

**As 2.5 million are added to official count**

# Poverty of 28 million ignored by Ford, Carter



## 500 demonstrate solidarity with Palestinians —p. 5

Youth Against War & Fascism immediately responded to the stepped-up U.S.-backed Syrian offensive in Lebanon with a demonstration of over 500 in front of the Syrian Mission in New York. WW photo: Oscar Rivera

By BILL DEL VECCHIO

NEW YORK, Oct. 5—The presidential race continues with Ford and Carter showering statistics and contrived arguments on us hoping to prove that they really do differ from each other.

But purposely absent from the candidates' laundry lists of facts and figures in their campaign have been the hard, cold facts about where the U.S. economy is going and how it will affect poor and working people.

In the past month, every statistic the government compiled concerning the masses of people has pointed towards crisis. Last year alone, two-and-a-half million more people dropped below what the Bureau of the Census considers to be the poverty level, the largest increase since the record keeping began in 1959. This means that 28 million people live in what the Ford administration calls poverty. Even by this conservative estimate, the equivalent of a medium-sized nation lives in hunger and need in the middle of the wealthiest and most developed country in the world.

The main cause for this increase in poverty is the continuation of high, long-term unemployment with millions of jobless workers using up their unemployment benefits and being forced onto welfare.

All the hollow talk about an economic recovery was thrown out the window when the August figures for unemployment showed a new rise. And the statistics which forecast industrial production, the leading economic indicators, revealed in September that a new wave of unemployment

and economic stagnation was in store for this winter.

And what about inflation, the "number one enemy of the Ford administration"? The cost of living and inflation rose sharply in August, and yet Ford still has the audacity to claim that all his vetoes of popular legislation were necessary to bring down inflation. Continued inflation caused a drop in the purchasing power of the average family last year, just as it has in four years out of the past six.

All these complicated, impersonal statistics add up to simple human suffering: more of us are living in poverty, even more of us will lose our jobs in the near future, and inflation has made all of us poorer.

In response to these sufferings, the candidates have only turned a deaf ear, preferring to argue whether "experienced leadership" is more important than "strong leadership."

Unable to offer any real solution to the economic crisis, both smiling Carter and stumbling Ford push for increased military spending. But increased armament production will have no effect on unemployment, and instead will only fuel the spiral of inflation.

The economy will continue to deteriorate, whether the U.S. is led by a "strong" president or an "experienced" president, because production is geared to the blind profit motive instead of planned to meet the needs of the people. As long as the capitalist anarchy of production remains, crisis will remain, no matter which big business representative lives in the White House.



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## THE STRUGGLE IN BRIEF



WW photo: Bob C.

**A spirited demonstration marches in downtown Rochester in support of the liberation struggles in southern Africa.**

### Rochester demonstrators demand 'Kissinger, CIA, out of S. Africa'

By DEBORAH JOHNSON — ROCHESTER, N.Y., Sept. 25— Chanting "Kissinger, CIA, out of Africa" and "Victory in Soweto, on to Johannesburg," 50 people picketed in downtown Rochester today to demonstrate support for the liberation struggles in southern Africa.

The demonstration was called by the Coalition to Support Southern African Liberation, composed of several progressive organizations including a group of South Africans living in the U.S. After the picket line, the demonstrators marched to a nearby park where over 100 people listened to speakers describing the struggle in southern Africa.

#### GROWING SUPPORT MOVEMENT

The rally was chaired by Priscilla McByers of Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF), who explained that this demonstration was just the beginning of a growing support movement in Rochester. Dr. Fred Dube of the African National Congress in Azania (South Africa) opened the rally by describing the history of U.S. interference in Africa. He explained that Kissinger's trip is just the latest instance of this interference which the U.S. rulers consider vital in their efforts to buy time to develop a strategy to protect their interests in Africa. He exposed the U.S. mass media's attempts to portray the class struggle in South Africa as a "race war." "Blacks aren't fighting whites because they're white," he said, "but because they're oppressors."

Thabo Rapoto, a student leader in Soweto, talked about the rapid changes in the situation in South Africa, saying that events happening now would have been unthinkable just five years ago. This is because "the victory in Angola destroyed the myth of the invincibility of South Africa."

Liz Rivkin, an Azanian woman living in Rochester, spoke on the plight of Black women in South Africa, where the contract labor system destroys families by forcing men to live far away from their families just to earn a subsistence living. She described the long and heroic struggle that African women have waged against the pass laws, which require every Black person to carry identification at all times.

Referring to statements in the bourgeois press here advocating that Black people in South Africa should "reject violence" and give the racist government time to change, she asked, "How can anyone tell sixteen million people to wait, when their children are dying daily and they're living under a system as brutal as Hitler's?"

#### U.S. IMPERIALIST TIES WITH APARTHEID

Mahlubi Qhobosheane, a member of the coalition, explained the huge stakes that U.S. imperialism has in South Africa. Statements of solidarity were expressed by Kung, a representative of the Association of Vietnamese Patriots, and Jorge Mercado, a Puerto Rican activist in Rochester. A message of support from Kenneth Johnson, a Black man in Buffalo who is facing a possible 120-year sentence on a frame-up charge, was read by Cindy English of YAWF.

Brian Land from Workers World Party showed how in the past year the center of revolutionary gravity has shifted from Southeast Asia to southern Africa and explained the necessity of support work here in the U.S., the heart of imperialism, which daily exploits the Azanian people.

The rally ended with people singing an African freedom song, led by Dr. Jeff Zuana of Zimbabwe, and chanting, "Azania, now! Namibia, now! Zimbabwe, now!"

### Housing, food, maintenance workers strike Brown U. for decent wages

By KEN OXTOPY — NEW YORK, Sept. 24—This month, Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, opened "amidst one of the longest, hardest-fought labor disputes" in the history of this school, according to the Undergraduate Council of Students at Brown. The university has been struck by the housing, food service, and maintenance workers, as well as by library workers.

Local 134 of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), which represents the housing, food service, and maintenance workers, has been on strike against Brown since July 1. The workers, most of whom are Black or Portuguese immigrants, are demanding a 48-cent hourly increase for the first year and a 39-cent per-hour increment for the following year.

The university is trying to make the situation look as if the students and the surrounding community would suffer if salary increases are granted the workers. The administration fails to point out that in the last three years the university has expanded its facilities by 30 percent, and enrolled 20 percent more students. However, in that same time period, the number of workers has been decreased by 38 percent. As a result, the workload has increased tremendously, and according to

Local 134, a much larger wage increase is justified than the 5 percent increment that Brown is offering.

#### LIBRARY WORKERS JOIN STRIKE

On August 24, the library workers, demanding a 10.5 percent raise in wages, struck and joined the food and maintenance workers on the picket lines. The library workers and the service employees union both are demanding a cost of living adjustment (COLA), expanded sick and vacation benefits, and amnesty for employees supporting the strike.

The university, which has offered only a 5 percent raise in pay, no COLA, very few benefits, and no amnesty, has repeatedly refused to submit to binding arbitration. Students have been hired as scabs in cafeterias and in the library. On Sept. 1, the university even cancelled Blue Cross-Blue Shield coverage for the striking food and maintenance workers.

The strike is having an effect, as two snack bars and one of the two cafeterias have remained closed. Although students and faculty remain divided on the strike, many students refuse to cross picket lines in front of the cafeteria and library.

The workers are determined to win this strike, and they are prepared for an intense struggle.

### Kakwirakeron exposes U.S. plot to invade reclaimed Indian village

By JOHN IVERSON — BOSTON, Sept. 18—Kakwirakeron, a spokesperson for the Indian population at Ganienkeh, a settlement which has been reclaimed by members of the Six Nations Iroquois Confederacy, expressed hope for a peaceful resolution of the reclamation with New York State within a month, at a benefit for the settlement here.

Ganienkeh, reclaimed two years ago on the basis of a 1794 treaty, has become a thriving 9,000-acre Indian settlement, despite a constant barrage of government harassment which has included blatant provocation by the FBI and costly court suits.

#### GOVERNMENT SABOTAGE EXPOSED

Kakwirakeron outlined to the audience an elaborate government plan to divide the Indian community by offering liquor to members of this settlement, where drugs and alcoholic beverages are forbidden.

The Indian leader specifically

charged the FBI and the U.S. government with the frame-up arrest of a former member of the settlement. Kakwirakeron explained that this arrest was to be used as an excuse to launch a massive invasion by the FBI and state police of the Ganienkeh settlement.

Kakwirakeron stated, "We will not let down our guard, yet there is much hope for a peaceful resolution in which land will be restored to the people of Ganienkeh. We want to reverse the trend of losing Indian land, lives and culture."

The Indian leader described the settlement as "a place where we can live our own way of life and not be dominated by a culture or a society that is non-Indian." "It is a place where we're free to follow our own destiny as we see it and in the way of life we've been given," he stated further.

Those wishing information or to support this struggle for self-determination can contact: Ganienkeh Indian Project, Box 208, Via Eagle Bay, New York 13331.

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## DECLINE AND FALL

### GM PLANT WANTS ONLY STERILE WOMEN

MS. Gazette, September:

"A 34-year-old Canadian woman had herself sterilized to keep her job.

"General Motors of Canada prohibits fertile women from working in its battery plant because of fear that the lead-oxide emissions in the plant could hurt unborn children, a fear partially substantiated by findings at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. (Other medical studies show that the male as well as female reproductive system can be affected by lead and chemical emissions.)

"Recently, six women were told they must prove that they could not bear children or be

transferred to another department. One of them, Norma James, had herself sterilized because of her need for the job. The mother of four, she is presently seeking a divorce from her husband. Her night job pays well and enables her to spend her days looking after the children. However, Norma James now states that she regrets her decision because it is not right that they (the company) should tell you you're not going to have any more children or else you can't work here any more."

"According to a recent report by Ralph Nader's Health Research Group and the University of California's Labor Occupational Health Program, Employers have begun to discriminate against fertile

and pregnant women workers instead of making the workplaces safer."

#### NIXON & BATMAN

The New York Times, Sept. 29:

"Warner Books has invested heavily in the Nixon memoirs... sources privy to the terms of the agreement contend that Mr. Nixon will receive \$2 million plus provable expenses of as much as \$300,000. Payments are stretched out over five years to reduce Mr. Nixon's income taxes.

"Warner Books, a paperback publisher that is part of a communications conglomerate, also owns DC comics, Superman, Batman, and Mad Magazine."

### MERCHANTS CAPITALIZE ON LABOR DAY

Buffalo Courier-Express, Sept. 6  
"Abolish it," one lady said. "Call it

Merchant's Day," remarked another. They're talking about Labor Day.

"These speakers are not the picnickers nor are they those on the job, many of whom earn extra pay because it is a holiday.

"These words come from people on strike at two Buffalo area firms. They believe they are fighting for their working-life rights much as labor leaders of the 1880's fought to gain recognition of this day as a tribute to the working masses.

"Merchants seem to capitalize more off of Labor Day, what with the stores open and sales going on. So I think it should be called Merchant's Day," Mrs. Vi Kochems suggested. She is one of 300 members of Local 212, the Retail Clerks Union. They have been striking Two Guys Discount Department Stores.

"Mrs. Kochems said she believes 'we are slowly becoming a country of the rich and the poor'."



## Shorter work week, no benefit cuts

# Major issues at stake as Ford contract talks end

**Editor's Note:** This article, by a rank-and-file striker, was received just as news broke that a settlement was close at hand. Workers World is publishing this article to inform our readers of the issues that were on the table at the time the settlement was being concluded.

**By a Ford UAW Striker**  
DETROIT, Oct. 4—The UAW strike against the Ford Motor Company is approaching the end of its first month. Central to the union's persistence in this strike are Ford's takeaway demands.

Despite the fact that the company has earned record profits of \$772 million for the first 6 months of this year, Ford arrogantly put forth demands that would roll back benefits won by the UAW in past contracts.

Crying poverty, the company has demanded that the workers themselves pay for increases in the cost of the Hospital-Surgical-Medical-Drug-Dental Plan out of their cost-of-living allowance or wages. Such a proposal would cost a Ford worker an average of 41 cents an hour by 1979. The company's alternate proposal to this is to divert 11 cents out of the cost-of-living allowance (COLA) to pay for increases in pensions.

### FORD OFFER UNACCEPTABLE

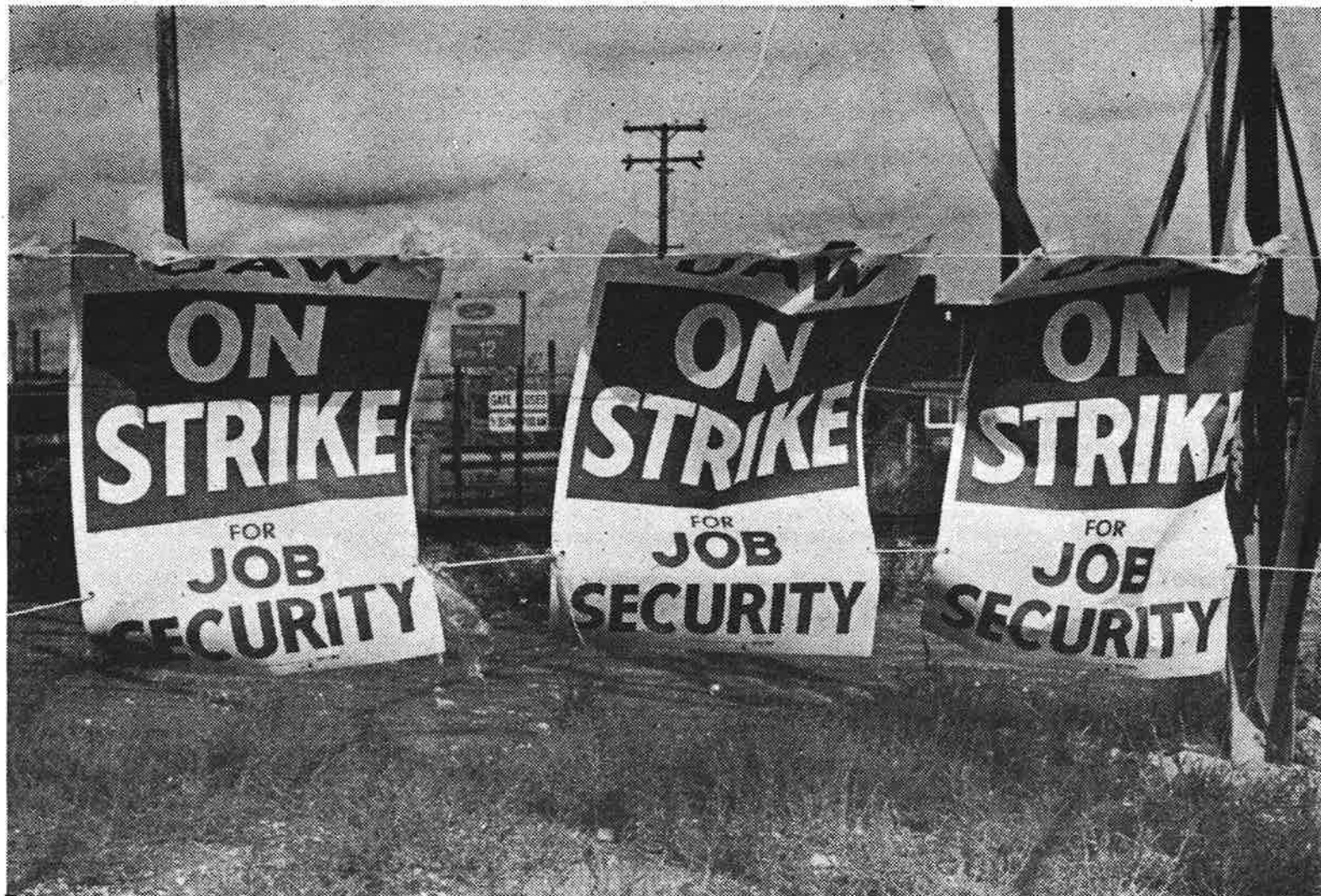
Can UAW workers afford to accept this proposal?

The answer is an unequivocal "no." As it is, the current COLA formula gives only about 80 percent protection against inflation, meaning that workers are currently losing buying power every day. Moreover, for the past three years, UAW workers have paid 10 cents an hour out of their COLA, or approximately \$250 a year, for the dental plan. The COLA needs to be improved, not further gutted, and the money currently being diverted from it must be returned to the wages of the workers where it belongs.

Auto workers here have pointed out that their wages are not even enough to classify a family in what the federal government estimates to be a moderate income range (\$15,000 for a family of four.) Yet, Ford is offering a measly 3 percent wage hike to the workers whose labor earned profits which this year are 800 percent greater than in the same period last year.

In addition, Ford has refused to fold the full \$1.14 in accumulated COLA money into the basic hourly rate, thus lowering future wage gains, since percentage increases are computed on that hourly rate. Ford has proposed to fold in only \$1.02, leaving out 12 cents, rather than the traditional float of 5 cents, which the UAW is demanding. This would also lower the company payments for fringe benefits, which are based on the hourly wage minus the COLA.

With regard to workers who are newly hired or rehired, the company is proposing that they start at \$1 an hour below the going rate and that they not receive full wages until after a year. In addition, Ford is proposing that new hires and rehires not receive any medical and dental coverage for their first 3 months and that they get a sub-standard plan until after a year. The effect of the company proposal would be to encourage the old practice of working new hires 89 days and then laying them off. In addition, paying low-seniority union members less than others



Signs outside Ford's Rouge plant. A settlement appears to be imminent after the month-long auto workers' strike. Photo: LNS

constitutes a devious union-busting tactic.

### BENEFIT CUT BEHIND 'ABSENTEE PROBLEM'

Ford is getting a lot of press coverage for its tears about worker absenteeism and has tried to implement tough new restrictions on the vacation and holiday programs as a result.

For example, they want to take away the full week's vacation time from a worker with less than one year's seniority if he or she has over five unexcused absences in that year. While Ford cries about absenteeism, however, it never mentions that most of its workers are forced to slave 10 hours a day, frequently six days a week, in inhuman conditions and under constant speedup; yet are subject to disciplinary action for missing one day or coming in one minute late.

The vacation plan as it stands is totally inadequate; a worker gets two full weeks only after five years of seniority.

Two key bargaining areas which the UAW is raising to counter Ford's takeaway demands are job security and increased pension payments.

Ford earned \$15 million more the first half of 1976 than in its previous record half in 1973. But it made that profit directly as a result of forced overtime and speedups, selling 315,000 fewer units (cars, trucks, etc.) and employing about 20,000 fewer workers, after massive layoffs. The UAW is demanding shorter work time for those now employed with Ford to enable all the laid-off workers to come back and to create new jobs.

### FORCED OVERTIME CONTINUES

Ford is protesting that the average work week now is only 33 hours (taking into account holidays and vacations). Ford workers

know this claim is absurd. Most of them work at least the maximum forced overtime allowed in the last contract (up to 60 hours a week) and many are forced by their financial needs to work additional "voluntary" overtime amounting to as much as 84 hours a week.

The company profits tremendously from this use of overtime because it doesn't have to pay anything into a worker's fringe benefits for time-and-a-half wages. Overtime actually represents a loss to the workers!

A demand for a hefty wage hike and improved COLA to make it

possible for workers to survive on 40 hours a week, an increase in the overtime premium to double-time or double-time-and-a-half to take the profit out of overtime for the company, and a demand that all overtime be voluntary—these would be most effective in maintaining job security and getting laid-off Ford workers back to work.

On the question of pension, the last pension plan did not provide any cost-of-living allowance and thus the gains negotiated have been eaten away by inflation. Ford has flatly said "no" to the UAW

plans to provide retirees with cash payments outside the present pension agreements, to help them cope with the high level of inflation among the ranks. Feeling is high for a cost-of-living on pensions.

With heavy overtime, speedup, and unhealthy working conditions, many auto workers are not able to survive long enough on the job to retire and collect their full pension as it is.

Certainly a worker who has endured 30 years (and many recent and current retirees have worked 35, 40 and more years) of this has a right to a pension that will keep him or her comfortable.

## Strong showing of union solidarity aids strike at 'hallowed' Columbia

**By a Columbia Employee**  
NEW YORK, Oct. 4—Members of Transport Workers Union Local 241 are educating the Columbia University administration on the rights and needs of working people. The 550 maintenance workers and security guards of Columbia are on strike to prevent the University from cutting back on their standard of living.

Wearing their blue union hats and carrying signs explaining the issues, Local 241 members set up picket lines at 6 a.m. Monday, Sept. 27. The strikers are picketing each of the many gates of Columbia's two campuses in Manhattan. They are asking, with a good deal of success, that delivery drivers not cross their lines and are preventing the University from bringing in scabs.

### 500 SHOW SOLIDARITY

For the first two days of the strike, an estimated 500 non-striking employees showed their solidarity by not showing up for work. Many of them are members

of District 1199 Hospital and Health Care Employees Union. Delivery and repair trucks not observing the picket lines have been known to get flat tires when carelessly left outside. At the uptown campus, a dozen would-be scabs were followed to the subway on their way home and were persuaded it was not wise for them to return.

The striking workers have the hardest and dirtiest jobs in the University. They collect the trash, sweep and mop the floors, make repairs, maintain the grounds, and so on. Most of the union members are Black or Latin. In the last three months of negotiations, the University has demanded that the workers take a cut in sick-pay including no pay for the first two days of sickness. The University also refuses to give more than a 5 percent increase (much less than the cost-of-living rise) and refuses to give the workers pharmacy or major medical coverage.

**RICH INSTITUTION**  
Although Columbia University

pretends to be non-profit (and penniless), it is really a rich and powerful financial institution with large holdings of real estate and stocks and bonds. The members of the Board of Trustees represent huge corporations like AT&T, Mobil Oil, Consolidated Edison, as well as the Rockefeller Empire.

Columbia has a long history of anti-labor policy and has fought union organizing drives as well as organized workers with all of its economic resources and government connections.

But the members of Local 241 are determined to hold out for justice. The Negotiating Committee has stated, "If we give up what we have fought so hard for over the last 35 years, then there will be no need for a union or a contract."

**Bulletin:** Since the above article was written, the eight-day strike at Columbia University has been settled. Initial reports indicate that the workers were forced to make a concession, but also made some gains.



## Vepco reactor unsafe

# Worker dies at nuclear plant

By BOB PRUDEN

NORFOLK, Sept. 26—James E. Countryman fell to his death on Sept. 20, overcome by gas fumes while trying to rescue an unconscious co-worker in a valve pit at the North Anna Nuclear Power Plant. Three other workers were injured in this incident at the plant, which is owned by Virginia Electric and Power Company (VEPCO).

Instead of taking responsibility for the accident, Vepco's main contractor, Stone & Webster Engineering Corp., fired the injured workers and four other workers, accusing them of safety violations.

The firings led to a work stoppage and demonstrations by the 700 construction workers of the United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters, Local 598. In retaliation, Stone & Webster called in the state and local police and had 150 workers arrested for

alleged trespassing at the site.

## COMPANY FORCED TO REHIRE

After meeting with union representatives, Vepco and Stone & Webster were forced to rehire the seven workers to prevent more worker protest and a possible strike. "We said that if anybody was fired, we'd all walk out!" stated Henry Washburn of Local 598.

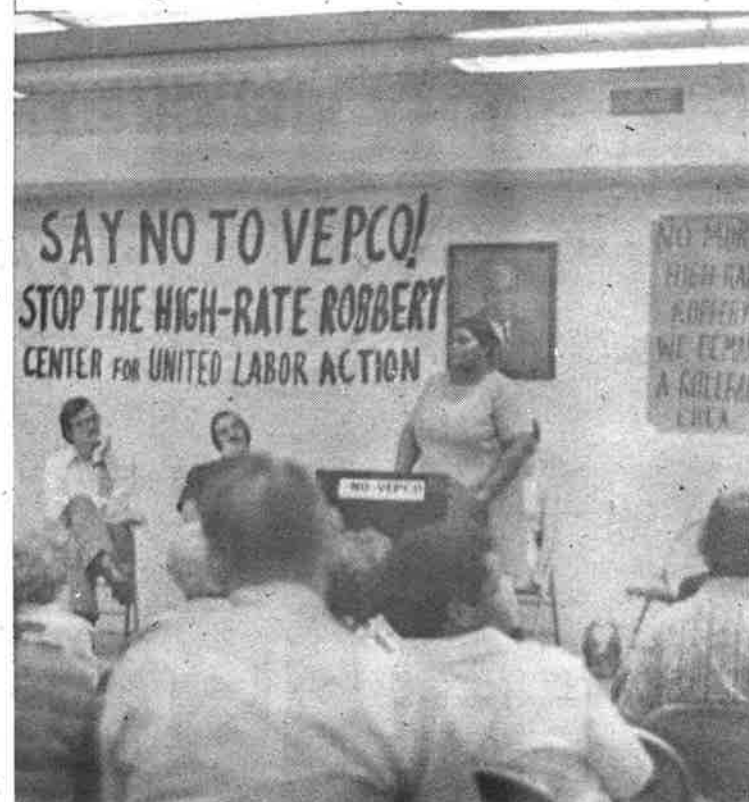
While Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration officials are investigating the death of Countryman, an internal probe of the power plant was started in August, by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC is probing allegations that one of its own regional inspection offices, as well as Vepco and Stone & Webster, has failed to meet construction safety standards at North Anna.

That Vepco is not concerned with

safety was disclosed at the State Corporation Commission hearings last year when Vepco admitted knowing, prior to the construction permit request, that the location at North Anna was directly on top of a geological fault line.

For covering up this important information, Vepco was fined a small amount which the company turned around and passed on to its consumers. Vepco was given permission to continue its construction, despite the risk of a major disaster.

Vepco's nuclear power plant at Surry, Va., is under investigation for radiation leaks by the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards. Vepco says that the leaks of radioactive materials are so small that they pose no safety threat—but the workers and consumers of Virginia have learned from Vepco's past actions that the power company has little concern for public safety.



VEPCO [Virginia Electric and Power Co.] has a history of safety violations as well as exorbitant rate increases. In 1974 [above] consumers rally to fight a rate hike. WW photo



Thomas Boronson's family, destitute and unable to get food stamps or welfare, took over a food stamp office in Oregon last winter. Poverty is on the rise in the U.S., but the government figures people can just live on less. Photo: LNS

## How poor is poor?

By ELIZABETH ROSS

A childless couple probably think they're poor if their combined income is only \$4,500 a year.

But the way the U.S. government figures it, they're not; they have a thousand dollars a year extra to splurge. Only those with \$3,500 or less can be classified as poor and their numbers have increased.

There are many families with incomes less than \$3,500 living in Appalachia, the deep South, in small towns all over the country, and even in the cities.

But let's take a look at how a couple could live in the biggest city—New York—on \$3,500 a year.

The first item is rent. Any couple who can find a two-room apartment for \$100 a month in New York is considered very lucky. But suppose they are that lucky. (That's \$1,200 a year).

Next comes food: by cutting out meat three or four nights a week and substituting cheese, beans, or peanut butter (fish used to be the poor man's diet, but no more), by eating only one egg a day apiece, buying turnips instead of asparagus, going easy on the milk, cutting out ice cream, avocados,

strawberries, mushrooms, and olives, they might be able to keep their food budget down to \$25 a week (that's \$1,300 a year). Gas and electricity have soared so much that it's hard to keep the bill down to \$20 a month in the big city (I don't know anybody who has), but we'll only allow \$20 a month for utilities (that's \$240 a year).

Suppose that one member of the couple works, and the other is looking for a job. They'll need carfare, which at 50 cents a ride comes to \$10 a week for a five-day week. (That's \$520 a year).

They can't go naked—it's against the law, as well as chilly in the winter months. The price of cloth has gone skyhigh in recent years, so there's little saving in making your own clothes. The couple would have to haunt the second-hand clothing stores in order to clothe themselves for a hundred a year apiece (that's \$200).

This is what it adds up to:

Rent	\$1,200
Utilities	240
Food	1,300
Carfare	520
Clothes	200
Total	\$3,460

That leaves \$40 a year (or \$3.30 a month) for everything else—doctor bills, medicines, repairs for kitchen equipment or broken furniture, soap, razor blades, toothpaste, contraceptives, band-aids, safety pins, etc., etc.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH \$40?

There'd be no money for movies, beer, cigarettes. No vacations, no new TV if the old one broke down. No car (or, if the couple had an old one left over from more prosperous times, there'd be no money for gas and oil to run it).

If a relative or friend got sick or died in another city, they couldn't afford to visit them or attend the funeral. If they needed dental work, they'd have to let the tooth go on aching. If they wanted a divorce, they couldn't afford to pay for it. If they longed for a baby—forget it; but if they forgot to use a contraceptive once or twice, how could they pay for an abortion?

This couple isn't just poor; they're hanging onto the edge of existence by their fingertips. Poverty is with them every moment of their lives.

## Buffalo sewer workers win demands by strike threat

By TOM COMAR

BUFFALO, Sept. 20—A strike by sewer workers scheduled to begin here today, turned into an early victory last night when the Buffalo Sewer Authority (BSA) caved in and conceded many of the just demands of these public employees. One union negotiator said after the Sunday night meeting that the BSA was so shaken by the very threat of a strike and the support it had already gathered from other locals that "we could have sold them the Peace Bridge."

The BSA agreed to fill 13 to 15 job vacancies; to give the union an office at the Bird Island Treatment Plant; to grant a one-step upgrade in job classification for all workers retroactive to July 1; to require only new employees to live inside Buffalo City limits; and to stop the punitive transfer of two negotiating committee members and officers of the local.

However, the remaining issues—including wages—are to be submitted to binding arbitration, which was agreed to by the union only after winning the other concessions. While there is certainly the possibility of unfavorable rulings by the mutually agreed upon arbitrator, Donald Goodman, such rulings would not negate the tough stance taken by the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Local 1047, since their contract expired last June.

In June, the BSA, supposedly an autonomous authority, fell in step behind the Democratic administration of Mayor Makowski, who is trying to make public employees scapegoats for the city's fiscal crisis and threatened the union with layoffs and a wage freeze.

The union members responded by refusing all overtime and forced the BSA to publicly reverse itself and hire two new employees.

## BANKS AND BSA BOSSES RIP OFF PUBLIC

Local 1047 forced the BSA to hold a public hearing under the Taylor Law to settle the differences between the company and the union. At this hearing, the union proved that there was plenty of

money hidden in the padded BSA budget to give their members a justified raise.

By the BSA's own figures, the productivity of the workers rose by an average of 15.1 percent over last year with no increase in the work force. In other words, there had been a speedup.

The union compared the many upper-echelon management salaries of \$25,000 with wages of workers in up to ten job classifications which pay less than \$9,733—the federal figure of the minimum income necessary for a family of four to live marginally on in the Buffalo area.

The union also made it clear that their wages had nothing to do with the 75 percent boost in sewer rates for homeowners. Local 1047 pointed out that the banks are reaping a harvest from this raise to the tune of a 10.5 percent interest rate on their loans to the BSA.

## TAYLOR LAW STRAITJACKS LABOR

To all the union's arguments and good-faith bargaining during every stage, from direct negotiations through the PERB fact finder and the public hearing, the BSA management remained impassive. Under the Taylor Law, they don't have to negotiate, they just have to show up.

Having no recourse at the bargaining table, municipal workers are also denied, by the anti-labor Taylor Law, the recourse of withholding their labor by striking, a fundamental worker's right.

As it turned out, however, the union couldn't have hoped to budge the BSA management without threatening to strike. The pledge of support from 13 of 14 Building and Trades locals and AFSCME Locals 264 and 650, who stated publicly they would honor the sewer workers picket lines, put tremendous pressure on the BSA.

AFSCME Local 1047 has demonstrated that municipal unions do not have to kowtow to city management. This union has given a good picture of the type of fighting unionism necessary to overcome the bank-made economic crisis.



## As Assad moves to oust PLO leadership

# Syrian-rightist split halts advance in Lebanon

By BILL DEL VECCHIO  
NEW YORK, Oct. 4—Apparent disagreement between the Assad regime of Syria and its Lebanese fascist allies has temporarily halted the Syrian army in its drive against the Palestinian-Lebanese National Movement joint forces. Following its success in forcing the Palestinians to retreat from their isolated positions in the mountainous Metn region northeast of Beirut on Sept. 29, the Syrian army stopped its advance and let Phalangist troops attack the National Movement stronghold of Aleih alone.

Without the direct participation of the Syrian troops, the Phalangist attack was soundly defeated, at least temporarily knocking the wind out of the Lebanese fascists' vow to "liberate Lebanon from the Palestinians and communists." The failure of the Phalangist attack once again demonstrates the complete dependence of the Lebanese fascists on the Syrian invaders.

The difference between the Assad regime and the Lebanese rightists centers on how far to go in curtailing the Palestinian resistance movement. While the pro-imperialist, ultra-reactionary Lebanese leaders such as Camille Chamoun want to repeat Tal Al-Zaatar-type massacres against all the Palestinians in Lebanon (Tal Al-Zaatar was a Palestinian refugee camp outside of Beirut which after a 52-day siege was overrun by Chamoun's fascist troops leaving 3,000 dead), the Assad regime is limited by political considerations and cannot afford to completely crush the Palestinian resistance movement.

Since the invasion of Lebanon began last June, the goal of the Assad regime has been to use the Syrian military to crush the political independence, not the physical existence, of the Palestinian resistance movement. When the ranks of the Syrian-controlled units of the Palestinian Liberation Army and the Palestinian Baathist As Saïqa organization broke away in large numbers last spring to join their comrades fighting with the joint forces, Assad was left with only naked military terror as his only bargaining device.

### WHY ASSAD FEARS PALESTINIAN STRUGGLE

(The Assad regime fears that an anti-imperialist Lebanese state backed by a powerful Palestinian movement would pose a revolutionary threat to his own bourgeois government. Also, in the short run, Assad sees the Palestinian resistance as the major obstacle in working out a conciliatory agreement with Israel over the question of the Golan Heights.

But still Assad is unable to come out openly against the Palestinian struggle because of the militant support and sympathy among the Syrian people. The anti-Palestinian invasion was explained by Assad as a "corrective movement" to save the Palestinian movement from "deviationist elements and traitors." Through As Saïqa, the Assad regime began a campaign to oust Yasser Arafat as Chairman of the Palestinian Liberation Organization, in order to replace him with a pro-Syrian puppet. For those who weren't duped, the Baathist regime began widespread arrests, posted guards around the Palestinian Yarmouk Camp outside Damascus, and passed new repressive laws

against the Syrian Communist Party.

### INTERNATIONAL PRESSURES

In addition to domestic support for the Palestinian cause, the Syrian regime is also limited by international pressures. Western imperialist press sources report that the Soviet Union has threatened recently to withdraw its military aid if the Syrian troops are not taken out of Lebanon. Although the Soviet leadership has not taken any decisive steps against the reactionary Syrian invasion, this threat must be taken seriously by Assad. While both open and clandestine cooperation between U.S. imperialism and Assad have increased greatly since the June invasion, the Syrian regime cannot count on the U.S. immediately replacing the Soviet military assistance.

With the invasion now costing an estimated \$2 million a day, the Syrian military needs a dependable source of military equip-

The other Arab states also do not support the outright crushing of the Palestinian movement. Even

### Over 500 demand

## 'U.S.-Syria OUT of Lebanon!'

By JOYCE BETRIES

NEW YORK, Oct. 2—Chanting "Syrian aggression—made in USA!", today more than 500 people picketed outside the Syrian Mission to the United Nations here, protesting the new Syrian military offensive in Lebanon.

### U.S. HELD RESPONSIBLE

Today's emergency mobilization, organized by Youth Against War & Fascism and Workers World Party, called attention to U.S. responsibility for the Syrian attack with banners reading, "Stop U.S.-backed Syrian aggression against Lebanon."

A number of Arab groups endorsed the demonstration, including the Organization of Arab Students, the Arab Social Club, Palestine Red Crescent Society, Palestine Information Committee, the Arab Women's Union, the Federation of Palestinian Women, Ghassam Kanafani Cultural Foundation, and the Yemeni



Even as Palestinians are under the gun of Syrian invaders and Lebanese fascists, Palestinians in the West Bank continue to rebel against Israeli occupation. In response to racist provocations by Zionist settlers living on stolen Arab land outside of Hebron, thousands of Palestinians demonstrated in that city on Sunday. Israeli border police opened fire, wounding four. Here, Israeli soldiers line up in the market place in Hebron to enforce curfew.

feudal Saudi Arabian rulers want to maintain some degree of independence from U.S. imperialism, and the crushing of the Palestinians would too drastically tip the balance back to dominance by U.S. corporations and the

Israeli settler state.

Although the situation indeed looks bleak for the Palestinian and Lebanese liberation struggle, the fight is far from over. The heroic stand of the Palestinian leadership in refusing to compromise has

forced Assad to stick his neck out further and further in Lebanon. With casualties, economic hardships, and increasing repression adding up at home, the Syrian masses may easily chop that neck off.

Immigrants Club.

The multi-national picketers included people from the Arab community here.

The high point of the demonstration occurred when a contingent of 200 Arab people from a convention of the Association of Arab University Graduates, which was taking place here today, joined the picket line. The chant "Syrian troops out of Lebanon" doubled in volume until it echoed off the surrounding skyscrapers as the Arabs, marching in formation behind a Lebanese flag, merged with the other marchers.

Chanting "Down, down with Assad, long live Palestine" and "Long live the PLO," the marchers spilled off the sidewalk, and despite police protests, took over part of busy Third Avenue to form a powerful and determined picket line.

### PALESTINIAN STRUGGLE WILL CONTINUE

A member of the Association of

Arab University Graduates drew loud cheers from the demonstrators when he addressed them, saying, "We want to make it absolutely clear that the Palestinian struggle will go on and on and on, regardless of adversity. . . . We all remember Black September of 1970 and how, after those black days, the Palestinian people still continued to struggle, and they will continue to do so."

Deirdre Griswold of Workers World Party informed the crowd that the fight of the Palestinian people is the fight of the American worker, too.

She said, "We know that we can be heard in the Syrian Mission, but this demonstration will also be heard by Washington and the State Department—by those who have engineered this attack."

She explained that the massacre of tens of thousands of people in Lebanon is the direct result of Henry Kissinger's so-called Middle East Peace Plan.

"This attack is in the interest of

the U.S. corporations who make billions of dollars off Mideast oil," she said. "Primarily, this is the Rockefeller family, the same family who runs the Emergency Financial Control Board and Big MAC here, and who is responsible for cutbacks here."

Griswold added, "We must fight this attack as we fought the attacks against Vietnam. We must defend the national rights of the Palestinian people the way we defended the national rights of the Puerto Rican people. Our interests lie with the Palestinian people, and not with the Rockefellers."

A spokesperson for the New York chapter of the Iranian Students Association (World Confederation) expressed the unconditional support of that organization for the heroic Palestinian people and the heroic national liberation movement in Lebanon.

The demonstration ended with everyone chanting "Long live Palestine—U.S. out of the Middle East."



More than 500 demonstrators picket in front of the Syrian Mission in New York to protest the U.S.-backed invasion of Lebanon by the Syrian army.

WW photo: Oscar Rivera

In face of growing revolution

# U.S., Britain try to bolster crumbling Rhodesian regime

By C. BESSON  
NEW YORK, Oct. 6—Representing U.S. and British banks and industrial interests, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State William Schaefe and British Minister of State Ted Rowlands have been hopping from one southern African capital to another in the last week in an attempt to lace together the rapidly disintegrating base of exploitation and oppression in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia).

The strength of the parasitic settler regime has begun to crumble in the face of the growing revolution of the masses of Zimbabwean people. Record numbers of settlers have been leaving the country in recent months. In a frantic attempt to shore up the army, the fascist Smith government has been importing mercenaries it calls "immigrants." The mercenaries have been recruited from Portugal, England, South Africa, West Germany, and Greece. Also, in the U.S., an outfit calling itself "American Aid for Rhodesia" has started to recruit soldiers in San Antonio, El Paso, Houston, and Phoenix and to raise money for the Smith regime.

The racist government is turning to mercenaries because it knows it can't rely on its own army. Besides an all-white officer corps, only 25 percent of the foot soldiers of the Rhodesian army are white.

A squadron of Hawker hunter jets and light reconnaissance and transport planes made by American companies has been shipped from France in violation of internationally recognized sanctions. The U.S. has long violated these sanctions by importing Rhodesian chrome.

Air strikes and raids into neighboring Mozambique have been



Zimbabwean guerrillas in training. "All the diplomatic maneuvering in the world may soon be seen as a mere frantic shadow play before the looming reality of a genuinely liberated and independent Zimbabwe." Photo: Hsinhua News Agency-LNS

aimed at the civilian population and at economic centers vital to that young revolutionary country's economy—despite Smith's phony claims military incursions have been carried out only against targets related to the support of Zimbabwe liberation fighters.

In addition, \$2 billion has been promised by Kissinger for a plan that would finance the purchase of land from white farmers, who could then lease back the land if they chose to remain. This plan also offers to set a minimum base price for the land, provides assistance for businessmen, and guarantees pensions for white civil

servants. All of this, of course, is designed to keep the settlers from running away so that they might remain to form the spine of a new neo-colonial regime.

Currently, corporations like the Rockefeller-owned Mobil Oil have been fueling the economy and military machine of the racist Rhodesians through a South African Mobil subsidiary.

The high-pressure maneuvering now being conducted is therefore seen as the diplomatic side of the imperialist coin of armed aggression—the napalming, the murderous "search and destroy" missions being carried out by the

Smith regime against the Zimbabwe liberation forces.

Among the stated objectives of the current tour by the U.S. and British officials is the convening of a conference of Black and white leaders within two weeks to set up an interim multi-racial government. Showing how U.S. and British involvement is aimed at collaborating with the racist Smith regime rather than aimed at mediating the between 95 percent Black majority and their oppressors, is the fact that it is the racists who will write the agenda and who will decide which of the Black leaders will have to sit down

with Ian Smith to represent the people of Zimbabwe in the projected government. Thus the real goal of the imperialist emissaries is not even to consider the wishes of the Black leaders, who want the conference to draw up a constitution, but to further divide them and pit them against each other.

Kissinger's assistant and his British counterpart have flatly and arrogantly stated that the conference would not be for the purpose of writing a constitution, although the possibility remains that the conference won't take place at all. Kissinger himself refused to answer the charge levelled at him by the head of the Organization of African Unity at the United Nations when he spoke there last week that NATO chief Alexander Haig had secretly participated in the talks with Vorster of South Africa.

The significance of such a meeting, with Haig's participation, is the possibility it opens up for providing arms to the settler regimes or even the use of the combined military forces of all of Western imperialism to suppress the liberation struggles of southern Africa.

Meanwhile the armed resistance to the fascist Rhodesian government and its imperialist masters is expanding rapidly. Guerrilla warfare is now being conducted on three fronts. Thousands of Zimbabwean patriots are being recruited into the liberation forces, armed with Soviet-made weapons and clad in fatigues made in People's China.

All the diplomatic maneuvering in the world may soon be seen as a mere frantic shadow play before the looming reality of a genuinely liberated and independent Zimbabwe.

# Argentina's junta guilty of mass murder

By JOYCE BETRIES

When Washington helped to engineer the Argentine coup last March, General Jorge Videla, an army officer, was installed as head of the military regime because of his alleged "moderate" right-wing political line.

Although Videla has called for an end to right-wing murders, he is really serving as a cover for other leaders in the junta who have institutionalized the present campaign of fascist terror against all sections of Argentine society who desire better social conditions.

Both the Argentine Navy, united behind Admiral Massera, and the Air Force, headed by neo-fascist Brigadier General Capellini, are behind the institution of a political purge similar to that conducted by Pinochet in Chile, according to the Solidarity Committee with the Argentine People (SCAP).

Fascists in the Army are led by General Benjamin Menendez, head of the key Third Army Region in Cordoba and leader of the right-wing murder squad, the Comando Libertadores de America; General Ramon Diaz Bessone in Rosario; and General Carlos Suarez, the Army Commander in Buenos Aires, according to the same source.

The junta is able to project two apparently contradictory but actually complementary images—conciliatory and repressive. Fascist General Menendez cryptically summarized the military's two-front policy when he

said, "While Videla governs, I kill."

Since the March 24 coup, 40,000 persons have been detained, and 30,000 of them still remain in prison. There are reportedly 30 concentration camps and torture camps all over the country.

In the last five months, approximately 5,000 persons—men, women, and children—have been savagely tortured, and about 3,000 have been murdered by the repressive forces, according to MASA, a group of Argentinians living here. Hundreds of persons have disappeared, and bodies are found daily in the streets.

On Aug. 20, two mass murders of 61 people were carried out by the Argentine Anti-Communist Alliance (AAA), a right-wing murder squad, in reprisal for the assassination of a retired army general and a Fiat executive by the Montoneros, a guerrilla group. (The U.S., through its embassy in Buenos Aires, has been arming the AAA and other fascist groups in Argentina for years.)

Official sources in the Argentine government say that a military officer was responsible for at least 30 of the killings, and the victims were brought to the place they were murdered from detention camps.

The Aug. 20 massacre is only the latest in a series of mass murders by the fascist AAA. Its victims include labor leaders, revolu-

tionaries, priests, students, judges, workers, and others.

No one has been arrested for these slaughters. In fact, General Nicolas Corbetta, the federal police chief whom General Videla had appointed, was forced to resign in July when he tried to impose disciplinary action on ultra-right-wing police commanders after a series of murders.

## NAZI PUBLICATIONS

While banning all progressive publications, the junta has encouraged those which sympathize with extreme right-wing tendencies. These include Nazi books and journals that praise the Third Reich and its chief, Adolph Hitler, and justify and encourage anti-semitism. One of these publications is called *Nosotros, los Racistas* (We, the Racists).

According to *la Prensa*, published in Buenos Aires, "these publications can be found at every bookstand in the country and are not clandestine enterprises; the names of its editors and distributors are printed in the journals."

A campaign of terror and harassment is being waged against Jewish people in Argentina. In the past month neo-nazis firing guns from moving cars attacked a synagogue and Jewish school in Buenos Aires. Earlier in late August, two dynamite blasts had been set off at two synagogues in the predominantly Jewish neigh-

borhood of Villa Crespo in the capital.

## RESISTANCE CONTINUES DESPITE REPRESSION

Despite the state of siege, the Argentine working class and guerrillas are still actively fighting the regime.

In early September, 20,000 Argentine autoworkers held a three-day strike at Ford, General Motors, Chrysler, Mercedes-Benz, and Fiat Assembly Plants in the most serious labor protest against wage restrictions since the military took power in March.

This strike has made the Videla regime fearful of the developing underground labor leadership, the general Confederation of Labor in Resistance, which stands opposed to the government-controlled unions and corrupt labor leadership.

The People's Revolutionary Army (ERP) suffered a painful blow when its leader Mario Roberto Santucho was assassinated this summer. However, this guerrilla group continues to struggle, and recently it has opened up a new front in Tucuman province.

The Montoneros, another guerrilla group, are also fighting in Tucuman.

According to MASA, a group of Argentines living in the U.S., a third guerrilla group, Brigadas Rojas del Poder Obrero (Red Brigades of the Workers Power)



General Jorge Videla of Argentina

has been formed. This group appears to be a regrouping of the Liberation Armed Forces (FAL), active in Argentina in the 1969-70 period.

In order to increase their capacity to confront the armed forces and police, the ERP, Montoneros, and Red Brigades are working together in the formation of a joint military command, the Argentine Liberation Organization (OLA), according to MASA.

Now, more than ever, it is clear that only the Argentine working class and its allies can stop the fascist assault and turn the tide to seize control of all that is rightfully theirs.



# West German elections: small move to the right

By JOHN C. OTTO

NEW YORK, Oct. 4—Yesterday in national elections in West Germany the Social-Democrat-Free Democrat coalition held on to a small majority in the lower house of Parliament. Helmut Schmidt of the Social Democrats remained Chancellor. The more openly right-wing Christian Democrats gained 3.7 percent of the total votes over their showing in the 1972 elections, and now trail by only eight seats of 496, instead of 46. An even stronger gain was registered by the Christian Socialist Union, which is the Christian Democrat ally in the state of Bavaria and is led by the ultra-right cold warrior, Franz Joseph Strauss.

It was the most right-wing campaign in years, with the Christian Democrats and Strauss on the offensive. For most of the campaign the Social Democrats answered feebly and moved further to the right themselves.

A main slogan of the Christian Democrats was "Freedom instead of Socialism," much like the old Nazi election slogan "Freedom instead of Bolshevism." This was directed against the social welfare programs that the West German workers had won through years of struggle.

## HIT DETENTE

The Christian Democrats also attacked the policy of normalizing relations and increasing trade with Eastern Europe, especially with the German Democratic Republic (GDR) and the Soviet Union. In August, the West German right wing organized provocative demonstrations at the East German border, and the Christian Democrat leader Kohl challenged Schmidt to allow West German border police to fire on the border guards of the German Democratic Republic.

These attacks are not new. It is already two years since the architect of the opening to the East, Willi Brandt, was removed as chancellor in an attack from the right. The pretext used was his supposed negligence with regard to a GDR agent in his office; the West German secret police had known of the agent for months but waited to use him against Brandt. After Brandt's removal, relations with the GDR developed very slowly, although trade increased.

Helmut Schmidt, whose policies

were even more in line with those of U.S. imperialism, replaced Brandt. Yesterday, Ford quickly telegraphed congratulations to Schmidt after his victory. Unlike the Swedish Social-Democrat, Olaf Palme, Schmidt is acceptable to U.S. imperialism.

## KOHL, STRAUSS TAKE OFFENSIVE

In the election campaign, Kohl and Strauss took the initiative, speaking of schools invaded by communist teachers, of the

"cossack danger," of the collusion between social democrats and communists, offering women a warm place (in the home and family), and warning of state intervention that "murders individualism." In the climate of unease caused by the world-wide capitalist economic crisis and instability in neighboring capitalist states, this right-wing demagoguery captured some people.

What was needed to counter it was a strong, revolutionary reply. But the Social Democrats them-

selves had blacklisted radicals from the schools, had slowed relations with the socialist countries, had purged left-wingers from their party, and were cutting back on social programs for women and the poor. Their main slogan was "Model-Germany," meaning that West Germany under the Social Democratic leadership had weathered the capitalist crisis relatively well, with the lowest unemployment and inflation rates. This conservative and somewhat chauvinist approach did little to

awaken support. It was only in the closing days of the campaign that Schmidt had kind words to say about socialism, and this drew the biggest applause.

While it is true that there was no real solution offered to the West German workers with this election, and that little enthusiasm for either party was generated among the people, the gains by the Christian Democrats still indicate a move to the right, but one which stopped short of putting the right wing in office.



In south Korea, women wander the streets in search of jobs. The fascist Pak regime is facing a rising tide of rebellion against repression, exploitation, and poverty.  
Photo: Korea Today

## Despite torture and imprisonment

# South Koreans fight fascist regime

By BARBARA TEEL

NEW YORK, Oct. 4—The south Korean people are mounting a growing struggle against the fascist Pak Jung Hi regime despite intensified efforts by U.S. puppet

Pak to suppress all dissent.

On Aug. 10, 60 churchpeople met and published "The Second Declaration for Democracy and National Salvation." In it, they expressed support for the signers of the "Declaration for Democracy and National Salvation," published last March. Eighteen of the signers were recently sentenced to long prison terms for suggesting that Pak should resign and that democratic rights should be granted. The second declaration demanded the abolishment of the so-called "revitalized constitution" (martial law) and the right to free speech. The Pak dictatorship responded by arresting 10 of the signers, subjecting them to torture and imprisonment.

Faced with growing opposition, the Pak regime has extended its repressive arm into every facet of life in south Korea. Men have been forbidden to wear long hair, and those T-shirts designated "obscene" by the regime are illegal. Hundreds of thousands of men have been detained and "checked" under these regulations, and many have had their hair forcibly cut by army officers. Censorship on music has been tightened, and a blacklist of more than 260 foreign songs has been issued. Among the prohibited songs are "I Shot the Sheriff" and "We Shall Overcome."

The repression has been unable to stem the growing tide of revolt. An outlawed song deriding the "Homeland Defense Reserve Forces" (into which all adult men have been drafted), has become immensely popular. Frequent desertions are plaguing the south Korean army, and the Pak dictatorship has been alarmed by deserters who have fled with arms and ammunition and gone into hiding in the south.

The brutal exploitation of the workers in south Korea under the heel of U.S. imperialism has prompted a growing struggle which the laws against unions and strikes have not been able to stop. On Sept. 13, over 300 workers of the Changjoa Mining Station in North Kyongsang Province staged a sit-in. They demanded the re-hiring of 280 workers who had been dismissed by the mine owners in their greed for increased profits.

## STRUGGLE OF WOMEN CHEMICAL WORKERS

On Sept. 8, women workers of the Pungchon chemical fiber plant in Seoul staged a sit-in to demand freedom for trade union activity, improved working conditions, and a wage increase. The next day, over 200 of the women demonstrated. The Pak regime stepped in to protect the corporations' freedom of exploitation, arresting more than 50 workers. The women,

angered by the arrests, demonstrated again on Sept. 18, demanding the release of their fellow workers. When the women were denied the right to speak to arrested trade union officials, they marched down the streets, fighting bare-handed against 100 of the fascist police who blocked their way and attacked them with clubs.

The fascist Pak regime has now singled out some of the leaders for repression, charging them with "violation of emergency measures number 9," and "agitating for an illegal strike," charges which carry harsh sentences.

Bus drivers and women conductors in Seoul waged a struggle for the 8-hour day and a pay hike. They have been forced to work 18- and 20-hour days under "duty service" regulations. On Sept. 18, the workers won substantial increases of 23 percent for drivers and 50 percent for the women conductors.

The rising struggle bodes ill for the fascist Pak regime and the U.S. corporations it serves. The determination of the south Korean people to struggle against the repressive measures of the U.S. puppet Pak and the brutal exploitation forced on them by U.S. and Japanese corporations brings closer the day when the Korean people will be able to develop their land free from imperialist domination.

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*You can't make a silk purse from a sow's ear*

# Are police workers?

By DEIRDRE GRISWOLD  
NEW YORK, Oct. 4 A cop is a cop is a cop. A cop is not a worker. In New York City right now, cops are demonstrating over wages and hours. They have been picketing City Hall, the Mayor's mansion, and various other sites for over a week. They call their organization, the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (PBA), a "union," and refer to themselves as municipal workers.

But it's important for workers in general to know that cops are not part of the working class. It's not just a question of definition. It's because no worker should be fooled into thinking that his or her interests are similar to those of the police.

Take the issues in this current campaign by the 18,000-member PBA, for instance. One of them is wages. Because of the squeeze on New York City's budget and credit rating by the big banks, the Beame administration imposed a one-year wage freeze on the municipal unions. The PBA, rather than fighting alongside the municipal unions to defend the workers' interests, instead went to court to try and break the system of pay parity with the fire fighters and sanitation workers.

Under this system, the cops and fire fighters automatically get the same pay, while the police get an automatic 10 percent more than sanitation workers. This would hold down the cops' pay in a period of wage freeze for city workers.

The PBA was so opposed to the parity system that it rented billboards around the city and took out ads in the papers with the slogan, "Parity with sanitationmen? Trash!" That's what these "workers" think of real workers who perform useful social services.

## McFEELEY SHOWS WHICH SIDE THEY'RE ON

When New York City was first hit with massive layoffs last year, Ken McFeeley of the PBA went to Washington to meet with President Ford, a visit arranged by right-wing Senator James Buckley. McFeeley himself reported back to the PBA membership that he told

Ford that more cops would be needed to handle "civil unrest" in the city arising from the cutbacks.

In other words, this semi-fascist was telling his boss that his force of armed men would be needed to put down the workers' resistance to wage cuts and layoffs. What kind of a "union" is it that exists to scab on the workers?

The class-collaborationist heads of the AFL-CIO and Teamsters Union who are talking about bringing the cops into the unions don't talk about their role in breaking strikes. But that is a key question. Those who discuss the police as if they were just another category of the working class must ask themselves: Do the police ever go out in sympathy with striking workers? Do they ever refuse to cross a picket line? Do they show the slightest solidarity with the labor movement?

When there's a strike, aren't they there on the other side—conducting scabs through the line, enforcing court injunctions, busting strikers' heads?

Yet, how often do they arrest a boss for the murder of workers in unsafe plants? Or for violating his contract with the workers? How often do they arrest a corporate executive for bilking the public? How often do they arrest a landlord for taking ruthless rents and maintaining a firetrap?

Do they ever pull out their billy clubs or their blackjacks on these gentlemen of property? Do they ever shoot them down because "it looked like he had a gun"? Do they ever slam the rich up against the wall for a frisk or run a dragnet through Sutton Place?

## STORMTROOPER MILITANCY

The fact that the PBA is organizing militant demonstrations demanding a retroactive wage increase (which would raise their base pay to over \$17,000) may seem impressive to some people who were disappointed by the way the municipal union leaders just caved in to the wage freeze without putting up a fight. But militancy alone does not determine what kind of a struggle is going on. The militancy of the cops is more like that of a stormtrooper rebellion than a

workers' struggle.

A lot of affluent residents of the Gracie Mansion area were appalled by the conduct of the cops at their first demonstration. They blew police whistles, honked their horns, and shouted obscenities long after midnight, keeping hospital patients as well as tenants in the area awake.

## NO SURPRISE TO OPPRESSED PEOPLE

But the oppressed people of this city are used to much, much worse treatment from the cops. They weren't surprised that the calls to City Hall in this period from cops and their wives have not only been abusive but anti-Semitic (according to the New York Post). The oppressed people are only too familiar with the vulgar racism of the police.

Nor can they forget that during the last "job action," gangs of off-duty white cops rampaged through several oppressed communities, and even stomped a man to death in Harlem.

The fact that their anti-social behavior last week spilled over into a neighborhood usually sheltered from it is due to the fact that this time, instead of directing their brutality against the oppressed sections of society, the cops were rebelling against the city authorities, the elected officials who the police arm of the state see as "soft" because they are subject to mass pressure on occasion.

The Beame administration has so far seemed adamant in refusing the PBA demands. This has infuriated the cops, who are used to all sorts of special privileges and concessions. But the truth is that in this period, when the mass resistance of the anti-war struggle and the Black liberation movement has subsided, and the city is in a financial crisis, the existence of a virtual army of 30,000 police is a luxury that many bourgeois politicians feel they can't afford at the moment. And while the layoffs haven't cut too deeply into the police department, they have been a challenge to this body of armed right-wingers who consider themselves a semi-autonomous force.

The fact that the rich ruling class



Cops are not workers nor are their interests the same as real workers striking printers in San Rafael in 1970.

of this city agrees that the cops need to be cut down a bit, need to be shown who's boss, can be seen from the unanimous condemnation of the PBA in the press. Even the Daily News, which is hardly distinguishable from the Police Gazette most of the time, has editorialized against the behavior of the cops.

When the bourgeois state is in conflict with its own agents, as now, much truth that is usually suppressed makes its way to the surface. People feel freer to say what they really think about the police. Anti-cop remarks can be heard everywhere in this city—all the grievances over the brutish and callous behavior of the police are being brought out into the open. A police car speeds by in the usual manner—siren blaring, ignoring red lights and one-way signs—and a dozen comments can be heard from the people on the street.

## PHONY "CRIME" ISSUE

With increasing poverty and social unrest, the right-wing constantly pushes for more cops as the answer. Yet both in the present situation, when the on-duty cops are making themselves scarce, and during last year's "job action," there's been no big surge in crime. In fact, just the opposite seems to be true.

The truth is that there is an organic and mutually reinforcing relationship between the police and organized crime. While the police forces have been built up over the years into small armies, this country has just about the highest crime rate in the world. More cops, and more murders. More police technology, and more dope addiction. No wonder Serpico became an immediate hit.

The police in capitalist society do not really function to control anti-social elements. Rather, they are there to enforce conditions that break down the bonds of human solidarity and drive people to crimes of survival.

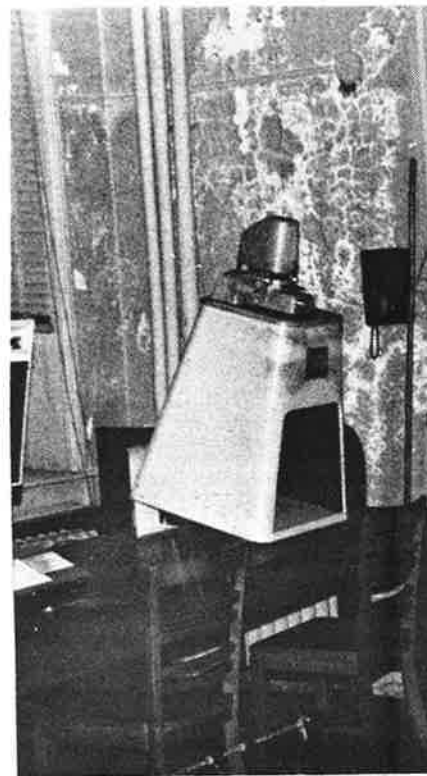
The struggle against crime must begin with the struggle against the biggest criminals of all: the rich and racist ruling class of this country to whom the great majority of the people are only a means to obtain greater fortunes and privileges.

## Harlem rally v neglect of So

By BRIAN BECKER

NEW YORK, Oct. 4—As part of its continuing campaign to save the most important collection of Black history in the world, the Citizens Coalition to Save the Schomburg Library will hold a rally on Oct. 15 at the Harlem YMCA at 135th Street (between Lenox and Adam Clayton Powell Avenue). Scheduled to begin at 7 p.m., the rally organizers expect a large turnout from the community to protest the racist policies of the New York Public Library (NYPL), which have resulted in the deterioration of the Schomburg building and the destruction of irreplaceable manuscripts.

In addition to the Schomburg workers, Lillian Roberts, associate director of District Council 37, AFSCME, will address the rally. District Council 37 represents over 140,000 predominantly Black and Latin workers in New York City.



This is the condition of the building largest collection of Black literature. Library refuses to allocate funds for

## Racist hysteria challenged in aftermath of white mob violence

By BRIAN BECKER  
NEW YORK, Oct. 4—In the aftermath of the white racist mob violence at Washington Square Park on Sept. 8, during which Marcos Mota, a young Black worker, was beaten to death, a concerted effort has been organized to whip up a racist hysteria in the Greenwich Village area where the park is located.

The police, politicians, and businessmen have tried to use the attack as a pretext for turning Washington Square into an all-white park under the code words of "cleaning up" the park. On Sept. 28, the racists and some of their leaders, like City Councilman William Passannante, learned at a "Clean up Washington Square Park" meeting held at New York University that their anti-Black campaign was not going to go unchallenged.

Addressing the 65 neighborhood residents, almost all of whom were white, Passannante and other racist leaders were surprised by a

strong delegation from the Center for United Labor Action (CULA), a multi-national organization whose members took the floor and challenged the anti-Black propaganda of these so-called community leaders. Undeterred by a handful of pro-fascists who tried unsuccessfully to shout the anti-racists down, a CULA speaker explained that "Marcos Mota, only 22 years old, went to Washington Square Park to play volleyball on Sept. 8. Today, Marcos is dead. Thirty-four other people who happened to be in the park on Sept. 8 were also severely beaten by a mob of 50 white youths armed with baseball bats and chains. The victims came from all walks of life, but they had one thing in common—they were all Black or Latin. If Marcos Mota was white, he would be alive today."

The CULA speaker emphasized, "This was racism, and it is the danger of an organized racist campaign, like the one in South

Boston, that this community must condemn and actively repudiate."

## OTHER ANTI-RACISTS EMBOLDENED

Until CULA representatives spoke, no one in the audience had dared to speak out against the racists. When the anti-racist speaker concluded his remarks, however, a significant minority of the meeting applauded. Encouraged by this reception, one of the community residents took the floor and denounced the racist attack in Washington Square.

Although the majority of those in attendance remained under their sway, the racist forces lost one of their greatest weapons: the illusion that everybody agrees with them.

As one community resident put it after the meeting, "The attack made me sick and it made a lot of my friends sick, too. But we were afraid to speak out. We thought we were the only ones who disagreed with the racists, but not anymore."





## They will protest racist Schomburg Library

Another featured speaker will be Dennis Serrette, president of the New York Coalition of Black Trade Unionists. Larry Holmes, of the Center for United Labor Action, will chair.

The Citizens Coalition to Save the Schomburg is a broad-based community-labor group which includes members of the Schomburg staff and well-known Black trade unionists, clergy, and educators. The Coalition has organized extensive activities around demands including a new building in Harlem, immediate repairs of the present Schomburg center, the re-hiring of members of the staff who have been fired without cause, and equal treatment and funding with Lincoln Center Library.

## RACIST POLICIES BARED

In recent weeks, the racist policies of the all-white Board of

Trustees have been vividly exposed to the public.

For example, according to the Sept. 23 issue of the Amsterdam News, money earmarked to replace the 73-year-old decaying building which houses the Schomburg collection was stolen by the NYPL and used to construct the Lincoln Center library, which is located in a high income white area.

On Sept. 8, during a protest in front of the 42nd Street library, hundreds of demonstrators charged the NYPL Board of Trustees with neglect of the Schomburg, while providing millions for the glamorous Lincoln Center facility.

In a statement recently issued by the Citizens - Coalition, it was revealed that in 1974, the administration of the NYPL, "issued a report to the Board of Trustees recommending that the Schomburg be closed down and its contents moved to the 42nd Street library."

Such a move by the Board of Trustees would be in direct contradiction with the legal will of Arthur Schomburg, an Afro-Puerto Rican, who donated the collection to the New York Public Library on the stipulation that it remain in Harlem.

That this Citizens Coalition is making a significant impact in bringing pressure on the New York Public Library and other local authorities was borne out in a recent WNBC-TV editorial. The editorial insisted that the main issue involved in the problems with the Schomburg was "lack of funds—not racism . . . as some citizens claim."

The Citizens Coalition demanded an opportunity to respond to the WNBC editorial and a statement, read by Black author Anita King, was broadcast today.

ing's statement read in

## Racist ruling under appeal

# Union loan saves NAACP

**By KENNY PETERSON**

NEW YORK, Oct. 4.—The United Auto Workers and the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations offered the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) a loan of more than \$800,000 last week and saved the 67-year-old civil rights organization from financial catastrophe.

On the same day that the two labor organizations provided the money to the hard-pressed NAACP, a Federal District judge postponed the appeals bond deadline by one week and ordered a hearing into the matter for Oct. 7.

The NAACP was forced by a racist court ruling to meet an Oct. 1 deadline for posting an incredible \$1.66 million bond with a Mississippi court in order to appeal a \$1,250,599 judgment against the organization. Under Mississippi law, a bond of 125 percent of the judgment must be posted within 45 days in order to appeal a judge's ruling. The NAACP has been able to raise only \$763,374, which is more than \$800,000 short of the required \$1.66 million.

The Internal Revenue Service intervened in the case, siding against the NAACP when it ruled last week that it would not be legal for foundations to lend the civil rights organization any money to meet the bond.

## NAACP ORGANIZES BOYCOTT OF RACISTS

The NAACP has been pushed to the brink of financial disaster by an adverse ruling in a \$3.5 million lawsuit filed against the association by a group of 12 white racist merchants from Port Gibson, Miss. The racist store owners pressed the legal action against the NAACP in retaliation for a successful consumer boycott which the association led against them in 1966-67.

The Mississippi River town of Port Gibson and the surrounding Claiborne County are both about 75 percent Black. In 1966, the NAACP and an anti-poverty organization, the Mississippi Action for Progress, led the boycott against the racist businessmen's stores to demand equal employment opportunities for Black people.

Despite the suit designed to break the back of the NAACP and to discourage boycotts, Aaron Henry, chairman of 88 NAACP

## RACISTS SUE NAACP

The court ruling was handed down by Chancellor George Haynes of the Chancery Court in Mississippi's Hinds County. He ruled (juries do not decide chancery cases in Mississippi) that the NAACP and the Mississippi Action for Progress had "wrongfully combined and colluded a civil conspiracy." The racist store owners had claimed that the Black boycotters had subjected them to a secondary boycott, which they asserted to be illegal. (In fact, the National Labor Relations Act, which does prohibit the use of secondary boycotts, is restricted in its application to labor unions exclusively.)

## BOYCOTT OF RACISTS CONTINUES

The Black people of Port Gibson, in response to this court-imposed fine which has threatened the continued survival of the NAACP, have resumed their boycott against the white store owners who launched the suit. They have received support from a great many Black people and from progressive and anti-racist whites in the area, including those in the Mississippi Gay Alliance, the ACLU, and the Delta Ministry. One local resident, reached by telephone, asserted that this case

sparked more support from the community than any issue since the 1966 boycott itself.

## WORKERS FIGHT THROUGH BOYCOTTS

The boycott has a long and embattled history in this country. The 1956 Montgomery bus boycott, for example, is generally credited with touching off a new round of massive resistance by Black people to racism in the South leading into the civil rights movement of the 1960s.

A more recent example of the importance of the boycott in the struggle for social justice is the Farah strike, where a consumer boycott brought the country's



### *The Butz affair:*

## One down, a ruling class to go

**By PRESTON WOOD**

NEW YORK, Oct. 4—Today in Washington, in the face of mounting pressure, Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz was forced to resign from the Ford administration because of racist remarks he recently made. These racist slurs, revealed by convicted Watergate figure John Dean, plus other racist remarks made recently by House Speaker Carl Albert and billionaire-boss Nelson Rockefeller, have demonstrated how thoroughly imbued with racist ideology the government and entire bourgeois establishment really is.

Referred to by the New York Times as a real friend of the small farmer, Butz is actually a friend and lackey to the giant multinational corporations which dominate and control all aspects of food

production. Butz' callous indifference to the hunger which millions of Americans must face every day has already made him a known enemy of all poor and working people.

Whatever shock or official displeasure the bourgeois press might display over Butz' racism, their heavy criticism of the former secretary's remarks are not based upon any real anti-racist sentiments. Recent slurs against Black people have evoked anger and expressions of outrage by progressive organizations across the country, and there are elements within the bourgeoisie who would like to use these remarks to discredit Ford and weaken his already shaky presidential campaign.

such expressions of unmasked racism, however abhorrent they may be, do in essence give the green light to those forces of racism and reaction which exist in this country. A concealed but important function of the racist statements which have been emanating from Washington lately is to give encouragement to the racists to continue their national campaign of racist terror and violence.



building which houses the world's literature. The New York Public is for a new Schomburg Center.



## EDITORIAL

## Death penalty ruling

The decision of the Supreme Court reaffirming its earlier ruling to reinstitute the death penalty is but a continuation of the court's long and sordid history of reaction and repression. Praised by the bourgeoisie as the symbol of the independent judiciary in the sacred system of checks and balances, the Supreme Court is in reality a crucial part of the ruling class' repressive machinery.

The latest ruling clears the way for Texas, Georgia, and Florida to execute 157 prisoners, the majority of whom are Black. This racist decision is cut from the same cloth as the infamous Dred Scott ruling, which upheld the legality of slavery over a century ago.

The entire history of the court is a continuous chain of repressive and racist acts in the defense of bourgeois rule. The few years under Justice Earl Warren represent only a brief reprieve from this history, caused by the ruling class' fear and need to make concessions, particularly during the upsurge of the struggle in the 1960s.

Even at the high point of the court's so-called liberalism, the 1954 school desegregation decision, it purposely failed to set a deadline for desegregation, leaving the door open for the decision to be overturned at a future date.

The present court was packed by arch-reactionary Richard Nixon. However, it must be kept in mind that the court represents the overall interests of the ruling class and not just the views of the Nixon gang. This was shown by the court's willingness to rule against Nixon on the question of handing over the Watergate tapes. The reinstituting of the death penalty, the upcoming review of the Miranda decision (that it is the right of an accused person to have a lawyer present during questioning), and other recent racist moves by the court were supported by the entire ruling class and not merely a left-over group of the Nixon team.

The Supreme Court will continue to act along with the army, the police, and the prisons as an institution to exploit the workers and continue racial oppression. The only liberty the Supreme Court will ever defend is the liberty of the capitalist class to exploit the masses.

## The stench of racism

Butz has resigned. But getting one skunk out of the brood doesn't leave the rest smelling like a rose.

Now, if *all* the racists turned in their resignations, that *would* be something. Imagine the empty, echoing corridors of Capitol Hill, the White House, and all those government departments if suddenly the racists did right by the world and got off. All the ones who've told not one racist joke but a thousand. All the ones who've humiliated oppressed people, bossed them around, lorded it over them.

What about Rockefeller and House Speaker Albert, whose slurs about the President of Liberia and Senator Brook inadvertently got out over a live mike? Their contempt for their own allies speaks volumes.

Those who would brush off such incidents as of minor importance forget how racism is used in a period of social crisis. A murderous lynch mob gets its encouragement, gets a green light for mayhem, from just such pronouncements made by men of wealth and influence. And lynching isn't in the past. A racist lynch mob took the life of a young Latin worker just last month in New York's Washington Square Park.

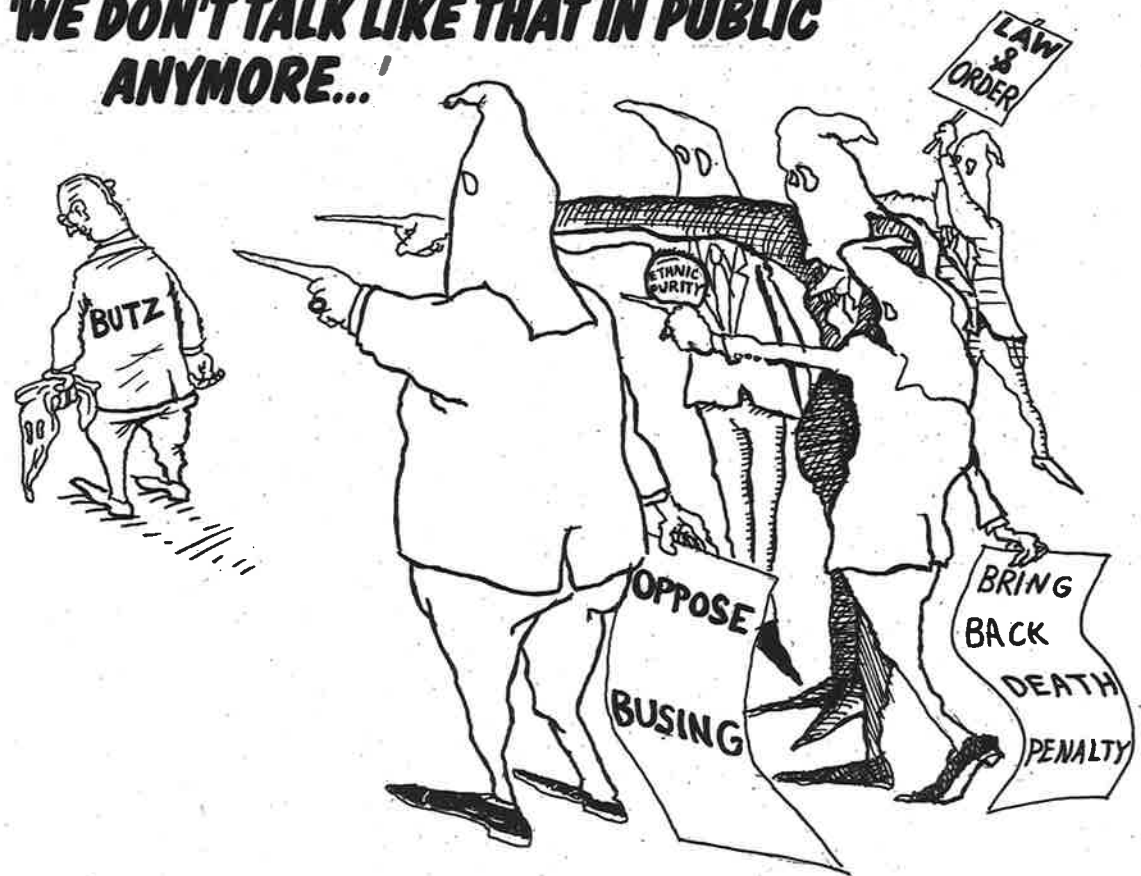
There is no question that the wealthy ruling class in this country is turning more and more to racism as a way to control the people in a period of rising unrest over economic hardships. And the politicians in Washington and all over are reflecting this fact.

The most contemptible are those who have tried to provide a "liberal" cover for pure and unmitigated racist positions. Chief among this breed is Daniel Patrick Moynihan—who went from inventing "benign neglect" for the Nixon gang to accusing the impoverished countries of the world of bullying U.S. imperialism at the UN.

Moynihan hails originally from Social Democrats USA, and has drawn on his "State Department socialist" friends—like Albert Shanker and Sidney Hook—in his current campaign for U.S. Senator. It was under Shanker's leadership that New York City teachers conducted a racist strike in 1968 against community control in the schools.

Unfortunately, they're not all going to resign—or even be kicked out, yet. It's up to every person who hates racism and understands how it's used against the people to stand beside the victims of racist attack, as has been done recently in Boston, Chicago, Norfolk, New York, and elsewhere.

**'WE DON'T TALK LIKE THAT IN PUBLIC ANYMORE...'**



CARL:W.W.

## LETTERS

### The real basis for unity

As a UAW member and Ford production worker currently on strike, I really appreciated your coverage of rank-and-file actions and sentiments in the strike.

I'd like to comment on one important aspect of the strike: the relationship of the skilled trades to the production workers. The skilled trades under the leadership of the Independent Skilled Trades Council (ISTC) initiated many militant and significant actions which helped to strengthen our strike.

For example, the ISTC organized the Sept. 21 picket line of skilled and production workers from many Ford plants, outside the Ford Research and Development Center in Dearborn, UAW Local 245. As a direct result of that picket, the UAW international was forced to have Local 245 join the rest of Ford UAW on strike.

Skilled tradespeople have also organized picketlines at many Ford plants to stop sub-contractors from continuing to work while we're on strike. As a production worker who participated in these activities, I thought the unity shown between skilled and production workers was great and was key to the militancy and success of these actions.

However, I believe that the contract demands raised by the ISTC, which focus on the skilled trades alone rather than raising demands that benefit Ford workers as a whole, threaten to destroy this unity.

One of the key demands is for a special wage hike for skilled trades workers, to raise their wages to \$10 per hour and achieve wage parity with the building trades. They do not raise the demand for a parallel wage hike for production workers, who currently are paid considerably less than the skilled trades.

Significantly, the company's first wage offer consisted of only 33 cents an hour over three years for production workers, but 78 cents for skilled trades. The company

clearly used a divide-and-conquer tactic, believing that by offering the skilled trades more than production workers, they could break the unity essential for us all to win any gains.

Another demand raised by the Skilled Trades Council was for more skilled trades union representatives. A couple of years ago, the skilled trades workers in my local raised a motion at a union meeting for a special skilled trades committee person. This motion was voted down because the production workers felt that it would cut into the inadequate representation that production workers suffer too.

A contract demand for more

committee people for all UAW members including more specially assigned to the trades could unify skilled trades and production and give the necessary strength to win better representation from both.

After all, aren't production workers and skilled trades workers equally essential to the company in building cars? By combining our efforts, don't we present that much stronger a force in dealing with the company?

I hope the ISTC leadership thinks about this, and starts reaching out to production workers instead of isolating themselves as a special grouping within the union.

Ford UAW member,  
Local 900

### —Union loan saves NAACP

(Continued from page 9)

largest pants manufacturer to his knees, forcing him to sign a union contract. In this instance, where the union of the Farah workers was prevented by the National Labor Relations Act from conducting a boycott against any of the retail outlets of the scab merchandise, a labor support group called the Center for United Labor Action (CULA) was instrumental in organizing such a secondary boycott.

At the same time that the Port Gibson case was being argued in court, the CULA was being sued by one of the major distributor's of scab Farah slacks in the U.S. for \$1.2 million. In this case also, the charge of "secondary boycott" was leveled against the CULA, which did ultimately win the lawsuit on the basis that it was not a "labor organization" as defined by the National Labor Relations Act, and therefore exempt from the Act's prohibitions.

In addition to challenging the legal basis for the \$1.2 million suit against CULA, this organization conducted an active and militant campaign in defense of the boycott

as a basic component of the free speech rights of labor. And in the present case against the NAACP, the attempt by the government on behalf of white racist businessmen to deny the Black people of Port Gibson the use of the boycott weapon is a direct thrust against their free speech rights too.

### POWERFUL FORCES BEHIND SUIT

More powerful forces are behind the suit against the NAACP than just the 12 store owners from Port Gibson. These racist merchants have been financed by large corporations which are anxious to destroy the boycott weapon, which proved so valuable in the Farah strike. Moreover, the entrenched white supremacist establishment in Mississippi is hoping that by crippling the NAACP in that state, they can stifle the demands of Black people.

The loan to the NAACP by the UAW and the AFL-CIO is a significant act of solidarity that should be followed up by a campaign of mass action. This would certainly be in the interest of the labor movement also. The boycott and free speech rights are weapons in the struggle, and they cannot be defended except through struggle. The civil rights movement and the labor movement have both been hard pressed lately. Their coming together on this question proves their fundamental common interest, and is an encouraging sign.



## Sino-Soviet relations and

## U.S. ambassadors of ill will

By SAM MARCY

OCTOBER 4—The sharpening of the social contradictions inherent in monopoly capitalism makes it virtually impossible for imperialist diplomacy to function within the confines of the old ambassadorial framework that sufficed in the early days of the capitalist system. Even then, crucial issues occasionally had to be resolved by meetings of heads of state.

Where once the conventional ambassadorial level was the main diplomatic channel, today the imperialist countries must employ a variety of diverse diplomatic instrumentalities. At a time when ever-larger sections of the broad masses of people everywhere are awakening to political life, it is more than ever necessary for the ruling class to conceal its predatory aims by the use of new methods.

As long ago as the Wilson administration, the U.S. government found it necessary to circumvent the official ambassadorial levels of diplomacy by appointing a presidential assistant, or advisor, who in reality conducted the president's diplomacy over and above the heads of the U.S. diplomatic corps.

For Wilson it was Colonel House. For Roosevelt it was Harry Hopkins. President Kennedy employed both Secretary of State Dean Rusk and McGeorge Bundy, his so-called National Security Advisor. And Henry Kissinger, as is well known, served under the Nixon administration first as National Security Advisor and only later as Secretary of State.

## A NEW BREED OF UNOFFICIAL AMBASSADORS

But the ruling class establishment is so riddled with virulent factionalism and the imperative need to conceal its motives and plans from the masses that ambassadors, presidential advisors, secretaries of state, and even special envoys with plenipotentiary powers no longer suffice.

Inner ruling class tensions arising from conflicts in policy among formidable groupings in the capitalist establishment, and especially in the military, have given rise to a new breed of unofficial ambassadors. These are usually former office holders in previous administrations of government. Most often these men, who represent significant class groupings, have fallen out with the administration or find it necessary to disassociate themselves from the current policies of the governing group.

Unofficial representatives, especially if they represent only a faction of the ruling class, are a highly dangerous breed. Presumably the Logan Act, which



Former Secretary of Defense, James Schlesinger, briefing Carter. His mission for the U.S. ruling class: "to keep the socialist countries at each other's throats while multi-national corporations devour the life-blood of the dependent and developing third world countries. . . ."

was passed a long, long time ago and prohibits any unauthorized person from representing the U.S. government abroad or negotiating on its behalf, should apply to them.

The difficulty, however, lies in determining whether these unofficial representatives are truly unofficial—or whether they have the sanction of the government. The Logan Act hasn't prevented somebody like David Rockefeller from making any one of his innumerable trips abroad or consummating deals which sooner or later are bound to be official U.S. foreign policy. Large multinational corporations, like the giant conglomerate ITT or the Exxon corporation, are frequently referred to as "sovereign states"; they virtually conduct their own foreign policy.

No one would ever cite the Logan Act against them. It's only when the State Department and the Pentagon want to intimidate somebody who is actively trying to oppose aggressive U.S. war policies abroad that the Logan Act is remembered by the Justice Department.

Unofficial representatives, as emissaries, have come more into vogue as the crisis of American finance capital deepens.

## SCHLESINGER AND HARRIMAN ABROAD

Last week two unofficial representatives from the U.S. ruling establishment were abroad, one in the People's Republic of China and

the other in the Soviet Union. It was no mere coincidence that they arrived at their destinations and left almost simultaneously.

Former Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger spent his time in China, and former Ambassador to the Soviet Union Averill Harriman was in the USSR.

Schlesinger was invited by the PRC presumably because of his "friendly understanding" of China's problem with the USSR. Almost a year ago, on Nov. 3, 1975, Schlesinger was unceremoniously ousted from the Ford administration. He is widely regarded as an extremist in his antipathy to the USSR.

The New York Times of Nov. 7, 1975, in its lead editorial admitted that "Schlesinger believes that this country needs the option of actually fighting a limited nuclear war" against the USSR. This is all too true. Unfortunately, he is not the only one among the Pentagon brass who believes in promoting a policy of so-called limited nuclear war. Who among them does not?

Schlesinger surely is a representative of extremist elements in the military-industrial complex.

As seen from the vantage point of American finance capital, his mission to China is to deepen the split with the USSR, to envenom the relations between the USSR and China, hopefully to the point of military conflict. Such is the "friendly understanding" which Schlesinger offers to China. It is incredible that China's leaders should invite such a guest, but this is the policy they have been pursuing for some time now. Schlesinger is only one of a number of similar imperialist dignitaries to whom China's leaders have opened the door.

Harriman, on the other hand, is an unofficial representative to the USSR who is well-known for his professions of friendship and for his promotion of detente with the USSR. The corollary to the U.S. concept of detente with the USSR is to poison Soviet relations with China, deepen the split between them, and, like Schlesinger, urge them to the point of military conflict.

Thus we see two "unofficial" representatives presumably preaching opposite points of view on foreign policy but in reality promoting merely different aspects of the struggle of U.S. imperialism against the socialist countries. The fundamental aim of imperialist strategy lies in widening and deepening the split between the socialist countries. This lies at the very heart of the general strategy of every administration of the U.S. government since the victory of the Chinese Revolution, which attained its 27th anniversary October 1st.

It is significant that both Harriman and Schlesinger have offered their services to the Ford administration and that both are offering their services to Carter. Harriman, of course, is a long-standing figure in the Democratic administrations. But he is not partisan. And Schlesinger has said that he "would feel comfortable" in a Carter administration.

Upon his arrival from China, Schlesinger spent a full half-day with Carter briefing him on his China visit. Carter was deliberately anxious to publicize his meeting with Schlesinger, whose official pronouncements coincide with those of Ronald Reagan. But this is precisely the point. Just as Harriman was playing the role of soft cop on foreign policy in his visit to the Soviet Union, Schlesinger was playing the hard one. Each carried out a mission vital to the interests of American finance capital: to keep the socialist countries at each other's throats while the multinational corporations devour the life-blood of the dependent and developing Third World countries and prepare for one military aggression after another.

## ANTI-SOVIET STANCE GAINS CHINA NOTHING

This week at the UN, China's Foreign Minister Chiao Kuan-hua once again dished up the warmed-over theory of the two superpowers. His talk was received jubilantly by the U.S. press. The headline in the New York Times, which accurately sums up Chiao's talk, read, "China, at UN, Spurns Attempts by Soviets to Resume Old

Ties; Moscow Policies Denounced; Peking Foreign Minister Charges Russian Expansionism—U.S. Is Criticized Only Mildly."

Whatever significance it may have at home, especially in the light of the internal struggle in China, one thing is certain: this won't improve China's position vis-a-vis the U.S. What the U.S. imperialists really are saying to China's leaders is, "If you're that worried about the USSR, then you are obligated to cooperate with us, and not vice versa."

This summarizes the complete bankruptcy of the current foreign policy of China. It hasn't won a single, solitary concession from the U.S. which it didn't have before the split. It hasn't even won diplomatic relations; it hasn't gotten back Taiwan; all it has won is the "friendly understanding" of nuclear war maniac Schlesinger.

The Chinese leaders used to correctly attack Togliatti of the Italian CP and Khrushchev for ignoring the class character of the two world camps. Now they brand the USSR and the U.S. as two "superpowers." They are trying to liquidate the class character of the USSR and falsely equate it with U.S. imperialism.

They pose as champions of the Third World, which once meant champions of the oppressed people. But it is clearly seen now by their role in Angola and their support of Pinochet, the Shah of Iran, the late Haile Selassie, etc., that they are defending some of the worst of the oppressors. And this is music to the ears of the imperialists.

## SPLIT IN CONTRADICTION TO CLASS INTERESTS

No one would have believed in Lenin's time, and certainly not in Marx's time, that it would be possible for a socialist country to virtually ally itself with the most rabid and bellicose section of imperialism and continually advocate to the imperialist powers what amounts to a virtual war against the USSR. Such in fact is the official policy of the PRC and has been for several years. Of course, it has been in part a reaction to the blatant efforts of the Soviet leadership to themselves collaborate with the U.S. against China.

The ideological and political struggle between the USSR and China has been so long in process and has so deeply cut into state-to-state relations that many have forgotten that there is a working class basis for normalizing relations between the two countries. But after all is said and done, the imperialists have not forgotten that both China and the USSR have become great powers precisely because they have a planned socialized economy based on common ownership of the means of production in the hands of a workers' state.

The imperialists never forget, as no class conscious worker should, that in the midst of a ravaging economic crisis in the capitalist world, with its galloping inflation and rising unemployment—the two principal symptoms of an incurable social disease—China and the USSR stand out as uniquely free of precisely the very maladies which afflict the capitalist system.

There are, of course, other social, political, and economic

(Continued on page 12)



## CHINA

### the struggle within

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## So what else is new?

## Brand new season on the tube

By BEVERLY SLAPIN

NEW YORK, Oct. 4—Rhoda and Joe split up, Archie Bunker takes up with a waitress, Florida's husband dies, Doc's wife dies, McMillan's wife dies (he also loses his sidekick and his housekeeper, who now each have a new show), Phyllis gets a new job, Laverne and Shirley get a new landlady, Ted Baxter has a heart attack, Charlie Haggars undergoes a testicle transplant, Lionel Jefferson marries Jennie, the Blue Knight falls in love, Fonzie falls in love, and Mary Hartman wants to be a plant.

So much for this year's momentous happenings in last year's hit shows.

About to descend upon us are the TV brass' new programming decisions, which are rumored to have been made by a chimp with a dartboard. In any event, the lineup is crashingly dull and familiarly crass.

## COP CAPERS

If you like cops, you'll be disappointed to find only 28 cop shows a week, down from last year's cop show count. In addition to last year's bald cop, fat cop, absentminded cop, funny cop,

young cop, sharpshooter cop, and cop with a parrot, we have this year a cop with a law degree who hasn't had time to take his bar exam because he's too busy being tough; a cop who eats health food, plays the guitar, spouts philosophy, rides a motorcycle, and is generally disliked by his fellow fuzz; and a cop who is "the relentless leader of an elite law-enforcement task force" (great ghost of Elliot Ness). And last (and least), there's the predictably awful "eye-popping, crime-stopping trio" who are the "only detectives on television who have police training and look sensational in bikinis." Sounds perfect for foiling bank robberies on the beach.

## SITCOMS

Situation comedies this year are about as exciting as pabulum. The network heavies have dug up the old story line of two-motherless-kids-advising-Dad-on-his-sex-life-together-with-housekeeper-who-knows-what's-better-for-him-than-he-does. Dad, depending on which you prefer, is either a judge in Philadelphia or a Japanese businessman in Chicago.

Then there's the old odd-couple-

who-don't-get-along-and-have-riotously-funny-fights plot. This year, you can choose from a Hollywood agent married to a newly-retired naval officer or a William Buckley-type conservative Washington columnist who meets a Gloria Steinem-type liberal photo-journalist, and the two (either two) live argumentatively ever after.

## BIONICS

This year the spy who was put together from \$6 million worth of spare parts, along with his equally expensive automated woman friend, will be battling a bionic beast being used by power-mad space aliens in a scheme to plunder the earth.

And remember last year's short-lived invisible spy who ran around with his clothes off protecting the "Free World?" Well, this year he's been recycled as a spy who can achieve invisibility at will (clothes and all) but only for 15 minutes a day lest he fade away forever. Promises, promises.

And finally, there's an absent-minded, accident-prone cop with a partner named "Yoyo" (!) who is really a robot.

So what else is new?

## —U.S. ambassadors of ill will

(Continued from page 11)

problems in China and the USSR, but rampant unemployment and escalating inflation are not characteristic of the socialist economies of the USSR and China. This is not to say that they are unaffected by the capitalist crisis, but the cause is strictly external in character and does not flow from the nature of the social system of the USSR or China.

The imperialists understand this and that is why their hostility to both the USSR and China is of such an utterly irreconcilable character.

At the present time, the USSR is regarded by the imperialist countries as enemy number one only because it is the most powerful economically and militarily, and has therefore been able to thwart imperialist ambitions to dominate the world. The USSR also has on occasion extended revolutionary fraternal assistance in the recent period, as in the case of Angola and earlier in Cuba.

The fact that China's foreign policy is at the present time wholly misdirected does not necessarily signify that it is of a permanent character. The nervousness of the imperialist press over Chinese foreign policy is manifested by a virtual torrent of capitalist speculation over the future direction of China's foreign policy following the death of Mao.

The ruling class is obsessed with the factional struggle in China and apprehensive over whether a turn in Chinese foreign policy toward accommodation with the USSR may be in the offing. They understand that there is a class basis for a revival of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Treaty signed in 1950 which was directed against any aggression from imperialism to either country.

## INITIATIVE MUST COME FROM USSR

It is wholly in the interests of both China and the USSR that a new start at normalizing relations be made. It is, however, up to the leadership of the USSR to make the

appropriate steps in that direction.

Immediately upon the heels of Chairman Mao's death, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the USSR, over the signature of Chairman Leonid Brezhnev, sent a condolence message to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China. Superficially it was the right thing to do. But in reality it was a false start. Relations between the two parties were long ago broken and the ideological differences between the two are as wide as a canyon. A renewal of party relationships is not objectively possible at the present time, especially since not only have party relations been thoroughly ruptured but state-to-state relations have greatly deteriorated as well.

Party-to-party relations could only be resumed after a foundation for them had been laid in which at least some of the state-to-state relations had been ironed out. Moreover, by dashing off this condolence message to the CCP, the Soviet leaders invited a non-too-polite rebuke which was entirely predictable.

In the first place, the condolence message publicly put the CCP leadership on the spot at a time when the only answer could be a rebuke to the Soviet CP. It is not possible, so far as anyone can gauge the situation from here, for the current leadership in China to resume party-to-party relations with the Soviet leaders without the risk of a deep split in the Chinese leadership.

Of course, it is in the interests of China as a workers' state, as a country building socialism, to resume negotiations with the Soviet Union to resolve outstanding issues over which there has been a continuing struggle, such as the border dispute. It is precisely here, however, that the Soviet Union should take the initiative.

Perhaps a small beginning has been made. On the occasion of the recent 27th anniversary of the establishment of the Chinese government, a message was sent to China. On this occasion, it was

properly addressed to the People's Republic of China; that is, to the government, not to the party. But it will take more than words to make an impact. What are needed are some meaningful deeds, such as the commencement of withdrawal of Soviet troops along the Chinese border.

Even if this were to be interpreted by the current Chinese leadership as weakness on the part of the Soviet leaders, rather than an effort to resume normal state-to-state relations, that would not be likely to hurt the USSR. China is not on a warpath with the USSR anymore than the USSR is eager to confront China in a military way—at least, not given present circumstances. On the contrary, this whole antagonism, which on occasion has led to localized military engagement, has an utterly unreal and even bizarre character. This dispute arises from long-standing ideological differences which have blindly led the two socialist countries into a dangerous impasse. Only imperialism can gain from a continuation of the present state of affairs in China and the USSR.

## NEED FOR A JOINT DECLARATION

The presence of the two unofficial U.S. ambassadors of ill will to Peking and Moscow, Schlesinger and Harriman, is a remarkable example of the real objective of imperialism: to poison relations between China and the USSR and exploit their antagonism for the benefit of finance capital. Nothing could be more welcome than a reversal of the present relations between China and the USSR. It would enliven the revolutionary struggle of the masses against imperialism everywhere.

Even a mere bilateral declaration jointly made between the USSR and China, stating that each would make an earnest effort to resolve their differences—even such a small and apparently innocuous statement, if made jointly and acted upon earnestly, would go a long way to set imperialism back on its heels.

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## Book review:

## The Patchwork Mouse

The Patchwork Mouse by Joseph Hixson. 228 pp. New York: Anchor Press-Doubleday (1976). \$7.95.

The rate of cancer increase has been about one percent a year. Suddenly in 1975, it took a terrifying leap to five percent. The U.S. has the enormous and sophisticated technology, the resources to find the answers. As the most highly developed country which pollutes the air, water, and food with cancer-causing poisons, it has the most urgent need to find some answers. But the billion-dollar-a-year cancer research industry has barely begun to ask the right questions, as Joseph Hixson shows in his book.

The central incident in The Patchwork Mouse is the faking of test results by a young, ambitious researcher at the world-famous, Rockefeller-dominated Sloan Kettering Institute for cancer research. (One can only wonder, viewing this unspeakable sin against science in the setting of

scrambling for grants, prestige, and the good life that goes with it, how much yet unrevealed faking and altering has gone on.)

If you want clear and absorbing explanations of the complexities of cancerous and healthy cells and the immunological defenses of the body, they are here in this book.

If you want to find out how the medical and scientific institutions, paid for with our taxes and siphoned out of our wages, fail to do their job, the information is here.

If you want documentation of how cash and competition, not science and service, are key in cancer research, it is here.

However, if you want this one aspect of corruption woven into the whole cloth of the degeneration of capitalist institutions, you won't find it here. The Patchwork Mouse describes the problems of cancer research, but fails to show who or what is responsible. —Rosemary Neidenberg



**YAWF activists face possible 20 years****Baltimore 2 frame-up case rallies community support**

By MIKE HOFFHEIMER  
BALTIMORE, Sept. 25—Thousands of shoppers here learned about the police frame-ups of Ray Ceci and Mike Pione, members of Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF), as over 30 of their supporters held a street meeting in the middle of the busiest downtown shopping district to explain the case.

Against a backdrop of a banner reading, "Stop Police Frame-ups, Free Mike and Ray," hundreds of people, young and old, Black and white, stopped to listen to the speakers and talk about Ceci and Pione, two men arrested last June for their activities in support of the historic July 4th demonstration in Philadelphia for the liberation of Puerto Rico. The street meeting, which lasted several hours, often took on the character of a political rally.

**BEHIND THE ARRESTS**

Ceci, a longshoreman, and Pione, a laid-off shipyard worker, were arrested while posting leaflets in support of the massive July 4th demonstration demanding Puerto Rican independence, an end to the oppression of Blacks, Chicanos and Native Americans and jobs for all.

While leafleting and posting flyers in their neighborhood, they were attacked by a right-wing goon, who first assaulted Mike, then threatened to run them both over with his truck, and finally summoned the police to his assistance. This thug, who is a local merchant and personal friend of the cops, assaulted Ray again after he was in the custody of the police.

Instead of arresting the right-winger who made the assault, the cops told Ray to shut up or he'd get more of the same. In the best traditions of Maryland justice, Mike and Ray were hauled off to jail, denied the medical attention which they badly needed, and were

charged with illegal posting, littering, and several counts of assault. They now face a possible 20 years in jail.

**STREET MEETING ATTRACTS SUPPORT**

At the street meeting, a few well-to-do passersby expressed disbelief, but the great majority were familiar with the gestapo-like tactics of the police in this city. Many people offered to help in any way they could, signed support cards, and made small donations. One minister took a large stack of leaflets to distribute among his congregation.

Sharon Ceci, wife of one of the defendants, chaired the meeting. Vince Copeland, a long-time activist in progressive and anti-racist struggles, opened the meeting by declaring, "My friends and fellow workers, the greatest crime in this country is to tell the truth. If you tell the truth, they make you suffer for it." He contrasted Mike and Ray's record of speaking out against racism with the lies of Carter and Ford, and compared the treatment of these anti-racists to that of Robert Vesco, the multi-million dollar criminal crony of Richard Nixon who is now sunning himself in Costa Rica.

He was followed by Gavrielle Gemma, a national coordinator of the July 4th Coalition, which brought together over 50,000 people. Gemma linked the frame-up of Ray and Mike to the important role which they had been playing in building for that demonstration.

Other speakers included Kathi Dorsey, a telephone operator, Charlotte Flounders, a ship-fitter, and Jeff Bigelow, a factory worker and president of his union. Bigelow spoke out against the increasing incidence and brutality of police repression, especially in the Black community. Flounders related the



A street meeting in downtown Baltimore builds support for the Baltimore 2, charged with assault when a right-wing thug and friend of the cops attacked them.  
WW photo: Paddy Colligan

frame-up of Mike and Ray to layoffs, rate increases, unemployment, and social service cutbacks, which have been plaguing the poor and working people of Baltimore.

"The city has responded," she said, "by instituting the curfew, increasing police, creating paramilitary vigilante squads, and by stopping anyone who dares to speak out."

A high point of the meeting occurred when one of the defendants, Ray Ceci, described the events leading up to the arrests. Many of the hundreds of people within earshot were shocked and outraged. A few who had had similar experiences of police harassment and brutality were surprised to learn how widespread it is. Others were surprised by Ray's courage in publicly exposing the role of the cops.

One elderly man who had worked as a clerk for the police for two years said that he had seen frameups like this happen all the time. Another man, Theodore Cymek, told this reporter that he had had a similar experience several months ago. He was arrested on charges which were subsequently dropped. After handcuffing him and putting him in the police wagon, the cops drove him around the block. "Then these cops came in and began to work on me. They hit me around the face and in the sides and ribs. Then they took me to the hospital and the nurse started to insult me. When I protested, the cops started to work on me again," he said. "There I was, in the middle of the hospital, lying on my back . . . suffocating in my own blood." As in the case of Mike and Ray, the police charged Cymek with "assault" to cover their own criminal brutality.

**COPSHOVER A BLOCK AWAY**

The police, who maintain a strong presence in the downtown area, were conspicuously absent during the street meeting, although several cars and patrols were massed a block away.

As the street meeting ended, supporters broke into smaller groups and moved to Waverly, the neighborhood where the assaults on Ray and Mike occurred. While some people went into the residential areas, leafleting house-to-

house, others stayed on the main commercial strip, leafleting and talking to shoppers about the case.

Emboldened in the less crowded area, the cops began to harass the leafleters. One cop taunted the supporters of Ray and Mike for over an hour. He even followed them to a nearby progressive bookstore, where they took refuge. Shouting that it was illegal to leaflet in Baltimore, the cop threatened that if they came out he would arrest them.

Soon five or six more patrol cars appeared, making it clear that the cop had not been acting on his own. The police, however, were not willing to completely expose themselves and were forced to retreat.

Various progressive individuals and organizations have recognized the political implications and importance of the case. The Native American Support Committee was active together with Ray and Mike's defense committee in building today's street meeting. Support for the two is growing and the enthusiastic public response to today's action clearly indicates that there is a potential for building a strong and massive movement against police repression here.

In taking the offensive in exposing the police, the defense committee has exposed a raw nerve in this city and has provided a banner around which the poor and working people here can rally.

**Labor organization denounces racist violence****Black family's home bombed**

By RAY CECI  
BALTIMORE, Sept. 27—The home of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Stewart, their two children, a sister, Mrs. Fredonia Blango, and her 13-year-old son was the target of racist nightriders here on Sept. 21. The lives of the Stewarts' 19-month-old child and 7-month-old baby were endangered when two firebombs exploded on a back porch just beneath their bedroom.

The racist terrorists succeeded in gutting the back porch of the Stewarts' home. Fortunately, the fire was discovered before it proved fatal.

The firebombing occurred in the multi-national neighborhood of Waverly, which has been the scene of several recent racist attacks. Last year a young Black worker was stabbed to death trying to escape an assault by racists.

**NEIGHBORS SUPPORT BLACK FAMILY**

When news of the firebombing appeared in the press, many residents were angry and disgusted. Neighbors visited the family to express their sympathy and support. A group of them decided to make their feelings public. More than 15 neighbors and

friends, Black and white, along with more than a dozen children crammed into one of the small row houses in the area to hold a press conference.

**LABOR ORGANIZATION DENOUNCES RACIST VIOLENCE**

At the press conference, Jeff Bigelow, president of Local 75, United Furniture Workers, read a statement from the Center for United Labor Action (CULA). The statement read in part, "We vigorously condemn the firebombing. But this criminal act is by no means an isolated incident. The firebombing must be seen in the context of the intense racist offensive that has occurred in the last few years from Boston to Louisville, from West Virginia to Chicago."

Mr. Bigelow went on to add, "But these racists do not speak for the majority. By means of threats, intimidation, and physical attacks they have tried to silence the overwhelming majority of people who oppose such criminal acts. This gathering tonight is splendid proof that they have not succeeded in Baltimore."

"The Center for United Labor

Action, an organization of poor and working people—Black and white, young and old, employed and unemployed, will firmly defend the right of any family to live anywhere they want—free from threats, intimidation, or violence."


After reading the statement, Mr. Bigelow gave Mrs. Fredonia Blango, one of the victims, a check from CULA as an expression of sympathy and support.

The press conference was a major story on the evening television news. Practically the entire CULA statement was read on the air that night.

After the press conference, neighbors talked and exchanged telephone numbers in case of future emergencies. Everyone agreed that the evening was a huge success. In the words of Mrs. Blango, "I think this is beautiful."

Although the police had refused to do anything in response to the threats that had been made on the day of the firebombing, they were forced to arrest four suspects as a result of the public pressure generated by the families' supporters.

The neighbors of the Blangos and the Stewarts have served notice that racist attacks will not be allowed in their neighborhood.



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## In Mobile, Ala.

# Cop acquitted in lynching attempt

By TOM GARDNER

ATLANTA, Oct. 3—On Dec. 17, an all-white Mobile, Alabama jury acquitted city policeman Michael Patrick of misdemeanor charges stemming from the near-lynching of a Black activist and the beating of another by Mobile policemen.

In his own testimony at the trial and at the earlier Grand Jury proceedings, Patrick freely admitted to instigating and participating in the attempted lynching. Patrick told the court that he confessed because police officials had promised him only minor disciplinary actions and he wanted to "protect other officers."

Scrambling to save his own neck, Patrick testified to the existence of a secret terrorist organization in the Mobile police department known as the Six Hundred Squad. The purpose of the squad is to harass the Black citizens of Mobile. According to the Mobile press register, Patrick testified that the Six Hundred Squad's leader and his superior sergeant, Ronnie Mair had told him countless times to "go out and kill" a Black person.

Patrick and his cohorts in blue took to this terrorist task with enthusiasm. Scores of young Blacks have been stopped, harassed, beaten, and arrested on phony charges by the Six Hundred Squad. But it was the lynch rope that finally exposed this uniformed group of Ku Kluxers.

The near lynching took place six months ago when two activists, Sekou and Casmarah, were spotted by Mobile cops near a restaurant in downtown Mobile.

A mob of 10-15 cops was hastily gathered by police radio. They chased the brothers down, beat them, and told them that Black people's "babies should be fed to alligators."

Sekou, badly beaten, was subjected to three rounds of Russian Roulette with a loaded revolver pointed at his head. Then the racist cry arose, "We ought to hang them." Patrick, according to his own testimony, went to his squad car, produced a rope with a noose and threw it over a branch, while another officer put the noose over Casmarah's neck. The first branch that the rope was thrown over broke.

Policeman Kenny Towell then hooked it over a stronger branch. Just as Casmarah was gasping for breath and straining to keep his toes on the ground, a detective drove by and told the cop, "We ain't hanging no... tonight. Let him down."

Had the detective not chanced to pass by at that time Mobile would have awaited the next morning to see two of its citizens, two men who have made a firm commitment to improving the lives of the

community, hanging from a gallows tree. The older Black people in Mobile recalled the last actual lynching which took place there on July 4, 1932, when a Black man was hanged by a mob for being "disrespectful" to the flag and to the whites who were marching to commemorate the birthday of the "land of the free."

In response to this Bicentennial year lynch attempt, Black community leaders, Black and white labor, religious and progressive people throughout the area strongly voiced their protest. The police department tried to head off the outcry by firing one of the officers (now reinstated) and suspending for 14-30 days eight others. But the pressure continued to build.

This crime could not be covered up in the police department; the cover up was moved to the courts.

Grand Jury indictments were quickly handed down against five cops on misdemeanor assault charges. In a courtroom packed with off-duty cops and other KKK supporters, Patrick was given the nod by his white jurors for his confessed role as hangman. Patrick's lawyer defended his client's racist torture of Casmarah on the basis that Casmarah was an ex-prisoner: "He was not dealing with a Sunday School teacher," said the attorney.

The presiding judge was the same judge who had slandered Sekou in previous frame-up trials. And the lawyer "prosecuting"

Patrick was Don Valeska, who gained his notoriety as one of the prosecutors against the Atmore-Holman brothers, prisoners who were brutally tortured and framed-up for protesting inhuman conditions in Alabama jails, and the Inmates for Action, a group of prisoners and ex-prisoners, in which Sekou and Casmarah were active.

Four more cops are scheduled for "trial" this month. Sergeant Mair, who was fired for his supervisory role in the cover-up of the lynch mob, has been reinstated, with two months back pay and only a thirty-day suspension. In other words, Mair got an extra two months paid vacation for heading up police terrorist activities.

The Mobile police department gestapo has already violated countless state, local, and federal laws. These sham trials and acquittals by the Mobile courts only expose more clearly the racist and repressive role of the whole state apparatus.

But the people of Mobile are fighting back. The people's Community Hall and a newly formed coalition, the People's Movement for Justice, have demanded the firing of all officers involved and their trial for attempted murder and conspiracy.

They want an elected community review board to replace the office of Police Chief. They demand affirmative hiring of Black people in the Police Department, as well

## Demand racist charges be dropped

# Oct. 16 protest called against Boston police

By FRANK NEISSER

BOSTON, Oct. 2—Preparations are going full steam ahead here for an Oct. 16 picket of Boston Police headquarters to demand that remaining trials be stopped against Black people who have defended their homes here against racist attacks.

The demonstration, called by the Committee to Free the East Boston Black Defendants, has united groups fighting racist attacks throughout the city, including Dorchester and Hyde Park. The broad list of sponsors includes Black State Representative Mel King; Harvard Stevens; Chuck Turner of the Third World Jobs Clearing House; Jimi McLean, president of the Black Workers Federation of Massachusetts; Black families under attack in East Boston, Dorchester, and Hyde Park; the Roxbury Multi-Serve Center; numerous labor leaders and groups; Church leaders; and University leaders; tenant groups

and anti-imperialist groups; the Haitian Action Group; and the Puerto Rican Socialist Party.

The demonstration will point out the practice of Boston police of arresting the victims of racist attack, while allowing the attackers to go free.

The demonstration will specifically demand that charges be dropped against Robert Phifer, Gary Franklin, Brian Swan, and Thomas Walker. Robert Phifer and Gary Franklin go on trial on Oct. 14. They are facing charges stemming from a racist attack in the East Boston Housing Projects in August 1975, when gangs of 200 white racists threw bricks and boulders through their windows. Brian Swan's case grows out of attacks on his mother's home last April. All of the windows in his mother's house were broken over a three-day period by racist attackers. Yet, it was Brian who was arrested on trumped-up charges of attacking a white person's home,

although there was no damage to be found there. Thomas Walker is the brother of Alva Debnam, whose home has been under attack for nine months in Dorchester. On July 4, during a racist attack on the Debnam home, racists stole Walker's car and hit three people with it, injuring them seriously. However, it is Walker who is charged with running into the three.

## RACIST ATTACKERS CONVICTED

On Sept. 30, five of the racists who attacked Mrs. Swan's home pleaded guilty in Superior Court to willful injury to a building (attacking Mrs. Swan's home) and to maliciously directing threats of injury. They are now spending one week in jail and have one-year suspended sentences. Two of these young men are key witnesses against Phifer. These convictions are the results of months of pressure on the state by the former

residents of East Boston and the Committee to Free the East Boston Black Defendants, who have consistently exposed the racist nature of the police and courts.

Meanwhile, in Dorchester District Court, two racists who had attacked the Debnam home with guns were convicted. One was sentenced to a year and another to three months in the House of Corrections. However, the three-month sentence was suspended.

These victories in the courts have been the result of systematic anti-racist organizing. A movement is growing that is actively taking up physical defense of Black families under attack, supporting Black families who have defended themselves, and working concretely to put the racists on the defensive. This movement is aiming at creating conditions where Black people will be able to live, work, and learn anywhere they choose in peace and safety.

## 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.

ATLANTA—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 424, Atlanta, Georgia 30301. (404) 523-8990.

BALTIMORE—Workers World Party, 2402 St. Paul St., Baltimore, Maryland 21218. (303) 366-3713.

BOSTON—Workers World Party, 419 Boylston St., Rm. 204, Boston, Mass. 02116. (617) 353-1400 or 247-1778

BUFFALO—Workers World Party, 730 Main St., Buffalo, N.Y. 14202. (716) 855-3055.

CHICAGO—Workers World Party, 542 S. Dearborn, Rm. 310, Chicago, Illinois 60605. (312) 922-0326.

CLEVELAND—Workers World Party P.O. Box 12576, East Cleveland, Ohio 44112. (216) 451-9538 or 231-8456.

DETROIT—Workers World Party, 229 Gratiot, 3rd flr., Detroit, Michigan 48226. (313) 962-4979.

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NEW YORK City—Workers World Party, 46 West 21 St., New York, N.Y. 10010. (212) 255-0352.

NORFOLK—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 7032, Norfolk, Virginia 23509. (804) 627-0870.

PHILADELPHIA—Youth Against War & Fascism, P.O. Box 9894, Philadelphia, Pa. 19140. (215) 227-3517.

RICHMOND—Youth Against War & Fascism, P.O. Box 12132, Richmond, Virginia 23219.

ROCHESTER—Workers World Party, 171 State St., Rochester, N.Y. 14614. (716) 546-6429.

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Workers World Party, 930 F St., North West, Rm. 720, Washington, D.C. 20004. (202) 783-7079 (evening).

as enactment of a requirement for police to live in the areas they patrol. And they want the review of the cases of all the Six Hundred

Squad's victims now being held in prison. They have pledged to continue their efforts until these just demands are fulfilled.

FOR THE BIRDS...





# POLITICAL PRISONERS



## Inhuman conditions led to prisoner suicide

By CHARLIE HALE

CHICAGO, Sept. 16—Andrew Phillips, a Black prisoner in Cook County Jail, committed suicide by setting fire to his cell. The incredible circumstances surrounding Phillips' death have forced even the notorious grand jury system to launch an investigation which could finally result in the ouster of Winston Moore, the corrupt director of the Cook County Department of Corrections.

### NEVER STOOD TRIAL

Phillips had been arrested on trumped-up charges on Nov. 11, 1972. Charged along with a friend with killing a white man in a shooting incident on Chicago's West Side, Phillips' case was separated from that of his co-defendant when he was judged incompetent to stand trial. Al Ware, the other defendant, was acquitted of all charges. An Assistant States Attorney connected with the case reluctantly admitted that Phillips would have been as well. But Phillips was never allowed to stand trial.

Judged in 1972 to be an acute schizophrenic suffering from auditory hallucinations, on the verge of a total psychotic state, Phillips was sent to a state mental hospital for prisoners in Chester, 250 miles south of Chicago. Phillips responded well to treatment with tranquilizers. As he improved, however, he was shipped back to Cook County Jail. There, the medications were denied him. The effect of such an abrupt cut-off of tranquilizers can be devastating—Phillips' mental state deteriorated, and he was again judged "insane" and returned to Chester.

### PRISON "TREATMENT" IS TORTURE

The brutal and inhuman cycle was repeated six times over the next four years. On the occasion of his last return to Cook County Jail, a doctor recommended Phillips' transfer to the psychiatric ward of the jail; the recommendation was ignored by Moore and the warden.

Phillips' mother warned authorities at the jail that he had become suicidal and had spoken of death by fire. Nothing was done; in fact, although his jail ID card identified Phillips as psychotic and a potential "firebug," investigators were later to find no fewer than 13 books of matches in his cell.

The result was inevitable. Shortly after noon on July 28, Phillips stripped off his clothes, piled them on his bunk, and then set fire to them. By the time Phillips' cell could be opened, he had suffered second- and third-degree burns over 93 percent of his body; the mortally wounded prisoner fled through the jail, before finally being persuaded to go to Cook County Hospital. He died there three days later.

Director Winston Moore has responded to inquiries about the case by Chicago newspapers with obscenities; he has ordered psychiatrists from the jail, even threatening one with attack by a police dog if he didn't leave. A former psychologist, Moore claims that he "understands" psychiatric care for prison inmates better than full-time psychiatrists and mental health workers. (The "understanding" Moore has been known to physically attack prisoners who

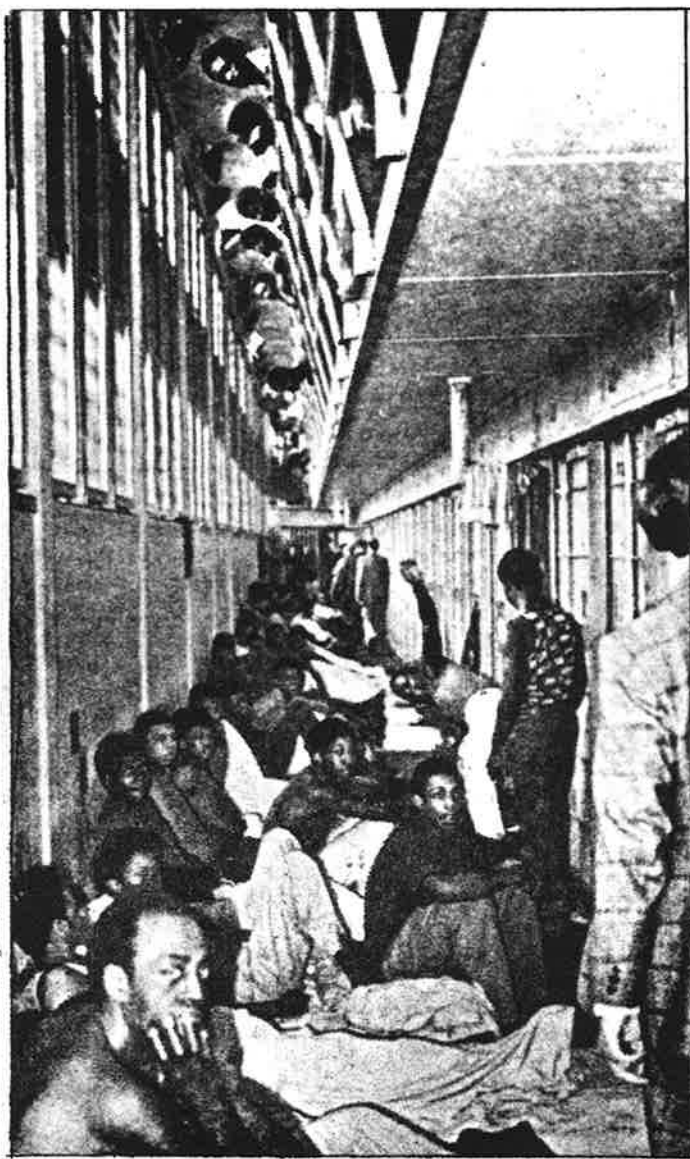
angered him.)

In a separate case, James Dixon, a Black man falsely imprisoned for more than a year, has brought charges of official misconduct and obstruction of justice against police Sgt. Richard Scanlon. Dixon had been convicted of shooting Scanlon in the chest when the policeman tried to break up a fight between Dixon and another man. No gun was ever discovered, but Dixon was convicted of attempted murder. Recently, it was proven that Scanlon was carrying an illegal "pen gun" in his shirt, which had gone off in the scuffle. Police investigators had found it more convenient to charge Dixon with attempted murder and railroad him to prison than show up the stupidity of a white fellow officer.

Dixon has filed a court suit for \$1 million for the year he spent in prison; but nothing can make up

for the repeated police harassment of him. He had previously served three years of a 25- to 60-year sentence for murder before it was uncovered that the police had suppressed the testimony of a witness who could have exonerated Dixon completely. Then, he was released with "apologies."

How many more James Dixons and Andrew Phillipses are there in jail or prison—poor and oppressed people imprisoned for crimes they never committed? How many more prisoners will commit suicide in these concentration camps because of criminal negligence and deliberate brutality on the part of prison officials? No "reforms" can change this mass of corruption and inhumanity; the only solution is to break apart both the prisons themselves and the social system that has created them.



Overcrowded and inhumane conditions in an Alabama prison.

## Bowling Green student falls victim to racist rape charge

By ALAN ROTH

CLEVELAND, Oct. 2—Paul X Moody, a twenty-two-year-old Black student at Bowling Green State University, was unjustly found guilty yesterday of "attempted rape," in Bowling Green, Ohio.

Paul X was convicted by an all-white jury (whose average age was over 45) in a town that is a Ku Klux Klan stronghold, and where only one Black family lives.

When a series of rapes occurred on campus, a racist hysteria was whipped up in Bowling Green that resulted in Paul X's arrest. Paul X is an active member of the Nation of Islam, as well as an executive member of the Black Student

Union.

### CONTRADICTIONS IN STATE'S CASE

The trial itself brought out many contradictions in the State's case against Paul X. The victim, a white woman, said her assailant was 5'6" and 150 lbs. Paul X is 5'3", 115 lbs. There was also a lack of specific evidence in the State's case—such as no scars on Paul X's body even though the attacker was bitten and scratched.

Elnor X Stubbs, a leader of the Paul X Moody Defense Fund, told Workers World that the case against Paul X was based on "religious persecution first and racial persecution second." She said that during the concluding remarks to the jury the racist prosecutor said tellingly that "the

## Kenneth Johnson benefit

By BRAD KANE

BUFFALO, Oct. 1—Over 200 people attended a fundraising benefit here on Sept. 26 for Kenneth Johnson, a young Black man who is currently the victim of a frame-up which charges him with a series of rapes, which he did not commit. Kenneth's trial begins on Oct. 18.

The benefit raised many hundreds of much-needed dollars and was indicative of the growing support for Kenneth.

### THEY ARRESTED THE WRONG MAN

Kenneth was arrested after a widely publicized series of rapes took place in the business section of Buffalo during the busy holidays last December. White business owners, fearful that these incidents would place a damper on the number of shoppers in the downtown area, put massive pressure on the police to arrest a Black man—any Black man.

For over a week, hundreds of Black men were picked up, searched or questioned at random by police. However, it was Kenneth Johnson who was arrested and charged with several felonies simply because he was a tall, thin, and bearded Black man. Victims had described the rapist as being light-skinned, and a composite sketch was drawn from their descriptions to aid police in their search. Kenneth Johnson, however, has dark skin and bears no resemblance to the police composite other than that he is a

Black man.

At the time of Kenneth's arrest, the major newspapers went on a rampage depicting Kenneth as the man guilty of raping six white women on downtown parking ramps. However, this pattern of rapes continued throughout the time Kenneth was in jail. Yet, the press gave absolutely no publicity to these rapes and didn't raise the possibility that maybe the police had arrested the wrong man.

Kenneth has positive proof of his whereabouts at the supposed time of the rapes.

### SUPPORT BUILDING

Support for Kenneth Johnson from the Buffalo population has continued to grow since he was arrested. Many benefits, rallies, and informational events have been held in his support. The Sept. 26 benefit was by far the most successful event held on his behalf and signified the increasingly widespread support for Kenneth from all sectors of the Buffalo area.

Kenneth has asked for all those who oppose this racist frame-up to be at court each and every day to show the judge that the people of Buffalo will not allow Kenneth to go to jail. On Oct. 18, wage hearings (hearings for identification purposes) for Kenneth begin in the City of Buffalo Courthouse. For more details, or to donate much needed financial assistance, contact: Committee to Clear Kenneth Johnson, P.O. Box 75, Station J, Buffalo, New York 14208. Telephone (716) 855-2797.

## Burlington County 8

By PETE PERKINS

NEW YORK, Oct. 4—On the evening of Aug. 21, eight Black prisoners in the Burlington County Jail in New Jersey fell victim to a racist assault of the most brutal sort.

The Burlington County Eight (as they are known) and other prisoners, both Black and white, were involved in publicity efforts that lead to a local TV station exposing some of the deplorable conditions in the prison. Even though both Black and white people were involved in publicizing prison conditions, the racist guards and administration chose only Black prisoners to be the victims of their attack.

In the next month, all white prisoners were transferred out of a cell block. In their place were transferred only Black prisoners who were outspoken and active in the struggle to change prison conditions. Guards tried every-

thing to bait these militant Black men into a confrontation. Despite tremendous harassment, the prisoners would not be provoked.

The evening of the racist attack, a fire broke out between two cell blocks. One of the officers who was supposed to be putting out the fire claimed that someone threw a cup of water at the fire and some of it hit the guard. This was the excuse the guards were looking for. Eight prisoners—William X. Fullman, Carlos J. Wactor, Allan X. Gonzalez, George M. Gaston, Benjamin X. LeGrand, Arte Mooser, and Daniel W. Tee—all Black, were hosed down with a high-pressure firehose.

### ARMED ASSAULT

But this was just the beginning. Soon about 20 armed guards showed up in riot gear and clubbed, kicked and maced the prisoners and took five men into solitary confinement and worked them over some more. According to a letter received from the Burlington County Eight, the guards "came in clubbing, kicking, stomping, and shouting racist slurs..."

Those prisoners placed in the hole were maced again. According to the prisoners, "We were denied medical treatment for several hours, and when we did finally go, only two of us went to the street hospital that day, the other three the next day, and those up on the tier received medical treatment two days later from the institutional nurse."

The prisoners continued, "We feel that this attack was due directly to our letters and petitions concerning the conditions of this institution."

But this hasn't ended the struggle. As one prisoner put it, "We intend to continue our struggle here and fight on with the only weapons we have, the pen, paper, and the truth."

Photo: LNS



Oct. 8, 1976

Picket lines set up at bus depots

## Philadelphia transit riders fight service cuts

Special to Workers World

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 5—A 12-hour protest against drastic service cutbacks by the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transit Authority (SEPTA) effectively tied up over 36 bus and trolley lines here yesterday.

Starting at 4 a.m., members and supporters of the Coalition for Better Transportation in the City (CBTC) blockaded the entrances of the bus depots at Laverne St. and Allegheny St. in North Philadelphia.

Recent SEPTA cutbacks include laying off transit workers, eliminating night service on many lines, eliminating Sunday service and reduced evening service on other routes, and cutting back on daytime runs elsewhere.

### "MAKE THE BOSSES PAY"

Carrying signs that demanded safer vehicles and restoration of service, which had been sharply curtailed this past Labor Day, the demonstrators chanted, "SEPTA cuts, no way, make the bosses and the bankers pay" and "Rehire SEPTA's workers, lay off SEPTA's bosses."

Sparked by the Black movement here, CBTC was formed last month to extend previous victories for transit riders citywide wrung from SEPTA by community groups. Included in CBTC are the Transit Action Group and Citizens United for a Safer Transportation System.

### INJUNCTION DOESN'T STOP PROTEST

Rather than meeting with CBTA, the management of SEPTA responded with all the arrogance it could muster. Sneaking off at 6:45 a.m., the general management obtained a court injunction against the protest, claiming that the action at the bus barns endangered the health and welfare of the city's

residents.

The hypocrisy of this charge was roundly exposed by a spokesperson for the protesters who cited the case of seven high school students who were seriously injured and hospitalized as the result of a bus fire on Thursday, Sept. 23, caused by a faulty brake mechanism. This was the sixth such fire in the past three months.

When attorneys for the transit company attempted to serve the injunction at the Laverne St. depot, demonstrators denounced it, stating that the only injunction they would honor would be the injunction of the people: to shut down SEPTA until it restored all services, rehired all laid off workers, put a freeze on transit fares, and provided safer vehicles.

### "OPEN THE BOOKS!"

The demonstrators also demanded a full investigation of SEPTA's financial records and the inclusion of an equal number of union and community representation on SEPTA's board.

SEPTA's attorneys were forced to lay the injunction on the ground at the feet of one of the protesters.

At the Allegheny Garage, protesters showed their disgust at the injunction by sitting in the street and preventing several buses, driven by supervisors, from leaving the terminal. At this point, police moved to arrest several demonstrators under contempt of court charges.

### DRIVERS SHOW SOLIDARITY

During the day, some 15 to 20 protesters were arrested, but the attempts by SEPTA, in collusion with the sheriff's department, to break the protest failed. Reflecting the determination of the CBTC, one man shouted at police, "We're going to stay in the streets until everybody gets out of jail."

SEPTA drivers expressed their solidarity with the riders' protest and mingled with members of CBTC, indicating they would do all they could to resist pressure from the company to take their vehicles on scheduled routes.

Drivers at the Lucerne depot raised \$85 on the spot to help start a bail fund for those arrested there.

Saladine Muhammad, a leader in the African People's Party, and another demonstrator, a Black woman, were beaten and man-handled while in the custody of a sheriff. Saladine was charged with aggravated assault on the cop who struck him from behind while he was handcuffed.

All the arrested protestors were released on the order of Judge Matthew Bullock, who signed the injunction in the first place. According to a CBTC attorney, the judge released them, because he feared the injunction itself might have been legally questionable. Although Saladine was released without bail pending a hearing, he still faces charges.

At 2:30 p.m. yesterday, the CBTC was approached by representatives of the transit company who stated that William Eaton, SEPTA general manager, would be willing to meet with members of the group during the next week. CBTC members replied that Eaton had to meet with them immediately or not at all.

Today, when representatives of the CBTC went to Eaton's office to demand that he meet with them at the site of the Allegheny protest, he refused.

### DEMONSTRATORS VOW TO CONTINUE PROTEST

At a meeting held in the Black community last night, those attended voted overwhelmingly to return to the streets today. One SEPTA driver who attended the

meeting in uniform told the audience, "We will back you; we do support you."

This morning, demonstrators again blocked buses at both sites for about an hour until the injunction was re-read to them, at which point the demonstrators set up a moving picketline.

Today and yesterday's activities were a culmination of many protests against the cold-hearted actions of the transit company here, beginning last April when community organizations successfully mobilized to prevent SEPTA from increasing fares. Protests continued when the layoff of 345 workers on May 22 led to indirect cuts in services and unsafe vehicles, since inspections were drastically reduced by the layoffs. SEPTA workers themselves initiated some of the protests.

### HATCHET JOB

SEPTA launched its worst attack on riders on Labor Day, when it eliminated late-night service (from 1:30 a.m. to 5 a.m.) on 23 buses and trolley lines and cut out Sunday service and reduced evening service on the Ridge Avenue Subway, and cut back daytime service on other routes. These cuts hit inner city riders, particularly Black and white working class people, the hardest, leaving some 2,000 night riders stranded with no way to and from work.

Before the Labor Day cuts had gone into effect, some 200 residents in North Philadelphia, a Black community, moved to save the bus service they did have. In opposition to cuts scheduled for the "48" bus, which directly links their area to downtown Philadelphia, community members on August 23 blockaded the bus barn on Allegheny Ave. and forced SEPTA to back down.

Transit workers have also militantly opposed SEPTA's total disregard for workers and riders. On Sept. 30, over 25 buses were pulled off the line at rush hour for "safety checks" called by Local 234 of the Transit Workers' union in protest of a Sept. 23 bus fire.

### CITY IGNORES WORKERS' NEEDS

The SEPTA layoffs and cutbacks add to the already heavy burden the city's bankers and politicians have placed on the shoulders of working people here with the closing of Philadelphia General Hospital, the increased wage and property tax, the loss of several community health clinics, and factory closings.

Workers and the riding public in general should not have to pay either a fare increase or have to accept cuts in services. Funds to bail out SEPTA are available. The businessmen and politicians were able to find money to prettify several subway stations for the Bicentennial hoopla and are spending additional revenue on a projected \$300 million railroad commuter tunnel and a \$68 million high-speed line between Philadelphia's business district and the airport, replacing the already existing adequate bus service on this route. The funds slated for these two projects would take care of SEPTA's deficits for the next five years.

However, SEPTA has ignored the public even at "public" hearings, in one case "misplacing" a 3,000-signature petition presented by one riders' organization. It is increasingly clear that the only way for the people of Philadelphia to get the transit service they need is to take direct action and confront the SEPTA bosses face-to-face, as they did in yesterday's blockade of bus depots.

## —Harlem rally

(Continued from page 9)

ventions on the 42nd St. Library, both of which serve predominantly high income white areas.

"The Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations, who are the owners of the New York Public Library system are again using the cry of lack of funds to further their long-standing policy of racial discrimination against the Schomburg."

In addition to the Harlem rally, the Citizens Coalition has organized a citywide petition campaign and wants to collect thousands of signatures that will be presented to the Board of Trustees at a later date. Petitions, leaflets, and further information can be obtained by writing Citizens Coalition to Save the Schomburg, care of CULA, 166 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. or by calling (212) 741-0633.



Above, Black workers and community groups blockading a bus depot in North Philadelphia on Aug. 23. They forced the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transit Authority to back down on proposed service cuts. This week they were back again to protest new cutbacks. WW photo: Oscar Rivera