice Burger was thus able to immediately seize upon this to invite state legislatures to conform to the court's ruling by making capital punishment mandatory or by setting firm guidelines for its imposition.

Since that decision, there has not been any let-up in the wave of frameups of political prisoners charged with capital crimes, from the Attica indictments to the De Mau Mau case. And on March 10, Watergate Nixon himself asked Congress to reinstate the death penalty in cases of assassination, treason, kidnapping, air hijacking, and the killing of a cop or a prison guard.

Such a law would not punish the real criminals of America—those who have employed tanks, machine guns, gas, carbines, and billy clubs against the oppressed communities; or those who have massacred men, women, and children in Indochina with their bombs and napalm. Nor would it punish the bosses who kill 15,000 workers every year in the U.S. alone by maintaining unsafe working conditions in their mines and plants.

The death penalty would threaten only the oppressed: the prisoner rebelling against inhuman conditions inside the jails; the dissenter protesting the U.S. government's war policies (who could now be legally lynched on the charge of treason, as happened to the Rosenbergs in the anti-communist witchhunt campaign of the 1950s); it would threaten Black, Latin, and Chicano people defending themselves against the racist attacks of white police;



Haymarket martyrs: capital punishment as a weapon against the struggles of the oppressed.

Native Americans (as at Wounded Knee) who could be framed up on kidnapping or treason charges; and militant labor leaders in a land where many have perished on the gallows in the struggle for workers' rights and benefits.

DEATH PENALTY PART OF RACIST TERROR

Since 1930 in the U.S., 53.5 percent of legal executions for all crimes—and 89 percent of those for "rape"—have been Black (in all, Black people make up 11 percent of the population according to census figures).

The most widespread use of the death penalty has always been in response to rebellions of oppressed peoples. In the nineteenth century, after Nat Turner led Black slaves in rebellion, he was hanged and skinned. The heads of his followers were severed from their bodies, placed on spikes, and mounted in the centers of all surrounding towns, while hundreds of slaves were indiscriminately massacred. In 1917, at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas, 118 Black soldiers broke camp and waged a heroic battle against the white racist police of that town as 15 people died. Four months later, in a secret military execution, 13 of the soldiers were hung and nine others executed at a later date for fighting back against racism.

On December 26, 1862, in Mankato, Minnesota, on direct orders from the "liberal" Abraham Lincoln, 38 Sioux Indians were hung in the largest mass execution in American history. Their "crime" had been gallant resistance to the U.S. Cavalry's attempt to wipe out their people and take away still more of their land in the Minnesota frontier.

DEATH PENALTY USED AGAINST LABOR MOVEMENT

In the 1870s, the Molly Maguires, a group of Irish immigrants fighting to improve their miserable working conditions in the Pennsylvania coal mines, were infiltrated by company-hired Pinkerton detectives. Twenty Molly Maguires were then railroaded to the gallows on phony murder charges.

Not long after, in May 1886, one-half million workers took part in the first general strike in American labor history, demanding an eight-hour work day. In Chicago, a rally was held to protest the murder by police of six striking workers at the McCormick reaper works. An agent of the monopolies, sent from New York to disrupt the eight-hour-day movement, threw a bomb into the crowd, killing four workers

and seven policemen. Eight Chicago labor leaders were singled out and framed up for the killings. Four of them were hanged.

A liberal section of the ruling class opposes the death penalty. They pretend to be against it on "moral" grounds (although many liberals have recently turned tail and are now adopting the "law and order" hysteria in advocating restoration of the death penalty). In truth, they are afraid that using the death penalty will inflame the masses of people to rebellious protest, rather than intimidate them. History has proven this to be true.

Pacifists who also oppose the death penalty at all times under all circumstances on moral grounds really miss the point. It depends who uses it against whom. What progressive person would deny the Vietnamese the right to try and then execute Mad Bomber Nixon if he fell into their grasp, or deny the Attica prisoners the right to try and administer whatever penalty they deemed appropriate to Rockefeller? A weapon in the hand of a Calley or a Rizzo is an ugly thing. But in the hands of Native Americans standing up against genocide at Wounded Knee, or in the hands of a Vietnamese fighter beating back U.S. imperialists, it is a beautiful thing. It gives hope and inspiration to workers and oppressed people around the world who must fight the same enemy.

Two thousand years ago, after the slave rebellion led by Spartacus was defeated, the Romans cut the body of Spartacus himself into a thousand pieces. The Romans then lined the road from Rome to Padua with crucified slaves, one for every ten yards—a dread warning to others who might dream of striking out for their freedom. The Romans thought they could stifle the resistance of the oppressed forever. But they were mistaken. And throughout history the oppressed have shown their rulers that their resistance can never be stopped forever.

Thirty years ago the Jews of the Warsaw Ghetto, fighting back with homemade weapons, held off the Nazi army for an entire month and gave a glorious example of the will of an oppressed people to fight back. As August Spies, one of the Chicago May Day defendants, eloquently stated:

"If you think by hanging us you can stamp out the labor movement... the movement from which the downtrodden, the millions who toil in want and misery expect salvation—if this is your opinion then hang us. Here you will tread upon a spark, but there and there, behind you and in front of you and everywhere, flames blaze up. It is a subterranean fire. You cannot put it out."

Retired U. S. workers find world of difference

By JIM KOWALSKI

Workers who live in capitalist society struggle their whole lives under conditions of exploitation just to be able to eke out an existence and get by on their meager savings in old age. Many of them cherish the dream of spending their retirement years in the countries where they were born. And many have retired to places like Israel and Eastern Europe in the hopes of finding leisure in their last years. Recent reports, however, show a wide difference between the life that awaits the traveler to a workers' state and the artificial "homeland" of Israel, Wall Street's outpost in the Mideast.

Two articles in the July 10 New York Post ("Many Americans in Israel Find Milk and Honey Too High" and "Retirees Happy in

Poland") show vividly the contrast between life in a capitalist country, Israel, and life in a workers' state, Poland. Since Israel's existence is based on imperialist aggression, it throws a huge burden on those who seek a haven in this garrison state. The oil-eyeing puppet government takes nearly 46 percent of workers' wages in taxes, of which 80 percent goes for "defense."

A two-bedroom apartment in Tel Aviv costs \$25,000. Hamburger meat is \$2.40 a pound, according to the New York Post article, and gasoline is \$.80 a gallon.

Retirees who emigrate to Poland have found conditions quite different. Medical care is of good quality and free. Many workers find that their retirement benefits bring them a relatively high standard of

living in Poland.

With his social security and union pension, a man of 84 returned to his homeland and married a woman of 60. They bought a car and toured the country before settling down in a purchased apartment.

Stanley Nawakoski, who spent 26 years as a printer in the Midwest, pointed out that in Warsaw he can "live better than over there (in the U.S.)." "Unlike many old people," writes the Post, "they (immigrants from the U.S.) do not worry about the cost of aging and illness. Medicare does not cover them, but Polish health care does."

In Poland, the big capitalist bosses and feudal lords have been overthrown by a workers' revolution. In Israel 200 millionaires live at the top of the heap, while hundreds of thousands live at the bottom of the pyramid in poverty. Despite the bureaucratic nature of the Polish leadership and the continuation of private property relations in agriculture, the people of Poland enjoy the fruits of their work to a far greater extent than do the Jewish and Arab workers trapped inside the Israeli colonialist state.

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Chicago welfare families fight inflation squeeze

By JILL ROUNDTREE

CHICAGO, July 1—"Governor Walker, the 'People's Candidate.' Why won't he meet with the people?" demanded Mrs. Mayberry, Chairwoman of the Illinois Welfare Rights Organization. The IWRO and the Chicago Welfare Rights Organization (CWRO), supported by the Public Welfare Coalition, held picket lines here during the last week outside the governor's office. They were demanding that a cost-of-living increase be given recipients out of the \$19 million unspent funds that had already been allocated to state programs. The governor planned to return this money to General Revenue at the end of the fiscal year. Walker, who ran on a platform of meeting the needs of the people here, refused throughout the week to meet with IWRO and CWRO, which represent 900,000 recipients.

The last time Illinois welfare recipients were granted a cost-of-living increase was in 1972. Since then food has risen 13 percent, and clothing costs have gone up over 8 percent. Yet a woman on welfare is still expected to feed a family of four on less than \$24 a week and to pay rent of \$97 a month!

The militancy and numbers of supporters grew during the week to 200 by yesterday. Supporters from Youth Against War & Fascism carried signs reading: "Walker—Meet Welfare Families' Demands." There were also supporters from Operation Push and representatives from Women United for Action. By the end

of the week an injunction was granted holding up the \$19 million pending a ruling on a class-action suit filed on behalf of the Illinois welfare recipients.

Members of the National Committee of Labor Caucuses (NCLC) exposed their common interest with the government and the bosses when they appeared during the week to harass the picketers. They aggressively singled out Black women and men on the lines, yelling in people's faces about the "scab, slave labor" WIN program. A leaflet was distributed in the name of NU-Welfare Rights Organization (an NCLC creation) calling people who had been forced into the WIN program "recycled scabs." They attacked Jesse Jackson (leader of PUSH) and Model Cities director Erwin France as "union busters" . . . who tried to bust the construction unions in 1969 by pitting Black unemployed against white construction workers for jobs under the Chicago Plan." This display of racism was met with much resistance by the demonstrators, who were only stopped from laying them out by the presence of two squads of cops that stayed close by NCLC's side.

The oppressed and working people are not fooled by NCLC's attempt to polarize workers against each other—the same tactic of the ruling class. Youth Against War & Fascism, an organization truly representing the working class movement, will continue to support the struggle of the unemployed for a decent standard of living.

LETTER

Says STRESS still alive and killing

The Coalition to Abolish STRESS (CAS) wrote an article printed in the June 15 Militant (Socialist Workers Party paper) claiming that the STRESS police unit was abolished in Detroit. The Socialist Workers Party and the CAS quoted from the Detroit News that "STRESS was dropped from departmental charts and the unit was reorganized into the Felony Prevention Section."

As a member of Detroit Youth Against War & Fascism, I want to answer this claim.

For the CAS to use the Detroit News as their sole source of information was an affront to Black people, because the Detroit News has never had anything good to say about the struggle of Black people. This paper has always had good things to say about STRESS, and took STRESS's side

calling Hayward Brown a mad dog killer.

The main point, anyway, is that STRESS wasn't dropped but just changed its name!

The same pigs that were on STRESS are on this so-called new Felony Prevention Squad. For example, Raymond Peterson, the well-known killer cop, hasn't changed since he killed nine Black people and wounded two more while he was on STRESS. A change of name wouldn't change him or any of the others like him.

The STRESS officers were volunteers selected for the unit after screening by top police brass, who said one-third to one-fourth of these pigs were Black. But when we called the police station to see just how many Black officers are on STRESS, they said they couldn't give this kind of information out to the general public. We assume from general knowledge and appearance that there were many less than one-third or one-fourth Black officers, if there were any at all.

The new Felony Prevention Squad, like STRESS, is the tool of the rich whites who rule Detroit from the suburbs. They are gestapo-like gangs meant to terrorize the poor and oppressed people of the inner city where jobs are hard to find, prices are super-high, and rents are enormous.

This means STRESS (under whatever name) is a tool of the divide-and-conquer system which tries to divide the Black workers from the white workers, Black students from the white students. Black and other Third World people are realizing that it is not the white workers who are responsible but it is the white ruling class. This white ruling class consists of the rich whites such as the Rockefellers, the Kennedys, the Nixons, etc., who own all the factories and who rule the police departments. Unlike CAS and the Militant, we say STRESS is still on the streets and we demand an end to the ruling class which controls STRESS and other racist groups. Anita Cowan Detroit

'Public' clinics practice genocide on the oppressed

By BOB McCUBBIN

As a poor Black family of five, struggling to survive on food stamps and \$156 per month on welfare, the Relfs of Montgomery, Alabama, were undoubtedly very familiar with the nosy, probing, paper-pushing bureaucrats who infest "social service" offices in this country. After a while, all but the very strongest cease their protests against the endless questions and forms, often accompanied by veiled or not so veiled insinuations of malingering, laziness, and worthlessness.

So when Minnie Relf put her "X" on a consent form, which in reality gave the local Community Action Agency (CAA) the right to sterilize two of her daughters, she had no idea this was the case. Mary Alice, aged 12 and Minnie Lee, aged 14, had been receiving birth-control shots from the CAA and the form, Minnie assumed, was to allow them to continue receiving them.

On June 14, the two young women were taken to the hospital and sterilized. In all, 11 minors, 10 of them Black, have been sterilized by this clinic. Nationwide, at least 80 other minors have been sterilized by similar clinics in the past 15 months. In addition, in the last year about 16,000 women and 9,000 men have been sterilized at public clinics, adding their numbers to 7 million other sterilized Americans. These public clinics treat poor people almost exclusively, so it is a safe assumption that a large percentage of those sterilized were Black or members of other oppressed minorities.

These startling figures are given further meaning by the statement of Dr. Warren Hern that, as former chief of program development and project evaluation of the CAA, he had drawn up a set of guidelines setting up restrictions on sterilization which would have prevented the Relf and other tragedies. Someone above him the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) had all the copies of Hern's memorandum confiscated before they could be sent out to clinics, however. It is only on the basis of the nationwide outrage the Relf case has provoked that Caspar Weinberger, Secretary of HEW, has ordered a new set of guidelines drawn up.

A RACIST CAMPAIGN

Meanwhile, in all the discussion surrounding the Relf case, the real issue has scarcely been touched on. For members of oppressed nations inside the U.S., such as the Black people, Chicanos, Puerto Ricans, and Native Americans, sterilization represents one more front in the genocidal war being waged against them. Non-white people are not free to choose to have the occupying army of cops removed from their communities or to have the grinding poverty ended. These conditions are imposed from



Minnie Lee, right, and Mary Alice sterilized by the state.

without and their effect is genocide—the systematic destruction of a people.

And neither is there a real choice with regard to the question of sterilization. In 1964, Fanny Lou Hamer, a militant Black civil rights fighter of the Mississippi Freedom Party exposed the fact that as many 6 out of every 10 Black women in Sunflower County had been sterilized. Often they were not informed of what was being done to them until afterwards. In courts across the country, women have been forced by judges to submit to sterilization as part of their sentence.

In the past few years, nine states have attempted to pass sterilization laws. Often such laws are linked to welfare regulations so that poor Black, Chicano, Puerto Rican, and white women are forced to submit to sterilization in order to stay on welfare. Last year when the Tennessee legislature attempted to pass such a law (saying "women with one or more 'illegitimate children' must submit to sterilization if they want to retain welfare benefits"), hundreds of women from across the state, including Black and white women on welfare, joined together to halt this bill.

The parasitic billionaires who rule the U.S. are racists and murderers. The whole history of this country is testimony to their crimes against poor people and especially non-white people. The question of genocide is, for them, a practical one: Will it serve their interests? The answer has often been yes. This fact must not be forgotten by anyone who hopes to understand the sterilization issue.



BY VINCENT COPELAND

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U.S. holds key to release of Saigon prisoners



The people of Loc Ninh welcome home prisoners whom the Thieu regime was forced to release.
photo: Vietnam News Agency-Giai Phong (Liberation) Press Agency

By SHARON SHELTON

The Thieu regime, desperate to undermine the popular support and many gains of the Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG), has stepped up its repressive measures against the civilian population of South Vietnam since the signing of the Paris treaty.

In flagrant violation of the treaty, in fact, Thieu has refused to release the thousands of political prisoners as stipulated, despite recent token releases (only after protests had been mounted both inside and outside Vietnam). Also, Thieu, backed by the Nixon administration, has been arresting scores of officials of the PRG, and in a thinly disguised attempt to escape treaty provisions, he has recently begun wholesale reclassification of political prisoners, to common offender status. Meanwhile, reports of murder and torture on a mass scale—especially of women, children, and political figures—have been on the increase.

Currently, there are more than 200,000 political prisoners locked up in the 1,000 jails maintained by the Saigon government. Publically, Saigon officials insist that there are no political prisoners in South Vietnam, although they do admit to holding 5,081 personnel of the PRG. Even this figure, however, is not correct, since at the Chi Hoa prison alone there are over 10,000 PRG officials illegally incarcerated.

Thieu is not content, however, with his attempts to eat away at the structure of the PRG by arresting its officials. He has also been arresting virtually anyone who shows disagreement with his regime. Students, workers, priests, and teachers all sit in South Vietnamese jails for "crimes" such as

carrying rice at night or possessing anti-war sheet music.

RECLASSIFICATION OF PRISONERS

As protest grows over such jailings, Thieu has begun reclassifying prisoners as guilty of "common crimes" such as disturbing the peace. According to a statement issued by the South Vietnam Committee for the Release of Patriotic and Peace-Loving People, 403 political prisoners in Khanh Hoa jail were due to be released on February 15, but were reclassified and shipped to Poulo Condor Island.

Just recently, in answer to growing pressure, Thieu began the release of a number of political prisoners as outlined by the treaty. However, according to *The New York Times*, out of the some 375 prisoners released on July 23, many were women who had been picked up at random on their way to market. It would seem that these Vietnamese were rounded up by the Thieu administration for the express purpose of releasing them! In another effort to avoid releasing PRG officials and other progressive political prisoners, Thieu has been releasing some of his rightwing opponents to fulfill the prisoner exchange.

Inside the prisons themselves, conditions are worsening. Prisoners are tortured with electric shocks, needles, and beatings. Women and children are subjected to some of the most vicious tortures, such as having their heads dipped into liquid DDT, facing mass rape and electric shocks to their extremities, and having their faces smeared with paint.

LABOR LEADER MURDERED

Many assassinations, especially of political prisoners, are also taking place. Only recently, for example, labor leader

Pham Van Hi was reported dead in jail, having been arrested along with other workers for supporting a two-hour work stoppage on the part of railroad workers last April. The official explanation by the Saigon government was that he had committed suicide, but it was clear that Pham Van Hi was just another of the thousands of political prisoners who are disappearing with increasing frequency within the jails of South Vietnam each day.

These desperate efforts at creating a climate of terror within South Vietnam are, of course, backed by the Nixon administration and the U.S. ruling class. Each jail within South Vietnam has an American advisor who oversees the tortures and killings, and these jails are funded by U.S. tax dollars. Moreover, it was the CIA's Phoenix program that introduced torture

methods and systematic assassinations to the South Vietnamese police apparatus in the first place.

It is clear that both Thieu and U.S. imperialism fear for their lives in Vietnam. Both the U.S. ruling class and its Saigon puppets realize that the Thieu government can maintain itself only by jailing its critics and creating a climate of terror. But terror has been used in Vietnam by the U.S. and its puppet regimes for over ten years, and it never accomplished imperialism's aim of crushing the resistance movement. Today, when the PRG has liberated large territories in South Vietnam and is rapidly building up the liberated zones, Thieu's U.S.-backed policy of holding political prisoners, torturing and even assassinating them, is the last-ditch, desperate policy of a defeated tyrant.

Korean people demand U.S. get out of south

Workers World received the following letter from comrade Pak O, who works in the Havana Embassy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. We reprint his letter below along with excerpts of the Korean statement on the anniversary of the Korean War.

June 15, 1973

Dear comrades,

I hope this letter finds you all in good health and success of your work. With a great hope that you will give positive support to our Korean people in a just struggle, I am writing this letter to you on the occasion of the "Month of the Anti-U.S. Joint Struggle for Withdrawal of the U.S. Imperialist Aggressor Army from south Korea," from June 25 to July 27, which will be marked by the peace-loving people of the world together with our Korean people, in the near future.

I am sending you the material which is enclosed here. It shows and expresses the desire of our people. It also exposes that the U.S. imperialists were the very igniter of the Korean war on June 25, 1950, 23 years ago. If it does not prevent your work, I would like you to reprint the material in the papers. I am sure that you will do your best to support us with your positive effort.

Once again, I wish you all good health and success in your work. Looking forward to hearing from you soon in affirmative,

Militant salute to you all,
Pak O

U.S. Imperialism, the Igniter
of the Korean War

June 25 is the first day of the "Month of the Anti-U.S. Joint Struggle for Withdrawal of the U.S. Imperialist Aggressor Army from south Korea." In this connection, we feel it necessary to review how U.S. imperialism made preparations for the Korean war and unleashed it 23 years ago. All the more so, because the U.S. imperialists have not yet given up their wild design of occupying the whole of Korea, because they are still occupying south Korea militarily and hampering the Koreans' peaceful reunification and because they are aggravating the tension in Korea and stepping up their preparations for a new war.

From the first days of the occupation of south Korea, the U.S. imperialists have pursued their insidious aim to invade the whole of Korea and then Asia, using it as the stepping-stone.

At their dictates, as early as 1945 the "MacArthur Headquarters" in Japan started mapping out a plan of military

action to invade the northern half of the Republic, hand and in glove with the Japanese militarists who were well experienced in Korean aggression. The war preparations were made on full scale after rigging up the south Korean puppet government.

The reptile paper of the U.S. imperialist aggression army "Stars and Stripes," wrote in September 1948: "In order to occupy north Korea we need 100,000 well-equipped troops."

Meanwhile, the U.S. imperialists made frequent armed attacks along the 38th parallel against the northern half.

The war ignited by the U.S. imperialists against the DPRK was an imperialist war of aggression to occupy the whole of Korea and enslave the Koreans and, at the same time, their decisive step to dominate the world by force of arms.

This is explained by the specific factors that brought the U.S. imperialists to trigger off the Korean war in June 1950.

In 1950 the U.S. imperialists faced the most serious crisis in their colonial rule over south Korea.

Even Acheson, the then U.S. Secretary of State, cried out, "Without the U.S. aid the south Korean government will collapse within two or three months."

Another important factor was that the U.S.A. was caught up in a whirlwind of the economic panic more terrible than ever.

The American economy, which underwent serious depression since 1948, was threatened with more destructive panic in 1950. The mouth pieces of the U.S. monopolies openly clamoured that a new war would be necessary for keeping off the crisis.

Still another important factor that brought the U.S. imperialist aggressors to unleash the Korean war is connected with the total failure of their foreign policy designed to realize their wild dream of world conquest after WW II.

The superiority of the socialist system over capitalism was demonstrated more distinctly with each passing day.

The triumph of revolution in Korea, Vietnam and China led the U.S. imperialist policy of aggression to complete upset. The flames of national liberation fiercely flared up in Africa and Latin America, too.

In the Korean war, however, the U.S. imperialists suffered an unprecedented, ignominious military defeat for the first time in their history and went along a downward path.

U.S. imperialism must draw due lessons from this and get out of south Korea immediately and unconditionally, taking their aggressive armed forces with them.

This is a unanimous demand of the peace-loving people of the world marking the "Month of Anti-U.S. Joint Struggle."



In liberated territory, despite blatant violations of the agreements by Thieu, the people begin the task of rebuilding the country.
Photo: Vietnam News Agency-Giai Phong (Liberation) Press Agency

Rightwing launches new offensive in Chile

By P. MEISNER

AUGUST 1—The events in Chile during the last month, and even in the last few days, show that the Chilean bourgeoisie (aided by U.S. imperialism) is readying its plans for a full-scale, violent counter-revolution.

The Chilean capitalist class has already scrapped much of Chile's constitutional legality. On June 29, a small section of the Chilean army rebelled against the Allende government. Only after the attempted coup failed did the so-called moderate bourgeois Christian Democratic Party call it a coup plotted by "extremist elements" (that is, the extreme right).

There was no doubt in anyone's mind, however, that the Christian Democrats at least quietly supported the attempt, for had it been successful, the Christian Democrats would surely have been the dominant force in any new rightwing government.

But the attempted coup is obviously only the beginning of the counterrevolutionary offensive. On July 26, the National Truck Owners' Confederation declared a nationwide shutdown, immobilizing some 70,000 trucks throughout Chile. The last truck shutdown, in October 1972, resulted in the first big crisis and challenge for the Allende government, but the timing of the present shutdown was more carefully coordinated with other rightwing mobilizations.

The day following the truck owners' lockout, fascist gunmen assassinated Allende's chief military aide. The Allende government was shaken and immediately responded with a conciliatory appeal to the Christian Democrats, the largest of the Chilean capitalist parties, rather than with a call to the Chilean masses for a revolutionary response.

The scheduled talks (still taking place

as of this writing) between Allende and the Christian Democrats are the culmination of the political line advanced for some time now by the Chilean Communist Party (PC). The PC leadership called for a class reconciliation policy during last October's crisis (that is, of inviting the Christian Democrats into the Allende government).

At that time, Allende relied on the capitalist military, as he is now doing again, to protect the government, rather than on the armed and political might of Chile's workers and peasants.

WORKERS MOBILIZED

In last October's crisis, and again at the present time (and apparently whenever the right launches a major attack against the Popular Unity government), the workers have seized control of dozens and dozens of factories. Also vigilance committees have been organized in working class communities against rightwing attacks. The government has returned some of these factories to their private owners, but many are still in the hands of the workers.

Armed defense of the seized factories is spreading throughout Chile, indicating that the Chilean workers want a genuine socialist revolution and are striving to defend the gains already achieved under the Allende regime.

The crucial question now is: How long can the workers maintain control of any factories without organizing armed workers' militias that can defend them not only against the fascist goons hired by the bosses, but against the more formidable power of the armed forces?

In answering this life-and-death question, Allende shows how he may be leading the Chilean proletariat to disaster. Allende said recently:

people going to EXPOCUBA, the police "broke up" the confrontation by beating on the heads of supporters of EXPOCUBA. Several people were injured and some arrested as a result of the union's reliance on the police for protection.

In another unfortunate development, EXPOCUBA was cancelled two days early as a result of the counterrevolutionary attacks. It was felt by many here that the cancellation was a capitulation to rightwing pressure and that the celebration could have been defended by the many hundreds of supporters of the Cuban revolution if the defense was well organized, and not left up to the police (who openly showed their sympathy with the anti-Castro goons).

Nevertheless, EXPOCUBA proved to be a success in that it attracted over one thousand people who were genuinely interested in the revolution and showing their support for it. The prorevolutionary supporters far outnumbered the counterrevolutionary disrupters. And the gusanos exposed themselves for what they are. Their threats and attacks against the headquarters of a union—a union with a large Black and Latin membership—showed their complete disregard for workers.

The "freedom" that they desire so much for Cuba is the freedom to exploit the workers, the freedom to let gangsters open up gambling casinos and force women to degrade themselves by becoming prostitutes. They want the "freedom" to bring back the "good ol' days" of Batista, when Havana was the playground of the Wall Street financiers who owned the government and enslaved the people.

But the supporters of EXPOCUBA and the Cuban people remember Playa Giron, the Bay of Pigs invasion, when these fascists were defeated by the armed Cuban people. EXPOCUBA showed that the Cuban people are not only armed to defend their revolution, but they are also armed with the contrast of what was before and what is now.

"We must organize ourselves and create popular power, but not power that is independent of the government, which is the workers fundamental lever to advance the revolutionary process."

"RELY ON THE PEOPLE"

Millions of Chilean workers and peasants know in their bones that they must be independently armed and organized if they are to win socialism in Chile. One worker was quoted in the Chilean press, just after the abortive July 29 coup, as saying:

"We support the government, of course, but we demand that it take the offensive, relying on the people, not the military."

The Popular Unity government has

committed itself to a policy of "avoid civil war at all costs." But the class battle lines are being clearly formed now and point to an imminent and major class confrontation. The issue in Chile is no longer whether a socialist "government" (in a capitalist state) can bring about socialism peacefully.

That road has already been closed by Chilean capitalism and U.S. imperialism—as it has been in every capitalist country around the globe.

The issue now is whether there is still time for the Chilean working class and peasantry to mobilize against the rightwing onslaught. There is no longer any middle ground for Allende—there is only one of two roads open for Chile now: revolution or counterrevolution.



In Argentina, happy school children receive \$3 million that Ford was forced to pay to the people for ransom.

—EXPOCUBA

(Continued from page 16)

organizations talked of the significance of the Moncada attack and the Cuban revolution to the liberation struggles in Latin America. Juan Mari Bras, a leader of the PSP, gave an analysis of the liberation struggles throughout Latin America and how all these struggles gained from the victory of the revolutionary forces in Cuba. The PSP leader pointed out that while Cuba was the last Latin American country to gain independence, it was the first to achieve socialism. Mr. Mari Bras predicted that Puerto Rico would be the first country in Latin America to achieve socialism through its struggle for independence.

Other speakers that first night included Terry Cannon, a member of the Venceremos Brigade, who gave a brief history of the Moncada garrison and its significance. A sister who had been in Bolivia spoke about Che Guevara and those who followed his example in that country. She also talked about Haydee Santamaria and Melba Hernandez, two women who took part in the attack on the Moncada garrison, using them as examples of the revolutionary role of women in the struggle for liberation.

Attorney Arthur Kinoy spoke, connecting the July 24 bombing of the 1199 headquarters with the conspiracy of the Nixon administration and the ruling class it represents to squash any attempt to let the workers of this country know the truth about life under socialism.

Outside EXPOCUBA, the gusanos were throwing eggs at the people coming to take part in the celebration. They were in no way hindered by the police, who were supposed to be protecting the event. It is important to note that when the gusanos attacked the

U.S. imperialists look to Peron as 'lesser evil'

Despite the return of Juan Peron and the election of a moderately progressive Peronist to the Argentinian presidency, the political crisis engulfing Argentina deepens every day, without the Argentine working class making any real advances. Under mounting pressure from the right, the newly elected Peronist president, Dr. Hector Campora, was forced to step down and pave the way for another election that would bring Peron himself back into the presidency.

The move was interpreted by nearly all shades of political opinion as a turn to the right. All the bourgeois and rightwing forces in Argentina, both inside and outside the Peronist movement, have been clamoring for Campora to solve the present economic crisis (in a way that is favorable to the capitalist class, of course), reduce the influence of the Peronist left within the government, and crack down on the guerrilla movements, such as the Revolutionary Army of the People (ERP), which have humiliated imperialist monopolies in Argentina by means of kidnappings of their executives and the winning of concessions to popular demands.

In characterizing the resignation of Campora on July 13, The New York Times correspondent in Buenos Aires said: "Most politicians have also interpreted the resignation of Dr. Hector J. Campora, a loyal follower of Mr. Peron, from the presidency as a clearly conservative shift."

In policy statements just disclosed by the State Department, Washington has reversed its position on Peron, regarding the latter now as the "best hope" for Argentina and U.S. interests. The policy turnaround by U.S. imperialism was even

more optimistic, as reported by The New York Times on July 29: "We feel they would not do anything that would completely discourage foreign investment."

The Campora resignation was immediately followed by the bringing in of two more conservative ministers into the Peronist cabinet. Also, one of the most rightwing of Peron's aides, retired Colonel Jorge Osinde, has just been elevated to National Director of Security.

The Peronist right is represented by Peron himself, the arch-conservative labor bureaucracy, and capitalist organizations, such as the General Economic Confederation. This Peronist rightwing has also enlisted the support of ex-President Arturo Frondizi and is negotiating with Campora's bourgeois electoral opponent, Ricardo Balbin, to join the new Peron slate as Vice President.

The Peronist left includes many rank-and-file trade unionists and local leaders, especially in the large industrial city of Cordoba (a traditional leftwing center), the Peronist Youth organization, and Peronist guerrilla organizations, such as the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR) and the Montoneros.

The recent violent clashes that have taken place within the Peronist movement reflect the tremendous class divisions ever present in Argentine society. Even the reelection of Peron as President on September 23 will not at all ameliorate those profound class antagonisms. In fact, Peron's reelection will probably herald a rightwing trend destined to bring about new class confrontations. And only the initiative of revolutionary mass organizations can reverse this trend and lead the Argentinian working class to its long-awaited socialist emancipation.

political prisoners

Workers World fights prison ban

By JOEL MEYERS

As an ex-prisoner, I know that dope, pornography, and even weapons circulate throughout the prison system, with only the most transparent gestures made to suppress these things.

And that is no wonder. They help the prison officials divide and demoralize the captive population, while generating an atmosphere conducive to frameups. And the officials can garner some pocket money as well.

But on various pretexts, the federal government is taking serious measures to try to isolate the prisoners from Workers World newspaper and the Prisoners Solidarity Committee.

From its concentration camps across the country, the government has returned Workers World undelivered. Leavenworth said it was "inflammatory and incitatory." McNeil Island, in Washington, merely stamped "unauthorized" on the envelopes. Atlanta prison, in Georgia, claimed that their rules would not permit Workers World to come in, because it is mailed first class instead of second class, adding that it was too difficult for them to inspect Workers World mailing pieces for smuggled contraband.

The apparent conspiracy to ban Workers World from the Federal prison system comes close on the heels of a mobilization of the Internal Security Committees of both houses of Congress to "investigate subversion" in the prisons. A roving interstate inquisition has been in progress for several months now, making sure to denounce Workers World and the PSC at each stop.

ATTEMPT AT MIND CONTROL

This alone shows that the ban is not just a result of the prison administration, but that the weight of the entire federal government is involved in the new thrust. This fits in with the turn on the part of the prison tyrants toward behavior modification programs, which combine such techniques as "Skinner-box" deprivation and isolation, forced drug therapy, and psychosurgery, along with all the other forms of violence and brutality, in a frenzied effort to break down the rebellious spirit of the prisoners that has so far survived everything else that has been thrown at them.

The prisons are also being used as a laboratory for mind-control over the entire population. One of the prime tenets of this "Clockwork Orange" scheme is that the prisoners be completely isolated from the outside world and even from each other, so as to maximize feelings of helplessness and intimidation.

Workers World has been disturbing this scheme by printing the truth about prisons and proving that they should be torn down altogether. The prison tyrants sense this as a threat, for they cannot tolerate the light of day being thrown publicly on the atrocities they have been getting away with for so many years.

Legal efforts are now under way to win back the precedential right of prisoners to receive Workers World and whatever other newspaper they may want. We do not rely on the courts to resolve this issue, but we will take to the field on any front where it is possible for us to mount a struggle to win this basic right for our imprisoned brothers and sisters.



Attica brothers at court appearance, December 1972. Photo: LNS

Attica: "We continue to fight!"

Special to Workers World

ATTICA, N.Y., July 18—On July 11, at approximately 6:00 p.m., a hearse from the County Coroner's office entered Attica's gates and halted before the steps of Housing Block Zebra, Attica's notorious box. Just minutes later, a body wrapped in a white shroud was carried from the building on a stretcher and placed in the back of the hearse. As it drove away, a low murmur could be heard up and down the tier. No matter how it was put, all the men up here said to themselves and their brothers, "somehow, somehow, they've killed another one of us."

Even today, over a week later, no one knows who it was or how he died, since we are cut off from the area of HBZ he was locked up in. Some say he was found hung by the cord of his earphones; others say nothing, simply remembering the many comrades whose militant struggles against fascist dehumanization resulted in a brutal death that took many forms, in many prisons, over many years.

Those who really know are the vulgar swine who run this prison for the Rockefellers, and whose system of actions are responsible for another death... but they ain't telling.

A stillness settled over the Block, not out of fear or bewilderment, but out of respect by the many who know that the next death could be their own, and who have long since replaced rhetoric with deeds as the only possible salute to their fallen comrades.

RELATIVES ABUSED. PRISONERS GASSED

About one hour later, one of the comrades received a letter from a loved one who had been turned away at the gates trying to visit him. When he called the officer in charge and asked him to find out why this had happened, the pig became abusive and made obscene references to the man's family and why they couldn't get in. At this point the prisoner threw a bucket of soapy water into the pig's face, while the swine taunted him out of arm's reach.

For this he was gassed repeatedly; as his brothers began throwing bars of soap and breaking windows and light bulbs in his

support, they were also gassed. With the aid of more fascist goons who had been called up to HBZ, two of the prisoners were dragged out of their cells, beaten, then put on the other side of the tier, where the gassing resumed.

Until 11:00 that evening, when the shift changed, all lights were shut out and groups of pigs continuously went from cell to cell gassing everyone. Pepper gas, outlawed by the Geneva Convention, was the type of gas employed, and at least two of our comrades have been severely burned, one hospitalized, as a result.

The only thing that has changed in Attica are the Public Relations men they employ to disseminate lies and twisted half-truths to the general public. Otherwise, conditions that led to the 1971-rebellion are even worse today (since these people deal in terms of "things," instead of people), while the struggle to change these conditions goes on.

We continue to honor our dead in living deeds rather than dead monuments, continue to fight for our brothers who have been indicted for Rockefeller's and Oswald's crimes, and continue to carry on our resistance until the real cause that generates prisons and their brutal conditions have vanished from the face of the earth.

We call on all progressive peoples to aid us in the following:

1. The struggle to support the indicted Attica brothers; and
2. The struggle for implementation of the 30 demands.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE!!

(signed) The HBZ Collective

Support for Camp Allen sailors

NORFOLK, Va., July 21—More than 25 people demonstrated here today in a militant and spirited picket line and march for the freedom of Airman Apprentice Andre Q. Johnson. Airman Johnson, a 19-year-old Black sailor, is the last of the Camp Allen 14 to go on trial on charges stemming from a disturbance at the Camp Allen brig in Norfolk last November 26.

On July 25, A. Q. Johnson will face a general court-martial on frameup charges stemming from the so-called "riot" at the brig. The Navy brass, claiming that Brother Johnson was a "ringleader" of the disturbance, is attempting to put him behind bars for more than 100 years on a variety of charges.

Today's demonstration was called and organized by a coalition of the American Servicemen's Union, the Tidewater Africans, the Defense Committee, and Norfolk Action Research on the Military. Strong contingents from the Prisoners Solidarity Committee and the newly-formed Virginia Prisoners Union also participated. After picketing for more than an hour in front of the downtown post office, the demonstrators marched through the city's main shopping area and received an enthusiastic response from the largely Black crowds of shoppers. People on the streets picked up the chants of "Free Brother Johnson, jail the Navy brass," and "Sink the racist brass to the bottom of the sea, A. Q. Johnson must be free."

Thousands of leaflets and pamphlets were distributed explaining the facts of the case and urging people to attend the court-martial starting on the 25th.

To this date, 12 of the original 14 Black sailors charged in the disturbance have

been tried and convicted by all-white courts-martial. All the men have received from three to fifteen months' confinement at hard labor and bad conduct or dishonorable discharges. The American Servicemen's Union and the Prisoners Solidarity Committee have been active since the beginning of the courts-martial in carrying the case to the people of Norfolk and in demanding freedom for the Black sailors, who are carrying out an heroic struggle against Navy racism, and especially against the super-oppression in the military concentration camps.

In a recent message to the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, Brother A. Q. writes, "You know, I'm facing time, doing time, and gonna do some more. Think the system got me down? Think they broke me? Well, I'll tell you what I told them... I fight for my rights anywhere I am. Just cause I'm in prison doesn't mean a thing."

People's Committee target of prison farm attack

By ALVIN LONG

POWHATAN COUNTY, Va.—Prisoners at the Virginia State Farm were brutally attacked by guards and more than 150 state police on the morning of July 16. The police invasion followed an all-night disturbance provoked by the prison administration, during which prisoners seized three cell blocks and two dormitories at this huge maximum-security prison farm in rural southside Virginia.

State police attacked the prisoners with volleys of tear gas and with dogs, but a determined resistance by the prisoners prevented prison authorities from regaining control for nearly 12 hours. Prisoners fought back with boiling water, paint, and broken furniture.

The rebellion stemmed from the administration's refusal to permit a scheduled meeting of the "People's Committee," an elected prisoners' organization which has presented a number of demands to the administration. Two Black leaders of the organization protested the cancellation of the meeting to Lieutenant Wilson and Sergeant Horsely, known racists who have been the subjects of a number of complaints from prisoners. On Wilson's orders, the People's Committee leaders were surrounded and seized by about 25 guards with nightsticks.

With these brothers in detention, and the rest of the prisoners in their living quarters, the trouble seemed to be ended, but several hundred guards and police from around the state began entering the farm in full riot gear. A prisoners' request to meet with the administration and the press was denied. After state police attacked one cell block with teargas and dogs, the prisoners in other buildings barricaded themselves and prepared to fight back.

A number of prisoners were injured in the attack, but most declined medical treatment in order to stay out of the hands of authorities. At least two guards were treated for injuries, including scalding by boiling water.

It is clear that the attack was a premeditated attempt to wipe out the powerful People's Committee and to terrorize the entire State Farm population. In the words of Willie Williams, a Black prisoner who is Secretary of the People's Committee, "The entire attack seems pre-planned as a method of destroying the Committee, for many of the inmates had developed faith in those men who were struggling to better existing conditions."

"Certainly they planned to kill off all

McAlester explodes over intolerable conditions

On Saturday, July 28, the long-predicted rebellion at McAlester, Oklahoma, maximum security prison finally came to a boiling point.

During the rebellion, in which 21 guards, all unharmed, were allegedly held hostage, 15 of the 16 buildings in the compound were totally destroyed, at an estimated damage of \$20 million.

With the prisoners denied any access to the press, the administration has been publicly blaming the rebellion on drugs and alcohol. "There are a lot of people under the influence there," the governor's press representative told a compliant press and media.

It is true that many prisoners, like people on the street, resort to such anaesthetics to help them get through the excruciating pain of daily prison existence and survival. But the administration generally encourages this because it lowers the level and effectiveness of resistance to authority, in addition to providing guards with an avenue to pocket some bribes. Typically, a sudden reduction in use of such things immediately precedes the outbreak of a rebellion.

Governor Hall's parole policy is said to have been a leading factor in the mounting tension at McAlester.

The total number of prisoners in the state has been increasing, in spite of panicky measures by authorities to reduce the McAlester population by scattering prisoners around the state.

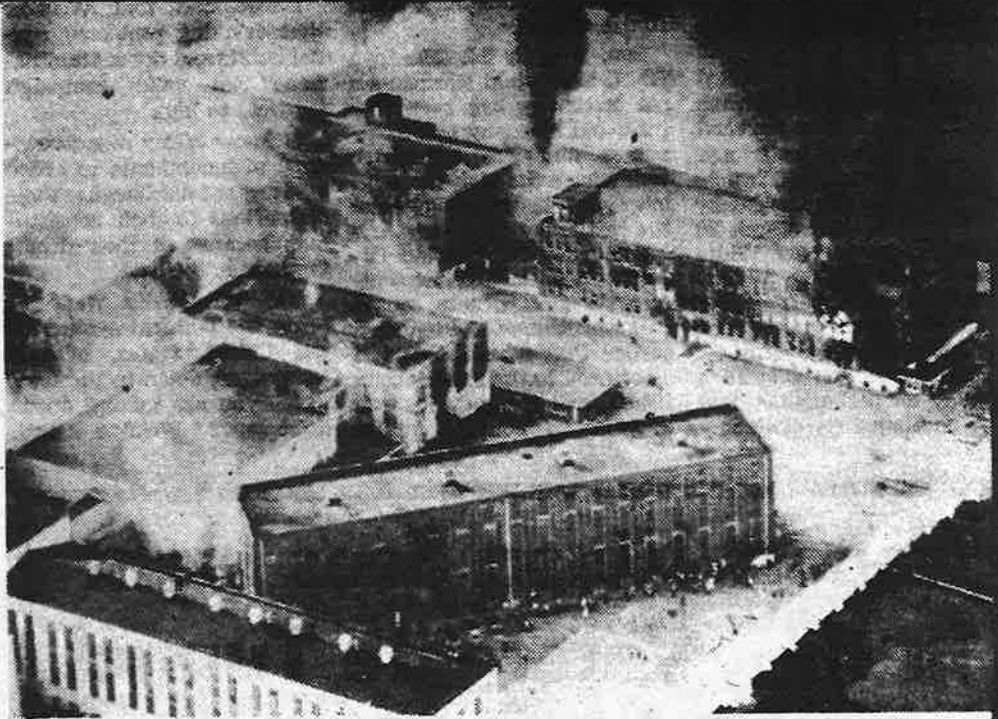
The increase in the total number of prisoners has largely been due to Hall's policy of refusing to parole almost 25 percent of the prisoners recommended for release by the Parole Board.

His policy has been particularly vindictive against prisoners who had been convicted of possession of the "killer weed," meaning marijuana.

The governor had told the State Bar Association only a week before the rebellion that in spite of the transfers, McAlester's overcrowding problem was still "explosive," and "prevented any kind of rehabilitation."

Another leading factor has been the open racism of the Hall administration. McAlester, like most other U.S. prisons, is jam-packed with Chicano, American Indian, Black, and extremely poor white men. The attitude of the State House was revealed by Ed Hardy, leading press spokesman for the Governor, when he characterized the McAlester events of this weekend as "the animals taking over the zoo."

Another inmate complaint that came out through the press blockade was the



Fires rage out of control at the state penitentiary at McAlester, Oklahoma, as prisoners rebel.

"sadistic and inhuman treatment of inmates" by guards. When reporters tried to interview these guards, they threatened reporters with clubs, according to The New York Times. This visible brutality could not but have been encouraged by the naked racism that comes down from their bosses in the Governor's office.

As if to confirm the gross inadequacy of the prison budget in the past, the legislature had to double it this year. Now at \$10 million, it is still among the lowest per-capita prison budget of any state. Furthermore, the bulk of this money was to be spent on increasing

the number of guards, and raising their salaries from \$390 to \$440 a month, while prisoners continue to receive pennies for their work.

Meanwhile, it has come out that Hall, after having agreed to negotiate with the inmates in the presence of an American Civil Liberties Union lawyer, instead met with them on Saturday with an imposter impersonating a lawyer.

"The man who went with the Governor and was identified as a lawyer for the ACLU was not an ACLU lawyer," a spokesman for the organization declared.

undesirables, but they did not anticipate the strong resistance from the inmates, nor did they think there would be a struggle. We await a hearing from the Kangaroo Court (the same ones who shot gas and turned the dogs on the brothers Sunday). How can we receive a semblance of a fair hearing here? Just as we would have been killed if the inmates had not fought, we will be railroaded and harassed and set up lest someone aids us."

A delegation of seven members of the Richmond and Norfolk branches of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, including James Peterson, President of the Virginia Prisoners Union, went to the State Farm during the rebellion. The PSC drove through the administrative headquarters and was halfway into the Farm before being turned back by guards. For several hours, the PSC members tried to gain entrance to the Farm to talk with the prisoners, but they were finally forced to leave under threat of arrest by the visibly shaken prison administration. In the meantime, however, the PSC succeeded in explaining the People's Committee's demands to members of the press and in exposing some of the lies being handed out by the administration.

In Richmond and Norfolk, the PSC issued press releases and recorded radio and television interviews to explain the background of the struggle and the prisoners' demands.

At the present time, most of the People's Committee leadership is being held incommunicado somewhere in the state prison system. Only three members of the People's Committee remain in the general population among the men who elected them, but as one of the three writes, "We will not give up." Letters to leaders of the Committee are returned marked "addressee unknown." Reports from the State Farm general population indicate that the majority of the prisoners are carrying out a strike, refusing to work until the People's Committee is released and until Superintendent Oliver is fired.

The prison administration, headed by Oliver, is trying to blame the disturbance on a small group of so-called troublemakers—meaning the People's Committee—and is preparing frameup charges against these men.

The PSC is continuing to press for open

communication with the People's Committee, for the dropping of all charges against the prisoners, for the imprisonment of the State Farm officials responsible for the police attack, and for the immediate implementation of the demands presented by the People's Committee. Messages supporting the PSC's position on these issues are urgently needed and may be sent to Joseph Lewis, Director of Correctional Field Units, 507 South Belvidere Street, Richmond, Va. 23219.

For further information on the State Farm struggle, contact Prisoners Solidarity Committee, Box 7032, Norfolk, Va. 23509. (804) 857-4816.

Vietnam veterans go on trial

JULY 31 — The trial of seven members of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War (VVAW) and a civilian supporter on charges of conspiring to disrupt the 1972 Republican National Convention began today in court in Gainesville, Florida.

The Gainesville 8 defendants, JOHN BRIGGS, SCOTT CAMIL, ALTON FOSS, JOHN KNIFFIN, STAN MICHELSEN, PETE MAHONEY, BILL PATERSON, and DON PERDUE, are victims of the Watergate conspiracy. The Nixon administration has invented a story about their violent protest plans as part of its Watergate justification.

The VVAW called for nationwide support demonstrations today. In New York, about 125 veterans and supporters, including a contingent from the American Servicemen's Union, rallied at noon in Foley Square, across from the federal courthouse.

Oswald runs into PSC again

By JOHN SCOTT

MILWAUKEE, July 16—Russell Oswald, responsible for the murder of over 30 prisoners and guards at Attica Prison two

years ago, dared to show his hated face here today at a four-day conference of Western Region jailors, wardens, and other assorted leeches. He was once again met by a demonstration organized by the Milwaukee Prisoners Solidarity Committee (PSC) chanting "Butchers have no right to speak!"

Oswald, former director of the Wisconsin "corrections" system, and Sanger Powers, a known fascist and his present successor, were the targets of the demonstrators, picketing in front of the posh Pfister Hotel where the conference was held. With banners and chants, the demonstration called all prisons, from the smallest county jail to Attica and Petersburg, torture chambers for the oppressed.

A delegation led by Dennis Anderson, a Black former Wisconsin prisoner, and Benita Orozco, leader of the PSC here, went into the hotel to demand that the conference adopt resolutions calling for:

- (1) The abolishment of behavior modification programs
- (2) That only former prisoners sit on parole boards
- (3) That Dennis Anderson, a true expert on Wisconsin prisons, speak in place of the butcher of Attica.

The delegates discovered that, due to PSC pressure, the meeting had been hastily moved to Turner Hall, several blocks away. In hot pursuit, the demonstrators marched through Milwaukee's main shopping area to confront Oswald and Powers. People on the street and in cars shouted their support and gave the clenched fist to the demonstrators' chant that "Prisons are concentration camps for the poor."

Finding Turner Hall blocked by police, the demonstrators set up a picket line.

Dennis Anderson addressed the crowd, exposing the brutality and racism in all prisons. He demanded to talk with an official of the conference, but none dared show his face. However, some of the more curious conference participants stood around the entrance, behind the police line, obviously shaken by the strength of the protesters.

Oswald, forced by the press to comment on the demonstration, said: "The Prisoners Solidarity Committee follows me all over the country." Yes, Butcher Oswald, the people will pursue you to the ends of the earth until you and your kind no longer have

the power to murder and until all the jails are torn down.

Another victim treated as criminal

I am being prosecuted in a conspiracy between a racist court and a racist prison, acting in conjunction with one another in a misleading attempt to fool the public into another fraud, making the victim appear criminal and the criminal appear as a victim—and the real villain of oppression goes free.

I am now held in solitary confinement. I have been thus held over 18 months under adverse, inhuman conditions, in comparison with which, animals are better treated. After being in the general prison population for a period of about 4 months, I was thrown back into solitary confinement pending transfer to a RX Prescription Program which deals with tampering with a man's brain. The only thing that is temporarily preventing such transfer is a "criminal" indictment pending against me from almost two years ago (July 11, 1971).

I came from Auburn to Clinton June 1, 1971 (Auburn Rebellion) and was placed in Segregation illegally, as I had violated no prison rules. Shortly after, I was let out of my cell (to empty a waste bucket) where I was viciously assaulted by approximately 15-20 mad-dog sadistic animals who hide under the guise of correctional officers. Naturally I had to fight them in order to prevent them from killing me right then and there. In so doing, I've been indicted for assault in the 2nd degree (7 counts) for defending myself.

Dim Mak
a-k-a Essex Ray

The court has just turned down a motion for a change of venue in Dim Mak's case, which would have moved the trial out of Clinton County, an area where many people are employed by the prison or connected with the prison system. All concerned people who can help in any way are asked to contact the "Dim Mak" Legal Defense Committee, c/o Jesse Berman, Esq., 351 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10013.

EXPOCUBA celebrates Moncada anniversary

By JULIO GHIGLIOTTY

NEW YORK, July 28—The attack on the Moncada military garrison by the revolutionary forces led by Fidel Castro on July 26, 1953, marked the beginning of the Cuban revolution and a turning point in the history of Latin America. Although militarily a failure, politically the attack signified the beginning of the armed struggle against the repressive, U.S.-backed Batista regime. Every year the people of Cuba celebrate this day as the symbol of the

abolition of illiteracy, starvation, and exploitation, which were so rampant until the victory of the revolution.

This day was also celebrated here in the United States by progressives and revolutionaries who have consistently supported the struggles of the revolutionary government in Cuba against attacks by the U.S. and their counterrevolutionary (gusano) agents.

EXPOCUBA, as the event organized by the Venceremos Brigade was called, was

held at the Martin Luther King Labor Center, headquarters of Local 1199 of the Drug and Hospital Workers Union here. Among those sponsoring the event were Juan Mari Bras of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP), Key Martin of Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF), Deirdre Griswold of Workers World Party, and Angela Davis of the Communist Party.

In spite of the fact that the 1199 headquarters were bombed on July 24 by Cuban counterrevolutionaries in an attempt

to sabotage the event, hundreds of supporters turned out for EXPOCUBA on July 26. The exhibits were composed of pictures, posters, and slide shows depicting the improvement of life for the workers and peasants of Cuba within the socialist system. Two movies were also shown, one of which, Lucia, will soon be shown in commercial theatres throughout the country.

At the reception Thursday night, speakers from various sponsoring

(Continued on page 13)

Oppressed fight racists to regain school board

By CHERYL LABASH

NEW YORK, July 19—The six new reactionary members of the District 1 School Board, fraudulently elected last May 1, faced an auditorium tonight packed with over 500 angry and militant residents of the predominantly Black and Latin district. The blatantly racist manner in which the meeting was conducted brought storms of protest from the dissatisfied community.

Over the objections and votes of the three remaining community control board members, the six newly "elected" board members kept passing resolution after resolution. They fired four community control supporters working in the district office; stripped Luis Fuentes, the Puerto Rican District 1 Superintendent, of the powers given him by the community board last year; and moved the board office from the heart of the Third World community to the southern end of the district, where it will be isolated from the poor and oppressed in the midst of mostly white middle income co-ops. This was done despite the fact that 93 percent of the school children of the district are Black, Latin, or Chinese.

In trying to explain the quick move of the district office, one racist school board member told The New York Times on July 11:

"It was too easy for remaining members of the former board to raise a crowd of yelling, screaming people from the slum tenements surrounding the (junior) high

school, and the new quarters surrounded by middle income cooperatives, low-income city housing, grass, trees, and less noise will provide no such following."

It was such racist arrogance, displayed throughout the meeting by the six white board members, that kept bringing the



In School District 1, New York, angry parents demand that their district office remain in the oppressed community.

parents to their feet with charges of racism and fraud.

When the floor was opened for discussion, the new chairman, Adolf Roher, arbitrarily limited comments to one minute. Several Black, Latin, and white community representatives had been cut off in mid-

sentence when, accompanied by cheers, a Puerto Rican board member, Henry Ramos, effectively cut Roher off by smashing the dictatorial chairman's microphone.

From their backstage hiding place, the brutal Tactical Police Force (TPF) viciously attacked Ramos for his highly applauded action, making obvious the collaboration between the racist anti-community control board members and their police protectors. When the already-angered audience surged forward in Ramos's defense, the Jewish Defense League (JDL) attacked the audience from the back in an abortive effort to aid the TPF and racist board members in their conspiracy to smash and demoralize the community's struggle for control of their schools.

They were stopped mid-aisle and pushed back in a fight which forced the rigged meeting to be halted. The JDL has conducted many such racist attacks against oppressed communities (like the 1970 raid on the Harlem Black Panther office) with full cooperation from the police. It supported the United Federation of Teachers and Shanker during the struggle for community control of schools by the Black community in Ocean Hill-Brownsville.

The community's determination and unity made it apparent that neither the rigged elections nor the force wielded by fascist cops and racist collaborators from the JDL will stifle the struggle to win control over their schools. It is inevitable that this demand raised by the oppressed communities will eventually lead to one of total control over their own lives.

esfuerzo para ayudar la policía y los racistas miembros en su conspiración para acabar y desmoralizar la lucha de la comunidad por el control de sus escuelas. Ellos fueron parados en medio del auditorio y empujados en una pelea la cual forzó la ridícula reunión a ser terminada. La "Jewish Defense League" ha cometido muchos ataques racistas contra las comunidades oprimidas en cooperación con la policía como sucedió en 1970 a la oficina de los "Black Panthers" en Harlem y ha apoyado a la UFT y a Shanker durante la lucha por el control comunal de las escuelas por la comunidad negra en Ocean Hill-Brownsville.

La determinación y la unidad de la comunidad hicieron aparente que ni las fraudulentas elecciones ni la fuerza desplegada por la policía y sus racistas colaboradores de la JDL podrán suprimir la lucha para ganar control sobre sus escuelas. Es inevitable que esta demanda levantada por las comunidades oprimidas, eventualmente llevará a un total control sobre sus vidas.

Padres contra racistas por Junta Escolar

NEW YORK, Julio 19—Los nuevos miembros de la Junta Escolar del Distrito 1 quienes fueron fraudulentamente elegidos el pasado 1 de mayo tuvieron que confrontarse esta noche a un auditorio de más de 500 desafiantes y militantes residentes de la comunidad. La manera altamente racista en la que fué conducida la reunión provocó gran protesta de la comunidad insatisfecha.

Por sobre las objeciones y votos de los tres restantes miembros de la Junta por control comunal, los nuevos seis miembros "elegidos" de la Junta siguieron aprobando resolución tras resolución para despedir empleados de la oficina del Distrito que apoyan control comunal, quitarle todo poder al superintendente puertorriqueño del Distrito 1, Luis Fuentes, poder que fue dado a él por la Junta Comunal el año

pasado y mudar las oficinas del distrito del corazón de una comunidad del tercer mundo a la parte sur del distrito, aislada de los pobres y oprimidos, en medio de cooperativos de ingreso medio mayormente blanco. Esto ha sido sin considerar el hecho de que 93 por ciento de los escolares del distrito son negros, latinos o chinos.

Tratando de explicar la rápida mudanza de las oficinas del distrito, un racista miembro de la Junta dijo al NY Times en julio 11: "Es muy fácil para los restantes miembros de la Junta original conseguir una multitud de alborotos de los que viven en los arrabales que rodean la escuela y que los nuevos cuarteles rodeado de cooperativos, grama y árboles y con menos ruidos no prooverá para ellos."

Fue tal la arrogancia desplegada durante la reunión por los seis nuevos

miembros que los padres levantaban sus voces y los acusaban de racismo y fraude.

Cuando la reunión fue abierta a discusiones, el nuevo presidente, Adolf Cohen, abiertamente limitó los comentarios a un minuto. Varios representantes de la comunidad, negros, latinos y blancos habían sido cortados a mitad de sus declaraciones. Un puertorriqueño miembro de la Junta, Henry Ramos, muy efectivamente le quitó el micrófono al presidente.

La policía, que estaba escondida detrás del escenario viciousamente atacó a Ramos por su aplaudida acción; haciendo clara la colaboración entre la racista Junta contra-control comunal y su policía protectora. Cuando la acalorada audiencia salió en defensa de Ramos, la "Jewish Defense League", atacó a esta en un abortivo

Oklahoma



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