

# Kepone disaster: bosses ignored workers' warning

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## NYC anti-war march remembers MPLA uprising

By LESLIE FEINBERG  
NEW YORK, Feb. 7—Three to four hundred anti-war demonstrators marched here today in a dramatic show of international solidarity against the U.S.-South African war on Angola. This was the second large massing of people in New York opposed to the U.S. involvement in Africa.

Passersby gathered along the route of march as row after row of demonstrators chanted, "Jobs at home, not wars abroad!" and, "Down with Kissinger, CIA; Victory to MPLA!"

### FEBRUARY 4 ANNIVERSARY

The demonstration was organized by the February 4th Coalition. The name of the coalition refers to Feb. 4, 1961, when MPLA members, armed with only clubs and machetes, launched an attack against the Sao Paulo

Prison in Luanda. The attack was meant to free comrades jailed by the hated Portuguese colonialists.

Not only did the attack mark the beginning of armed struggle, but it called worldwide attention to the Angolan struggle against Portuguese colonialism for the first time.

Fifteen years later, the hated fascist and colonialist regime is gone and the MPLA has fully liberated Luanda.

### JOBS AT HOME

Many who watched the demonstration pass by were reassured to see that they were not alone in their opposition to the U.S. war against the Angolan people. Many people referred to the Vietnam war, still fresh in their memories.

An elderly Black man from Queens shook with anger as he



WW photo: Gregory

While the pro-imperialist armies in Angola were taking a shellacking this week, these supporters of the African liberation struggle were getting their point of view across to the people of New York.

Wall Street's strategy for control of Angola's wealth shattered as People's Republic rolls back puppets and mercenary armies

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said, "He (Ford) talked about us like we were dogs when we asked for money for New York. Now, goddamn it, he's spending our money to kill Black Africans." A young Black woman listening to him said, "We need that money so badly, but they're never going to spend it on us."

Time after time, people along the route of march found ways of expressing their shock and outrage that the U.S. could be waging a murderous and costly war in Africa, while the impact of massive layoffs, slashed day care, lost fire protection, and threatened hospital closings is being felt deeply by New Yorkers.

### PICKET GULF OIL

The demonstration grouped at Herald Square, marched to the Gulf Oil building and South African Airlines (holding brief rallies in front of each), and ended with a rally in Times Square.

There hundreds applauded the MPLA vigorously. Jaime Veve from Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF) chaired the

assembly, Steve Burghart spoke from the MPLA Solidarity Committee, and John Preiskel spoke for the February 4th Coalition.

Many groups sponsored this demonstration, among them: MPLA Solidarity Committee, Deacons for Defense, Eritreans for Liberation, Eugene Oregon Coalition, Iranian Students Association (World Confederation), Liberation Support Movement, Organization of Arab Students, People's Democratic Association, Prairie Fire, Puerto Rican Socialist Party, and Youth Against War & Fascism.

### SOLIDARITY NIGHT

A Solidarity Night with the MPLA held the evening before the demonstration had also been organized by the February 4th Coalition.

The solidarity night included songs, music, poetry, and dances of many nationalities, as well as speeches. A representative of the Iranian Students Association read a moving verse by a revolutionary Iranian poet who had been

executed in 1974 by the Shah. Reverend Kirkpatrick and Matt Jones, two Black singers, then performed anti-imperialist songs honoring slain Black leaders Malcolm X and Fred Hampton.

Representatives of the Organization of Arab Students sang a revolutionary ballad from the Peoples Democratic Republic of Yemen, and a group from the Eritreans for Liberation also sang while performing traditional Eritrean dances. Cruz Martinez, a Puerto Rican singer, was another who contributed to the evening of anti-imperialist music.

Nick de Freitas of Youth Against War & Fascism spoke at the solidarity night on the history of the resistance movement in Angola led by the MPLA. Mark Larinsky and John Preiskel talked on the imperialist economic penetration of Angola and on the growing international support for the People's Republic.

About 200 people attended the solidarity night, which was a stirring and informative meeting in support of the MPLA.

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## THE STRUGGLE IN BRIEF

### UFW elections halted by California legislature under grower pressure

By JIM MCMAHAN

ATLANTA, Feb. 3—Bowing to pressure from agribusiness, the California legislature voted to cut off funds to the Agricultural Labor Relations Board in mid-January. This board has also announced it will close up shop Feb. 6, making the elections law which farmworkers used to gain union representation null and void.

On Jan. 17, 30 supporters of the United Farmworkers Union in Atlanta demonstrated in front of the offices of Sunkist to protest the role Sunkist growers have played in pressuring the legislature and sabotaging the farm election law. Protest demonstrations were also held in California.

Since the enactment of the elections law on Aug. 28, the UFW has won 197 elections to represent 28,614 workers. The Teamsters have won 105 elections covering 12,474, but were already represented with sweetheart contracts with the growers at most of these 105 ranches. The UFW defeated the Teamsters in 66 elections where the Teamsters held sweetheart contracts.

The UFW victories were

achieved despite continued threats, harassment, and intimidation on the part of the growers. Vigilante committees, machine guns, and other weapons were used to keep UFW organizers from talking to the workers in the fields. Many workers had their lives threatened if they voted UFW. But the UFW has stayed strong despite these gestapo tactics and easily outscored the grower-Teamster opposition in the elections.

In addition the UFW just reached agreement on a new contract with 20 growers representing 3,000 workers—the first contracts reached by the UFW since the election law had gone into effect.

The struggle and tremendous stamina of the farmworkers on the picket lines and through the boycott are what forced the legislature to pass the election law. The effective defeat of the elections law may be a setback from the tremendous gains and momentum that the farmworkers have achieved since the law was passed. But this cut-off of funds will not stop the farmworker struggle.



### Chicano community in San Jose

#### outraged over racist killing by cops

SAN JOSE, Calif., Jan. 30—"All of San Jose's establishment should be indicted for the brutal, senseless killing of Danny Trevino. . . . Our cry for justice is being heard far beyond the boundaries of this racist state."

The speaker was Ray Gonzales, secretary of the Confederacion de la Raza and one of 500 angry Chicanos who filled the City Council meeting Jan. 27 to demand an end to police brutality.

"Is this the way white police are going to celebrate the Bicentennial—by murdering Mexicans?" asked one sign carried by a protester.

Trevino, a 26-year-old father of two, was murdered in his parked car by Craig Smith and Don Edwards of the San Jose Police Department on the night of Jan. 25. The cops afterward claimed that it looked like Trevino was trying to pull a gun on them, but the cops, who were allowed to investigate their own crime, failed to produce the gun.

The Chicano community, fed up with continually racist, abusive treatment from the police department, quickly organized to

bring Trevino's murderers to justice.

The Confederacion de la Raza is demanding the immediate arrest of Edwards and Smith for murder, the creation of a citizens control board to have authority over the police department, and payments from the city for Trevino's widow and children.

While 500 angry pairs of eyes stared at them, the City Council unanimously voted that the courts should open a grand jury investigation into Trevino's death, but failed to take action on the Confederacion's other demands.

The Chicano community sees its fight against this murder as part of its overall fight against oppression. As one speaker told the council, "The death of Danny Trevino is but a symptom of the oppressive situation. The issue is oppression."

### Detroit demonstrators raise cry: 'MAD and Klan, scum of the land'

DETROIT, Feb. 5—Tonight over 50 Black and white anti-racists picketed the monthly meeting of Mothers Alert Detroit (MAD), an anti-busing group based on the Northeast Side.

Chanting angrily, "MAD and Klan, scum of the land" and "Racist boycott—Don't be fooled, Black and white need better schools," the picketers packed the snowy sidewalk in front of the meeting hall carrying banners and signs.

The demonstration was called by Women Against Racism and well attended by members of Youth Against War & Fascism. When MAD's members, clearly affected by the militancy of the picketers, called out the cops, the picket line broke into a loud chant of "Cops and Klan work hand in hand!"

MAD has called for parents to boycott Detroit's schools, which initiated busing for desegregation two weeks ago. They conducted a rather intensive campaign, holding rallies and motorcades which drew the likes of Donald Lobsinger, a self-styled local Nazi. At tonight's picket, one of MAD's members showed his true colors when he shouted "Seig Heil" at the picketers and gave a fascist salute.

Despite these efforts, however, the boycott and MAD's attempt to whip up a Boston-style racist hysteria have so far met with abject failure. Even in the white neighborhood where MAD held their meeting tonight, the anti-racist picketers were greeted in a friendly manner by several residents, including one man who said, "I sure don't like seeing people like MAD holding meetings in my neighborhood."

Nonetheless, constant vigilance against the racist forces is necessary, for militant organized opposition like tonight's demonstration is the only thing which keeps the "MAD" dogs at bay.

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## DECLINE AND FALL

### IF YOU DON'T PAY THE ILLEGAL FARE

New York Times, Jan. 26:

"In a campaign against those who try to get free rides on the subway, adult offenders are being formally arrested, stripped and searched and placed in cells sometimes for as long as three hours.

"More than 17,000 people have been arrested since the campaign got under way last May. . . . Transit police discovered that 4 percent of the 3.5 million passengers were riding without paying.

"To focus on the problem (Transit Police) Chief Garelik created a new force of 135 officers that he named the 'Fare Evasion Unit.'"

"Most of those arrested for sneaking into the subway, Chief Garelik said, are men from 18 to 25 years of age in the lower socio-economic bracket."

Subway cops earn upwards of \$15,000 a year. If there are 135 of them and they each earn only \$15,000 a year, that's more than \$20 million annually to keep people from the free rides they should be getting anyway.

### NOODLES FOR THE BIG ENCHILADA

Common Sense, Jan. 1976:

"A group of Girl Scouts presented President Ford with a replica of the Declaration of Independence made out of alphabet noodles. Mr Ford appeared pleased."

### THE PICTURE OF JFK

New York Times, Jan. 20:

"Burlington, Iowa—The decision facing the Burlington area Roman Catholic School Board at its monthly meeting concerned allegations that John F. Kennedy, a Catholic, had an extra-marital sex life while serving as President.

"The question before the school board was, 'Does the picture of Jack Kennedy and his wife and his inaugural address belong in Notre Dame High School in Burlington?'"

"Other questions were brought up. Where was President Nixon's picture? There had been one but during the height of the Watergate scandal, it was removed because students were turning it to the wall or taping it over.

"The Burlington newspaper, the Hawk-eye, took notice of the controversy and

wrote that the sexual and moral peccadillos of other American leaders should also be considered injurious to student morals.

"'Ben Franklin and Tom Jefferson certainly must be banned,' the editorial said. 'And care will have to be taken with a couple of popes.'"

### BUT THE IMAGE OF KLEINDIENST?

New York Times, Jan. 26:

"Last week the Justice Department held a ceremony for the unveiling of the latest painting of Richard G. Kleindienst, Attorney-General 1972-73. Mr. Kleindienst was there, along with 150 friends. He spoke of 'our government of law and not of men.'"

"Less than two years ago—on May 16, 1974—Richard Kleindienst stood in a Washington courtroom and pleaded guilty to a violation of Federal criminal law."



U.S. strategy collapses as

# MPLA routs imperialist puppets

By NICK DE FREITAS

NEW YORK, Feb. 10—The utter lack of popular support or will to fight of the pro-imperialist forces in Angola was shown this week when the liberation armed forces of the People's Republic of Angola took the so-called UNITA "capital" of Huambo without a battle. This new victory comes after weeks of steady retreat by the neocolonialists and victories on both northern and southern fronts by the People's Republic.

Western news reports indicated that UNITA abandoned its position yesterday without firing a shot even before the Angolan forces led by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and supported by Cuban troops arrived. "Officials of the movement (UNITA) had fled with their families to Silva Porto," wrote the New York Times today. This retreat of the so-called leaders precipitated a rout of "panicked," "demoralized and running" troops who fled to the military headquarters now set up

100 miles northeast of Huambo along the main east-west rail line in Angola. But their new headquarters in Silva Porto is also a scene of "panic," according to UNITA officials themselves.

## NORTHERN VICTORIES

In northern Angola, other columns of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola (FAPLA), the MPLA-led troops of the People's Republic, announced the capture of the Atlantic coastal town of Santo Antonio do Zaire from the troops of the FNLA, the other pro-imperialist group in Angola, one which has been supported by CIA funds through the neocolonialist regime in Zaire.

Most FNLA forces have already fled Angola. In their wake they have left a shambles of fear, destruction, looting, and murder. The hasty retreat, reports a January 18 New York Times dispatch from Kinshasa, "was accompanied, according to refugees here, by widespread looting. The Zaire army units were

said to be the most active elements in the looting." General Mobutu of Zaire has played a key role in backing the FNLA (headed by his brother-in-law, Holden Roberto), lending it not only arms, weapons, and logistical backing but contributing an estimated 11,200 top paratroopers to bolster the FNLA fighting power. This equipment and money has come directly from the U.S., which has been supplying Mobutu with huge amounts of "aid" since he overthrew the revolutionary government of Patrice Lumumba in 1960.

## HAD LUCK FOR SOLDIERS OF FORTUNE

The FAPLA-led offensive of the Angolan people against the invasion of troops from South Africa and Zaire and fascist mercenaries recruited in the U.S. and Europe has sowed demoralization and panic among those who were recruited on a promise of high pay and an easy victory. Last week, when 14 British "soldiers of fortune" complained about "poor

combat conditions" and asked to return home, their own commander, identified only as a Greek named Colonel Callan, had them executed by firing squad.

These 14 mercenaries were part of a larger and continued recruitment drive by imperialist interests seeking hired killers for Angola. John Banks, a former paratrooper who aided the mercenary recruitment in England, announced at a press conference today in London that he started the campaign after one of his partners had been approached by a man who identified himself as an agent for the CIA attached to the U.S. embassy.

## COLLAPSE OF IMPERIALIST STRATEGY

The complete rout of the pro-imperialist forces despite massive U.S. aid supplied through Zambia, Zaire, and South Africa signifies the bankruptcy of the long-standing policy of Washington and Wall Street to keep the Angolan

people in neocolonialist bondage.

This policy has been pursued for decades and by every possible means. First came the economic penetration of the multi-national corporations while covert military aid was funneled through NATO to the Portuguese fascist regime of Salazar and Caetano. At the same time, they tried to safeguard their interests through tens of millions of dollars spent to finance, arm, and promote the puppet forces inside Angola.

The next strategy was to organize a white racist South African invasion in the south while in the north thousands of paratroopers intervened from the CIA-installed regime of Zaire.

And most recently has been the large-scale CIA recruitment of expert killers at a \$1,200-a-month salary.

But all the different strategies and policies, the vast sums of money, the weapons and sabotage have been smashed on the granite resistance of the oppressed Angolan people, led by the MPLA.

## From Denver to Atlanta

# Solidarity with People's Angola

U.S. imperialism is finding it impossible to escalate its aggression against the Angolan people with the same kind of deception and trickery it used in Indochina. Too many people understand now that all the talk of "democracy" and the "free world" is just a smokescreen for the big business interests that want to extend their exploitation of other lands.

This is being widely reflected in the enthusiastic and strong anti-imperialist feelings of demonstrators around the country who have quickly joined together in local coalitions to fight against this latest war by Wall Street.

In the last ten days, there were demonstrations and rallies in many cities supporting the struggle in Angola led by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and demanding that U.S. imperialism end all its intervention, both open and concealed.

Here's a roundup of those actions that were reported to this paper.

## Chicago

CHICAGO, Feb. 7—A militant march of over 300 hit the streets downtown today and later rallied inside a YWCA in a militant display of solidarity with the People's Republic of Angola. The demands were "U.S. out of Angola," "Jobs, not war!" and "Victory to the MPLA."

The activity was sponsored by the U.S. out of Angola Committee which includes groups such as the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP) and Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF) as well as over 20 others. The indoor rally heard rousing speeches by Ben Magubane, a member of the African National Congress, who explained the general situation in Angola today, Bill Massey of Workers World Party, Randy Potts from the U.S. Out of Angola Committee, and Hail Barron, who drew the parallels between Vietnam and Angola.

Solidarity messages from CASA, the PSP, and ZANU, a liberation

group fighting in Zimbabwe, were warmly received.

The march and rally were preceded by an educational rally last night to hear speakers and cultural activities which drew over 500 people, half Black and Latin.

This weekend's activities are part of a broad campaign which the coalition plans to continue and escalate around the issue of Angola.

## Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 7—Over 300 people demonstrated their opposition today to the Ford-Rockefeller-Kissinger plans to make Angola a new Vietnam in Africa. The militant demonstration was called by the Coalition for Justice in Angola, a broad group encompassing many organizations such as the PSP, Prairie Fire, and YAWF.

The YAWF and Workers World Party (WWP) contingent at the demonstration brought three colorful banners demanding "Jobs at home, not wars abroad," and calling for "Victory to the MPLA."

## Denver

DENVER, Feb. 7—As part of nationwide activities in solidarity with the Angolan people's drive to defeat the U.S.-South African-Zaire invasion of their country, a militant demonstration opposite the State Building here drew about 50 people today. Militant chants of "Jobs at home, not wars abroad," and "Support the MPLA" attracted the attention and sympathy of many people passing by.

The demonstration was organized by a Denver-based coalition which includes the Communist Party, Socialist Workers Party, and Workers World Party. YAWF and WWP were each represented with banners at the picket line. Following the demonstration, a rally was held which heard speakers from the Palestine Solidarity Committee, Workers World Party, Young Workers



Demonstration in Atlanta, Ga., on Jan. 24 demands "U.S. out of Angola," and "Victory to the MPLA." WW photo: Tom G.

Liberation League, and National Student Coalition Against Racism.

Tom Soto of Workers World also spoke at several other meetings in the area about the situation in Angola. In Greeley, Colo., the Greeley Anti-Imperialist Coalition and the International Women's League for Peace and Friendship drew about 50 people who heard Soto give an extensive account of the history of imperialism in Angola and the evolution of the anti-imperialist struggle there.

## Houston

HOUSTON, Feb. 6—A contingent supporting the MPLA today participated in a "U.S. out of Angola" demonstration at the Federal building here. Members of Workers World Party and Youth Against War & Fascism carried large banners which called for the U.S. to get out of Angola and victory to the MPLA, and for money to be spent for such things as jobs, daycare, and medical care in this country rather than a war against African people.

The Committee to Support the MPLA, which includes Eritrean, Iranian, and Arab student groups, WWP, and YAWF, met on Saturday to plan a march through downtown Houston for February 28. The group plans an ongoing

program of activities to inform the American public of the real situation in Angola, particularly of the role of the CIA and the giant American corporations. Gulf Oil, the major exploiter of Angola's petroleum reserves, has headquarters in Houston, and will be picketed on February 28.

## Buffalo

BUFFALO, Feb. 7—Over 80 people picketed in Lafayette Square today in support of the MPLA and to demand the U.S. get out of Angola. The militant spirit of the action in minus 2 degree weather seemed to warm the people passing by downtown, who responded particularly to the demand raised for jobs at home, not wars abroad.

Called as part of a nationwide show of support and solidarity with the MPLA, the rally coincided with the anniversary of the beginning of the struggle of the Angolan people against Portuguese colonialism 14 years ago. Several groups sponsored the action including Attica Now, Non-Intervention in Chile, Action for Women in Chile, New American Movement, Buffalo State CAC, and Youth Against War & Fascism.

## Norfolk

NORFOLK, Va., Jan. 31—Forty people met here today to hear

speakers from the Norfolk branch of Youth Against War & Fascism explain the history of the struggle against Portuguese, European, and U.S. imperialist aggression in Angola. The Film Free People of Guinea-Bissau made in 1973 in territory liberated by the PAIGC, and showing conditions of struggle and organizing similar to that of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), was shown.

Ms. Monica Moorehead, a leading member of YAWF and the main speaker, gave a detailed history of the economic exploitation of Portugal's African colonies by the Portuguese and other European powers. The role of NATO in aiding Portugal's suppression of revolution can be better understood, Ms. Moorehead explained, when it is remembered that most of the colonies' exports were controlled by U.S., French, British, Dutch, and other European interests.

Norfolk houses the headquarters of NATO's Supreme Atlantic Command in addition to the world's largest concentration of U.S. naval installations. It is also the home port of the carrier Independence, which has for weeks been poised off the coast of Angola in a show of U.S. belligerence.

# Answering Kissinger's slander of Cuba

By ANDY STAPP

NEW YORK, Feb. 9—According to the New York Times of February 5, "Secretary of State Henry Kissinger has concluded that Cuba is again 'exporting revolution.'"

Now that's a real gem, right up there with Kissinger's September 1972 "Peace is at hand" lie which insured Nixon's re-election.

Exactly how is Cuba "exporting revolution"? By answering a call for assistance from the People's Republic of Angola, a government recognized by over half the countries of Africa as the only legitimate representative of that newly independent nation. Cuba was not exporting revolution, but helping an indigenous revolution when it sent volunteer troops to help repel the massive invasion of

Angola by the South African racist army, 11,500 reactionary Zairese paratroopers, and the numerous kill-for-pay mercenaries hired, trained, and armed by the CIA.

As the world's people know, it is not Cuba which is exporting revolution but Ford, Kissinger, and the other top representatives of U.S. big-business imperialism who plot day and night to export counter-revolution.

One need only to pick up any almanac to find that the Pentagon has its troops stationed in 78 foreign countries, propping up repressive right-wing dictatorships from Indonesia to Iran, from Paraguay to the Philippines, from Saudi Arabia to Spain, from Turkey to Thailand.

What were over 500,000 U.S.

troops doing in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos for a decade but exporting counter-revolution? What was the Nixon-Kissinger inspired fascist coup in Chile but the export of counter-revolution.

Why are 40,000 U.S. soldiers still in south Korea, despite a UN resolution ordering them out this summer? Why does the Pentagon keep an occupation army stationed right in the heart of Panama years after that country's government has asked them to leave?

## WHAT KISSINGER "FORGETS"

There is a large U.S. Marine base in a Latin American country. For 16 years the people and government of that nation have demanded that these Marines leave their soil and go home, but

the Marines remain. The Cubans, whom Kissinger accuses of "exporting revolution," know all about this base and those Marines.

They know all about it because it is in their country. In case Mr. Kissinger has forgotten, its name is Guantanamo Base, and when he blubbers about Cuba's export of revolution the Cubans must think of Guantanamo and also remember an event that occurred in their island Republic back when their government was young and struggling to survive, much as the People's Republic of Angola is today.

Every Cuban above the age of 20 vividly recalls the CIA-directed Bay of Pigs invasion, those days of glory when they defeated an attempt by U.S. imperialism to

export counter-revolution to their shores and re-enslave them to a bunch of U.S. sugar companies and Batista police torturers.

It is precisely their own bitter memories of Yankee imperialism that make them the most enthusiastic supporters of People's Angola today, just as it is Kissinger's nightmare that U.S. imperialism faces another Bay of Pigs-type defeat in Angola that drives him on from lie to lie, from one bloody act to another in a desperate attempt to destroy the young Angolan revolution in the cradle.

But counter-revolution, like a lot of other U.S. exports these days, is having a hard time finding buyers, as the successes of the MPLA in Angola are showing.

## Sakharov 'disappointed' U.S. didn't invade Angola

According to a Chicago priest named Rev. Donald A. Dohr who met with Soviet physicist Andrei Sakharov in Moscow recently, Sakharov said he was "disappointed" the U.S. was not involved in Angola (New York Post, Feb. 3). The article went on to say, "Sakharov argued that confrontation with the Soviet Union in Angola was inevitable, but that the U.S. keeps 'backing down,' in Dohr's words."

Considering the image the world bourgeoisie has created for Sakharov, these seem to be strange words indeed. What does he mean, not involved? The word from Washington is that the CIA and other secret arms of the U.S. executive branch have been mightily "involved" in Angola for years, to the tune of tens of millions of dollars.

Since it is worldwide knowledge that the U.S. has financed the two pro-imperialist groups in Angola

and has been recruiting mercenaries from a number of capitalist countries, the only inference that can be drawn is that this Nobel "Peace" Prize winner is "disappointed" because there are no U.S. troops in Angola in an open combat role.

This would seem to put him in the same camp as the ultra-reactionaries and racists here, no matter how many assurances are given via the bourgeois press that Sakharov is not reactionary, merely disenchanted with repression in the Soviet Union and an advocate of greater freedom and democracy.

That's fine, Mr. Sakharov, but freedom for whom?

Those who, like Sakharov, want to go back to the "good old days" when U.S. Marines could be flown in at the drop of a hat and put down a revolution in 48 hours, are also worried about "freedom"—not the

freedom of the vast majority of Angolan people, who have died prematurely for centuries as slaves and laborers for Western capitalism, but the freedom of the few who have lived off the wealth produced by the Angolan masses and will no longer have the

"freedom" to do so.

But the insidious thing about a Sakharov, and about those who promote the right-wing "dissident" movement in the USSR, is that they never say they're for the restoration of capitalism—they just come out on

the counter-revolutionary side of every struggle.

Or else, like some of Sakharov's "socialist" supporters here, they fail to support the revolution, which in a time of showdown is just about the same thing.

—D.G.

## Moynihan on Africa: liar or idiot?

On February 7, the "lame duck" U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Daniel Moynihan, hysterically attacked Cuba for sending its soldiers to help the Angolan liberation movement drive out South African troops and assorted CIA-paid mercenaries.

"The blue eyes are back," Moynihan said, his blue eyes snapping with indignation. "For the first time in a century, a European army is fighting in Africa."

Now, any fool knows that Cuba is not in Europe. And somebody should tell Professor Moynihan that Europeans have done quite a bit of fighting in Africa over the last century. Has he so quickly "forgotten" the Italian butchery of Ethiopians, the English suppression of Kenyan liberation fighters in the 1950s, the French murder of 1 million Algerians just a few years ago, or the Belgian paratroop invasion of the Congo in 1960?

And what about the 160,000 European Portuguese troops who left Africa only last year after waging a genocidal war (with generous U.S. assistance) to keep their colonies in Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, and Angola?

What about the thousands of white European mercenaries the U.S. government has sent to attack Angola right now?

Mr. Moynihan, you are either a complete idiot or a colossal liar.

## John Wayne eat your heart out

## Jarheads called 'an anachronism'

By PETE PERKINS

NEW YORK, Feb. 9—The Brookings Institute, located in Washington, D.C., is according to its sponsors an "independent organization devoted to non-partisan research in government, foreign policy, economics and social sciences." In other words, it is a brain trust of capitalist scholars who protect the long-range class interests of Wall Street against errors in shortsightedness in current administrative policy.

Two of their top guns have recently authored a study which calls the Marine Corps "an anachronism increasingly haunted by its own limitations." These carefully chosen words are perhaps the biggest bombshell ever dropped on the Marines from within the capitalist establishment.

The report maintains that the Marines "cannot remain as they are, structured for past rather than likely future contingencies," which they later define as future wars with either China or the Soviet Union or both. They go on to make specific recommendations for restructuring.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

Brookings wants the Marines to redeploy into four units of amphibious strike forces of 25,000 men each, or half their current size. The other Marines would merge into the Army in the case of ground

forces or the Air Force in the case of air wings. Obviously this is more than the fascist leadership of the Marines could ever accept gracefully.

### NATIONAL POLICE

The remaining 100,000 Marines would augment front-line Army units in Europe and Asia and also assume the functions of the 82nd Airborne Division in the United States on urban duty alert, meaning a national police.

Turning the Marines into national police isn't really all that new or liberal an idea. Their historic role has been to storm the beaches and smash popular resistance movements all over the world, from Okinawa to Santa Domingo.

The Brookings decision to call the Marines archaic is based largely on what they call the "bitter aftertaste of Vietnam and a growing public disenchantment with overseas military adventures." They want the Marines to be more modernized and mechanized, but with the same old mission, that of cops of the world.

Capitalist reliance on this type of "quick reaction" cops won't solve their basic class contradictions. Shuffling the spots off them won't take the jokers out of the deck. What's archaic is profit-mad imperialism itself, and the "bitter aftertaste" is going to be permanent.



The historic role of the Marines has been to "storm the beaches and smash popular resistance movements all over the world, from Okinawa to Santa Domingo." Here, Marines in training.



## Officials claim they didn't know

# Kepone tragedy: workers' warning fell on deaf ears

By JESSE LEE  
NORFOLK, Va., Feb. 2—Corporate executives, state and local officials, and an array of government bureaucrats are making a frantic attempt to deny their own involvement in the tragic Kepone poisoning in Virginia.

The pesticide Kepone, which was being produced for Allied Chemical in Hopewell, Va., has incapacitated many of the 150 former plant workers. It was released unregulated into the city's sewage system, poisoning at least one sewage plant worker and contaminating the whole James

River and possibly the Chesapeake Bay.

Little effort has been made to provide real relief for the sick and jobless, or to find a cure for Kepone poisoning.

In fact, every effort has been made to play down the seriousness of the situation and cover up the state and corporate shenanigans that allowed what has been called the worst known man-made ecological disaster in America.

### KEPONE 1 OF 17,000

The seriousness of the crime is revealed by the fact that a grand

jury has been convened and both the Senate and House, in Washington have set up committees to find a scapegoat for this crime. These hearings were set up to quell the anger that is evident among many of Virginia's workers, an anger that says that Allied Chemical is the only one to profit from this while the rest of us are paying with our lives.

"Unfortunately the tragedy that occurred here in Hopewell is probably not an isolated incident," testified Dr. John Frinklea, director of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

(OSHA). Kepone, he stated, "was one of 17,000 chemicals on our list of toxic substances."

The Senate testimony is a litany of had-we-known's, repeated endlessly by Allied Chemical, William Moore and Virgil Hundtofte—the two Allied executives who set up the Kepone production—and state officials. Each witness has been followed by hand wringing and moralizing by a senator about corporate responsibility—while hundreds of thousands of people must live with the knowledge that they could die from Kepone-induced cancer.

Moore and Hundtofte claimed that they knew nothing of the hazards, and in fact didn't even know that the workers were getting sick or that the work area was covered with a foot of Kepone dust.

### WORKERS' TESTIMONY PLAYED DOWN

Typically the Senate hearings paid little attention to the testimony of the workers—testimony that reveals who the criminals are. Allied officials, state and federal bureaucrats, eleven Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) people have frequented the site. In fact, a number of workers had confronted Moore and Hundtofte about the dangerous working conditions. And now every one of them claims never to have known anything and never to have heard complaints from the workers.

OSHA has been preoccupied with protecting big business from the legitimate claims of workers

everywhere. When a worker was fired for refusing to work in the dangerous conditions at the Kepone plant, he filed a complaint with OSHA.

Their conclusion was: "Upon completion of a very thorough investigation of this matter we have determined that there is insufficient evidence to support your claim. . . ."

The "thorough investigation" consisted of a letter from the employer stating the allegation was untrue.

OSHA is not the only agency that operates this way. The conservationist Sierra Club has just completed an in-depth study that concludes that the EPA is a boon to big business and has done nothing to protect the environment.

The response here has included law suits for millions in reparations from Allied, pickets at the State Capitol, and meetings in many cities to seek some relief from the disaster.

The Norfolk Center for United Labor Action recently demanded that the city of Norfolk establish testing and treatment facilities for the many workers possibly affected in Norfolk. In a statement before the city council, the group concluded, "Allied should pay for the cost of all testing and treatment for any worker who has been criminally poisoned. Allied should pay the wages lost by all the people affected by the closing of the James River. For Allied is the criminal responsible for this crime."



Two victims of Kepone—Jan and Dale Gilbert—face possible brain and liver damage, loss of memory, erratic eye movement, and cancer.

## Coca-Cola, apple pie, and the whole bit

# Here comes the 'freedom train'

By BEVERLY SLAPIN

Way back in 1973, Donald Kendall (president of the Pepsi-Cola Co.) got together with Richard Nixon (who used to be President of the United States) and decided to bring the Bicentennial to America's heartland.

It could be a road show, they said, of Bicentennial goodies. A train, perhaps, loaded with All The Things That Made America Great. And it could chug its way across America, bringing patriotism and good will to all, and bringing back lots of dollars. It could be called the Freedom Train.

And so a simple idea was born into a multimillion-dollar bonanza, and a tribute to American hucksterism such as has not been seen since John D. Rockefeller's Original Cancer Cure in a Bottle.

According to the American Freedom Train Foundation (AFTF), the Freedom Train is "22 glistening red, white and blue cars filled with some of the nation's most treasured documents and artifacts. Moving walkways will carry an estimated 40 to 50 million visitors through the exhibit cars at a rate of up to 2,000 people per hour over each 14-hour day." The train is expected to cover over 17,000 miles, visit 48 states and stop in 76 cities by the end of 1976, in order to "bring a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to enjoy rare pieces of Americana gathered from 200 museums and private collectors scattered throughout the nation and displayed in unparalleled splendor."

Running the show for the AFTF are people who hail from such patriotic projects as Expo '74, the Ringling Brothers Circus, Disneyland, and the Committee to Re-elect the President. And, of course, Don Kendall is still hanging in there. With all the enthusiasm of "Let's Make a Deal," the Man from PepsiCo chipped in \$1 million to keep the train rolling, and also managed to get his friends from Atlantic-Richfield, Kraft Foods, Prudential Life, and General Motors to fork over \$1 million each. In return, each company gets its name inscribed on a little gold plaque at the head of the train—and, just as a thank-you for being so patriotic, each also gets a million-dollar tax write-off.

As far as what's in the Freedom Train, according to the AFTF, "a blue ribbon committee of consultants advised the organization on what should be featured aboard the Freedom Train." Here's what they came up with:

A 1920 TV tube, Shirley Temple's teddy bear, Don Smith's championship rodeo belt buckle, Bing Crosby's record of "White Christmas," Frankenstein's monster, John Wayne's eye patch from True Grit, the suit worn by Robert Redford in The Sting. There is also a Marilyn Monroe film clip, a tape of John Wayne reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, Gerald Ford's Bible, and a photograph of FDR's little dog Fala. Just some of the 750 Things That Made America Great.

And all this costs just \$2 per

person for a 14-minute conveyor belt ride. In other words, once you get on the train, you have exactly 840 seconds to look at 750 Things That Made This Country What It Is Today. In case the word "rip-off" comes to mind, the AFTF has an answer: "It's true there is little time to browse . . . (but) if there isn't anything inside you for this country, then the Freedom Train can't put it there. Pride comes from the inside."

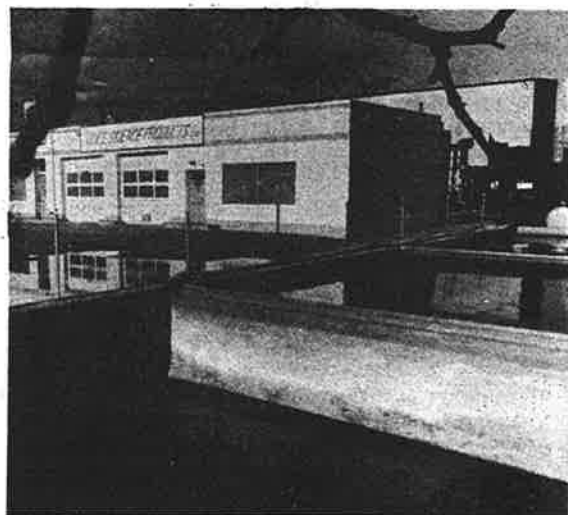
### THE OTHER AMERICA

But there are many Things That Made America What It Is Today that are not on the Freedom Train and should be. These include:

The Teapot Dome; Lyndon Johnson's Light At The End Of The Tunnel; the CIA's Special Powder to Make Castro's Beard Fall Off, and its Cobra-Venom Dart Gun for Assassinating Heads of Governments Unfriendly to U.S. Corporations; the 18-Minute Gap in the White House Tapes; Hoover's 1929 speech, "Prosperity is Just Around the Corner"; and the personally autographed photo of himself that Henry Ford gave to Adolph Hitler. The AFTF also neglected to pay tribute to the Department of Dirty Tricks and to the FBI At Work: Opening Other People's Mail.

Now trying to enter its third century, U.S. capitalism is huffing and puffing to get over the hill like Casey Jones' scab locomotive. But just around the bend are enraged poor and working people, waiting to derail the Big Business Train and the greedy profit system it stands for.

The Life Science pesticide plant in Hopewell, Va., which manufactured Kepone.



## Industrial murder

# 20,000 die yearly

By JOAN MARQUARDT

BUFFALO, N.Y., Feb. 3—About 20,000 workers are killed on the job in the U.S. every year, many of them in the western New York area. It's bad enough that these industrial murders take place at all, but worst is that little or nothing is done about it.

For example, last August 29, five workers at a sewage-treatment plant construction site in Niagara Falls were drowned when heavy rain sent water rushing into the tunnel in which they were working. It took until January 20 for the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), to rule that the company was guilty of two safety violations. The firm, DiMainbro-Majestic Associates, was ordered to pay an \$800 fine—a mere slap on the wrist. Reports of the ruling never mentioned compensation to the families of the dead and injured workers!

On December 14, a chemical tank car explosion at Hooker Chemical's Niagara Falls plant left 4 workers dead and 90 injured.

On January 21, one worker was crushed to death beneath a steel derrick and another critically injured at the natural gas drilling site of Paragon Resources Corp. in Hartfield, Chautauqua County.

On January 23, in Ellicottville, a dust explosion which collapsed a boiler room roof at the Fitzpatrick & Weller wood-processing plant killed one worker.

Job-related deaths and injuries happen for one reason: unsafe conditions, which the bosses and their friends in government permit to go unchecked, keep profits high. In socialist countries like the Soviet Union and China where careful safety precautions to protect the workers are taken, industrial deaths have declined dramatically.

## NYC tenants vow at Co-op City support rally:

# 'We'll stick together, fight together'

By SHARON SHELTON  
NEW YORK, Feb. 7—"Co-op City's fight is our fight, too!"

A hand-lettered sign bearing this slogan was carried by an elderly woman who had traveled from her neighborhood in Queens to the Northeast Bronx today to show her support for the 8-month-long tenant strike at Co-op City.

She was among over 1,300 tenants, many from other Mitchell-Lama cooperatives, who crowded into a high school auditorium on Co-op City grounds for a rally in solidarity with the strike.

The rally's participants heard speakers from tenant organizations around the city pledge support for the Co-op City struggle and call for the strike to spread to all Mitchell-Lama cooperatives.

### RENT WITHHOLDING BEGAN LAST JUNE

Co-op City residents began withholding rents last June when management suddenly announced an increase in carrying charges by 25 percent. Since then, despite massive cuts in services, injunctions, mounting fines, and threats of foreclosure, over 85 percent of Co-op City residents have been on strike.

## Housing chief's plan: make ghettos unlivable

By K. ANDERSON  
NEW YORK, Feb. 9—The New York City Housing and Development Administrator, Roger Starr, proposed recently that the city try to "encourage" people to leave poor working class areas like South Bronx and the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn. He advocates avoiding repair and replacement of the many abandoned and destroyed buildings in these areas and the gradual reduction and elimination of city services in the abandoned areas.

According to the New York Times, they would then stay vacant "until new land uses present themselves." He also took the opportunity to deny an earlier report that he favored the creation of a national park in South Bronx.

Starr also recommends that the city should cut back vitally needed services such as schools, hospitals, and fire stations in poor neighborhoods as "incentive" to get tenants to leave. The city administrator calls this calloused scheme of genocide "planned shrinkage." It is an idea he first advanced three weeks ago in a talk before real estate developers and has since expanded on in the pages of Real Estate Weekly, a trade publication.

When asked about where the people now living in these areas could go, Starr replied that they could be relocated to "viable communities" such as the Lower East Side

Of course, the Lower East Side is overcrowded already, but there's always room for a few more, right?

### CREATING A WASTELAND

And anyway, the Housing and Development Administration has already been planning ahead. The city-owned tenements on the

Today's rally, organized by the Citywide Tenants United, a coalition of 14 tenant groups, was the largest public show of support for the strike to date.

The rally's chair, Larry Dolnick, vice president of the strike steering committee, told the group that the fines against strike leaders have so far totalled \$75,000 each.

"I just want you to know, brothers and sisters, that we have no intention of ever paying these fines," he declared, amid cheering and chants of "No way, we won't pay" from tenants in the audience.

### "WE MUST FIGHT TOGETHER"

A speaker representing the West Side Mitchell-Lama Coalition, Sandra Edelstein, issued a call for a citywide Mitchell-Lama rent collection drive.

"We must start from here and continue this struggle," she said. "We must stick together and fight together."

Representing tenants who are not living in cooperatives, Elba Torres from the Cooper Square Community Development Committee explained how she was arrested three weeks ago for defending her community. She said that fire had destroyed the homes

Lower East Side are being emptied by the simple process of stripping apartments when tenants move out. By removing plumbing and other necessities, the city makes sure that nobody moves back in. To speed things up, people are "encouraged" to vacate by lack of repairs and no heat in cold weather.

When the buildings are empty, they can be torn down and the land sold to developers. (Some budget-conscious city administrators prefer to let them fall down by themselves, saving demolition costs.) The housing shortage produced by destruction of buildings is also great for raising the incomes of landlords. (Don't forget that this saves the city money by keeping landlords off the welfare rolls.)

The "brilliance" of Starr's plan is beyond question. The city will eliminate slums in the Bronx and Brooklyn by making it impossible (instead of merely difficult) for people to live there. Then all these people can move to the Lower East Side (where the city is already making it impossible to live), and the "final solution" to the slum problem will be at hand.

In making his plans, Starr has forgotten one factor—the angry tenants who don't want to be thrown out of their homes. They have been organizing all over the city, applying pressure to the HDA with many tactics, including rent strikes and a sit-in last week at City Hall demanding heat in their buildings.

Furthermore, these groups are supporting each other's struggles. (See article on Co-op City, this page.) A spokesperson for the Cooper Square Community Development Committee said, "Battles of people all over for decent housing are linked." It is this unity which will defeat attacks on the poor like that of Roger Starr.

of 22 families in her neighborhood on Christmas day, and she was arrested on trespassing charges for trying to relocate one of the families in an abandoned building. Her case will go to court February 18.

Comparing the city and state government to a well-dressed man with holes in his underwear, Ms. Torres pointed out that the role of tenant organizers should be to expose the "holes" to the masses of poor and working people.

"To me, Co-op City is the group that's taking off the pants!" she added.

Another speaker, Jane Benedict from the Metropolitan Council on Housing, described the struggle at Co-op City as "a strike to which all tenants in New York City are looking."

"We know that the attempt of the government to break the rent strike at Co-op City is to break every rent strike in New York City," she said.

### UFW SOLIDARITY MESSAGE

Keynote speaker Charles Rosen, president of the Co-op City strike steering committee, read a message of solidarity from Cesar Chavez and the United Farm

Workers. Rosen pointed out that the struggle of Co-op City strikers and that of the Farm Workers are related.

"It's the same struggle and the same fight against the same enemy," he pointed out.

Rosen also rebutted charges recently appearing in the New York Times by city housing officials that Co-op City tenants had received a \$500 million "gift" from New York City in the form of schools, roads, and other facilities.

The tenant leader explained that the schools, for example, were built through a loan on Co-op City residents' mortgages, obtained by the developers of the huge cooperative anxious to attract tenants. Rosen also noted that the promised 5-school complex was never even finished.

"Mitchell-Lama housing was not built for you and me," he told the group. "It was built for profit."

Rosen concluded by stressing his conviction that Co-op City tenants will win. "Co-op City's strength rests in that we're organized to fight back," he affirmed.

Following the meeting, Co-op City supporters were joined by residents of the cooperative in a brief outdoor rally.



Part of the indoor rally at Co-op City

WW photo: Julio

## One million poor in New York City not getting food stamps

By ELIZABETH ROSS  
NEW YORK, Feb. 10—If the food stamp law were really put into effect in this city, 1 million hungry people, most of them in oppressed communities, would be getting 30 percent more food a month than they get now.

New York food stamp officials told New York Congressmen last week that at least half the people eligible for food stamps are not getting them. The reason? "Our program is understaffed. The New York fiscal crunch shouldn't hold back hiring because food stamp personnel are paid by the federal government."

But despite the fact that the food stamp program is only reaching a portion of the poverty-stricken families who need help, President Ford has declared that he intends to cut \$1.2 billion out of the program, with or without the approval of Congress. This cut would throw half the 18.9 million people now receiving food stamps off the program.

If elderly and other poor people were living on dog and cat food two years ago, how many more are reduced to that extremity now?

Food, as well as rent, carfare, and electric rates have all continued to rise in the past two years. Yet the federal administrators, who take a dim view of what they call a "giveaway," don't bother to hire enough staff to handle the millions who apply, or enough money to publicize the program for those who don't even know they're eligible.

The federal government can hand over \$6.1 billion to the railroads, \$189 billion to south Korea's puppet regime, billions to banks who say they're in trouble, and pile billions upon billions for guns and planes—but it balks at a mere \$2.5 million that New York food stamp officials say they need to hire more personnel and let New York's hungry millions know their rights.

At the same time, the U.S. government spends about \$40 million a year to stabilize tobacco production and support the price! People are hungry? "Let them smoke cigarettes!" is the answer of the capitalist government bureaucracy. And expensive cigarettes, at that.



A supporter of the Co-op City strike also on rent strike.

## Banks vs. t

The bankers' war against New York City is also heating up as the city prepares to resist.

Essential city services in housing, public education, and sanitation, libraries, facilities for the elderly, are being drastically curtailed. The problems facing New Yorkers are

### DIRECT RULE OF THE BANKS

In their insatiable greed and robbery of the people, the banks have hand-picked politicians in order to carry through their so-called Emergency Financial Control Board (EFCB). The highest elected officials, Mayor Abe Beame and the City Council, have yielded their legal authority. In the hands of high finance are now directly the decisions on New York's future, through sessions of the EFCB and "Big Board."

Using their stranglehold on the city, the banks are diverting the enormous wealth (produced by the people) into their own coffers. Last year are paid into the marble-clad First National City, Morgan Guaranty Bank, Manufacturers Hanover Bank, and other banks.

### RESISTANCE GROWING IN THE CITY

As the banks grow fatter, and the people grow hungrier, opposition is mounting. People are getting a crash course in resistance through conversations among working people. The same theme: how the banks are robbing the people.

And in response to the sharp cuts in standards and city services, people are organizing and talking about how they can resist. Across the city, there are meetings, protests, people are picketing, and fighting back.

### UNITY AGAINST THE COMMUNAL BANKS

These are the lessons that must be learned in New York, and throughout the country. We are learning also that when they decide to attack the Bronx, they are fighting for a hospital. When they sit in at a library on Manhattan, they are fighting for a hospital on the East Side.

This is a struggle in which Black, white, and young and old, straight, working and unemployed are united. The enemy is the same for all workers: the vultures of Wall Street. When they sought to keep the people apart, these blood-sucking policies are being fought and into struggle.





Struggle from another New York  
WW photo: Julio

## In NYC

# Threatened school closings meet resistance

By JUDITH STOLL

NEW YORK, Feb. 8—The firing of thousands of teachers in New York City this past school year has left most of the city's classrooms seriously overcrowded. Now the Board of Education has announced its plan to shut 50 schools next fall.

The board claims that all the schools it intends to close are "under-utilized" and that by closing these buildings the city could save \$13.5 million in heating, power, and custodial costs. This saving, say school board officials, could then be spent directly on educational programs.

Parents and community school boards throughout the city, however, voiced their outrage over this plan almost immediately. Local demonstrations at schools slated to be shut have already occurred or are being planned and there has already been one rally at

the central office of the Board of Education.

Philip Kaplan, president of the New York City School Boards Association, representing 27 of the city's 32 local school boards, said that the statistics used by the central board were inaccurate. He cited P.S. 261 in Brooklyn, which the central board claims is operating at only 66 percent of capacity but which will be 90 percent utilized in the fall. Mr. Kaplan said that some of the local boards will simply refuse to shut down the schools on the Board of Education's "target" list. "There's no way we are prepared to close that many schools this year. It's impossible," he said.

### PARENTS SKEPTICAL

Parents are doubtful that the money saved by closing schools will be used to rehire teachers.

They point out that the cost of busing children to other schools will eat up the savings and that there won't be enough space in schools still open to absorb transferred students and teachers from the closed schools. Even if some teachers are rehired, it will be at the expense of overcrowding the remaining schools.

While it is true that in some areas of the city the school population has decreased somewhat in recent years, in other areas, particularly in the poor and oppressed communities, many schools remain dangerously overcrowded. The Board of Education has made no mention of using some of the "under-utilized" schools to relieve the overcrowding in other schools.

The Board of Education has issued a list of 73 schools slated for "consolidation" in the fall, and

Deputy Schools Chancellor Bernard R. Gifford said it hopes to be able to close about 50 of them. However, the board expects massive protests from every school and every district involved in this plan, and officials at board headquarters privately concede they'll be happy if they can close 25 or 30.

The parents of New York City feel that their children have a right to the very best education and that they have already suffered more than enough and unwillingly sacrificed more than is just during the banker-created city financial crisis. The Board of Education's school closing plan is, they feel, like stealing their money from one pocket to put only some of it back in the other. That is why, throughout the city, plans are being made to resist the school closing plan.

## the people

New York is entering high gear. As more and more people are

in health care, fire protection, sanitation are closing down, and elderly, and public transportation. Just a few of the enormous problems are described on these pages.

### ANKS

and impatience to accelerate their plans have shoved aside their own order to rule directly and openly. Agency Financial Control Board and officials of the city and the Governor Hugh Carey, have. Instead the representatives of are, meeting every day in secret Big MAC."

the financial resources of New York more and more of this enormous labor of New York's working class. Literally billions of dollars are vaults of Chase Manhattan, an Guaranty Trust, Chemical Bank, and the other mammoth

### N EVERY AREA

and the people of New York fighting. The people of New York are in political education. Confrontation inevitably return to the streets and the politicians are screwing

rapid deterioration in living standards are coming out of their homes can resist. In every community meetings, there is organizing, there is fighting and sitting in. People are

### COMMON ENEMY

more and more people in New York, are learning. They are to defend their old-age center in or a fire house in Brooklyn. And in Manhattan's Upper West Side, and on the Lower East Side.

A Black, Latin, Chinese, Native American, and old, women and men, gay and unemployed—all can close ranks. All working people and the poor— While the wealthy rulers have part in order to weaken them, they are pushing the people together

## Neighbors, firefighters say cutbacks responsible

# Budget cuts take toll: 13 die in fire

By SHARON SHELTON

NEW YORK, Feb. 9—Thirteen people, including seven children under the age of 12 and three firemen, died here in two separate fires last week. All were innocent victims of recent city budget cuts, according to neighbors and firefighters.

Commenting on the deaths in the Feb. 9 New York Times, the president of the Uniformed Firefighters Association called for a grand jury investigation into layoffs he said were delaying response time and keeping firefighter units short-handed.

### LONG, TRAGIC WAIT

Angry neighbors on New York's Upper West Side, where the seven small children were among ten people who died in the first blaze on Wednesday, Feb. 4, charged that waiting time for fire trucks ranged from 30 to 45 minutes.

In a news conference following the fire, Fire Commissioner John T. O'Hagan, a Beame appointee, had the audacity to insist that waiting time was only three minutes. He did admit that the fire had burned "20 or 30 minutes" before the arrival of the firetrucks, but said this was due to a failure to report the fire on the part of neighbors!

However, eyewitnesses confirmed to a Workers World reporter visiting the neighborhood that the fire was reported at once and that the wait for the trucks to arrive had been much longer than O'Hagan claimed.

An older Black man who lives across the street from where the fatal blaze occurred told Workers World that the fire had not yet broken out when he arrived home from work at midnight, but that by 12:10 a.m. he had met a man calling in the alarm. He also reported that the police arrived on the scene first and that it was near 1 p.m. before the firetrucks finally arrived.

His statement coincides with that of Gloria Newland, a tenant who fled the burning building with six members of her family and who was quoted in the New York Times as saying the delay between the arrival of police and firefighters

was "at least 25 minutes, maybe half an hour."

### NEIGHBORS TAKE ACTION

The Times also reports that during the long wait, desperately concerned neighbors piled up bags of garbage to break the fall of tenants who were forced to jump from the second story.

Later, after firefighters had finally arrived, Mayor Beame and O'Hagan were angrily jeered by residents as they visited the scene of the fatal blaze, the second worst

residential fire in New York City's recorded history.

### SECOND FIRE TAKES ITS TOLL

Only four days later, on Feb. 8, three firefighters died when the roof of a burning restaurant in Queens caved in, burying firemen beneath tons of rubble. Once again, firefighters blamed the deaths on layoffs when interviewed on WINS radio.

The day after the fire, Battalion Chief Edwin Jennings, president of the Uniformed Fire Officers

Association, told reporters he was asking the City Council for public hearings on the layoffs in an effort to "restore adequate protection before the city burns down."

Jennings pointed out that 3,000 firefighters had left their positions due to layoffs and attrition since 1970 and that 36 firefighting units had been disbanded, causing a "delayed response and delay in aggressive attack."

Jennings also said that the number of civilians killed in fires this year may amount to more than double last year's 244 fire deaths.



A fire in this building in Richmond Hill, Queens, killed three firemen last week. Fire fighters charge they were the innocent victims of recent city budget cuts.

## EDITORIAL

### PCF and workers' rule

In his opening address to the 22nd Congress of the French Communist Party (PCF), General Secretary George Marchais announced that henceforth the party would drop from its program the dictatorship of the proletariat. He also criticized the Soviet Union for engaging in "repressive measures" that are "unjust and indefensible."

"Communism under French colors" is the only acceptable road, Marchais proclaimed.

This public scolding by the second largest Communist party in Western Europe has naturally caused considerable embarrassment to the leaders of the Soviet party, much to the merriment of the world (and especially the French) bourgeoisie.

But what are progressive workers to make of it all?

First of all, it is not exactly news that the leadership of the USSR has often violated socialist legality by suppressing the democratic rights of its citizens on a wide scale for many years. The French capitalists, butchers of 1 million Algerians, are ever eager to point this out and just last week stage-managed the appearance of Soviet "dissident" Leonid Plyushch at a widely publicized press conference timed to coincide with the opening day of the PCF meeting. But Plyushch's case, whatever its merits, and his claims of ill-treatment suffered while confined, perhaps unjustifiably, in a mental hospital, could hardly be the cause of Marchais' denunciation of the USSR. After all, far worse abuses have occurred, such as the execution of many old Bolsheviks in the late 1930s. At that time the French CP made not even the faintest murmur of disapproval.

#### DEMOCRACY FOR WHOM? INDEPENDENCE FROM WHAT?

Now, it is a good thing to champion the restoration of Leninist principles of democratic rights in the Soviet Union—but one must always be careful to differentiate between progressive and reactionary opponents of the bureaucracy there. No real communist could ever give support to right-wing and capitalist restorationist elements like Amalrik, Solzhenitsyn, or Sakharov.

And it is equally proper for a Marxist party to assert its revolutionary independence. But independence most definitely does not mean getting down on your knees before your own ruling class, erasing the proletarian dictatorship from your banner, and exchanging the red flag of the workers for the tricolor of French imperialism. Marchais may have declared his independence from the socialist countries by abandoning class unity with them, but he showed no independence from revisionism.

He merely put a chauvinist and nationalist stamp on it—a shameful echo of the "independent" position taken by the French ruling class itself, which artfully balances its policies between Moscow, Peking, and Washington, all with an eye toward enhancing its own imperialist position.

By breaking class solidarity with the USSR, Marchais hopes to gain the approval of the French rulers and thus get his party some official posts in the government, having proved during the great revolt of workers and students in May 1968 that he has no intention of leading a real struggle for workers' power.

Turning his back not only on the socialist countries but on the French workers too, Marchais told the party congress that the proletarian dictatorship evoked an image of "the fascist regimes of Hitler, Mussolini, Salazar, and Franco."

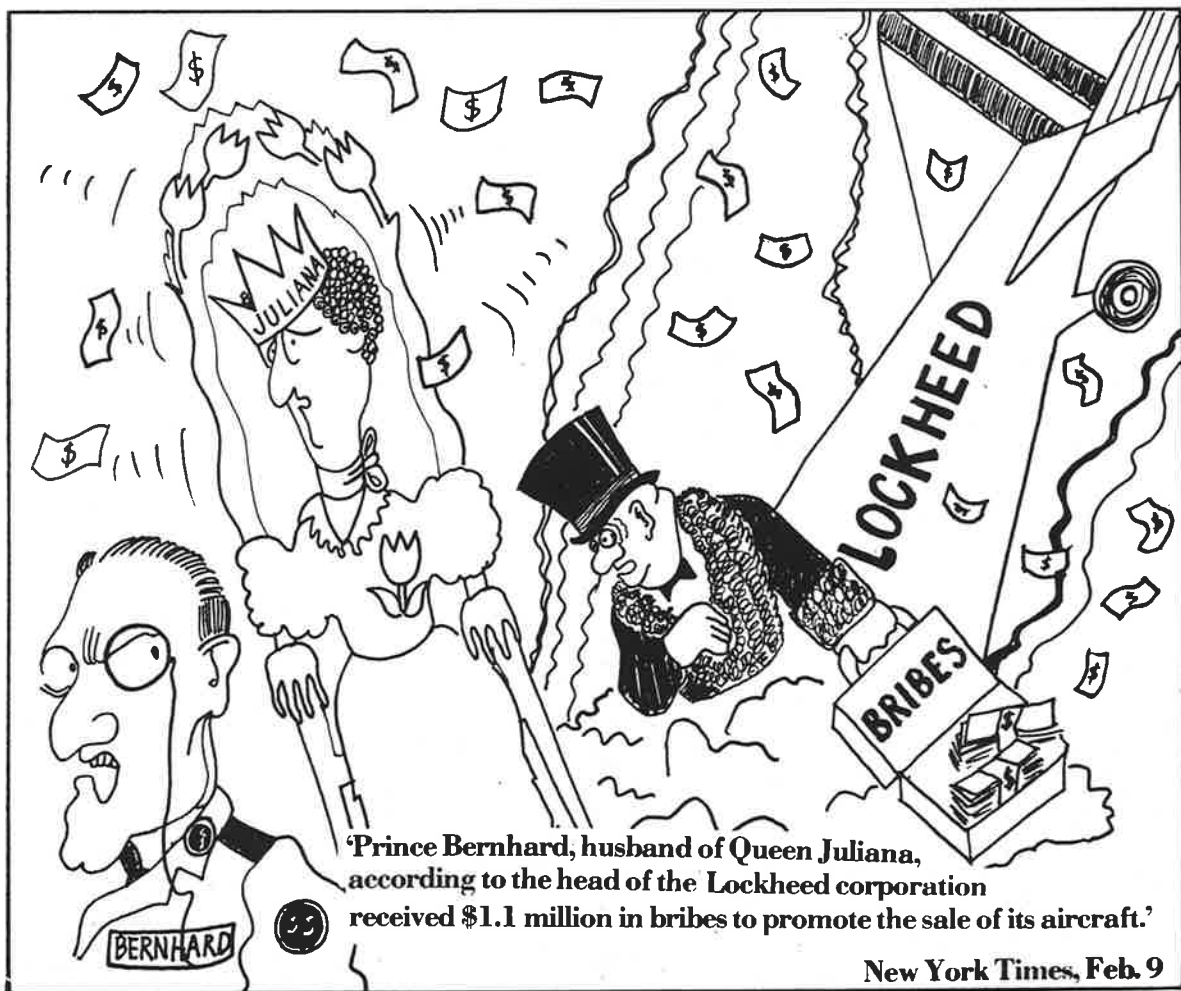
What a colossal slander to compare these savage capitalist terror states, all of which ruled in the interest of big business and capitalism, with the proletarian dictatorship! It was Frederick Engels himself who stated that the proletarian dictatorship was first seen in the Paris Commune, a model of working class rule until it was brutally suppressed by the army of the rich. Does Marchais think that today the workers of France no longer understand the difference between a state run by a small clique of bosses and one run by the vast majority of the people?

And after so many French communists died fighting Hitler, who was ultimately defeated by the Soviet Red Army and the worker-led resistance movements throughout Europe, does this betrayer of the revolution really believe that the progressive workers will confuse Nazism with communism?

#### THE REAL DICTATORS IN FRANCE

By disparaging workers' rule, which is infinitely more democratic than a capitalist state where those with the money have all the rights and privileges, Marchais embellishes the rule of the Bourse (the French stock exchange) with its mask of democratic liberty concealing the iron fist of the bourgeois state.

The state as such will not disappear until antagonistic social classes have been abolished by the world socialist revolution. But anyone can see from the example of south Vietnam, where the new workers' government has been so generous with its defeated enemies, that Marchais' condemnation of proletarian rule is merely a warmed-over rehash of old bourgeois lies.



'Prince Bernhard, husband of Queen Juliana, according to the head of the Lockheed corporation received \$1.1 million in bribes to promote the sale of its aircraft.'

New York Times, Feb. 9

## LETTERS

### Sino-Soviet split

W. Sherman, San Francisco:

Sam Marcy's analysis of the "Soviet Helicopter Release" (WW, Jan. 16) was most brilliant, as all his writings seem to be. I find myself in accord with at least 97 percent of his conclusions and this article is no exception. I am glad to see someone both capable and willing to criticize the "left" opportunism within the U.S. movement partially spawned by Sino-Soviet antagonism.

As long as that struggle remained principled a lot of us felt it to be useful. However, since the time of the Cultural Revolution (immediately thereafter) I for one do not feel that much worthwhile has been contributed to proletarian internationalism by the CCP. In fact, much has been done to harm internationalism, particularly the Angolan affair which in terms of correct conduct by a ruling party approaches complete degeneration.

When the January 2nd dispatch from Hsinhua stoops to justifying the presence of South African troops in Angola (South Africa was provoked ... by Soviet involvement—sic) one must wonder. Your keen insight of the event of the release of the Soviet crew as a signal to Ford and the Pentagon does frighten a section of the bourgeoisie that a reconciliation could take place between China

and the Soviet Union and you point out that these circles think the release means a threat for the purpose of extracting a closer relationship from the Ford rightists. A lot of evidence since the Cultural Revolution would at first glance tend to bear this out. The Party and state leadership has certainly courted the most reactionary elements of the U.S. ruling circles as well as sundry anti-communists internationally.

Other sections of the U.S. ruling circles are not so sure; they point to signs of a power struggle now taking shape behind the scenes in which the Soviet release is a step toward rapprochement albeit dictated by a faction within the army. What lends this a measure of credibility is a Washington Post "tribute" to Chou En-lai in which it would appear that the present Sino-Soviet state of affairs was escalated to the present as a means for the so-called "moderates" to hang on after the Cultural Revolution. This was the "unity" dictated by Chou and no doubt to deny the left within the Party the fruits of their victory in the Cultural Revolution. I did not buy the facts surrounding Lin Piao nor did I buy the so-called "rehabilitation" of Teng Hsiao-ping.

Now I seem to recall that you did an article, perhaps a two-part article which dwelt on this struggle within the CCP and how it correlates with most revolutions;

how the left is usually pushed aside after victory. I want to urge you to bring those articles up to date by new works with the benefit of historical facts since that time.

(Editor's note: The writer is referring to two articles on "The Cultural Revolution and the fall of Lin Piao" that appeared in this paper in August 1972. They are in the pamphlet 'China: the struggle within' available from World View Publishers for \$1.)

### Freedom for whom?

Karl Kampovsky, Albuquerque, N.M.:

I live not far from the USAF Base where the government in Washington, D.C. thought it might be safe to park their so-called "Freedom Train."

Painted red, white, and blue, this patriotic marvel is causing quite a bit of amazement. Amazing? Yes! The working people I know who have taken the kids out to see the train tell an almost incredible story. Almost incredible, but not quite, given the arrogant, cynical nature of the ruling class.

The tale is that the "Freedom Train" isn't free in the first place. A ride not on but through this train will cost \$2 per adult and \$1 per child.

You've paid your fare and there you wait and you wait some more, an hour goes by while every kind of souvenir hawker accosts you with big sales pitch and rides, souvenir programs, Pepsi, hot dogs, et al.

Finally you are allowed to enter by the AP's (air police), and Lo! You are suddenly moving through the train on a conveyor in the floor. Moving, zip past the first exhibit, your past the second and plot! You are deposited at the end, having traveled through the entire "Freedom Train" so quickly that it was practically impossible to examine the exhibits, never mind trying to read the title cards.

My friends say "The 'Freedom Train' is a ripoff! Freedom for whom?"

(Ed.: See WW article on p. 5.)

## Lenin on dictatorship of the proletariat

"Proletarian dictatorship is not only an absolute legitimate means of overthrowing the exploiters and suppressing their resistance, but also absolutely necessary to the entire mass of working people, being their only defense against the bourgeois dictatorship which led to the war and is preparing new wars."

"The main thing that socialists fail to understand and that constitutes their short-sightedness in matters of theory, their subservience to the bourgeois prejudices and

their political betrayal of the proletariat is that in capitalist society, whenever there is any serious aggravation of the class struggle intrinsic to that society, there can be no alternative but the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie or the dictatorship of the proletariat. Dreams of some third way are reactionary petty-bourgeois lamentations."

V. I. Lenin, Thesis and Report on Bourgeois Democracy and the Dictatorship of the Proletariat, March 4, 1919.



## Why did China do it?

# Nixon's Peking visit

By ANDY STAPP

NEW YORK, Feb. 10—Genuine socialists, communists, and progressive people throughout the world were saddened to read the announcement last weekend that the government of the People's Republic of China had invited Richard Nixon for a visit on Feb. 21.

Why is it necessary for the Chinese leaders to engage in diplomatic relations with Nixon, an individual who is not even in office? Why deal with Nixon, the very personification of anti-communism, a virulent racist, and one of the most repressive and repulsive figures ever to strut onto the stage of history? This notorious war criminal, who will always be remembered with loathing as the mass murderer of millions of Indochinese people, was aptly characterized by the Chinese press as a "fascist" as recently as the invasion of Cambodia in 1970.

Notwithstanding all this, the Chinese government has announced with great fanfare that it will dispatch an airplane to California to fly this hated opponent of the workers and oppressed to Peking, where only last month his daughter and son-in-law, Julie and David Eisenhower, were feted with much ostentatious display.

Of course, it is often absolutely necessary for a socialist nation to conduct diplomatic and commercial relations with imperialist countries, and this may include conferences between the respective heads of state.

But what is the need to meet with Nixon? He holds no governmental office at all, having been completely discredited and ousted from power after being publicly branded as the ringleader of a widespread fascist conspiracy aimed at making the U.S. into an out-and-out police state.

## BLOC WITH NIXON AGAINST SOVIET UNION

The Chinese leadership say that the USSR is the most dangerous enemy of the world's people (a point they have never proven) and that it is crucial to line up the whole world against it. But if they think that bringing Nixon to China helps make their point, they will have a difficult time persuading anyone that they are correct!

It is truly incredible that the Chinese leaders feel that this is the way to engage in socialist diplomacy—by shoring up a fascist plotter like Nixon, an ultra-right politician who built his entire shabby career on fanatical hostility, not only to the USSR and

People's China, but to communism everywhere and to all social progress here in the U.S. as well.

Normalizing relations with capitalist countries is one thing, rehabilitating Nixon is quite another. No, the invitation to Nixon can hardly help but damage the prestige of the Chinese Revolution among the world's workers and oppressed and create cynicism and revulsion among even many of the Chinese party's most ardent adherents—and not just against China's leaders, but even against socialism itself.

This will only be a boon to all the China haters and enemies of communism.

How can Nixon's trip possibly aid China? Is their embrace of Nixon intended to elevate the class



consciousness of the workers of the world and the colonized peoples? Or is it, as former Nixon speech writer William Safire wrote in the New York Times of Feb. 9, a calculated maneuver by the Peking leadership "to assert the anti-Soviet line that incorporates the opening to the West that Mr. Nixon symbolized"?

It should be remembered that although Nixon early made a name for himself by purging State Department officials he accused of "losing China to the Reds," he is not one bit less hostile to the Soviet Union.

## "70 MILLION RUSSIANS CAN BE KILLED"

On Feb. 10, the Los Angeles Times, quoting Representative Clem McSpadden (D-Okla.) and others, reported that in November 1973, just a few days after he had used his presidential powers to order a global nuclear alert of the U.S. armed forces, Nixon had boasted to 30 congresspeople, "I can pick up the phone and 70 million Russians can be killed in 20 minutes."

Is it proper for the Chinese

government to be playing host to such a bloodthirsty imperialist when all Nixon is really concerned with is to utilize China against the USSR and vice versa, a strategy which is the very keystone of U.S. foreign policy?

Besides viewing Nixon and what tattered rightist following remain to him in the U.S. as allies in whipping up a holy war against so-called Soviet social-imperialism, what do the Chinese officials expect to gain from this visit? After all, when Nixon was still President he never did carry out his promises to the Chinese made in the 1972 Shanghai communique. The U.S. government still recognizes the puppet regime on Taiwan as the sole legitimate government of China, and Ford, the person Nixon put in office and a man who has shared Nixon's basic views for the past two decades, seems in no hurry to correct this policy.

Virtually everything China has won, all her great accomplishments in socialist construction, were achieved largely through her own efforts and struggles, not thanks to Nixon or Senator Henry Jackson or James Schlesinger or the other imperialist politicians the Chinese government has been wooing.

Perhaps the greatest single event that improved China's (and the USSR's) standing in the world was the monumental victory of the Vietnamese, Cambodian, and Laotian people over Wall Street imperialism last spring—a turning point in history that has enhanced the influence of communism everywhere.

What a disappointment, then, that in 1976, when U.S. imperialism

is literally struggling for survival, the Chinese leadership, which in earlier years of the Republic spoke up so eloquently for proletarian internationalism, should now show so little regard for working class public opinion by inviting Nixon to Peking.

It would seem that those who run the government of China today are more concerned with making alliances with the U.S. bourgeoisie and its right wing than in what the world's oppressed feel.

## FOREIGN POLICY AND PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM

The manner in which the foreign policy of a large socialist country like China is carried out will inevitably have important consequences both within the country itself and around the globe. In recent years, the effects of Peking's foreign relations have become increasingly deleterious to the struggle of the world working class and the oppressed nations. The Chinese support for the enemies of the MPLA and the People's Republic of Angola immediately comes to mind. The invitation to Nixon is part of this pattern.

Naturally, all revolutionaries support everything about China that is progressive, particularly its socialist economic foundations, but this invitation to Nixon is reactionary and obstructs internationalism. Communists should condemn it just as they shun the conservative policies of the Soviet bureaucracy which provoked the Sino-Soviet dispute in the first place. During the 1960s, when Khrushchev and Brezhnev were collaborating with Eisenhower and Johnson in ways that undermined the fight for socialism, the Chinese properly criticized them for it. Unfortunately, at the present time the Chinese leaders are following the very same path of class con-

ciliation they once so heartily condemned.

All real communists look forward to the day when the arid and self-defeating state-to-state rivalry between the USSR and China ends and these two great socialist countries normalize their state relations, whatever the ideological differences between their respective parties, and find a way to cooperate on a principled basis of working class solidarity in the anti-imperialist struggle.

## REVOLUTIONARY INDEPENDENCE

Nevertheless, all Marxist-Leninist parties must tirelessly strive to keep on guard in upholding their revolutionary independence, while never faltering in support of all the socialist countries against imperialist aggression from abroad or from bourgeois reaction internally.

As we have often said in this paper, most recently in an article by Sam Marcy just three issues ago, those who persist in remaining camp followers of the leaders of the two big socialist countries, those who continue to blindly apologize for harmful policies like the Soviet Union's tardy break with the fascist Lon Nol regime in Cambodia, or China's recent invitation to Nixon, will find that an endless stream of further embarrassments is in store for them.

But for others, who make the effort to study the wonderful heritage of Marx and Lenin seriously, learning to stand on their own feet by engaging in concrete struggle to win the confidence of the millions of workers and poor people in this country, the unparalleled period of capitalist decay we are living through today offers an unprecedented opportunity to finish the task begun by Lenin's party on that October morning 58 years ago.

## FROLINAT fighting U.S.-French oppression

# Imperialism's hold on Chad

By JUDITH STOLL

For 15 years following its formal independence from France in 1960, the north central African country of Chad was ruled by the iron fist of Francois Tombalbaye. Until he was overthrown in April 1975 by General Felix Malloum, Tombalbaye used a dictatorial authority, repression of all opposition, corruption, brutality, and terror to hold on to his personal power and help maintain French neocolonialism in this severely underdeveloped country.

More than half of Chad's 3½ million citizens are Arab Muslims who inhabit the sparsely populated desert in the north. The Muslims have never been allowed to participate in the government. Policies of the Tombalbaye regime not only favored the wealthier south, but visited upon the Muslim population a campaign of terror and repression. Dozens of Arab villages were literally wiped out by the Chad army between 1963 and 1971.

During his reign, Tombalbaye banned all political parties except his own, the Chad Progressive Party (PPT), and all trade unions and mass organizations. Hundreds of political opponents were thrown in jail or exiled, and tax rebellions in 1963 and 1965 resulted in the deaths of scores of unarmed demonstrators.

## CONTINUED FRENCH DOMINATION

France's economic domination

of Chad continued to grow during this period, particularly in the monopoly of the cotton industry, Chad's main cash crop. With the recent discovery of oil deposits in the Lake Chad region, the U.S. oil company Conoco has gained a monopoly on the potential petroleum industry.

Rebellion has also been a part of Chad's neocolonial history, particularly in the north. At first centered at the village level with constant tribal and religious uprisings against the central government, the people's resistance began to focus around several dissident and guerrilla movements. FROLINAT (Chad National Liberation Front), under the leadership of Dr. Abba-Sidick, was created in 1966 "to unify these struggles to engage the people of Chad in a popular armed struggle of national liberation against imperialist exploitation and its consequences: underdevelopment and neocolonialism."

## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Secessionist Muslim groups in the north have also gained a foothold among the people, and in the south a dissident Christian movement gained considerable strength until its leader, Dr. Bono, was assassinated in 1973. In April 1974, a rebel group which had split off from FROLINAT under the leadership of Hissene Habre seized four French hostages, including an archaeologist, Mme. Claustre. The rebels demanded and got \$2.5

million in ransom from the French, but Mme. Claustre was still not released and the French continued to negotiate on their own. Following the 1975 coup against Tombalbaye, Gen. Malloum demanded that French troops evacuate Chad because France had violated Chad's sovereignty by negotiating with the rebels without the government's permission.

Gen. Malloum's stand against the French is part of his call for national reconciliation. Several opposition movements, including many of the country's tribal and religious chiefs, have rallied around the more liberal new government. But FROLINAT views Gen. Malloum as a wolf in sheep's clothing. Trade unions and mass organizations are still outlawed. Foreign economic domination remains as pervasive as ever and Gen. Malloum himself has said: "We want Chadian-French cooperation to continue with no complications."

As long as the imperialist powers of the U.S. and France continue to dominate the economic structure of Chad and rob it of its sparse resources, Chad will not be a truly independent country. It is neocolonialism and the corruption of a puppet government which has nourished Chad's main enemies—under-development, desperate poverty, illiteracy—and so it is neocolonialism against which FROLINAT has pledged a continuing struggle.

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Feb. 13, 1976

# Rigged elections, 1876-1976

## 1888—Benjamin Harrison, dark horse with a grandfather

By V. COPELAND

Benjamin Harrison, as our title implies, was what was known as a Dark Horse candidate. This means he was a way-out compromise over several others more important if not more able than himself.

One of the reasons—but only one—that explains the mediocrity of most U.S. presidents, is that ever since the 1840s the ruling class has been compelled to choose its respective candidates for president in large party conventions. This in turn requires an agreement between various factions and sections, including geographical sections, upon one ruling group's candidate who is least offensive to all the other groups.

The groups and factions involved in Harrison's case were all within the Republican Party, which had been out in the political wilderness for the previous four years under the first Democratic president since before the Civil War—Grover Cleveland. And illogical as it may seem, this made it easier for them to all unite behind the worst (but most manipulatable) nonentity in order to win.

Big business, which had first welcomed Cleveland as an honest bourgeois and an exponent of cheap (i.e., less corrupt) government, was now quite irritated with him. Aside from antagonizing the spoilsmen of his own party by such talk as, "A public office is a public trust," he had begun to tinker with the holiest of the capitalist holies at that time—the tariff.

He did this not only to satisfy the Democratic articles of faith on the subject, but because he assumed he could get more Western votes and build up a bigger Western constituency for the Democratic Party lowering the tariff and thus the price they had to pay for Eastern goods.

The big business men who had put him in the White House quickly disabused him of that notion.

### PUT THEIR MONEY ON ANOTHER HORSE

We noted last week that the size of the Democratic and Republican slush funds, although not always an absolute clue to election victory, had been reversed to achieve the Democratic Cleveland's 1884 victory. This happened again in favor of the Republicans in 1888—and more drastically. (In each year, the larger fund was that of the winner.)

The published funds were as follows:

	Republican	Democratic
1880	\$1,100,000	\$355,000
1884	1,300,000	1,400,000
1888	1,350,000	855,000

The Republican machine, now oiled up with far more Northeastern and Morgan money than Rockefeller's agent Whitney

supplied to the Democratic Cleveland, was hellbent on winning—but it didn't have a candidate.

Sherman of Ohio and Chauncey Depew of New York were at each other's throats for both narrow "political" and broader factional reasons. So they compromised on Benjamin Harrison of Indiana, who had the one distinction, if no other, of being the grandson of another President, William Henry Harrison.

Depew, a pitchman for the Vanderbilts (and Morgans), a president of the New York Central Railroad, and a United States Senator—in that order—gave himself the credit (perhaps correctly) of choosing the Dark Horse.

### GILDING THE GOLDEN CANDIDATE

"Gentlemen," he said at the Republican national convention, "New York has given to me its cordial and practically unanimous support and I have felt under the circumstances that I should follow and not lead. The situation which has grown out of this discussion here eliminates two candidates. Without the aid of (New York political boss) Senator Platt and his friends, Mr. Sherman (of Ohio) could not carry New York. Iowa has gone to the extreme of radical legislation which threatens the investment of securities of her railroads, and New York is such a capitalist state that no man identified with that legislation could carry a majority of the vote of its people, and that makes (Iowa Senator) Allison impossible.

"There is one candidate here who at present apparently has no chance, but who nevertheless, seems to me to possess more popular qualifications than any other, and that is General Benjamin Harrison of Indiana. I do not know him, (!) never met him (!!) but he rose from the humblest beginnings until he became the leader of the bar of his state. . . .

"His grandfather, President William Henry Harrison, had one of the most picturesque campaigns in our history. There are enough survivors of that 'hard cider and log cabin' canvass to make attractive contribution on the platform at every meeting, and thus add a certain historic flavor to General Harrison's candidacy." (From Depew's My Memories of 80 Years.)

This light-fingered urbanity covered wide cesspools of corruption, but it nevertheless expressed the relative simplicity with which the capitalist class, led mostly by the New York bankers, Ohio industrialists, and the railroad tycoons, could control an election in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

With a little more maneuvering

after Depew's speech, the all-powerful Senator Nelson Aldrich (maternal grandfather of Nelson Aldrich Rockefeller) came out for Harrison, too. Aldrich, it should be emphasized, was at that time still a political crook for J. P. Morgan, not to be an exclusive crook for the Rockefellers until several years later.

Morgan conducted himself like the Rockefellers do today, but more successfully. His own partner, Levi Morton, was made Vice-President, and without the slightest uproar from the "right."

### LOSING—WITH THE MAJORITY

Cleveland still received 100,000 more votes than Harrison, so great was the mass disgust with the Republicans. But such is the built-in rigging of the Constitution with its "Electoral College," that he was swamped by losing certain crucial Northern states, where the biggest capitalist potentates worked against him.

In working this out, the Democratic machine bosses obligingly switched enough of their graveyard votes, etc., to do it—for a price, of course.

"The Republican National Committee," says Matthew Josephson, "paid through a New York State leader (perhaps Platt) \$150,000 for the purchase of three local Democratic political clubs or 'movements,' each having from 10,000 to 30,000 votes. . . .

"According to the statements of numerous reporters and eyewitnesses at the time Democratic

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Workers World Party and Youth Against War & Fascism are organizing and responsible for many of the struggles you read about in the pages of this paper. These groups are made up of women and men, Black, white, Latin, Asian, and Native American, young and old, straight and gay, working, students, and unemployed, who fight on all the issues that face the working class and oppressed peoples in this capitalist society.

If you would like to find out more about Workers World and YAWF, or if you would like to join them in their struggles, contact the branch nearest you from the list below.

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BUFFALO—Workers World Party, 730 Main Street, Buffalo, N.Y. 14202, (716) 855-3055  
CHICAGO—Workers World Party, 542 S. Dearborn, Room 310, Chicago, Illinois 60605.  
CLEVELAND—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 2576, East Cleveland, Ohio 44112, 451-9538 or 231-8456  
DETROIT—Workers World Party, 229 Gratiot, 3rd floor, Detroit, Michigan 48226  
HOUSTON—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 52115, Houston, Texas 77052  
MILWAUKEE—Workers World Party, 150 E. Juneau, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202, 224-0422  
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RICHMOND—Youth Against War & Fascism, P.O. Box 12132, Richmond, Virginia 23219 (804) 353-9937  
ROCHESTER—Workers World Party, 171 State Street, Rochester, N.Y. 14614 (716) 546-6429  
WASHINGTON, D.C.—Workers World Party, care-of P.O. Box 1117, Washington, D.C. 20013

managers were seen conferring at great length in the back rooms of Republican headquarters in Kings County (Brooklyn). One leader, it was said, took \$25,000 to deliver 3,500 votes in six wards to

Harrison—this alone accounting for more than half of the Republican majority in the State." (The Politicos, p. 430-31.)

And that was the "making of the President" in the year 1888.

# Rigging by Electoral College

Grover Cleveland won the Presidential election of 1888 by 100,000 votes. But his opponent, Benjamin Harrison, took office as President with 233 electoral votes to Cleveland's 168. How come?

The Electoral College was originally set up as an aristocratic method of keeping the mass of the people from having anything whatsoever to do with choosing the President; they just chose the electors, who, in their superior wisdom, chose the President.

In a few years, however, because of the anger of the voters and factionalism within the ruling class, these "electors" were instructed in advance, and every voter knew which electors would vote for what candidate.

### CAN STILL HAPPEN

But the fact remained that voting was—and is—by states. And the candidate with 51 percent of the vote in any given state is entitled to

100 percent of the electors of that state. So a candidate who does not make an even sweep in every state runs the risk of winning the popular vote and losing the electoral vote.

Of course, it wouldn't have made a great deal of difference to the working people of 1888 if the anti-labor Cleveland had taken office instead of the anti-labor Harrison. But it was very frustrating to the voters just the same.

And if there were a real issue, a class issue, today for example, in which the aroused people of some states voted nearly 100 percent for a pro-labor, pro-Black, pro-equality candidate, and a large number of other states voted just 51 percent against this candidate (giving 100 percent of their electoral votes to the opposition), there would be a greater frustration of democracy. And all because of the antiquated "Electoral College" and the archaic "state's rights

principle."

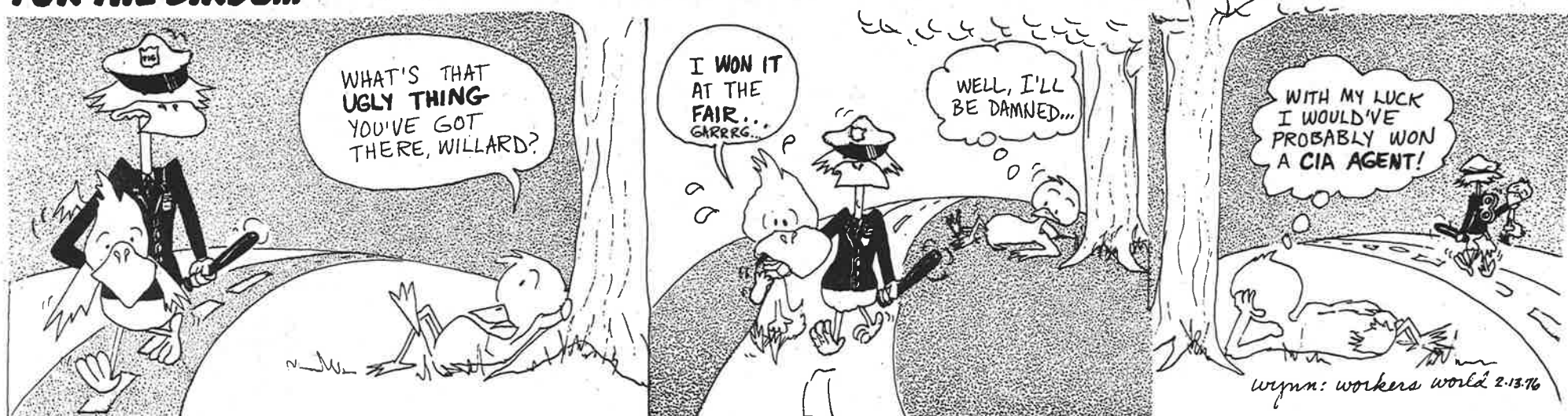
As a matter of fact, when a real class issue is involved, such a result is almost inevitable.

In the election of 1860, it worked in favor of the progressive forces. Abraham Lincoln won only 39 percent of the popular vote but 59 percent of the electoral vote, thus constitutionally winning the election.

However, precisely because it was a class issue and class interests were so deeply involved, the Southern slaveowners refused to abide by the Constitution and seceded from the "Union" as a result.

Had matters gone the other way, perhaps the North would have seceded. In any event, the Civil War would have taken place on schedule, since even the best election arrangement and the greatest majority opinion never made any ruling class give up its power and wealth without a fight.

## FOR THE BIRDS...





# POLITICAL PRISONERS



## Lack of evidence forces state prosecutors to dismiss four indictments against Attica brothers

By BRAD KANE

BUFFALO, N.Y., Feb. 4—Amidst ever-increasing calls for an end to the Attica trials, the prosecution dropped four indictments still pending against the Attica Brothers today, but continued to press pretrial hearings against ten Brothers at the State Supreme Court here.

### NO PROOF TO STATE'S CHARGES

The dismissal of the indictments on charges ranging from kidnapping to assault to possession of prison contraband affects 11 defendants, all of whom are now free of any Attica-related charges. In a statement given prior to the dismissals, Special Assistant

Attorney General Irwin Rochman said that the state would be "unable to prove the guilt" of the defendants because it simply had no evidence. These join a long list of charges already dropped against Attica Brothers due to lack of evidence.

Of course, there was never enough evidence to warrant these indictments in the first place. However, these indictments were handed down at a time when the state carried out a whitewash of the crimes committed by the State Police, which were ordered by then New York State Governor Nelson Rockefeller with Nixon's approval.

The indictments were geared towards molding public opinion against the inmates and in defense

of the bloody assault waged against the inmates during the retaking of the prison. Four years later, many of the crimes committed by the State have been exposed both in and out of court by the Brothers and their supporters, resulting in widespread demands that amnesty be granted to the Brothers.

### CALL FOR AMNESTY WIDENS

At a press conference Jan. 22, a call for an end to all the Attica trials, no further indictments, and pardons or clemency for those already convicted was announced by the 20-member New York Black and Puerto Rican Legislative Caucus. The call was supported by several labor unions, four members of Congress, other public office holders, and civic and church organizations. One week later, New York State Governor Hugh Carey restated that he would probably recommend legislation to end all Attica trials and prevent further indictments.

Attica Brothers Roger Champen and Big Black had emphasized at the press conference that while the Brothers welcome broad support for stopping the trials against inmates, they strongly oppose amnesty for those responsible for the murders and brutality during the rebellion.

While the Attica prosecution has been discredited and weakened, it is continuing to take to trial ten Brothers charged with ten counts each of first-degree kidnapping in connection with the taking of hostages.

These ten Brothers are presently wrapping up pretrial hearings and it is expected that their trial will commence in mid-February. The Brothers have asked that their supporters fill the courtroom. More information can be obtained from: Attica Now, 1528 Jefferson, Buffalo, N.Y. 14208. Phone (716) 882-0254.

## San Quentin Six: beaten, tortured, persecuted in long, racist trial

By PETE PERKINS

NEW YORK, Feb. 2—After nine months of prosecution testimony against them, the San Quentin Six are finally beginning to present evidence in their defense. Except for Willie Tate, who is free on bail, all remain in chains in spite of an order against this by U.S. District Court Judge Alfonso Zirpoli.

Willie Tate and co-defendants Hugo Pinnell, David Johnson, Johnny Spain, Fleeta Drumgo, and Luis Talamantez face charges of murdering Black revolutionary George Jackson and five other persons on Aug. 21, 1971. The defendants maintain that San Quentin officials are the real murderers.

### BRUTAL CONDITIONS

The slavery-era shackles worn each day to the courtroom by the defendants are the most obvious indication of what the trial is all about. The defendants were all close friends of revolutionary Black leader George Jackson and

objects of death plots similar to that which finally took his life. For four-and-a-half years these six Black men have been beaten, tortured, and prosecuted for being friends of George Jackson.

Cross-examination of the prosecution's evidence showed conclusively that the official version of the events of Aug. 21, 1971, could not have taken place. Bullets would have had to turn corners in the air for this to be true. Now the Six have to reconstruct their actions on that day and hope the Marin County jury believes them and not the official lies of the State of California.

It now seems likely that the trial will be more than a year old before it is over. The San Quentin Six are innocent; San Quentin officials planned and carried out the multiple murders of Aug. 21, 1971. To be on the mailing list of their defense committee, write San Quentin Six Defense Committee, 3169 16th St., San Francisco, Calif. 94103.

## Free the Wilmington 10!

The Wilmington 10, a group of anti-racist activists from North Carolina framed up on arson and conspiracy, began serving their sentences Feb. 3 under orders from a federal judge.

"We are victims of racism," said Reverend Ben Chavis, leader of the ten who faces between 29-34 years in the notorious dungeons of North Carolina. "We have been persecuted for political activity, not for criminal acts."

The arrests and convictions of the ten followed a terror campaign carried out against the Black community of Wilmington, N.C., by the KKK splinter group, Rights of White People (ROWP)

in 1971.

The Supreme Court refused to hear their appeal, and all appeals to the North Carolina courts have been turned down. Lawyers for the ten plan to appeal the case to Federal District Court, but the judge ruled they must begin serving their sentences while the appeal is decided.

The ten are the Rev. Ben Chavis, Willie Vereen, Joe Wright, Reginald Epps, Wayne Moore, Connie Tindall, Jerry Jacobs, James McCoy, Ann Sheppard, and Marvin Patrick. Their sentences range from 7 to 34 years.

Free the Wilmington 10!

## Frameup case of activist in Panther Party going to trial—five years later

NEW YORK, Feb. 7—Brother Robert Vickers was a community worker in the Black Panther Party in 1971. He was one of the countless dedicated brothers and sisters who brought political awareness to Harlem, sold the Black Panther Party's newspaper, and participated in the party's free breakfast program.

During this time, the atmosphere in the community was extremely tense, especially for any progressive young Black. The CIA, FBI, Army Intelligence, and red squad of the New York Police Department were in the community infiltrating and destroying Black organizations. The Black Panther Party was receiving special attention and many of its members were being killed by police attacks. It was in this atmosphere that Robert Vickers worked among the people.

One day in April of 1971, police attacked two Panther members, Harold Russell and Anthony Kimu Olugbala White. In the struggle that ensued the two police were wounded, Harold Russell was

killed, and Kimu Olugbala was shot several times and killed.

Nearly a year and a half later, in August of 1972, Robert Vickers was picked up in New Jersey, arrested, unmercifully beaten with pool sticks, and sent to the hospital. Vickers found himself charged with four counts of attempted murder of the two policemen who killed Brother Harold and wounded Brother Kimu the year before.

Now, almost five years after the alleged crime, this clear frame-up is coming to trial. This is a classic example of U.S. justice where, as Malcolm said, "the victim is made to appear as the criminal and the criminal made to appear as the victim."

Jury selection starts February 9 at 100 Centre St., Manhattan, Part 35A, 11th floor. People are invited to the trial to be held Monday through Thursday. For more information on how to support Robert Vickers, contact: National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners, P.O. Box 1184, Harlem, N.Y. 10027. Phone 862-9846 or WA6-7412.

## Heritage of war: 100,000 addicts in Saigon

# A liberated Vietnam rolls back drug addiction

Special from Pacific News Service SAIGON, Jan. 8—A mixed dose of politics, job training, and the age-old Oriental art of acupuncture is helping South Vietnam cope with one of the stark legacies of the war—100,000 drug addicts.

Rather than punishing addicts with jail terms, the government has opened an experimental drug treatment center here. With 80 patients ranging in age from 18 to 35, the center first tries to break drug dependency, then to train patients in skills they can use to support their families.

The first phase combines drugs, new diets, and acupuncture with group singing, movies, and cultural shows. Both patients and staff participate.

The addicts receive limited amounts of morphine and seconal to help them through their "cold turkey" crisis. The center also uses strict diets for individual problems of kidney and liver disease. One of the doctors has found that certain foods are helpful in the overall treatment of addiction.

Most significant and innovative, however, is the use of acupuncture

to relieve the addict's back pain and anxiety during the withdrawal crisis. Dr. Son, an acupuncture specialist and officer with the former Saigon army in Pleiku, was asked to bring his unique skill to the center after taking a reeducation course in the highlands.

Forbidden by the previous government to publish an article on the use of acupuncture to treat drug addiction, Son and several other doctors have recently published a book on their findings.

### THREE ADDICTS

Phung, an addict for 31 years, could not sleep before Dr. Son began the acupuncture therapy. Now, one month later, he can sleep well.

For Xuan, a long-time addict, the treatment to stop the pain and cold of withdrawal used to take two days. Now with acupuncture it takes only 45 seconds.

Pham Thanh Long used his drug addiction to win a deferment from the army under the old government. He was regularly brought before the Drug Deferment Council, sentenced to one month in prison and then released with a

military deferment for several months.

"At first working as a nurse it was easy to get drugs," Long says. "But when I lost my job, my wife was forced to support my habit, which cost us 1,000 piasters (\$1.50) every day."

Long wanted to give up his habit. He has already lost one arm from an infection caused by a dirty needle. "But each time I felt I could do it, my draft deferment ran out and I had to go back on drugs."

At first his wife objected strongly to his use of drugs. Eventually, as she saw many of their friends and relatives killed or wounded in the army, she felt there was no choice. Either Long would be an addict or he would be drafted.

Long was more fortunate than some of his addict friends, who were drafted and sent to the front without guns as coolies for officers of the former Saigon army.

When the government in South Vietnam changed in April, Long and his addict friends were fearful. They knew their supply of drugs would eventually be cut, but they had no idea what the new government would do to them. It was

rumored they would be put in prison to cure them of their habits. Long waited, hiding in his house.

A few months later a neighbor who was on the local administrative Council for Social Welfare and Veterans' Affairs visited Long to talk about his drug problem. The neighbor told him about the new center to open in Saigon.

At first Long was reluctant, but after a month of treatment he is one of 80 enthusiastic patients. In one-and-a-half months Long will finish his initial drug treatment and will enter the training phase.

After leaving the center, Long has several options. He can return home to his wife and five children, where his local Social Welfare Council will help him find a job. Or he can take his family to a new economic area to farm.

### RETRAINING

The new government has initiated a program to help people return to the countryside by providing land, agricultural tools, some household supplies and rice for six months.

The center also offers patients the option of staying to work on

500,000 acres of land which it hopes to develop into a cooperative farm. But the center does not yet have funds for seeds, agricultural tools, or tractors to help resettle the rehabilitated addicts.

Regardless of their choice, Long and other patients will be watched and guided by the center for some time to ensure their habits are cured.

If this experimental center is successful, it will be expanded to treat the rest of the 100,000 male, female, and child addicts in South Vietnam.

The four young doctors and 15 nurses at the center seem determined to tackle this tragic by-product of the Indochina war. But they see their role as only one part of combatting this social problem. "We must and we will stop the drug traffic to complete the cure of drug addiction in our country," Dr. Son says.

Linda Hiebert, author of this article, worked in Vietnam for two years with the Mennonite Central Committee and visited North and South Vietnam in mid-November 1975.

On Feb. 21 Nixon will be going to China. Why did the government of the People's Republic extend this invitation to such a notorious war criminal and anti-communist? Page 9.

One year after occupation of Alexian abbey

## Two Menominees slain by sheriff

By JOHN IVERSON

BOSTON, Feb. 5—Two members of the Menominee Warrior Society in Keshena, Wis., were shot to death by Sheriff Kenneth "Paddo" Fish two nights ago. The murders took place one year after the Warriors left the Alexian Brothers abbey, which they had occupied for many months in an effort to win title to the vacant building so it could be

converted into a hospital for Native American people.

John Waubanasum and Arlin Pamenet, the two murdered men, were both relatives of Warrior leader Mike Sturdevant. Waubanasum was one of five Warriors to stand trial for the Alexian Brothers abbey takeover.

Sheriff Fish entered the home of John Waubanasum on the excuse

of serving him with a two-month-old warrant, then shot him through the heart. Waubanasum died immediately, and Pamenet died en route to a hospital. Neither Fish nor any of his deputies was hurt.

The warrant could have been served many times last month; deputies had given both deceased men rides home at various times. Fish had just returned from the

Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, where Bureau of Indian Affairs stooge Dick Wilson has carried out a similar reign of terror with his infamous "goon squad."

### FISH OPPOSED BY MOST MENOMINEES

A known alcoholic, Fish was never elected sheriff; in fact, he

was defeated in the last election. But with the help of Ada Deer, the chairperson of the "Menominee Restoration Committee" and a personal friend of Wisconsin Governor Patrick J. Lucey, he took office last year after the abbey takeover. Like Wilson, he has created his own goon squad. Since then, many respected Menominee elders have petitioned Governor Lucey for his removal. But Lucey has refused to act, even after over 20 sworn affidavits charging illegal police behavior were presented him.

Sheriff Fish's protector, Ada Deer, herself remains a leader of the Menominees only on paper, since she refuses to certify the tribal rolls so elections can be held.

The Native American community in Keshena and throughout the state is seething with outrage and anger. Just today, over 300 people demonstrated in Madison, Wis., demanding Fish's arrest and prosecution. Fish himself has fled the county.

Meanwhile, four Warriors still face 90 years each because the Alexian Brothers, who had agreed not to prosecute the Menominees for the occupation of the monastery, broke their part of the agreement. Their trials and treaty hearings begin April 1. Support for this long struggle of the Menominee people can be sent to the Menominee Legal Defense-Offense Committee, P.O. Box 431, Keshena, Wis. 54135. Phone (715) 799-3667.



Supporters of the Menominee Warriors last year set up a vigil near the occupied Alexian monastery.

Photo: LNS

### Santa Fe Railroad vs. Indian people

## Meredith Quinn faced with phony charges

By BRAD KANE

BUFFALO, N.Y., Feb 5—Meredith Quinn, an American Indian activist and veteran of many struggles against the U.S. government on behalf of many Indian nations, appeared before a U.S. judge in Los Angeles today to face charges which allege that he and five other Indians threatened to stop trains of the Santa Fe Railroad from crossing Seminole Land in eastern Oklahoma. Quinn, a Santee Sioux, was indicted on January 15 along with five Seminole Indians after engaging in a struggle with large railroad companies and federal police over the illegal use of Seminole land by the Santa Fe railroad.

The charges stem from an attempt by Traditional Seminoles to force the U.S. government to honor an 1898 treaty which called on the Santa Fe to pay the Seminoles \$217,000 for the use of their land. The railroad has used the land for over 75 years free of charge, and while Santa Fe has continuously made profits over the years, the Seminoles have never received a single penny.

But as so often occurs with the oppressed peoples in this country, the victims are now being charged with "crimes" while the real criminals continue to be free.

### ARRESTED FOR HONORING TREATY

At a Dec. 11, 1975, press conference, the Seminoles issued an ultimatum to the railroad to either pay up the money owed them for the use of their land or lose access to Seminole land. For this Quinn has been charged with a "\$217,000 extortion threat," and other Seminoles are charged with threatening to burn a trestle near Seminole, Okla.

Meanwhile, the railroad company, which is in clear violation of the 1898 treaty, remains free of any charges.

Quinn, currently free on \$25,000 bond, was a prominent figure in the 1973 Wounded Knee struggle. More recently, he served as a legal adviser to Marlene Kennedy and the Traditional Seneca Indians in upstate New York. Here, the Senecas were involved in a fight with giant utility companies who exploited the rich and fertile land

of the Senecas without payment.

The Senecas withheld payment of their utility bills as a means of focusing attention on their fight for their land rights. Marlene Kennedy, a prominent leader in this struggle, later became the subject of an assassination attempt by

New York State Police. When she defended herself, her home, her children, and her land from an armed police assault, she was charged with attempted murder of a policeman.

Traditional Indians are not citizens of the U.S.; they belong to their tribe and are a sovereign people, and as such feel their land is theirs to use as they wish, free from governmental interference. Rather than peaceful negotiation, the U.S. government has made brutal repression and terror a matter of policy towards Indians who stand up for their rights. The usurpation by the government of the rights of Indians that allows large companies to move onto the reservations and utilize their vast resources constitutes one of the biggest cases of armed robbery in history.



Meredith Quinn faces trumped-up charges of threatening to stop Santa Fe trains. Here, he addresses a YAWF-AIM rally two years ago in solidarity with Wounded Knee. WW photo: Mary P.