

workers world

Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced plans to cut 10.8 million poor people off food stamps or reduce their benefits. If enacted, this brutal scheme will condemn half of those now receiving food stamps to severe hunger or even starvation. Page 3.

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Anti-labor witchhunt in De Kalb County

Georgia strikers shot at in ambush by police



Striking De Kalb County workers refuse to be intimidated.

WW photo: J. Martin

By C.T. McSPIRIT and J. MARTIN

ATLANTA, Ga., May 24—A sweeping police attack has been launched against striking workers employed by De Kalb County. The strikers, now out for the fourth week, are mainly sanitation and maintenance workers and most are Black.

In the early morning hours of May 21, De Kalb County police ambushed several strikers in a wooded area. The police fired volley after volley of both shotgun and pistol fire, filling the car of one of the strikers with bullet holes. Not one shot was fired by the union men, yet the anti-labor press described the attack as "a union shoot-out with police."

The victims of this attack have been charged with "conspiracy to commit murder" for allegedly intending to "shoot up" a busload of scabs. While there is no foundation to these charges, the police, backed by union-busting County Commission Chairman Bob Guhl, have kicked off a witchhunt against strike leaders and officials of the Laborers International Union, the union on strike.

As we go to press ten strikers have been charged with this phony "conspiracy." Apparently the police have a stooge-informant willing to testify against any striker they wish to arrest. Still more warrants have been issued.

The arrests and shooting assaults are an escalation of the repressive tactics used by Guhl (known as Chairman Ghoul by the workers) and his boys in blue since the start of the strike. Refusing to even talk with the union, Guhl has gained an injunction limiting pickets to two at any worksite; he has fired about 250 strikers; and the police have assaulted and arrested over 50 union members, while maintaining a routine of stopping four and five strikers' cars a day for the sole purpose of harassment.

AREA WORKERS GIVING MATERIAL SUPPORT

It is no coincidence that the escalation of attacks comes at a time when support of the strike by area citizens has been growing. Nor is it just a coincidence that the Friday attack by police took place just hours before a union press conference announcing a racial discrimination suit against the county, and before scheduled plant gate collections for the strikers by supporters in the Atlanta area.

But the attacks have only intensified the strikers' determination to win and have increased the solidarity expressed for the strikers by area workers.

On the day of the police attack and the day before, nearly 40 area unionists and unorganized workers passed out leaflets at factories along with strikers and collected hundreds of dollars.

The strong support that has been exhibited through these efforts by a recently organized strike support group has encouraged the strikers and their families to fight on for union recognition and human dignity. The donations given by Atlanta area workers, Black and white, young and old, men and women, show that the workers in Georgia don't accept the barrage of vile lies in the daily Atlanta Constitution and are beginning to learn the necessity of labor solidarity.

Stop the police attacks! Meet the demands of the De Kalb strikers!

5,000 march for African liberation

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 24—A march and rally to commemorate African Liberation Day drew about 5,000 people from the Washington, D.C., Black community on May 22. In addition, large contingents of Eritrean, Ethiopian, Iranian, and Palestinian nationals participated in the truly international action.

The action, organized by the All-African People's Revolutionary Party, featured a five-mile march through D.C.'s Black and Latin communities and a rally at Malcolm X Park. Speakers at the rally included Tapson Mawere of

Zimbabwe African National Union, Corky Gonzales of the Crusade for Justice, and representatives of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, the Eritreans for Liberation, South West African People's Organization, and other revolutionary organizations.

The slogans of the action stressed celebration of victory of the MPLA in Angola, solidarity with the armed struggle in Zimbabwe, Namibia, Azania, Eritrea, and "French" Somaliland, support for the socialist revolution throughout Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean, including Puerto Rico,

and unrelenting opposition to U.S. imperialism. "Angola has won—Zimbabwe is next!" the marchers chanted. "Namibia is next!" "Eritrea is next!"

The action served clear notice on Ford, Kissinger, and such unwelcome residents of Washington that they have no chance of deluding the Black community of that city with their lies and schemes. All the "shuttle diplomacy" in the world will neither prevent the victory of the African revolution, nor discourage such stirring within the United States.

THE STRUGGLE IN BRIEF

Arab community in Dearborn holds mass protest on 'Palestine Day'

By GREGG MOSSBERGER
DETROIT, May 18—On Saturday, May 15, the industrial city of Dearborn, Mich., saw over 1,000 supporters of the Palestinian people's struggle for self-determination march and rally there. The successful activity was called for by many organizations in the Arab community—the largest in the Western hemisphere—to protest continued Zionist occupation of Palestine and the U.S. support of Israel.

May 15, the 28th anniversary of the founding of the racist settler state of Israel, had been declared Palestine Day by the city of Dearborn, solely due to pressure from the strong united Arab community on the racist but opportunist city officials.

Arab people of all ages were joined by delegations of Eritreans, Iranians, and North American progressives, as the many marchers were led by a strong contingent of Arab women for several blocks down busy Michigan Ave. to the rally site at City Hall. Despite rain, the enthusiasm of the participants never waned as chants of "Free, free Palestine—democratic Palestine" and "Down with Zionism" met with friendly responses all along the march route. Several Palestinian flags could be seen waving among the many colorful banners and signs written in Arabic, Persian, and English. The signs stretched for blocks with

messages of support for the just struggle of the Palestinians to liberate their homeland.

Several called for the U.S. to get out of the Mideast and end its support for Israel. Others reflected the internationalism of many of the demonstrators by linking the Palestinian struggle to that of other oppressed people of the world such as the Vietnamese, Iranians, and the Eritreans.



"Jewish people yes—Israel no!" One thousand supporters of the Palestinian cause demonstrate in Detroit on the 28th anniversary of Zionist occupation. WW photo: Gene

SCLC, Black legislators endorse July 4th protest in Philadelphia

NEW YORK, May 25—The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and several

San Francisco craft workers end strike, agree to 'fact finding panel'

By G. SCHMIDT
NEW YORK, May 17—In the early morning hours of Saturday, May 8, the 38-day-long strike of San Francisco city craft workers ended when union leaders and city negotiators agreed to the formation of an 11-member "fact-finding panel"—the Joint Study Committee—to recommend wage scales for the craft workers and to investigate the conditions leading up to the walkout.

This panel was to be composed of

five representatives from the unions—the carpenters, electricians, machinists, building trades, and plumbers and steamfitters—and five members appointed by the Board of Supervisors, with Mayor George Moscone as chairperson.

In exchange for going back to work at their current wages and for the formation of this panel where the workers will almost always be outvoted, the strikers extracted assurances from the Supervisors that no city workers would be suspended, dismissed, or punished in any way because of strike activities. In addition, the Supervisors agreed to remove two anti-labor propositions from the June ballot.

Proposition E would have required compulsory firing of any city worker who would "instigate, participate in, or afford leadership to a strike or engage in any picketing activity in furtherance of such a strike" against the city and county of San Francisco. Proposition K would have frozen workers' pay for two years, making any subsequent wage agreement a moot point.

PROBLEMS OF THE STRIKE

According to California law, the propositions had to be removed no later than Monday morning, May 10, when absentee balloting was to begin, if they were to be removed at all. It was this impending deadline, along with the municipal railway drivers' vote on the preceding Wednesday to go back to work and to cross the craft workers' picket lines after having honored them since the first day of the strike, that pushed the craft union leaders to agree to end the strike.

The Muni drivers, who have been the most potent support of other city workers' strikes by refusing to cross picket lines and by shutting down the city's transit system, are facing the end of their own contract this summer. The drivers saw that passage of the June ballot propositions could be a telling blow against their own upcoming contract struggle, especially in the light of the widespread non-support given the craft workers by other, non-striking city workers.

The Hearst Press has been bragging since the end of the strike about the "clear victory" of the Supervisors in not "giving up one nickel to pay demands of the striking 1,770 craftsmen," citing "a seemingly organized campaign of phone calls and letters" supporting the Supervisors.

"Meeting sometimes two or three times daily behind closed doors, without objections from the public, the Supervisors spent much of their time discussing how to deal with the press and keep alive public support."

Boston forum hits U.S. role in Africa, links struggle at home and abroad

BOSTON, May 19—"You can't understand what's going on in Boston unless you understand what's happening in South Africa." Thus spoke Claudette Furlonge, paraphrasing Malcolm X, introducing her speech on the role of U.S. imperialism in Africa to a multi-national audience of 50 people here last Friday evening.

Furlonge is a member of the steering committee of the Third World Caucus of Youth Against War & Fascism. She was also a leading organizer of the historic Dec. 14, 1974, March Against Racism in Boston.

In her remarks, Furlonge termed the notion that the United States has had no policy in southern Africa "nonsense." The policy is and always will be the same—to protect their system of corporate rule. The problem for United States capitalism," she noted, "is that their tactics and strategy are failing."

Furlonge pointed to the pressing need to initiate and carry through

activities designed to heighten the awareness of the American people to the connection between the crisis in southern Africa and the United States. The large marches in cities such as New York and Chicago on May Day are shining examples of actions linking the struggle against apartheid in Africa and racism here at home.

Brother Ahmed, representing the Committee of Palestinians in New England (COPINE), in a statement of solidarity to the meeting, linked the fight against apartheid in Africa to that of the Palestinians in the Middle East.

A defendant in the case of the East Boston Anti-Racists, Jane Kaatz, outlined the struggle against the right-wing racist mobilization in Boston over the last two years. Kaatz called for the continuation and broadening of the movement to support the right of self-determination and self-defense of and by the Black people of Boston.

Black legislators have endorsed the July 4th Coalition's demonstration in Philadelphia against the foreign and domestic policies of the U.S. government.

Called to demand independence for Puerto Rico, jobs and a decent standard of living for all, and an end to discrimination against women, the demonstration will coincide with the Ford administration's chauvinist Bicentennial celebration in Philadelphia.

The SCLC, an Atlanta-based civil rights organization founded by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1956, has stated that instead of promoting this Bicentennial hoopla, what the U.S. government really should do is "shift economic priorities away from militarism and toward meeting domestic and global human needs" and remove the cause of war.

Among the Black legislators endorsing the July 4th Coalition's demonstration are Congressperson Ronald V. Dellums of California, Rep. Melvin King of the Massachusetts legislature, and Rep. David Richardson of the Pennsylvania legislature.

The July 4th Coalition is made up of more than 100 progressive organizations from almost 50 cities nationwide.

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DECLINE AND FALL

CONNALLY AND CIA TRYING HARD

New York Post, May 4:

"Former Texas Gov. John B. Connally says he is heading a private organization that will work—independently of any government efforts—to discourage Italian voters from electing Communist candidates in that country's elections this summer."

"Connally said yesterday he plans to head a group known as 'Citizens Alliance for Mediterranean Freedom' and that he hopes to involve 25 million Italian-Americans in the effort to influence Italy's voting."

"The U.S. government has been voicing

warnings about the possibility that Communist candidates will make major gains because of continuing government instability, inflation and unemployment wracking Italy. But Connally, in announcing formation of his group, said it was not involved with the government."

"Former CIA Director William E. Colby said in January that his agency had planned to spend \$6 million trying to influence the vote in Italy during the next general elections."

"Connally admitted his group would be meddling in Italy's affairs, but he said, 'We meddled in them in the 1940s (in World War II.)'"

UNEMPLOYED WOMEN WITHOUT HOPE

The New York Times, May 4:

"Faced with a rapidly declining number of legitimate job opportunities and lured by promises of earning big money fast, more and more teen-aged girls are turning to prostitution as a means of survival, according to the police and city youth agencies."

"The city has already indicated there will be only 65,000 Federally subsidized jobs for the 500,000 young people under age 21, a decline of 35,000 jobs from last year."

"Nevertheless, young people still flock to the city by the hundreds, and in the absence of work are often reduced to prostitution."

ROBBING THE POOR TO GIVE TO THE PENTAGON

UPI, May 4:

"The Agriculture Department announced today adoption of new regulations designed to eliminate at least 5 million Americans from the food stamp program.... Agriculture officials estimate the new regulations will cut \$1.2 billion from the cost of the \$5.8 billion program."

"... The Ford Administration asked Congress today to add \$1.2 billion and five ships to the Navy's shipbuilding budget."

So 5 million Americans lost \$1.2 billion, but the needy Pentagon (and the war industry) gained \$1.2 billion, and isn't that what the system's all about?

Poor file suit against new USDA plan set for June 1

Dept. of 'Agribusiness' slashes food stamp aid

By SHARON SHELTON
NEW YORK, May 24—Not content with impending legislation which would seriously reduce food stamp aid, the Ford administration has arrogantly bypassed Congress and made its own revisions in the food stamp program.

If the revisions, announced by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) earlier this month, go into effect June 1 as slated, over 10.8 million needy people—or half of those now receiving food stamps—will be abruptly thrown out of the program or have their already meager benefits slashed. The result of such a drastic cutback could be tragic.

POOR TO CHALLENGE

USDA PLAN

"We're going to challenge it," Ron Pollock of the Food Research

and Action Committee (FRAC) here told Workers World in a telephone interview Saturday. Pollock explained that his group is filing suit Wednesday to block the USDA cuts on behalf of 54 labor unions, several national organizations, 25 or 26 state governments, and poor people all over the country.

The suit, according to Pollock, will be based on the Food Stamp Act, which promises a "nutritionally adequate diet" for all poor families in the U.S. Even before the cuts, the food stamp program is falling pitifully short of fulfilling this promise, since allocations often amount to only \$1.50 a person a week, hardly enough to insure nutrition!

Pollock also said FRAC is claiming the USDA attempt to bypass Congress is illegal. The

USDA cuts are almost identical to those brought to Congress by President Gerald Ford last October. The Senate has since produced a bill which, according to Pollock, would severely cut back in food aid, but not to the degree that Ford would like. House action on food stamps should take place early next month.

FOOD STAMP ABUSE A LIE

Although Ford and the USDA say the cuts are necessary because of food stamp "abuses" by families who can really afford food, a major study by the USDA itself presented to Congress last June revealed that only 13 percent of all recipients earned over \$6,000 annually, and most of these households had five or more persons. In reality, only about half of the families who qualify for the program are ac-

tually receiving food stamps, mainly because of the high price of the stamps.

Also, according to a May 8 release by Liberation News Service, the USDA admitted in 1974 "that fraudulent claims accounts for less than one in one thousand food stamp recipients."

PROVISIONS OF THE NEW PROGRAM.

The cuts in the program are actually aimed at poor people who desperately need the program, especially during this time of economic crisis. One of the features of the USDA plan is to cut out monthly deduction claims by families and replace them with a standard deduction of \$100. Ignored will be special, burdensome expenses such as medical and child care costs faced by many

families currently forced to use food stamps.

The USDA plan will also make eligibility harder to get for workers trying to feed their families while on strike or after a layoff. This would be done by calculating income from an average of the previous three months instead of one month as is now done, which for most people would mean a further delay in receiving benefits.

The new regulations also will require the stamp purchasers to pay a flat 30 percent of their income in cash to get their monthly allotments. Under the present program, the charge for stamps varies according to income.

If the USDA regulations go into effect, they would hit the poorest families the hardest, since many poor people pay larger percentages of their wages for necessities like housing, as it is. This could put the stamps out of the reach of those who need them most, but cannot scrape together the purchase price.

In a country where food surpluses are destroyed to keep prices high, no one should go hungry. The USDA's denial of food aid to the millions of poor people who so desperately need it shows the criminal disregard with which this willing tool of agribusiness views the needy.

Impact of protests felt at Mayor's office

D.C. Medicaid recipients blast proposed cuts

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 21—A spirited protest today against the planned cutoff of some 40,000 D.C. Medicaid card holders has shaken up city officials and brought some signs that the mayor's office may give in to the people's pressure.

About 200 of the medically needy and their supporters, including many elderly people, Black and white, picketed the District Building, many arriving in buses lent by church groups. Some walked slowly or were in wheelchairs, but all were clearly prepared to fight for their right to decent medical care.

Earlier, the group had packed a City Council hearing and presented witnesses to testify against the cutoff.

The action had been organized by a coalition of groups led by the Grey Panthers, and including the Citywide Welfare Rights Organization, the Center City Community Corporation, All Souls Church Friendly Seniors, NOW Task Force, the Center for United Labor Action, and well over a dozen other groups.

The coalition had taken the position that "We can't get involved in these disputes between the mayor and the city council over how much money there is in the budget, with tables and charts and so on. That's their job. We are here only for one thing, to oppose the cutoff."

(As described last week in this paper, Mayor Walter Washington's cutoff would eliminate Medicaid services for all 40,000 D.C. Medicaid recipients who are not on welfare or social security. These "medically needy" include thousands of children, retired, disabled, and others whose income does not meet their health care needs.)

A delegation trying to see the mayor's appointments secretary was barred at the office doors by police, who said, "You can't see anyone." They were finally told that the mayor made his own appointments, and that he was too busy to make one!

Joseph Yeldell, head of the Department of Human Resources, also did a good job of exposing himself. After trying to divide the group and have some protesters meet with him instead of picket (and failing), he hit one supporter and tried to take another's camera.

Later he seized the demonstrators' sound system and accused them of being "manipulated," calling it "disgusting." He was booed down. Then he told reporters that the demonstrators (all 200!) were a "hand-picked group who did what they were told."

However, Yeldell clearly knew better. Indeed, not three hours later he presented a plan which he said would make the cutoff unnecessary!

This plan, however, involves a budget surplus which probably won't exist, and can not be counted

on. Nevertheless, this shows that the mayor's office is worried about the opposition it has stirred up, and may back down all the way. D.C.'s medically needy, though, will believe it when they see it—and will keep fighting until they see it, too.



When Juan Carlos was sworn in as Spanish King, 160,000 workers demonstrated in the streets of Barcelona against the brutal repression of the fascist government.

On June 4 at the Waldorf Astoria in NY

Demonstrate against fascist Juan Carlos!

By MOLLY CHARBONEAU
NEW YORK, May 24—On June 4 the billionaire rulers of the U.S. will give a luxurious banquet for fascist King Juan Carlos of Spain at the Waldorf Astoria. While the Rockefellers, Mellons, Lodges, and Whitneys wine and dine with Franco's successor, anti-fascist organizations and individuals will demonstrate outside the Waldorf giving Juan Carlos the greeting he really deserves.

The demonstration, co-sponsored by the Committee of Americans for Basque Independence and Survival (CAMBIAS) and Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF), will begin at 5:30 p.m. outside the Waldorf at 50th Street and Park Ave. Already the Venceremos Brigade, Friends of Haiti, Yonkers People for Peace, the Timor Defense Committee, Group of Khmer Residents, Peoples Democratic Association, Joe Walker, the Pan African Students

Organization in the Americas (PASOA), and a host of other progressive organizations and individuals have endorsed the demonstration.

In calling for the demonstration, Sharon Ayling of YAWF urged all anti-fascist forces to "join us on June 4th to demand freedom for all political prisoners in Spain's dungeons, to demand self-determination for the Catalanian, Basque, and Galician peoples, to support the struggles of the Spanish workers, and to demand an end to U.S. big business and Pentagon support of the fascist Juan Carlos regime."

SPONSORS EXPLAIN IMPORTANCE OF PROTEST

A spokesperson for CAMBIAS and a leading organizer of the action told Workers World that "The rule of Juan Carlos is a continuation of the Franco regime and Franco's fascism with a group of opportunists gathered around

him. Under Juan Carlos, repression against the Basque people has become more severe than under Franco." He stated that his group is co-sponsoring the June 4 demonstration against Juan Carlos because "for the Basque people, this is a part of the continuing struggle for our own liberation and freedom."

Another organizer of the demonstration, from Catalonia, explained to Workers World that the action is important because "although Catalonia and the Basque country are highly industrialized areas upon which the rest of Spain relies for resources and taxes, the Basque and Catalan people are denied representation in every sphere of government and are subjected to police onslaughts and torture for demanding their freedom." The June 4 protest, he continued, will also support the Galicians, "who are equally exploited and who suffer tremendous

poverty due to systematic neglect and persecution by the Madrid regime."

Explaining PASOA's endorsement for the June 4 action, John Akpan told Workers World, "Spain has been one of the imperialist countries in Africa which not only colonized Equatorial Guinea for a long time but also, more recently, the Western Sahara. The Madrid regime has accumulated wealth from the exploitation of the African people and, as a client state of U.S. imperialism, provided bases for air attacks against the former Portuguese colonies in Africa."

"The workers in Spain are under brutal repression and exploitation and PASOA supports their struggle against the fascist regime of Juan Carlos."

Additional information or leaflets for the demonstration may be obtained by calling (212) 255-0352 or 255-8033.



WW photo: G. Dunkel

Building worker says of recent strike

'We gave them a good fight!'

By BEVERLY SLAPIN

NEW YORK, May 24—The 17-day building workers' strike here ended last Wednesday in what Local 32B President John J. Sweeney called a "partial victory." Union members Walter Thomas and Juan Lopez told *Workers World*, "We saved our benefits and the whole thing was worth it."

Both Thomas and Lopez, who work at 4 Park Ave., agreed that although the settlement with the building owners was minimal, "any raise is better than a cut in pay." They were referring to the landlords' threat to cut back wages by 10 percent, which provoked the walkout.

Negotiations between the Realty Advisory Board (RAB) and Local 32B had bogged down last week when the union reluctantly accepted—and the landlords refused—a \$39 three-year wage-and-fringe benefits package proposed by Mayor Beame's special mediation panel.

THE SETTLEMENT

The original proposal had called for weekly wage step-ups of \$13, \$12, and \$10 respectively in the first, second, and third years plus an additional \$4 in welfare and pension benefits. The reshuffled terms call for a \$13 weekly raise in the first 18 months, \$6 in the next 6 months, \$6 in the following 6 months, and \$10 in the final 6 months, plus the \$4 in added benefits.

Although the contract still comes out to \$39 over three years, the rearrangement of the increases means that the workers will get \$728 less over the life of the contract, and the landlords will save some \$14 million. In addition, the landlords had saved about \$500,000 a day (or \$8 and a half million over the 17-day strike) in unpaid

salaries.

In response to the landlords' attack, the AFL-CIO, charging that the "landlords have thrown collective bargaining out the window," had called on its 2 million members in the metropolitan area to withhold rent payments in support of the strikers and to decline to perform free services in their buildings for landlords. The AFL-CIO also called for other union members to join 32B's picket lines, but these moves came very late in the strike and were of questionable effect. Meanwhile, the non-striking

building workers of Local 32E in the Bronx indicated that they might walk off their jobs in sympathy with their sister union.

LANDLORDS WEAKEN

As the strike wore on, factions began to emerge within the RAB: "dissident" owners from the rent-controlled group were holding out against any wage increase; another group wanted to settle for considerably less than the mediation board's proposal; and some of the owners began to sign individual contracts with the union. By week's end, the union

had signed with about 200 landlords.

Meanwhile, the RAB was being plagued by its once-allied tenants. Many had chosen either to pay no rent or to deduct a portion for lost service, some were setting up strike funds for the workers and deducting the amount from their rents, and some were "talking about sending us bills for \$5 an hour for . . . running the elevators or sorting mail," one building owner told the *New York Times*.

With threats of a mass rent strike, union solidarity, and internal disintegration, the RAB

finally agreed to settle.

This attack by the landlords on workers in the private sector comes at a time when public employees are struggling for survival against the city and the bankers. When this reporter asked Thomas and Lopez if the municipal workers can learn anything from 32B's strike, Lopez answered emphatically: "We gave them (the landlords) a good fight! Nothing is won without a fight." Thomas added, "Our strike will give them the gumption to go out—if they don't fight, they won't get anything."

Michigan farmers protest poisoning cover-up

'Cattlegate—Bigger than Watergate'

DETROIT, May 20—"Cattlegate—Bigger Than Watergate," read bumper stickers on the cars of many of Michigan's smaller dairy farmers these days. The stickers refer to the disastrous aftermath of the "accidental" poisoning of Michigan livestock in 1973, which has resulted in the slaughter and burial of over 24,000 cattle, 3,700 swine, and 1.5 million chickens.

For the past several months, many of the small farmers whose livestock were affected have been organizing in an effort to penetrate what they feel is a high-level cover-up of the effects of the poisoning, a cover-up involving the State Department of Agriculture, the governor's office, the legislature, the Michigan Farm Bureau, and the Michigan Chemical Company, which poisoned the feed.

DEAD COWS SHOWN TO LEGISLATORS

They have demonstrated 200 strong in the state capital of Lansing, with dead cows in tow, testified before a Senate sub-

committee in Washington, and demonstrated when members of the state legislature came to view a "healthy" herd of cattle which was displayed in an attempt to discredit poisoning claims. They continue to agitate in the press. Finally, three years after the poisoning, they have managed to wring a promise out of Governor Milliken to have a "scientific panel" investigate the matter.

The farmers are not only concerned because of the personal losses they have suffered, but are appalled that meat and dairy products containing PBB (polybrominated biphenyl), the chemical which poisoned the livestock, are still being sold on the market in and out of state. (The government set an arbitrary "safe" level of contamination.) The farmers say the continued sale of diseased livestock has set up a vicious cycle which has resulted in the contamination of many feed mills.

Traces of PBB have also been found in the soil of rural Michigan. Scientists say it will remain in the soil for an untold number of years, and will eventually be introduced into the waterways, with unknown consequences.

FARM FAMILIES REPORTING ILLNESS

According to the farmers' testimony in Washington, their own families and thousands of others around the state are suffering the effects of eating PBB-contaminated produce, with weight loss, tiredness, and stomach problems reported among many. The farmers no longer eat their own produce as a result, and many with herds showing less than the "safe" level of PBB contamination are continuing to slaughter the herds, even though they cannot be recompensed by their insurance companies because of the low PBB level.

The State Department of Agriculture has been tripping over its feet in its haste to diagnose the cattle with "safe" PBB levels as the victims of iodine poisoning, hoof rot, salmonella, or whatever, and imply that the problems are simply the result of bad management and poor husbandry.

But the fact is that the whole history of the feed poisoning has been one long chain of suspicious occurrences. The poisoning took place in 1973 when several thousand tons of the fire-retardant chemical PBB instead of a nutritional supplement were mixed into livestock feed in the warehouses of the Michigan Chemical Co., then sold to the Michigan Farm Bureau Services for distribution to the state's farmers.

It wasn't until mid-1974 that one farmer with graduate-level training in chemistry was finally able to track down the cause of the epidemic of deaths, stillbirths, and disease which had begun to plague state livestock herds, with no help from the Department of Agriculture at Michigan State University or the Farm Bureau.

Curiously enough, the PBB contamination came to light at exactly the same time that the dairy industry nationally was announcing it would slaughter and bury more than 50,000 cows—solely to boost prices. Just prior to that, more than 8 million chickens in Georgia had been "accidentally" poisoned in a very similar incident, following a drop in the price of chicken, resulting in increased prices and \$8 million worth of federal compensation for the agribusiness magnates who were affected.

EMPLOYEES HUSHED UP

In 1975, two Michigan Chemical Company employees came forward and testified that they had noticed the mix-up of the Nutrimaster and Firemaster (PBB) bags and told their foreman, but were told to keep quiet about it. Michigan Chemical brought a lot of pressure to bear on

these two employees and they were soon hushed up a second time, with all mention of the incident disappearing from the press forever.

Michigan's farmers were not compensated by the government as in the case of the Georgia chicken poisoning, but there are other ways in which the big farmers clearly benefited from the poisonings. Milk and meat prices have been steadily on the increase, and the shortages caused by the destruction of such large numbers of livestock were easy excuses for further increases.

In addition, both the Michigan Farm Bureau and the Michigan Milk Producers Association report that the total yearly earnings of farmers around the state are continually on the rise, reaching record levels every year, while the number of farms in operation has been steadily decreasing. Clearly, the profits from Michigan agriculture are being steadily concentrated in fewer and fewer greedy hands. The fact that so many smaller farmers were wiped out because of the PBB poisoning follows a decades-old pattern of monopolization in the dairy industry and in agriculture in general which has made the small farmer a dying breed.

Trials continue against East Boston Blacks

By FRANK NEISSER

BOSTON, May 21—On June 9 and 11, felony trials against three Black men from the East Boston Housing Projects are scheduled to begin. These trials arise from two separate incidents in which Blacks were assaulted and then arrested while their assailants went free. Three other Black men from the projects face similar charges stemming from two other incidents of racist attack and one former resident of the projects, Sam Bell, is currently in jail.

These cases all arise out of the two years of continuous violence against Blacks in East Boston that has driven 25 Black and Hispanic families from their homes.

When friends from around the city came to the assistance of these families in June and August of last summer, they were able to put a stop to the attacks. But the police arrested these friends of the Black families as well. A mass campaign finally succeeded in overturning district court convictions of Mrs. Anna Mae Lewis and the East Boston Anti-Racist 8. More defense work on a citywide basis must be organized to put a stop to the racist violence that has escalated in this city.

A committee has been formed to free the East Boston Black defendants. A brochure is being

prepared to familiarize people with the case and a defense fund has been set up. State Rep. Mel King of the Massachusetts Black Legislative Caucus has already lent his support to the campaign, as have Ellen Jackson of Freedom House, the Rev. Ed Rodman, Missioner to the Minority Communities of the Episcopal Diocese of Boston, Otis and Alva Debnam (a Black family under attack in Dorchester), Harvard Stevens of the Third World Workers Association, Jim McLean of the Federation of Black Workers of Massachusetts, Chuck Turner of the Third World Jobs Clearing House, Ellen Feingold, President of the Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, Greater Boston Tenants and Workers Against Racism, and the East Boston People Against Racism.

Show your support by writing to Attorney General Francis Bellotti, the State House, Boston, Mass., to demand that all charges against Robert Phifer, Gary Franklin, Bernard Hoge, Melvin Bean, David Brydie, and Brian Swann be dropped, and that Sam Bell be freed from Deer Island correctional institution. Send a copy of your letter and a contribution to the East Boston Black Defendants Fund, P.O. Box 8875, Boston, Mass. 02114.

Third World construction workers honor Malcolm X

BOSTON, May 19—About 200 people braved cold driving rain this morning to participate in a militant rally of the Third World Workers Association here. The rally advanced the struggle of the Third World construction workers, and honored the memory of Malcolm X, assassinated 11 years ago by agents of the U.S. ruling class.

Harvard Stevens, member of the Third World Workers Association and chairperson of the rally, explained the importance of Malcolm's work and how the Third World Workers Association had taken his message to heart. Relating to the situation in Boston, he pointed out Malcolm's precept that racist reaction and repression always emerge when the victims of the racist system are no longer quiet and passive but struggle against their oppression. The international unity of Third World people in the struggle against racism and for national liberation, and the recognition of the Afro-American struggle as part and parcel of that world struggle were highlighted as Malcolm's legacy.

The rally included a speaker from each of the three caucuses of

the workers' association—Black, Hispanic, and Asian—each detailing their own special problems and oppression. The Hispanic speaker pointed out the special problems of Hispanic workers with language and cultural discrimination. The Asian spokesperson highlighted the history of exploitation and oppression of Asian workers in the U.S.

Chuck Turner of the Third World Jobs Clearing House and Leo Fletcher of the United Community Construction Workers discussed the history of the struggle to get Third World workers into 50 percent of the construction jobs in the Third World community and 30 percent in the rest of the city. They stressed the demand that white construction companies coming into the community hire through the Jobs Clearing House to insure that Third World Workers Association members not be denied a share of the jobs. Leo cited a number of cites that TWWA members had shut down, and said they were going to keep on demonstrating despite arrests and harassment until their demands were met.

Lebanese progressives unanimously reject French intervention

Giscard branded agent of U.S. in invasion bid

By KENNY PETERSON
NEW YORK, May 24—The President of French imperialism, Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, while on a state visit to the U.S., asserted his government's interest in sending "several regiments" of French troops to intervene in Lebanon.

Speaking on May 21 while in New Orleans, the French President clearly spelled out a combat role for the French military in Lebanon, cloaking his imperialist designs with the usual obligatory remarks about "restoring law and order."

Military intervention by France in Lebanon is hardly anything new. In fact, from 1918 until 1946, Lebanon was held as a colony and occupied by French imperialist troops. To this day, Lebanese school children are required to study French as a second language. Actually though, the occupation of Lebanon by French imperialism dates back to the Middle Ages when the numerous Crusades of the European aristocrat-landlord class sought to

win control over the profitable East-West trade routes.

GOT PRIOR APPROVAL OF OIL MAGNATES

In the present instance, however, it is more relevant to point out that President Giscard made his offer to help suppress the struggles of the Lebanese people only one day after meeting with top executives of the biggest U.S. multi-national oil companies in Houston, Texas, "the oil capital of the world." Houston, by the way, now boasts of hosting 53 foreign consulates and trade offices, with more on the way. There are also 134 branch offices of foreign corporations in Houston, most of them involved in one way or another in the business of oil.

And it is oil, the multi-billion dollar empire in oil that U.S. oil monopolies like Exxon, Mobil, and Gulf fear losing control of in the Middle East that motivates every policy decision of Western imperialism in that strategically important part of the world.

The civil war in Lebanon, which could open the door to socialist

revolution in that country, is a matter of grave concern to the U.S. exploiters of Arab oil. Lebanon, though without oil itself, is also the major banking and commercial center of Western imperialism in the Middle East.

French imperialism, which has maintained close connections with the Lebanese bourgeoisie, particularly with the right-wing Christian Phalangists, is hoping that its threat of armed intervention into the Lebanese civil war could be carried out in the service of Western imperialism without exposing the U.S., its senior partner in exploitation, to any of the risks which a more direct form of intervention by Wall Street would incur.

Those readers who have been following the events in Lebanon will recall that when the U.S. announced that Marines of the Sixth Fleet were poised off the coast of Lebanon, representatives of the Palestine and Arab guerrilla forces warned them not to approach or "be blown out of the water."

Giscard's offer to land troops in

"48 hours" seems also to have been blown out of the water by the unanimous opposition of Lebanese leftists and Moslems, despite the cheers of approval from the rightist Phalangists who were hoping to be defended in their bastions of wealth and privilege by French bayonets.

OPPOSITION FROM LEFT AND EVEN CENTER

Reflecting the broad opposition to French intervention, Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami rejected France's bid, saying, "We will never go back to the days of the mandate," referring to France's "mandate" from the League of Nations to colonize Lebanon.

The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, one of the groups which has been defending the Palestinian and Arab masses against the Phalangists, responded to the French suggestion by calling Giscard an "agent" of the U.S. and an "ugly American." The DFLP went on to vow they would "fight French troops if they entered Lebanon."



Leader of Arab Women's Union in Brooklyn:

'Our struggle is part of the class struggle...'

Halah Soof, a leader of the Arab Women's Union based in the Arab community in Brooklyn, N.Y., recently spoke to Joyce Betries of Workers World about the work of her organization.

What is the Arab Women's Union?

The Arab Women's Union tries to organize Arab women in North America to at least give them a chance to participate in social life. Most Arab women here are house workers and don't have a chance to participate, for example, in demonstrations to express their national feeling. At the least, the Arab Women's Union tries to motivate women to be aware of their status at home—to overcome the gap, for then it will be impossible for the women to go backwards.

About 50 women belong to the Union. We want the Union to be Arabian, and not just represent one regional group within the Arab nation. This is because we Arabs here are a minority. If we represented, for example, just Palestinian women, we would be a minority within a minority.

Our organization is democratic, and we have elected an executive committee from our ranks. Our goals are: to educate illiterate women, to give them a chance to learn English and put their creativity in process; to help Arab women adjust to this society and to teach women how they can deal with their children; to set up courses in sewing and typing; to set up schools for children to learn Arabic language and culture. At the same time, we are preparing to help the women in the Middle East, too.

What are the problems of the Arab woman here in North America?

Back home the Arab women lived under almost feudal conditions. There, very few women participated in the means of production. Here, most women must participate in the means of production to be part of society. Here, the Arab woman doesn't know which way to choose.



"The struggle for Arab women is part of the class struggle, and whether it is over here or back home, it is a struggle against the social system." Here, the Union of Palestinian Arab Women and their children in this month's Palestinian Solidarity Day march in Brooklyn. WW photo: G. Dunkel

Does she have to live the Arab way in the U.S.? Must she change?

Very few Arab women in New York work. They are mostly in the homes with their children. Many women who are here for years understand English but don't speak it freely. In the Middle East women marry young (between 14 and 20 depending on regional customs). Many of them finish the ninth grade over there, then get married and come here.

Here, in many ways the Arab woman is living the same way as back home, but it's a different economic system here. It is especially difficult for the children.

In their homes the customs and values are the same as those in the Middle East, yet in their schools they experience the American way of life. It is most difficult for the girls who are faced with two completely different standards. Often, when girls don't live up to standards for Arab women and adopt more American standards, the mother is held responsible.

Part of our goal in the Arab Women's Union is to help the Arab woman to adjust to this society, and to teach her how she can deal with her children.

In what context do you see the struggle of the Arab woman?

We do not agree with some women here in the United States who believe that their struggle is against men. The goal of Arab women here is to enable Arab women in and outside Palestine to be an active part of society and carry on the armed struggle.

The struggle for Arab women is part of the class struggle, and whether it is over here or back home, it is a struggle against the social system. The Arab woman in the Middle East is exploited by two main forces, the socio-economic system there, and by Israel. The struggle is on two levels, the class and the national level. We struggle

for a democratic leadership independent of colonialism.

The economic system in the U.S. exploits the man and the woman at the same time. You have to see the situation of the Arab woman as part of the class struggle here. We want the men to struggle with the women against the major exploiter.

What role have the Arab women played in the struggle in the Middle East?

The Palestinian women have participated in the struggle since the beginning of the 20th century starting with the struggle against British occupation. In Algeria women participated in the national liberation struggle there and were part of the armed struggle against France. It was the same in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and in Dhofar.

Now the Arab woman is more active than in any other era. The liberation organizations feel you can't win the struggle against imperialism when half the population is not free.

Inside Lebanon there is a special educational system just to teach women to become cadres. The schools teach how to carry on armed struggle, how to be a tactical leader and carry out operations, and basic nursing and first aid.

An example of a woman fighter is Leila Khaled, who hijacked so many planes. There is also Aminah Dahbens, one of the Palestinian cadre, who performed military operations within Israel. One of her important functions was to carry messages from the resistance movement into Palestine. This helped people in the occupied areas to wage a struggle against their occupation.

Then there is Isha Odeh, who also carried on military operations against Israel. She has been a political prisoner in Nazi Israel since 1969. The Israelis burned her home. Her body is covered with scars from being tortured. Yet still she will not give them any information about the resistance movement.

Two Namibian freedom fighters get death sentence in SWAPO 6 trial

By LAURIE FIERSTEIN
NEW YORK, May 12—The racist regime of South Africa condemned Hendrik Shikongo and Aaron Mushimba to death under the Terrorism Act. Both are members of the South West Africa People's Organization and defendants in the trial of the SWAPO 6.

The SWAPO 6 have been on trial for five months in the isolated village of Swakopmund in western Namibia. They were arrested in August 1975 following the assassination of Filemon Elifas, Chief Minister of Ovamboland.

Two nurses also on trial, Rauna Nambinga and Anna Nghihondjwa, were given seven and five years in prison, respectively. Charges on Andreas Nangolo and Naimi Nombowo, the remaining defendants, were dropped.

The assassination of Elifas, while it was the excuse used to make the arrests, was not the real reason that these six liberation fighters were arrested and tried. In fact, the formal written charges made no mention of the murder. Rather the charge sheet stated that "all six are known to be active supporters and members of SWAPO." Trial Judge J.J. Strydom pronounced the four

guilty of supporting persons whose goal was "the overthrow by force of the South African installed South West Africa administration." He denied any appeal saying, "This evil of terrorism must be torn out by the roots...law and order must be maintained."

The real terrorists, however, are the ones who made the arrests, conducted the trial, and who are oppressing the peoples of Namibia—the regime headquartered at Pretoria, South Africa. The trial was a political trial of SWAPO, which is the legitimate and internationally recognized government of Namibia and the organization which represents the Namibian masses.

"We do not recognize the trial because South Africa has no jurisdiction over Namibia," Mr. Tuliname Emvula, Deputy Representative of the SWAPO mission to the United Nations, told Workers World. "We reject it as a criminal act," he went on, "therefore the death sentence is null and void and illegal. We demand that the death sentence be immediately revoked and that the SWAPO 4 and all other political prisoners in Namibia and South

Africa be set free."

Namibia was handed over to South Africa by the League of Nations after World War 1. Pretoria continued the brutal exploitation of the Black population begun by the German colonialists 100 years ago. Apartheid became the means by which the white minority keeps the Black people in conditions of near slavery and squalor, deprived of even the most elementary rights.

This condition maintained by South Africa permits western, particularly U.S., imperialism to extract vast super-profits from the labor of the masses and the rich natural wealth of Namibia. Firms like Standard Oil of California, Bethlehem Steel, Amax Inc., Continental Oil, Texaco, and many others control the diamond and uranium mines, the offshore oil reserves, and the fishing industry of this African country.

It was to free their country from foreign domination, super-exploitation, and apartheid that SWAPO began the armed guerrilla movement in 1959. It was because of their heroic efforts and the worldwide protest against South African control of Namibia that the United Nations and the World



Photo: Africa

SWAPO president Sam Nujoma with guerrilla at the front.

Court of Justice in 1966 declared SWAPO the only legitimate government of Namibia and demanded Pretoria withdraw from that country. For ten years Vorster's regime has refused to do so and continues illegally to occupy Namibia, brutalize its Black population, and attempt to repress SWAPO.

The revolutionary storm sweeping across the African continent and in particular the MPLA's liberation of Angola, which borders Namibia to the north, has given new impetus and consciousness to all the oppressed in Africa.

"The court," said Mr. Emvula, "has sought to find them (SWAPO 6) guilty by all means and to find in them an object to intimidate the population of Namibia." For Pretoria, he said, "the death

sentences will serve as a precedent, as an example to all those seeking to fight back against their oppression."

All across Namibia rumblings of anger and resistance can be heard. Already SWAPO has organized demonstrations in Windhoek, the country's capital, demanding freedom for the defendants. And it is continuing the armed struggle—the only means to final liberation.

SWAPO urges all to raise their voices for the freedom of the SWAPO 4 and against South African occupation of Namibia. Telegrams of protest should be sent to: John Vorster, Prime Minister of South Africa; Union Building, Pretoria, South Africa and the South-West African Administrator, Government Building, Windhoek, South West Africa.

By U.S.-backed Ethiopian junta

Genocidal invasion launched into Eritrea

The following article is excerpted from a longer statement sent to Workers World by the Eritreans for Liberation in North America. It deals with the current massive invasion of Eritrea by Ethiopia. Some reports have estimated that up to 150,000 Ethiopian peasants have been mobilized for the invasion in an attempt by the Ethiopian junta to defeat the 15-year-old Eritrean liberation movement. The independence movement has liberated 95 percent of Eritrea and has resisted forces representing over half the Ethiopian army from imposing Ethiopian rule on their country.

Eritrea was an Italian colony from 1890 until 1941, when the British took control. In 1952, the UN Security Council voted to give Eritrea to Ethiopia—without consulting the Eritrean people, who have their own language and culture distinct from that of

Ethiopia.

It is now widely recognized that the Eritrean liberation movement has the support of the Eritrean masses in the struggle for independence. However, Ethiopia has tenaciously clung to Eritrea with the backing of the U.S. government. Eritrea is extremely important strategically, since it is Ethiopia's only outlet to the sea and contains a prized U.S. military communications base on the Red Sea that is used to spy on the countries of the Middle East and Africa.

May 20—The Ethiopian military junta (Dergue) is making frantic preparations to launch yet another barbarous onslaught against the Eritrean people. On top of the 25,000 troops already stationed there, it is sending more of its armed forces and U.S.-supplied, sophisticated weapons—tanks,

armored cars, supersonic jet fighters, etc.—to Eritrea.

But this is not all. The military junta has mobilized and armed tens of thousands of Ethiopian peasant "volunteers" to "invade" Eritrea. With promises of "land grants" in Eritrea and demagogic calls for a holy war against a non-existent "Arab invasion," it is attempting to use the masses of Ethiopian peasants as cannon fodder in its war of aggression.

GENOCIDE AGAINST CIVILIANS

The preparations have taken months. The Dergue's leaders and news media have ceaselessly harped on an anti-Eritrean theme for months, attempting to whip up chauvinist hysteria among the Ethiopian masses. In the countryside, peasant associations have been called on to supply "volunteers." Those peasants unwilling to

go are threatened with prison and, in some cases, their homes burnt. The junta has been forcibly drafting hundreds of doctors and nurses to go to Asmara, Eritrea's capital, in anticipation of heavy casualties.

The military junta's imminent all-out offensive and, in particular, its attempt to involve the masses of Ethiopian peasants in its war of aggression, is a monstrous crime on the Eritrean as well as Ethiopian peoples. In the first place, the fascist onslaught is aimed at committing brutal massacres against the civilian population as well as stifling and crushing their national liberation struggle. Like its predecessor, the Haile Selassie regime, the Dergue has miserably failed in its various attempts to crush the just struggle of the Eritrean people. Its aggressor troops, trained and advised by U.S. and Israeli experts and equipped with sophisticated U.S. weapons, have been unable to check the irresistible advance of the Eritrean revolution.

It is, therefore, out of desperation that the Ethiopian junta is now arming the masses of the Ethiopian peasants to "invade" Eritrea. The Ethiopian fascists want to pit the Ethiopian masses against the Eritrean people, arouse armed Ethiopian peasants to commit atrocities against the civilian population, create animosity between the two fraternal peoples and class brothers, and drown the Eritrean national liberation struggle in the blood of the oppressed peoples. Following the Zionist tactic of creating settlements in occupied territory, the Ethiopian fascists are attempting to settle Ethiopian peasants in Eritrea.

ETHIOPIAN MASS RESISTANCE

The Dergue's "offensive," however, is not directed only at the Eritrean struggle. It is also aimed at diverting and undermining the

Eritreans call

Dear Comrades,

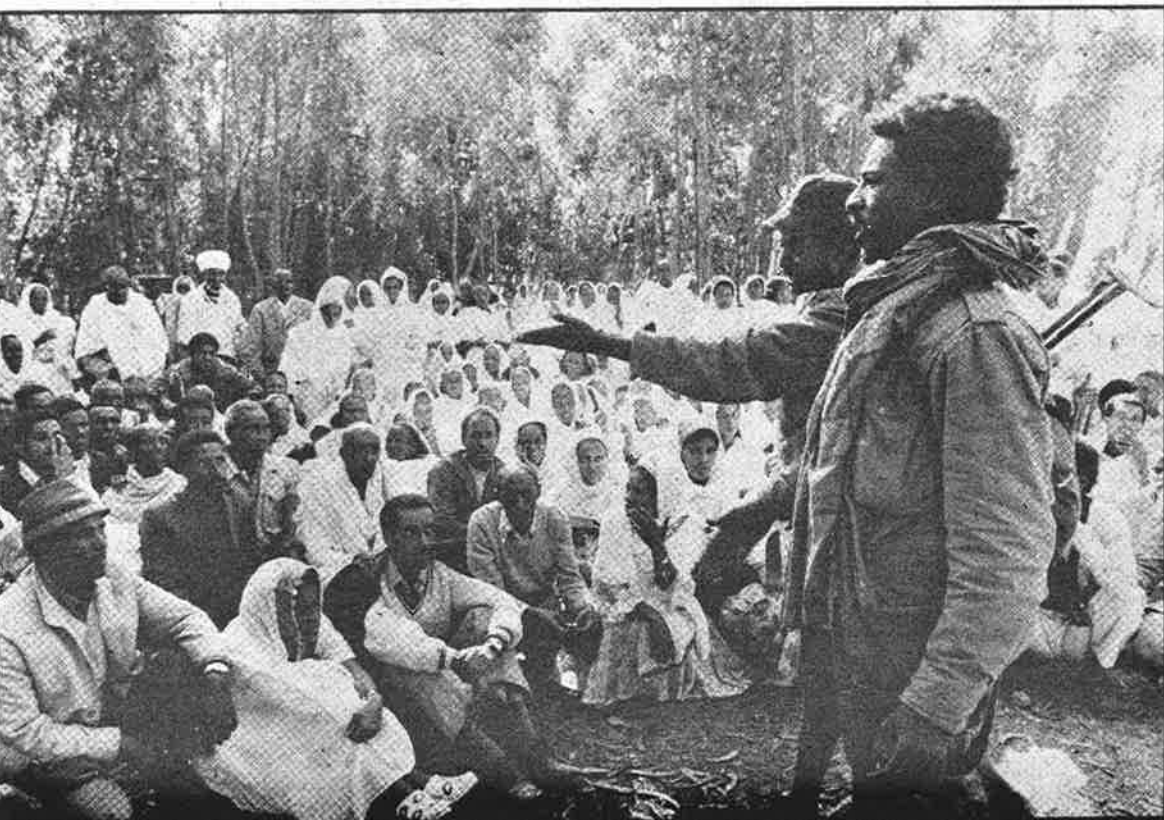
Revolutionary Greetings.

Eritreans for Liberation in North America would like to call your attention to the fact that the Ethiopian military junta is mobilizing and arming tens of thousands of Ethiopian peasants for a war of extermination against the Eritrean people. With this Hitlerite method, the Ethiopian junta hopes to kill two birds with one stone, i.e., crush the just struggle of the Eritrean people for national liberation and the Ethiopian people's growing struggle against feudalism and imperialism.

The junta's planned onslaught is a monstrous crime on the Eritrean and the Ethiopian peoples. We call on your organization and all progressive and democratic people to denounce the Ethiopian junta's fascist

deepening revolutionary struggle of the Ethiopian masses. Ever since the 1974 February uprising, Ethiopia has become the scene of intense class struggle. The trade union movement has called for unrestricted democratic rights, an end to military rule, the establishment of a democratic people's government, and supported its demands with strikes, slowdowns, etc. The peasantry has fought to protect its land, disarmed feudal bandits, expropriated hoarded grain, formed its own revolutionary committees, and opposed the junta's administrators. Hoping to consolidate its fascist regime, (Dergue) is inciting the Ethiopian masses against their allies, the Eritrean people.

In Ethiopia, the junta's fascist offensive is already meeting with the stiff resistance of the heroic Ethiopian people. In Tigray province, where the people are waging intense struggle against class and national oppression, the peasants have refused to par-



MICHEL LAURENT/GAMMA

Eritrean guerrilla leader Mesfun Hogos, foreground, and comrade in discussion with villagers.

Despite heavy repression

Resistance continues in Argentina

By JOYCE BETRIES

NEW YORK, May 25—Despite repressive measures taken by the military junta that seized control of the Argentina government on March 24, workers' resistance continues. Although the junta has declared martial law, frozen wages, and imposed an iron-hand speed-up on the workers, it has yet to reckon with the Argentine working class, still the strongest and most organized in all of South America.

TROOPS SURROUND FACTORY

In Cordoba on April 9, 17 workers were arrested for holding a work stoppage, according to the Latin American Economic Report (a British weekly) and the Prensa Latina wire report. The same sources reveal that a U.S. auto plant was surrounded by army and police when 4,000 workers stopped painting a section of the plant and demanded their usual rest break called for by health standards.

In May, a one-day strike of 1,000 workers took place at the Renault plant in Cordoba, according to the Solidarity Committee with the Argentine People.

Meanwhile armed resistance to the junta has increased. According

to Latin American Economic Report and Prensa Latina, a series of explosions occurred April 19 over a large area of Buenos Aires, hitting the Military Hospital, the Superior War School, and an infantry regiment. A telephone communique informed the press that the Montoneros, an armed revolutionary organization, took responsibility for the attacks.

GUERRILLA ACTIONS

The same sources reveal that Jose Ricardo Kenny, a Chrysler Corporation executive, has been executed. Between March 26 and April 13, two armed bodyguards of a Ford Motor Company executive, one bodyguard of a Pfizer Corporation executive, and two guards of a Goodyear executive were all killed. Official reports attribute these attacks to the Montoneros. More than 10 police agents and several high-ranking military officers, including a navy captain and a navy commander, have been executed by left armed organizations in recent weeks.

In the northeastern province of Tucuman, confrontations continue between army troops and the People's Revolutionary Army (ERP). The Partido Peronista Autentico, a left-wing party outlawed by Isabela Peron before the coup declared that the government cannot long survive the opposition of the people of Argentina, according to the same sources.

However, though resistance has increased, so has repression. Congress has been closed, civil liberties have been suspended, and all political and trade union activities have been banned. The country is under complete subjugation of the military and daily government troops join right-wing death squads in the murder of leftists.

According to the Solidarity Committee with the Argentine People, political prisoners taken

since the coup number 7,000, in addition to the 5,000 held before the military takeover. Prisoners are often held without charge. The military government has forbidden the publication of the names of those detained. In some cases prisoners have been tortured to death. There has also been repression directed against families of those jailed or murdered by the right.

Conditions in the jails are unimaginable. In the Rosario Women's Jail, Santa Fe province, eight children, none more than two years old, have been imprisoned with their mothers. The conditions in the jail are overcrowded and extremely unsanitary, and the children receive hardly any food. There is no medical attention for the children, one of whom is already believed to have tuberculosis.

CHILEANS, OTHER EXILES IN GRAVE DANGER

According to the Office for Political Prisoners and Human Rights in Chile, the situation of foreigners, particularly Chileans, is very precarious since the coup in Argentina. Foreign exiles have been systematically rounded up and taken in for interrogation. It is rumored they will be deported, as many may have been already.

During the first week of the coup, three UN-sponsored hotels of exiles were raided by the military, who took scores of Chileans, Uruguayans, and Paraguayans in for questioning. Subsequently, there have been reports of busloads of as many as 1,300 persons headed towards Chile. There are still daily raids averaging at least 20 detainees each time, many of whom simply disappear and whose arrest is not acknowledged by the authorities.

ENRIQUEZ MISSING

On April 10, Edgardo Enriquez, leader of the Chilean resistance and member of the Exterior

DEMAND THE RELEASE OF MIR LEADER EDGARDO ENRIQUEZ AND REGINA MARCONDES FROM PRISON IN ARGENTINA



WRITE AND CABLE NOW!
GEN. TORRES VIALA
CASA ROSADO
BUENOS AIRES
ARGENTINA
ARGENTINE EMBASSY
1400 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVE. NW
WASHINGTON, D.C.
VIVA LA RESISTENCIA CHILENA

Committee of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) of Chile, was arrested in Buenos Aires by the Argentine armed forces along with Mrs. Regina Marcondes, a Brazilian national. Edgardo has disappeared, and it is feared that he will be—if he has not already been—deported to Chile where he faces certain torture and death.

News was received on May 14 from Amnesty International in London and confirmed by the UN Commission of Refugees in Geneva the next day that Enriquez had been deported and was being held in Monte Maravillas, the questioning center of the National Intelligence Division in Santiago, Chile.

However, on May 14 the Argentine Foreign Minister con-

tacted the family of Enriquez to inform them that Edgardo was still in Argentina and would not be deported to Chile. Eleanor Jackson, a U.S. attorney, will be visiting both Argentina and Chile to gather information on the whereabouts of Enriquez.

The Office for Political Prisoners and Human Rights in Chile is requesting that in order to save Enriquez' life, messages be sent to the heads of government of both Argentina and Chile demanding an official statement of Enriquez' whereabouts and his legal status.

Telegrams are to be sent to: General Jorge Videla, Casa Rosado, Buenos Aires, Argentina, and to General Augusto Pinochet, Edificio Diego Portales, Santiago, Chile.

for intl. protest

campaign. Please write a letter of protest to the Ethiopian Mission to the UN and a letter to the Secretary General of the United Nations urging him to call on the Ethiopian people who are struggling for their legitimate right to national independence.

We call on you to follow closely the developments and concretely support the Eritrean people's national liberation struggle and the anti-imperialist, anti-feudalist struggle of the Ethiopian masses.

Long Live International Solidarity!

Executive Committee
EFLNA

Please note the following addresses: Embassy of Ethiopia, 2134 Kalorama Road N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008; H.E. Dr. Kurt Waldheim, Secretary General, UN, New York, N.Y. 10017.

ticipate in the fascist offensive against the Eritrean people. In other areas, villages have refused to provide "volunteers" and have clashed with the junta's troops.

The Eritrean and Ethiopian peoples are fraternal neighborly peoples. They are suffering under a common enemy—an imperialist-backed fascist junta which parades itself as "socialist." The Eritrean people, fervently aspiring for independence, have intense hatred for the fascist junta but feel no enmity towards the Ethiopian masses. The Ethiopian people have no interest in the forcible occupation of Eritrea. In fact, it is one of the causes of their suffering, for "no nation can be free if it oppresses another." Persisting in struggle and supporting each other, the Eritrean and Ethiopian people are bound to sweep the fascist Ethiopia junta into its grave, in the footsteps of Haile Selassie. An Eritrea independent and democratic and a liberated, democratic Ethiopia are bound to emerge.

'Reverend' Sun Myung Moon

Holy man fronts for fascist rule

By ANDY STAPP

NEW YORK, May 24—Two years ago at the height of the Watergate scandal, an unbelievably bizarre advertisement appeared on a full page of the New York Times. Its message: "At this time in history, God has chosen Richard Nixon to be President of the United States. Therefore only God has the power and authority to dismiss him."

It was signed by the "Reverend" Sun Myung Moon, a wealthy Korean businessman closely tied to the fascist regime of south Korea's dictator Pak Jung Hi.

The ad was followed by the arrival of squads of earnest-looking types who stationed themselves on street corners throughout midtown Manhattan, eagerly explaining to anyone who would listen that Nixon was innocent and that only by following the "divine principles of the Master" (Sun Moon) is salvation possible for a sinful America.

Since then, Moon's "Unification Church" has spread to dozens of cities across the country. Moon himself has become a real estate baron of the first rank, acquiring \$8 million worth of holdings in Westchester, N.Y., alone. He has picked up the New Yorker Hotel (for \$8.5 million), the Columbia

University Club off Times Square, and large tracts of land in California. Although Moon instructs his flock to shun worldly goods and turn all their money over to his church, he is content with nothing less than a luxurious villa which he bought in 1974 for \$625,000. Irvington, N.Y., tax officials report that this 25-room Tudor mansion, called East Garden, contains \$50,000 worth of antiques. Unfortunately, they add, the entire property, like all of Moon's other possessions, is technically owned by the Unification Church and thus is non-taxable.

Now, this is pretty familiar stuff for anyone familiar with the sleazy operations of a typical holy con artist: preach the gospel and rake in the loot.

FINANCED BY U.S. AND BIG BUSINESS

But Moon is more than just another rich "servant of God" leeching off gullible and desperate people. He heads a network of extreme right-wing political organizations, the main one being the International Federation for Victory over Communism, an outfit heavily funded by the south Korean government, which in turn

is the recipient of billions of dollars from U.S. corporations like Gulf Oil and from the U.S. government.

What are the big companies and the Pentagon buying with the money they funnel to Moon?

Disillusioned Moon followers have reported that in Unification Church training camps the indoctrination is as much political as it is religious. One ex-moonie, Deise Peskin, has described how an instructor would stand before the class and shout, "If you have to go to Korea to fight for God, will you go?"

"We'd all scream 'yes!'" she said.

This technique is actually called "heavenly brainwashing" by Moon disciples, according to Shelly Turner, who regained her senses and left the sect a year ago. Ms. Turner added that the ardent Moon believers referred to themselves as "heavenly bullets."

MOON LIKES HITLER

Sun Moon's neo-Nazi statements ("I will conquer and subjugate the whole world", "Hitler was sent by God to punish the Jews for killing Christ") have endeared him to the U.S. ultra-right.

Last year the New York Times (Dec. 18) wrote about a so-called

prayer meeting at the U.S. House of Representatives that Moon presided over, telling the assembled politicians "it is the will of God" for the Pentagon to keep 40,000 troops stationed in south Korea.

This pro-colonialist outburst by Moon so delighted Richard Ichord, the Chairman of the House Internal Security Committee, that the representative from Missouri rose and "broadly compared the millionaire clergyman to Moses, John the Baptist and Jesus," according to the Times.

Moon's latest effort is the promotion of a super-chauvinist and reactionary "Bicentennial God Bless America Festival" to be held in New York City's Yankee Stadium on June 1, an event where "The Master" himself has promised to speak. His "divine words" will be translated into English by Colonel Bo Hi Pak, an officer thoughtfully loaned to Moon by the south Korean Central Intelligence Agency.

Such ludicrous antics are not likely to deceive large numbers of people. They do reveal, however, to what depths the U.S. ruling class will sink in trying to drum up some support for its imperialist policy of occupying south Korea.

EDITORIAL

Supersonic chauvinism

On May 24 supersonic passenger travel between Europe and the U.S. was inaugurated amid a swirl of controversy almost as noisy as the Concorde airplane itself. A great deal of the opposition to the new SST, which is a joint venture of British Airways and Air France, is posed from the point of view of possible environmental hazards. But in reality there is much more than just concern for decibel levels and pollution behind the debate.

This dispute involves a bitter struggle between U.S. big business and its European competitors, who see in the Concorde a chance to get a piece of the action in the lucrative market for aircraft, an area where a handful of heavily subsidized U.S. firms have had a virtual monopoly giving them effective control of the skies.

U.S. GOT 'ARMS DEAL OF CENTURY'

In this fight for hegemony in the aircraft industry, the U.S. companies have long known that France and England were both gambling heavily on the success of the Concorde. Back in July of last year the Concorde played a major, if behind the scenes, role in the negotiations which led to the signing of a \$25 billion arms agreement committing Belgium, Norway, Denmark, and the Netherlands to purchase F-16 fighter planes for their NATO forces. This arrangement, touted as "the arms deal of the century" by a Washington jubilant at having made these countries even more dependent on the Pentagon, delighted General Dynamics Corporation, which anticipates enormous profits from this sale. But many Europeans, especially the French who had been optimistically peddling their own Mirage jet to the NATO nations, felt that the Ford administration had crammed the whole package down their throats with absolutely no regard for their rights as junior partners.

So strong, in fact, was the storm of anger on the Continent that the U.S. government decided it would have to sweeten the pill by making some concessions to French and English aircraft producers. In this context, the Concorde was granted temporary permission to land in Washington.

RIGHTEOUSNESS FROM WORLD'S WORST POLLUTERS

No sooner had the ruling class here agreed to this, however, than it began inciting attacks on the Concorde as environmentally destructive. Considering that these attacks come from the world's greatest polluters, whose planes loaded with nuclear bombs are constantly threatening the rest of the world with disaster (remember when the air force lost a few in the waters off Spain?), it's safe to say that their reasons for raising the issue have far more to do with keeping the lion's share of aircraft manufacture for themselves than with protecting homeowners' eardrums or the ozone layer.

Of course the Europeans, fully aware that hostility to the SST is largely motivated by commercial rivalry by their "allies," tend to see the anti-Concorde campaign as crude anti-European sentiment. And indeed, passions against the Concorde were whipped to such a pitch in the U.S. that the President of France himself was compelled to take the extraordinary step of hurrying to Washington earlier this month to get Ford's guarantee that he would not renege on his promises of last summer.

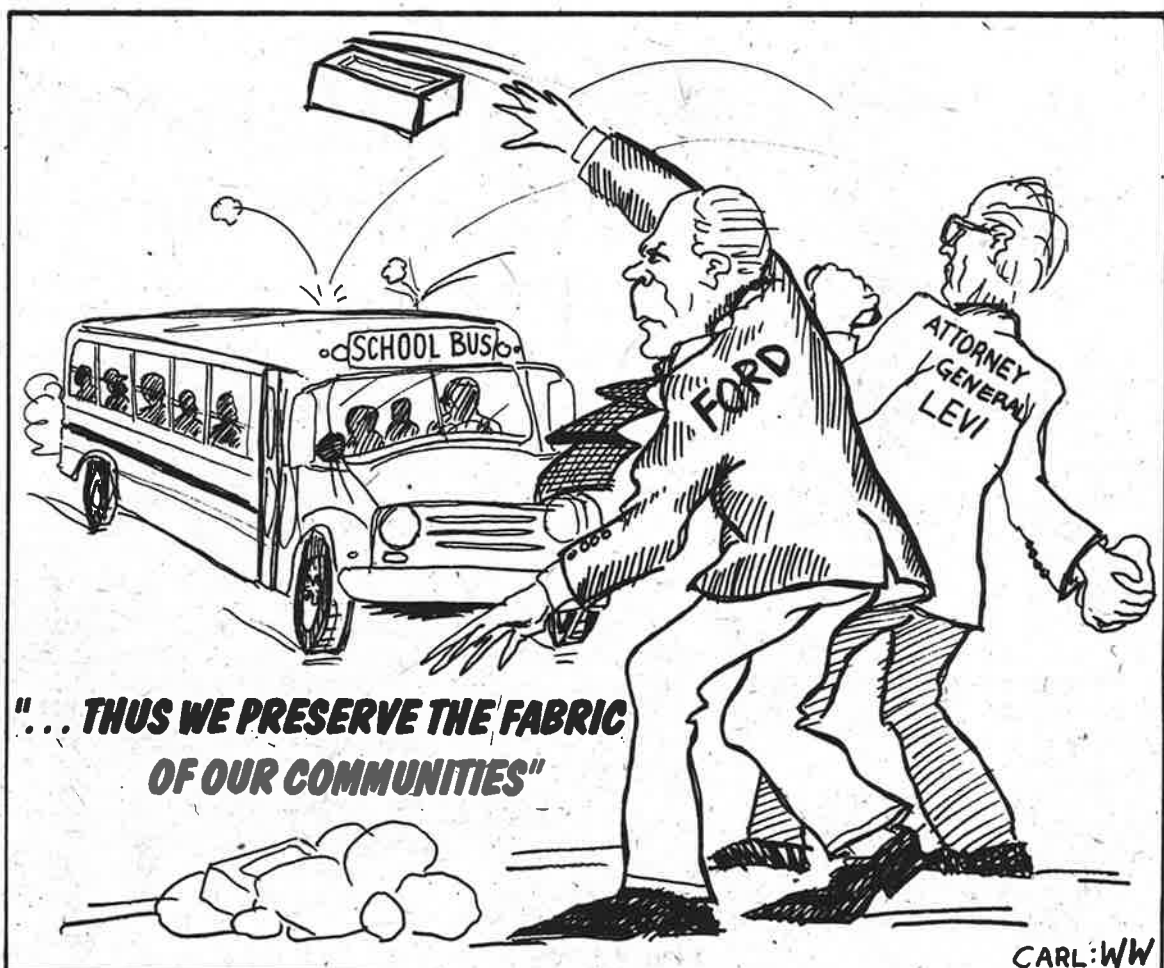
Every revolutionary socialist must surely understand that where inter-imperialist rivalries break out, it is most imperative to demonstrate proletarian internationalism, to show hostility to the bosses' squabble, and to set a course completely independent from maneuvers of the class enemy that are aimed at splitting the workers and poisoning relations among the world proletariat along national lines.

What is absolutely impermissible are articles like those that have appeared this week in several left papers here unthinkingly going along with the anti-Concorde campaign. One in the Militant even goes so far as to attack the "Stalinist" French CP for collaborating with its own bourgeois government in promoting the plane, while never stopping to wonder at its own contribution to the anti-Concorde cause, a position being pushed by the patriotic chauvinists over here (who will have no objection to an SST "made in the U.S.A.").

A true case of beholding the mote in your brother's eye but not the beam in your own!

True internationalists must not allow themselves to be sucked into this campaign, which only uses the very legitimate concern of most people over the poisons introduced into the environment to distract from what is really a drive to uphold U.S. supremacy and strengthen imperialist monopoly.

The most important and often difficult task is building working class solidarity among all peoples for the purpose of combatting the "free world's" capitalist rulers, especially the ones right here at home.



—Guardian discussion

(Continued from page 9)

break with Marxist methodology so far as the question of the USSR is concerned.

Evaluating the USSR in terms of a hostile social formation, as the Chinese leaders have done, amounts to a crossing of the Rubicon on a fundamental class issue.

DISASTROUS EFFECTS ON THE MOVEMENT

Of course, the leaders of a workers' state may quickly change their position on any number of fundamental questions and, by virtue of the fact that they hold state power, be able to survive it (with what damage at home, only the future can tell). But it is not at all easy for working class movements who do not hold state power to be confronted, the way the Chinese leadership has confronted its followers abroad, with Angola—and earlier Chile, Bangladesh, etc. For the movement to hold on to positions in glaring contradiction to firm beliefs, such as in Angola, means to convert the movement into an utterly unthinking, dogmatic, and insensitive group of followers who in times of great social crisis can only become a terrible drag on the advanced elements of the working class movement.

What else can one think after reading William Hinton's piece in the May 5 Guardian? It amounts to a call to become recruiting sergeants for the U.S. imperialist war machine against the Soviet Union. How can any communist, how can anybody with any real class consciousness, feel that this can be a correct policy for a workers' movement to follow, here or anywhere?

To impose such a strategy upon the working class movement is an act of folly. And, even worse, it is suicidal for those in the movement who would pursue such a course.

THE CAPITALIST ECONOMIC CYCLE AND THE USSR

The theoretical exponents of the theory of capitalist restoration and social imperialism have suffered two major blows through their false generalization. Angola, of course, is the most glaring and in a way the acid test so far as support for the struggle of oppressed people goes. The other blow to their theory is, however, equally

damaging from an entirely different perspective.

The last two years of the deepest and profoundest world capitalist economic crisis since the crash in 1929 have disproved the theory of capitalist restoration in the USSR. Such a deep-seated and profound economic crisis could not but be equally pervasive in the USSR if it were indeed a capitalist state, if indeed a new bourgeoisie or, as Professor Bruno Bettelheim calls it, a "state bourgeoisie," had taken over.

For whatever nomenclature is applied to it, the implication of such a theory is that the Soviet economy has been subjected to the same driving forces which motivate the capitalist system and which result in such devastating economic crisis, unemployment, and ultimately imperialist wars.

Now, all of us must retain objectivity in observing the evolution of the USSR and not close our eyes to any possible transformation of the social system from a workers' state with a planned economy and ownership of the means of production by the workers into a capitalist state.

But if these two fundamental elements of a workers' state, along with the monopoly of foreign trade, were in reality of merely technical significance, and a market economy had actually developed to the extent where it would nullify what Engels called the criteria for the bare beginnings of a workers' state, then we should have the kind of unemployment in the USSR which no government could conceivably hide. Yet this is precisely what has not happened in these two crucial years of economic crisis in the imperialist world.

It is true that there is a certain amount of "unemployment," which some pro-Chinese theoreticians claim to be the indubitable proof that capitalism has in fact been restored. But this is the kind of unforgivable exaggeration which no serious capitalist economist, however full of hatred for the Soviet Union, has yet been able to make. The "unemployment" that exists in the USSR results from technological changes and the inefficiency of the bureaucracy in finding new employment, but the reality of the situation is that there is a labor shortage in the Soviet Union, the

very reverse of what our theoreticians are trying to prove.

The world capitalist economic crisis has, of course, affected all socialist countries, including China. But these stresses are the results of external influences from the world capitalist market and do not arise out of the internal dynamics of socialist construction.

WHAT ABOUT FOREIGN TRADE DEFICITS?

Only last week (May 22) the New York Times in an editorial tried to show that the huge foreign trade deficit of the USSR proved that the centralized economy with a monopoly of foreign trade was either non-existent or was ineffective to cope with economic problems and that the USSR was therefore on the same level or suffered from the same problems as the capitalist countries. It did not mention China, out of courtesy to its possible "new strategic ally." But it was subsequently disclosed that China, too, suffers from a trade deficit.

What the trade deficits really show is that both countries, the USSR and China, are still in great need of Western and Japanese technology and that for the most part there is still a worldwide partial imperialist economic blockade against the socialist countries. They are not free to purchase and sell in the world capitalist market because of stringent political conditions attached by the imperialist powers and their satellites.

PROBLEMS OF FARM COLLECTIVIZATION

The deficit incurred by the USSR is explained by its huge purchases of grain on the world market, mostly from the U.S., which reflect not only on the bad weather conditions which have prevailed in the USSR over the last few years, but also on mismanagement and inefficiency in the policy of farm collectivization. There has been an enormous growth of the so-called private plots and an equally enormous growth of the grasping and acquisitive Kolkhoz aristocracy. And the growing social differentiations go hand in hand with a monstrous growth of privileges among the upper strata of Soviet society.

Nevertheless, it is something

(Continued on page 10)

Key issue in the Guardian discussion

By SAM MARCY

MAY 25—The current controversy on the left with regard to Angola, China, and the USSR, which is reflected in the Guardian newspaper's opening of a discussion on these matters, must of necessity go beyond a debate on China's foreign policy to the question of the class character of the USSR.

First, however, the most important thing for our party is to state its own programmatic position, independently of the views expressed by others in the discussion.

WWP'S RECORD ON NATIONAL LIBERATION

I need hardly state that so far as Angola goes, our party has vigorously and unconditionally supported the MPLA and the People's Republic of Angola flows from our general programmatic position—which is to render firm, vigorous, and unconditional support to all oppressed people fighting imperialism and for their liberation. Moreover, we of course stand for the unconditional support of all the socialist countries, including the USSR as well as China, in the struggle against imperialist aggression and bourgeois reaction at home.

(Our support of the socialist countries should be distinguished from that which the CPUSA gives to the USSR, completely ratifying all policies of the Soviet bureaucracy. Nor should we be in any way identified with the kind of "support" which the Socialist Workers Party here still claims to give to the socialist countries. Their support is exceptionally well illustrated by the way they have hailed the Solzhenitsyns, the Sakharovs, the Amalriks, and others who are clearly and unequivocally champions of bourgeois reaction.)

(The Militant, organ of the SWP, has by the way now declared its intention of entering the debate on China and Angola, although it has not supported the MPLA and has regarded it as virtually on the same footing with the FNLA and UNITA characterizing all three as bourgeois nationalist groups maneuvering with imperialism. In its opening article there is not a word which would disclose the SWP's class characterization of the USSR, but does anyone really need to be told? Nominally, they say it is a workers' state. In practice, they treat it as an imperialist country.)

The record of our party on support to the struggles against imperialism is very clear, beginning with such concrete events as the first demonstration in the U.S. against the Vietnam War (1962) which perhaps many of the left may not have noticed—although President Ho Chi Minh did, and specifically acknowledged the support of Youth Against War & Fascism in an interview with Wilfred Burchett published in the Guardian (May 16, 1963).

Our very impressive demonstration on behalf of the Angolan people this January 17, and our work on the May Day anti-apartheid, anti-imperialist demonstrations, along with the Pan African Students Organization in the Americas and many other organizations, are most recent examples of our party's ability and willingness to take the necessary initiatives. A study of our party history reveals militant and



LNS photo: Michael Shuster

Part of May Day celebration of 100,000 Angolans in Luanda this month. "Those who took on faith China's characterization of the USSR as social-imperialist must ask themselves, how is it that revolutionary China supported the reactionary puppet cliques while the 'social-imperialists' supported the revolutionary cause of the Angolan people? How is this to be explained?"

consistent opposition to imperialist attacks against the oppressed peoples and socialist countries, with outstanding effort on such questions as the Middle East, Indonesia, Cuba, and Korea.

BEYOND ANGOLA, WHAT IS THE REAL ISSUE?

Angola, of course, which has currently engendered so much controversy in the movement, is not the key issue. It is merely a surface manifestation of a much deeper conflict. The real issue is the class character of the USSR. To deny this, to evade it, will lead to greater confusion, frustration, and demoralization.

The class character of the Soviet Union has been at the bottom of the most heated political controversies in the left-wing movement virtually since the birth of the Soviet Socialist Republic. It is, at least in part, the fundamental axis of the world political struggle today, and it is impossible to construct a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist program in any single country without taking into account the class character of the USSR.

We, of course, believe neither that there is a new exploiting class in the Soviet Union, nor that there has been a return of the bourgeoisie to power there under the guide of Marxist-Leninist phraseology. We firmly adhere to the position that the USSR is a workers' state, although it has undergone a severe strain, deterioration, and erosion of revolutionary principles, and is moreover headed by a privileged and absolutist bureaucracy which limits, distorts, and has on many occasions endangered the very existence of the socialist forms of organization in the USSR. This bureaucracy arose under the

desperate conditions facing the newborn workers' state in its early years, but was held strongly in check during Lenin's time. After his death, however, it began to assume more and more ominous proportions.

However, the underlying social system of the USSR is infinitely superior to that of the most developed, the most "glorious," and the most "democratic" of the imperialist states. Whatever the drawbacks of the Soviet Union, whatever its trials and tribulations, whatever false policies have been imposed on the USSR by its leaders, it has nevertheless been able to achieve tremendous social, cultural, and material progress for the masses which no capitalist state could possibly have accomplished in the circumstances under which the USSR was originally founded and developed.

Indeed, the USSR is rooted in a socialist system superior to the capitalist system. It is our fundamental political position that, regardless of the Soviet bureaucracy, the USSR contains a new social formation, based on a historically superior mode of production, and is progressive in relation to monopoly capitalism in the same way that capitalism was a superior system in relation to feudalism, as indeed feudalism was a higher social system than slavery.

TWO ANTAGONISTIC CLASS CAMPS

The main contradiction in world politics today is not at all what the exponents of China's new policy say it is (which in any case has undergone several changes in the course of the struggle with USSR revisionism). The main con-

tradiction, the main and fundamental antagonism, is between imperialism on the one hand, meaning thereby the U.S. and all the other imperialist states including Japan, and on the other all the socialist countries—China, the USSR, etc.—plus all the oppressed people and the world proletariat.

These in reality constitute the two great class camps in the present contemporary epoch. The fact that there is struggle in the camp of the working class, which occasionally may even break out into armed struggle, does not alter the fundamental class antagonism between the two irreconcilable class camps, the two antagonistic social systems based upon two different classes.

The USSR is itself a contradictory social phenomenon, on top of which sits a heavy-handed bureaucracy which has a dual character. This is most strikingly shown in its capacity to play both a progressive as well as a reactionary role in domestic and foreign policy. It is utterly impossible to understand the Soviet Union unless one takes into account this characteristic of the Soviet ruling stratum.

SOVIET LEADERS PLAY A CONTRADICTIONARY ROLE

It explains why all those who immediately took on faith the Chinese characterization of the USSR as a capitalist or social-imperialist state now find themselves at a loss how to explain the truly progressive role the Soviet Union has played in Angola. They must ask themselves, how is it that revolutionary China supported the reactionary puppet cliques of the FNLA and UNITA while the "social imperialists" supported the revolutionary cause of the

Angolan people? How is this to be explained?

Granted that an imperialist power might occasionally give material support here and there to a revolutionary cause, what imperialist power has given both material and political support to a revolutionary regime in complete hostility to all the other imperialist powers? And is Angola really the exceptional situation, the sole exception? What about Cuba itself? What about Vietnam?

Need we enumerate all the situations where the Soviet bureaucracy has played a progressive role on the international arena?

The Soviet Union's assistance to Angola is merely a continuation of what it did in Cuba. And even when the USSR sent missiles to Cuba in 1962, did the Chinese leadership call it social-imperialist then? Not at all, although they criticized the introduction of the missiles as adventurist and Khrushchev's retreat under U.S. pressure as capitulation and appeasement, while supporting Cuba against the U.S. But whatever the validity of these sharp criticisms, they were addressed to the policies of the leadership and were not attacks on the Soviet system—as in the case of Soviet aid to Angola. Yet what has really changed since then?

The fact of the matter is that there would scarcely have been a controversy over Angola were it not for the split between China and the USSR. And conceivably there might not have been a split between China and the USSR had not the Soviet workers' state been under the leadership of a bureaucracy.

CHINA'S LEADERS CROSS CLASS LINES

Nonetheless, whatever the origin of the struggle between China and the USSR leadership on principled political issues, as well as on matters concerning relations between states, China's characterization of the USSR as an imperialist power meant an abandonment and renunciation of class criteria in the struggle against revisionism.

It is one thing to attack the Soviet leadership as revisionists, renegades, opportunists, and so on. It is qualitatively different and a crossing of class lines to write off the Soviet Union itself and the social system that prevails there.

The most unfortunate aspect of this struggle is that a good deal of the movement here (and abroad as well) took China's hasty generalization about the USSR on pure faith, without subjecting this new and most dangerous departure from Marxist analytical method to any discussion whatsoever!

It should be remembered that by the time the generalization about Soviet "imperialism" made its way around the world as a serious thrust by the Chinese leadership, the movement people here, and the younger ones in particular, were so enthusiastic about the Cultural Revolution they found it exceedingly difficult to criticize China for its failure to first of all initiate a discussion in China itself, a failure compounded by thrusting its new position on an unwary world movement of supporters of the Chinese Revolution.

Our party whole-heartedly supported the Cultural Revolution, and considers its achievements of singular significance, but not for one moment did we go along with what amounted to a complete

(Continued on page 8)

Rigged elections 1876-1976

1924—The Morgans run against themselves

By V. COPELAND

The wisecracks of the 1920s used to say that Calvin Coolidge was the most bird-brained of U.S. Presidents up to his time.

But this was both an insult to our feathered friends and an underestimation of Silent Cal. The latter did, after all, have wisdom enough to be a close friend of a partner of J. P. Morgan and the political protégé of another Morgan associate, Massachusetts Senator W. M. Crane—who was also a director of AT&T.

Furthermore, Coolidge was smart enough never to oppose—not even as demagoguery—a single important deal that big business wanted to put over on the U.S. public. Unlike Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, and even William H. Taft, he went along with everything. And unlike Harding, he saved his energy and resisted wild parties and drunken poker games.

Some of the better informed of the wisecracks quoted above would explain his otherwise unexplainable rise to high office in the land by pointing to this virtuous personal conduct.

Since Harding had been such a crook, the story went, Coolidge looked good by comparison. And since big business had to have a Republican in office, it got behind the Vice President who had survived the death of President Harding in 1923.

FROM THE MORGAN DYNASTY

The real story, however, was that Harding had on the whole been a Rockefeller man and Coolidge was a puppet of the Morgans. After the death of Harding, the Morgans got the inside track again.

As in 1920, a united Wall Street showered most of its contributions upon the Republicans and apparently the now embarrassed Rockefeller money (somewhat reduced) also went to Coolidge. John D. the First actually contributed only \$10,000 for the record, with his partner Payne Whitney loosening up for \$15,000. (Andrew Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury, looked after the Rockefeller interests as well as the Morgan—and of course his own.)

A long list of contributors from the Morgan crowd was published.

But the Astors, duPonts, Marshall Fields, Vanderbilts, and Firestones also gave heavily, as did the Mellons who played a very special role in Coolidge's administration.

Coolidge probably just as crooked as Harding under his smug exterior, but considerably more discreet and steady about it, accepted huge sums for his campaign from the big oil swindle defendants (the "Teapot Dome" scandal).

Joseph R. Grundy, for example, chairman of the Republican Ways and Means Committee and one of the Harding inner ring of oil thieves, collected \$300,000 for the Coolidge campaign—probably most of it from oil companies.

RACISM AND POPULIST DEMOCRACY

The Democrats, mostly by virtue of their Southern wing, were somewhat more racist than the Republicans. (The Republicans would have been just as bad, but they had nothing in the South while the Northern ghettos and white middle class suburbs were hardly born yet.)

The Ku Klux Klan was so powerful in the Democratic Party in 1924 that a resolution condemning the Klan by name was defeated, although narrowly.

It might have been passed, but William Jennings Bryan combined his anti-monopoly demagoguery with a plea for unity with the Klan. "Anybody can fight the Klan," he declaimed, "but only the Democratic Party can stand between the common people and their oppressors."

The party of the common people then proceeded to choose J.P. Morgan's personal lawyer as its candidate for U.S. President.

(This comatose of kindness to the worst racists and appeals to defend "the common people against their oppressors" have been a refrain of the Democratic Party in one way or another for over a hundred and fifty years.)

Alfred E. Smith, Governor of New York State, and William Gibbs McAdoo, leading light in the Wilson administration and Wilson's son-in-law, were at first

the main contenders.

At that time, however, the Democratic convention required a two-thirds vote of the delegates to choose a presidential candidate. The reason for this provision, in effect before the Civil War until 1932, was so the white South could have a veto over any candidate the more numerous Northern delegates might try to put over on them.

The Klan candidate was Mr. McAdoo. The Northern liberal wing, with the assistance of the not-so-liberal duPonts, was backing Al Smith, who was nominated by Franklin D. Roosevelt. Neither man could get the required two-thirds vote.

Then the "dark horse" was trotted forward. This was John W. Davis, who had been first a congressman from West Virginia, then Solicitor General of the United States and Ambassador to Great Britain before he graduated to become a lawyer for J.P. Morgan.

(Davis' acceptability to the Klan was highlighted more glaringly just 30 years later, when he defended the segregationist side before the Supreme Court in the now-famous 1954 school decision.)

The situation of two Morgan candidates running at the same time was well known to the inner circle of capitalist kibitzers. One of them, Clinton W. Gilbert, a Coolidge voter himself, made the following observation in *You Take Your Choice* (pp. 28,29):

"An argument has been put into the mouth of Senator LaFollette (running on a new Progressive Party ticket—V.C.) who will doubtless say that the House of Morgan is overrepresented on both the old party tickets, with Mr. Coolidge, friend and classmate of one partner, Mr. (Dwight) Morrow, who has picked the two Republican campaign fund collectors... with General Dawes, one of the Morgan banking connections in the West, running for Vice President as Mr. Coolidge associate; and with Mr. Davis, Morgan's lawyer, offered as Hobson's choice to the voters as the Democratic candidate for President."

Get in the struggle with Youth Against War & Fascism and Workers World Party!

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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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

—Guardian discussion

(Continued from page 8)

that the USSR has the wherewithal to purchase such huge amounts of grain and see to it that the population is taken care of. In Stalin's time the deficit in grain production would not have been made up by purchases from the world market and the needs of the people would not have been met.

Finally, as regards the foreign trade deficits of the socialist countries, it is important to point out that this does not at all prove what the imperialists and the sycophants are saying—just the opposite. Up until well into the 1890s, and even well after that, the U.S. was a debtor nation in relation to the old capitalist countries. Nevertheless, it was plain as daylight that the U.S. was a growing and developing capitalist country and that the European capitalist powers were really on the decline in spite of the fact that the U.S. was in debt to them.

The fact that the USSR and China are compelled to purchase or, to put it more correctly, are planning to purchase more than they can sell, merely indicates their urgent need for further industrial development. It indicates that the basic tendency of their

economies is to grow as against imperialist decline. Would that the capitalist ruling classes would permit all the socialist countries to buy and sell without political restrictions and the more onerous imperialist strings attached. Overall, the foreign trade deficits (which in any case the socialist countries can if they desire wipe out merely by planning) simply indicate that the bourgeois mode of production is still the predominant form on a world scale, although it is in political disarray and economically outmoded.

Only the consistent and unrelenting struggle of the world proletariat and oppressed people for the socialist revolution can put an end to that.

To enter the current political controversy without first taking into account what has been said above, without clearly coming to grips with the central question—the class character of the USSR—would merely be dealing with derivative political issues. However important they may be, they cannot be discussed fully and comprehended if taken in isolation from the class character of the USSR and its reciprocal relations to China.

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POLITICAL PRISONERS



Rev. Ben Chavis collapses after prison fast

By LESLIE FEINBERG

NEW YORK, May 21—The Rev. Ben Chavis collapsed unconscious on May 7 at the close of a hearing before the North Carolina Inmate Grievance Commission. He was in the eighth day of a hunger strike he began to protest his transfer from Caledonia to unhealthy conditions in a hospital unit at McCain Prison which houses tubercular and mentally ill inmates. The final incident which convinced him to fast, he said, was finding a cockroach in his food for the second time.

Ben Chavis is a leader of the Wilmington 10, nine Black men and one white woman who are sentenced to a total of 282 years in the North Carolina prison system for their political beliefs and activities. They were framed on charges of arson and conspiracy for their role in building self-defense for the Black community of Wilmington, N.C., in 1971, against racist attacks by Klansmen and members of Rights for White People (ROWP).

After his collapse, Chavis was carried out into a corridor and revived while the 25 to 30 relatives, friends, and supporters present reacted with tears and angry denunciation of the North Carolina prison officials who were present.

Elizabeth Chavis confronted the state's treatment of her son saying, "We know you want to kill him. You won't let him have his water, won't let him have his medicine. This is the cruelest persecution and the world has its eyes on you."

PHONY EXCUSE FOR TRANSFER

The prison administration claims to have transferred Chavis to the only facility with single-person cells under 24-hour guard in order to "insure his safety from other inmates." The administration named inmate

William Griffin as having threatened Chavis's life at Caledonia.

But Griffin is a friend of Chavis's and has written him several times since Chavis was transferred, telling him that he was being held in segregation and was under pressure to sign a false statement that he had threatened Brother Chavis.

FASTING IN PROTEST

During his fast to protest the conditions he faces at McCain, Chavis has refused all solid food and also the drinking water which comes through one rusty spigot in each cell. One common bowl is available for drinking, which is shared by prisoners who suffer from diseases.

The prison department has refused to let his family bring him fruit juice, fresh milk, or mineral water, forbidding these items as contraband.

Chavis was recently visited by 37 members of the national Black Democratic Caucus. They were

able to speak with Chavis through a steel mesh fence, but when they tried to give him cans of fruit juice they had brought, this was refused by authorities in order "to prevent smuggling."

Ms. Chavis, mother of the defendant, has vowed to "fight this thing as long as I live." She accuses North Carolina prisons Assistant Director W.L. Kautzky, chief spokesperson for the prison department at the hearing, of working with other state officials to destroy Black leadership in the state. "Anyone able to speak, anyone who shows leadership, they try to destroy him."

Supporters are being asked to contact David Jones, Secretary, N.C. Department of Corrections, Morgan St., Raleigh, N.C., to demand that Chavis be transferred from McCain Prison Unit.

For more information, write or call the Wilmington 10 Defense Committee, 1330 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20005; phone (202) 737-2600. 0460 correx

Youth, 16, faces death in chair

By PETE PERKINS

NEW YORK, May 14—"A Louisiana penitentiary is a very dangerous place for a 16-year-old to spend the rest of his life," writes Johnny Ross in a letter to the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC). He currently resides in a death row punishment cell with three adults, one bed, and no light.

Referring to his conviction of raping a 25-year-old white woman, he says, "Please believe that I didn't do this, nor did I have anything to do with it." A look at the events in the case strongly suggests a racist frame-up.

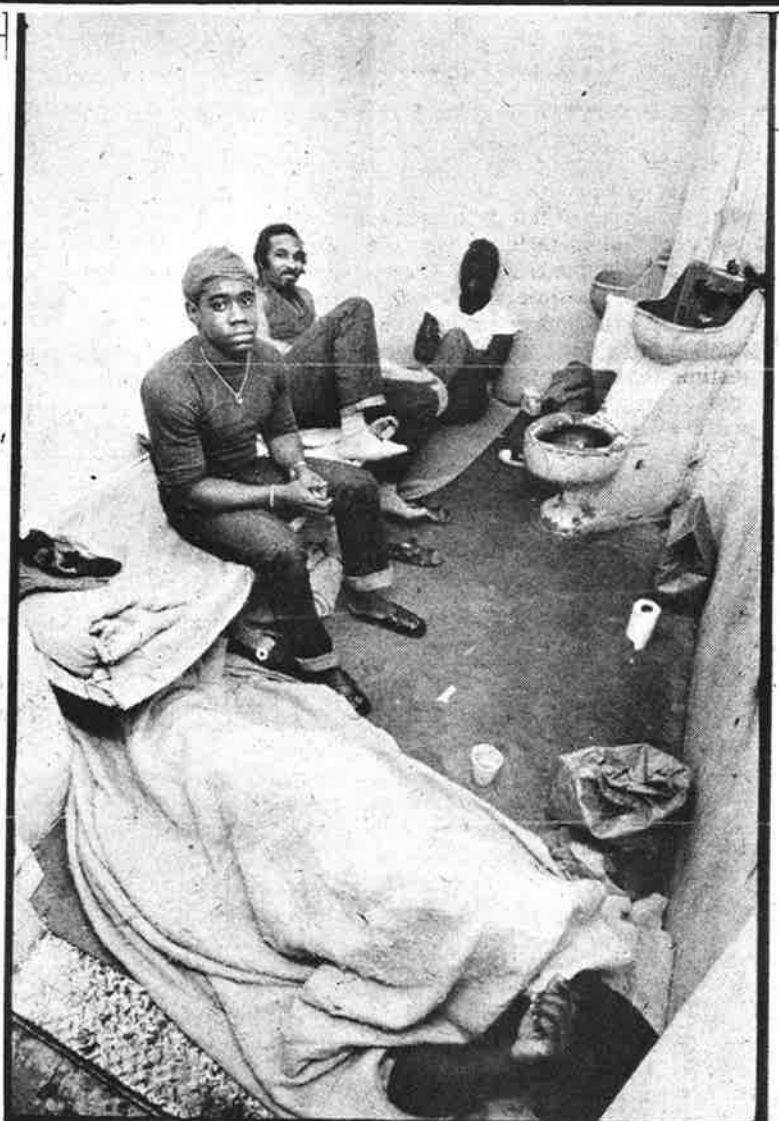
COERCED CONFESSION

In July 1974, New Orleans police say, two Black men abducted a

white woman, raped her at gunpoint, and later escaped after a shootout with the same officers. Embarrassed by their failure to apprehend the suspects, the cops later produced a lineup of "likely suspects" of whom Johnny was one.

Although the police sought two men approximately 20 years old, 5'8" and 150-160 pounds, the victim picked Johnny, who was 15 years old, 5'4", and 130 pounds from the lineup. After a severe beating by the police, he signed a confession which he did not read or understand. Ross was found guilty and sentenced to death.

Rape is a vicious crime against women. However, the ruling class has twisted laws that should



Sentenced to death, 16-year-old Johnny Ross [left front] awaits appeal in this punishment cell with three adult prisoners.

protect women from rape in order to attack oppressed people. No white man has ever been executed for raping a Black woman. According to the SPLC, out of the 455 men who have been executed for rape since 1930, 405 of them were Black. Most of these Black men were executed for alleged rapes of white women.

SPLC lawyers are now appealing Ross's case, hoping to win a new trial on the basis of police coercion and brutality. While the appeal is in progress, the Supreme Court is considering reinstating the death penalty. Four years ago the Supreme Court ruled that the death penalty was un-

constitutional because of its discriminatory application. Since then, the situation has gotten worse.

A recently released study found the percentage of Black and other oppressed people receiving the death sentence had soared from 26 to 52 percent since the 1972 decision. Johnny Ross is now one of those statistics.

The SPLC hopes to appeal this case of Jim Crow justice before the Supreme Court throws the switch that will take Johnny's life. For more information on this case, contact the Center at 1001 South Aull St., Montgomery, Ala. 36101.

Despite rulers' wall of silence

Malcolm X's real murderers are known

By B. LAPIDES

NEW YORK, May 24—In the summer of 1964, Malcolm X toured Africa for the second time, receiving the warmest respect everywhere and gaining the support of 32 African governments for his plan to indict U.S. racism before the UN. The Aug. 13 New York Times reported the U.S. government's serious distress, which, as Malcolm noted, resulted in the CIA's "constant surveillance" of him.

The U.S. State Department had attempted behind the scenes to have him barred from addressing the African Summit Conference in Cairo on July 24, but was rebuffed. On July 23 Malcolm was poisoned and nearly died. Afterward, he stressed that "CIA men were all around him" and he told his sister that "the CIA was definitely responsible for it."

In the next six months, Malcolm (who had met with Cuban and Chinese representatives in Africa) began articulating the inherent link between capitalism and racism. "It isn't the American white man who is a racist, but it's the American political, economic, and social atmosphere that automatically nourishes a racist psychology in the white man." He

had discussions with African as well as U.S. Marxists. He spoke out on behalf of the Vietnamese, welcomed China's increasing military strength, received warm support from Fidel Castro via Che Guevara at the UN.

"IF ANYBODY KILLS ME..."

The press played up Malcolm's feud with Elijah Muhammad, but Malcolm's widow has said, "He believed that the power structure in Washington wanted him dead. He once said, 'If anybody kills me, it'll be the police surrounding this house.' He was followed wherever he went; it was a constant thing."

In early February 1965 Malcolm flew to London to deliver an address. He was then scheduled to speak in Paris, but the French government branded him an "undesirable person" and denied him entry. A highly-placed North African diplomat asserted later that his government's intelligence apparatus had been quietly informed by its French counterpart that the CIA planned Malcolm's murder, and France feared he might be killed on its soil.

On Feb. 12 Malcolm returned to New York. Ten hours after landing, as he, his wife, and four children slept in their East

Elmhurst home, four fire bombs destroyed the house. The family narrowly escaped. The house was legally the property of the Muslims, and just two weeks before Malcolm had been ordered to vacate it by Feb. 14. This fact plus the attack on the children convinced Malcolm that Elijah Muhammad's organization was not involved.

WHO BOMBED HIS HOUSE?

At a press conference on Feb. 17, Malcolm named a fire marshal who had told him a gasoline bottle had been planted to make it appear Malcolm himself had staged the fire. He demanded an FBI investigation and asked that a lie detector test be given him and his wife and then the police and firemen on the scene. No metropolitan newspaper reported this press conference. The idea was encouraged that Malcolm was pretending danger for public relations purposes.

The assassination on Feb. 21, 1965, was carefully planned. In contrast to all previous public meetings addressed by Malcolm (where large numbers of police were visible), there was not a single uniformed cop outside the Audubon Ballroom that day. A

Patrolman Henry, hidden inside the building, was in walkie-talkie communication with a police detail concealed across the street in the hospital where Malcolm's body was later taken. Henry was to be a witness a year later at the trial of the alleged assassins. He testified that he had been told to notify the detail "if anything happened" such as shooting or other sounds of trouble. Before Henry could go further in his testimony, he was dismissed from the witness stand.

Three men were convicted of the murder, of whom two were innocent. They were Thomas (15X) Johnson and Norman (3X) Butler, each of whom had solid support for their insistence that they were nowhere near the murder. The testimony against them was transparently false and self-contradictory, and it was highly unlikely that such well-known Muslims would have gone unsearched at that meeting by their former comrades. But their being Muslims made their conviction crucial in distracting suspicion from the real assassins. And the defense counsel was at best inept.

The third man, Talmadge Hayer, was guilty. Shot in the leg trying to escape, almost killed by the crowd, he was arrested by two cops in a

cruising squad car, who seem not to have been in on the operation. Had the squad car not passed by, Hayer may have been killed or may have escaped, and there would have been no trial.

The first editions of both the New York Times and the Herald Tribune reported that a second man had been caught by a Patrolman Hoy and taken to the Wadsworth Avenue station. Later editions eliminated all reference to this man, and Hoy disappeared as well. But the Latin-looking mystery man tallied almost word for word with Malcolm's description of a man who had tailed him through London and on the plane back to New York a week before.

SQUELCHED TESTIMONY

At the trial Hayer confessed his guilt, absolved Butler and Johnson of any involvement, and said his service had been bought. He said no one involved in the murder was a Muslim. The assistant DA immediately dropped the line of questioning, and—amazingly, incredibly—the court-appointed (!) defense attorneys never picked it up.

Four days after the
(Continued on page 12)

In Namibia, southern Africa's next powderkeg, the illegal apartheid regime has sentenced two young men to death for their political activities. **Page 6.**

May 28, 1975

Boom in profits, not jobs or social services

Economic recovery—for whom?

By FRED GOLDSTEIN

NEW YORK, May 24—There is a booming economic recovery taking place in the U.S.—or haven't you noticed it?

The economists are cheering it, the columnists are writing about it, and Ford is boasting about it. But then, if you're one of the millions still standing on the unemployment line, or one of the sick who have just lost their medical assistance, or one of the hungry who have just lost their food stamps, or one of the elderly whose pensions were long ago eaten away by inflation, or if your school, hospital, or daycare center was just closed down—then you might take some convincing to get enthusiastic about the so-called “recovery.”

Nevertheless, it does exist, in a manner of speaking, and you can read about it in the big-business controlled press every day. Take, for example, a typical song of praise in Newsweek of May 17, composed by syndicated columnist Paul Samuelson, former chief economic advisor to President Kennedy, liberal Harvard economist, and much-hailed (in former times) economic prophet. (Samuelson was one of the most loyal members of that defeated army of economic experts who predicted for years that American capitalism had permanently overcome economic crises!)

PROFITS BOOM

Samuelson writes glowingly of the benefits of the new rise in industrial production—so glowingly that his article is entitled "Rays of Sunshine." What were the rays of recovery that dazzled the eye of Samuelson? "The investor feels better calling up Wall Street," "banks and savings and loan associations are rebuilding their liquidity," and "the cash flow and profit positions of the corporations has improved."

And what should the millions of working people out of work get enthusiastic about? "Those long without jobs are getting more nibbles with the rise in production." So the recovery means more cash for the bankers, more profits for the bosses, and more income for the coupon clippers—and "nibbles" for the workers in the cruel and cynical phrase of the bourgeois economist. In plain language, this is a recovery for the capitalists with a few crumbs of relief for the workers—maybe.

But Samuelson (who gets more than a nibble from his masters for writing these glowing reports) is a master at concealment by understatement. In fact, first quarter profits more than improved: they boomed. IBM net profits for three months were up 25 percent over a year ago (\$544 million); Westinghouse, up 43 percent (\$47 million); Merrill Lynch, up 31 percent (\$43 million); RCA, up 102 percent (\$34 million); and Du Pont was up 600 percent (\$137 million). In all, first quarter profits of the corporations were up a near record 55 percent, according to a survey

by Newsweek of April 26.

UNEMPLOYMENT STILL HIGH

While soft-pedaling the gushing profits of the companies, Samuelson and the rest of the fraternity of capitalist "experts" are also playing down the glaring act that after six months of industrial upswing, unemployment has only crept down from 8.2 percent to the still disastrously high figure of 7.2 percent by official estimates. (Unofficially it is probably twice that amount, after counting those who have given up looking for a job, teen-agers who are not yet considered part of the job market but who need jobs, workers not covered by unemployment insurance and who never get into the record, etc.) Thus, officially 6.5 million are still out of work and, in reality, probably close to 10 million. And this is in a period of recovery!

In truth, the limited results of the "recovery" show the profound nature of the crisis of the system just as much as did the previous period of depression, only from the other side—i.e., the inability of the industrial upswing to make a serious dent in unemployment. In this respect, it is reminiscent of the great depression of the 1930s which witnessed a few slight upturns based on long periods of slashing wages and liquidation of inventories. But these upturns could not overcome massive unemployment and the depression was only ended by an imperialist war which took 40 million lives!

The crisis is further demonstrated by the relentless campaign

of the bankers and their stooges in government, Secretary of the Treasury Simon to New York City Mayor Beame, to slash away at vital social services and life-preserving benefits. And the millions of unemployed social service workers cannot be absorbed into the industrial sector. Five million people were just cut from the eligibility list for food

stamps by Ford. Over 800,000 children will be put out of day-care centers as a result of presidential vetoes.

Just as importantly, there are another 25 million officially classified as the "working poor" by the federal government—they make \$5,000 or less for a family of four—and 10 million on welfare who are suffering just as much during

the recovery as they were before.

For them and for the millions of unemployed, as well as those who are "fortunate" enough to have jobs where they can be exploited every day, there is only one possibility for recovery—the abolition of production for profit and the establishment of socialist economy with production for people.

—Malcolm

(Continued from page 11)

assassination, on Feb. 25, 1965, the Times reported that "the police were in possession of motion pictures taken at the Audubon Ballroom" that day. This evidence was never mentioned again.

Leon Ameer, Malcolm's possible successor, charged immediately after the murder that Malcolm had been killed by "the power structure," and he urged that Elijah Muhammad's organization and Malcolm's organization be brought closer together. On March 13, 1965, Ameer said, "The killers aren't from Chicago (Muslim headquarters). They're from Washington." He promised to reveal evidence proving the "power structure's" responsibility, including documents and tapes Malcolm had given him. Ameer was killed that night. The police said he had had an epileptic fit, though a medical checkup the month before showed no hint of that disease.

HIS "BODYGUARD" WAS A COP

All of the above information appeared in a careful, 21,000-word article, "The Murder of Malcolm X," by Eric Norden in the February 1967 Realist. But none of it has ever penetrated the establishment's wall of complete silence. In all the investigations of police, CIA, and FBI crimes now receiving publicity, the murder of Malcolm X is never mentioned.

One other fact surfaced on Dec. 7, 1970, only to be quickly buried. In the Panther 21 trial in New York, defense attorney Gerald Lefcourt forced undercover agent Eugene Roberts to acknowledge in open court that he had also been a police agent while serving as Malcolm's "bodyguard" at the moment of the assassination! Why had he never testified? "I wasn't called."

He then gave a brief account of the murder, including his claim that he attempted to give Malcolm artificial respiration. What was his real role that day? Judge Murtagh abruptly recessed the court, ending the whole line of questioning.

The following day, the Times distracted readers from the real meaning of this startling revelation with a story under the headline, "Detective Tells Panther Trial of His Attempt to Save Malcolm X."



In rejection of tax plan

N.J. Senate aims another blow at poor

By MARIA STONE

HOBOKEN, N.J., May 22—State and local governments finance their expenditures through taxes. But some taxes are more “progressive” than others. An income tax, for example, can be progressive if it hits the rich, while a sales tax is regressive, since the poor wind up paying the most in proportion to their income. A property tax could also turn out to be regressive, since usually homeowners and tenants pay the brunt of such a tax. (Landlords don’t really pay property taxes, since they can pass the whole amount on to their tenants.)

In New Jersey, the local and state governments are financed entirely through property taxes, sales taxes, and indirect taxes, mainly on cigarettes, liquor, and gasoline. The schools are financed through property taxes.

In the famous *Botter* decision, the State Supreme Court of New Jersey some years ago ruled that the financing of schools through local property taxes resulted in too unequal an expenditure per

student in the local communities, and that the state was obliged to rectify the situation through subsidies.

But the state of New Jersey did not have the money to do that, according to the bourgeois politicians. Their revenue from sales and indirect taxes was actually declining, since the recession had forced people to spend less money. So the solution was an income tax.

THREATEN TO CLOSE THE SCHOOLS

* Since then, the Assembly has passed many income tax proposals, just to have them voted down by the Senate. To put pressure on the State Legislature to resolve the question of school financing, the State Supreme Court recently ruled that after July 1, if no state subsidies are forthcoming, no money except for maintenance of school buildings can be spent on public education. In reality, that means that no public schools would open in September.

Despite this pressure and a large

teacher demonstration May 17, the Senate once more defeated the income tax proposal on May 19. It is evident, however, that somehow the state will have to raise enough money to keep the schools open and run the state government. And even though an increase in the sales tax has been proposed, most people in New Jersey see the income tax as something inevitable.

The affluent, currently paying between 5 and 9 percent of their income in local and state taxes (according to a 1972 study by the New Jersey State Tax Policy Committee) are fighting to delay an income tax for as long as possible. However, it is unlikely that people of lower income will, or can, allow the State to make up its deficit by raising the sales tax even further, since the same study shows they are already paying 14 to 19 percent of their incomes on state and local taxes!

In this rich industrial state, the fiscal crisis is a startling testimony to capitalism's inability to solve the most elementary tasks of social organization.