

workers world

Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite

In their final TV "debate" neither Ford nor Carter addressed himself to the serious problems of racism, unemployment or poverty, but instead called on the people to "sacrifice." Page 8.

Oct. 29, 1976

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White House economist admits

Economic slump to stay no matter who gets in

Trail leads to CIA in fatal bombing of Cuban plane



Demonstrators in New York City picket the office of the CIA, condemning that agency for its responsibility in the recent bombing of a Cubana Airline jet and the tragic death of all 73 aboard. See article, p. 5.

WW photo: G. Dunkel

NEW YORK, Oct. 27—Two weeks ago, 73 people were killed when a Cuban commercial plane blew up in mid-air and crashed. Now the arrest of over 30 people by Venezuelan authorities and the assassination yesterday of a Cuban counter-revolutionary in Puerto Rico add to the growing evidence that the plane's passengers were victims of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

Murdered gangland-style yesterday in San Juan, Puerto Rico, was Aldo Vera Serafin, a member of a Cuban counter-revolutionary group called the Fourth Republic which had connections with Orlando Bosch, one of those arrested in Venezuela in connection with the bombing of the Cuban plane. Could Vera have connected the Bosch group to the CIA?

The international character of the conspiracy—which involved dozens of people throughout the Caribbean area—points to the CIA as the only possible agency rich and powerful enough to coordinate such a heinous plan.

NEW YORK, Oct. 27—There's no relief in sight for the jobless and poor in this country, no matter who wins the election next Tuesday.

That's the word from White House economic adviser L. William Seidman, although he didn't exactly shout it from the rooftops and the item only got printed on the financial pages of the newspapers.

Using the soothing language common among these "experts" when talking about disastrous things like unemployment and inflation, he is quoted in the Oct. 26 New York Times as saying that the "pause" in the country's economic growth has now become a "lull."

What he didn't say is that this "lull" spells absolutely horrendous living conditions for millions of people in this country. Seidman didn't refer to a report issued Oct. 13 by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights concerning Puerto Rican people living in the U.S. This might have made the "lull" he was talking about a little too realistic for his silk-shirted audience.

But according to that report, one-third of all Puerto Rican people in this country are living below the official poverty line—and they can't go back home, because the colonial economy there is now suffering a real unemployment rate approaching 50 percent.

While these figures indicate that Puerto Rican people here are subject to economic conditions as bad or worse than the worst days of the Great Depression, the rest of the multi-national working class in this country is also suffering from the capitalist crisis to different degrees.

Chronic unemployment is by far the greatest among oppressed Third World peoples, but the existence of a large mass of unemployed drags down the wages of those working, while inflation eats into the paychecks of all workers.

Seidman's remarks came at a time when the British pound was in its greatest crisis ever (see editorial on page 8), a reflection of the deep economic disease affecting the entire capitalist world.

A pardon—after 45 years of racist persecution

By JUDY GREENSPAN

NEW YORK, Oct. 26—"The lesson to Black people, to my children, to everybody, is that you should always fight for your rights, even if it costs you your life. Stand up for your rights, even if it kills you. That's all that life consists of." Those were the words of Clarence Norris of the Scottsboro Nine, who appeared at a press conference today after learning that he had been pardoned by Governor George Wallace of Alabama after being the victim of a 45-year-old racist frame-up.

Now a warehouseman for the City of New York and father of two daughters, 64-year-old Clarence Norris had tears in his eyes as he described the terror and suffering he had lived through for the past 45 years.

In 1931, he and the other eight Black men, aged 13 to 20, were among the thousands of people "riding the rails" during the depression, looking for work. Some white youths on the train picked a fight with the Black men. When they lost the fight, the white youths got a sheriff from a local town to arrest Blacks on the train and charge them with assault and attempted murder, and before Norris and the other Scottsboro Brothers knew it, they were pulled off different cars of the train and arrested. Several hours later they learned of a different charge. Two white women riding the rails, who the Black men didn't even know, charged that they had been raped by the Black men.

The rape trial that followed was a mockery. Without a shred of

evidence against them, without even the benefit of consulting a lawyer, the nine Black youths were sentenced to the electric chair. The trial was used as a vehicle for politicians to further their careers by outdoing each other with their racist slurs.

Outrage over the fate of the Scottsboro Nine spread across the country and around the world. Black groups, labor unions and progressive organizations all demanded that the Black men be freed.

In later trials of the Nine, Ruby Bates, one of the alleged victims, admitted that the whole rape story had been made up. She later joined the international defense effort to free the Scottsboro Nine.

Because of this massive pressure, the racist Alabama

authorities commuted the death sentences of the nine men to long prison terms.

RACIST HARASSMENT CONTINUES

Clarence Norris spent over 15 years in prison and was released on parole in 1946. One condition of Mr. Norris' parole was that he work for a lumber yard in Montgomery for 40 cents an hour. Tired of the racist abuse of his employers and of living in poverty, Mr. Norris headed north without consulting his parole board.

"I'm tired of this thing hanging over me," the Black man said, speaking of his wanted status in the state of Alabama for jumping parole. "Fifteen years is more than long enough to suffer in prison

(Continued on page 2)

THE STRUGGLE IN BRIEF

Iranian students protest
repression at Texas college

By GLORIA RODRIGUEZ
HOUSTON, Oct. 16—The Shah of Iran does not have a monopoly on fascism. This fact was recently discovered by several hundred Iranian students at the right-wing San Jacinto Junior College in infamously conservative Pasadena, Texas.

Eleven Iranian students were arrested there last week for the "crime" of conducting a sit-in at the school cafeteria with a large number of their fellow Iranian students, and for speaking in Persian. Charges ranged from disorderly conduct to assault on a police officer. The student charged with assault was attacked from behind while he was handcuffed.

In a week-long series of protests, the students have made several demands to the dean of students, including the right to free speech and assembly and the right to form their own organization. They demand the cooperation between the school and the Iranian consulate and the SAVAK, the Iranian secret police, be stopped and that the Pasadena city police be kept off campus. All of these demands have been refused.

IRANIAN SECRET POLICE

A leaflet they distributed described how the SAVAK is used to control and repress opposition to the Shah not only in Iran but all over the world.

The Washington Post of May 29, reports, "A State Department official indirectly confirmed yesterday reports that Iranian government agents are keeping watch on dissident Iranian students at colleges and universities in the United States."

The dean of students, Dr. James Furrh, even went so far as to state the Iranians would be allowed to print leaflets containing only a time and place for a rally. They could not say who was holding the rally or even why it was called. The dean added he "didn't want to see anything else printed calling him a fascist!"

The Pasadena ruling class and press have sided with the college officials. The "News Citizen", the daily paper of Pasadena, had front-page articles during the week charging the Iranians of "disruption" and claiming "college officials under attack."

"The reason they cannot have a club is they have refused to have a faculty advisor because they don't want to be snooped upon," said the dean.

The Iranian students are asking all progressive people to send protest letters to the dean, Dr. James Furrh, San Jacinto Junior College, 8060 Spencer Highway, Pasadena, Texas 77505. Carbons can be sent to P.O. Box 52155, Houston, Texas 77052.

Right to Life convention
picketed in Cleveland

By MARTHA WATSON
CLEVELAND, Oct. 23—Chanting "Free, safe abortion, no forced sterilization," thirty women and men picketed the site of a statewide Right to Life convention here.

The Women's Caucus of Youth Against War and Fascism called the demonstration for two reasons: to protest the increasingly aggressive attacks of this right-wing group upon a woman's right to choose abortion, and to demand that Medicaid cover the cost of voluntary abortions.

A banner reading "Right to Life propaganda breeds violence against wom GA! Stop attacks on women at abortion clinics! No

return to botched-up illegal abortions!" revealed the tactics used by Right to Lifers to frightened women here.

Four weeks ago members of this right-wing organization attacked women at an abortion clinic. YAWF women promptly responded with a picket line warning the anti-abortionists that they would be resisted wherever they appeared.

A spokeswoman said, "The Right to Lifers have been emboldened by the anti-abortion rhetoric of both Ford and Carter. We are here to defend the right of any woman to choose whether or not to have children. This includes the right of poor women to use Medicaid to pay for an abortion. It also means an end to racist forced sterilization and an end to daycare cuts. Without decent jobs, adequate housing, good nutrition, and quality health care for all, we will not be able to support the children we choose to bear."

MOVING?

Let us know ahead of time so you won't miss your next Workers World!



The Scottsboro Nine, with attorney Samuel Leibowitz, in 1931: "a pardon is not enough."

—Scottsboro

(Continued from page 1)
for something I didn't do and then to suffer all these years thinking I might be arrested as a fugitive. I



Clarence Norris

was tired of it," Mr. Norris continued.

At least four of the Scottsboro Brothers are dead, one having been driven to suicide. The whereabouts of the other four are unknown. Some have had to change their names and identities to avoid further persecution for a crime they never committed.

Clarence Norris' voice filled with emotion as he recounted the ways that the racist Alabama courts, prison and state government attempted to destroy his life. "Sure, Alabama owes me a lot," Mr. Norris said today at the press conference called by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, "my freedom, my rights. I was sentenced to the electric chair three times, and then each time they brought me back."

Clearly, in the case of the heroic Scottsboro Nine, a pardon is not enough.

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Oct. 29, 1976

DECLINE AND FALL

IF THE BANKS
DON'T FLEECE YOU
THE LANDLORDS WILL

Moneysworth, Sept. 27:

"A new single-family home now costs an average of \$100,000—more than double the cost of comparable housing a decade ago.

"As a result, few Americans possess the means to buy their own home, a recent survey by Professional Builder magazine concludes.

"... In 1966, a new single-family house cost about \$25,000. If a \$5,000 down payment were made the remainder would have to be financed at 6 percent interest for 25 years.

Total cost: \$43,661.

"A comparable house in 1976 costs \$45,000. After making a 20 percent down payment of \$9,000, the remainder usually carries financing at 9 percent interest over 25 years. Total cost: \$99,636.

"The 1966 buyer would have to make \$128 monthly mortgage payments, while for the 1976 purchaser the figure has escalated to \$302 a month."

HEART DISEASE IS
GOOD FOR YOU!

Prevention Magazine, October:

"The Nutrition Foundation, supported by major producers of white flour, cola beverages, candy and processed cereals, is

self-styled as a bulwark against food fadism, defined as any criticism of such foods. Recently and predictably, it had harsh things to say about Adelle Davis, Ralph Nader, Carlton Fredericks, and anyone else disinclined to regard white bread and corn flakes as optimal nutrition.

"In the very same month as the Nutrition Foundation blast, there appeared in the Journal of the American Medical Association a blistering indictment of white flour and sugar as contributing to heart and gallbladder disease, appendicitis, diverticulosis, clotting in the deep veins, varicose veins and cancer of the large intestine.

"On heart disease, the JAMA article remarks: 'Evidence is accumulating that shows the removal of fiber (such as the bran removed from white flour) from the diet raises serum cholesterol levels, a process that predisposes to coronary heart disease.'"

A healthy development

Last week Carlo Gambino, the "Boss of Bosses" who controlled and directed the activities of the country's 26 major organized crime "families," died of a massive heart attack in his closely guarded Long Island villa. Unlike other syndicate kingpins such as Albert Anastasia, Joseph Gallo, and Salvatore Maranzano, Gambino survived all attempts by his colleagues to assassinate him. And by the judicious payments of generous bribes to the proper city, state and federal officials, he was also able to dispense with the bother of going to prison.

In the end, however, Gambino's luck ran out. He went for a flu shot, had a bad reaction, and died. Thus where all others failed, the big drug companies and the AMA have succeeded, albeit by accident, in rubbing out the country's number one crime boss.

Liberation fighter to speak at

'Solidarity with Azania' forum slated for Nov. 20

By MOLLY CHARBONEAU

NEW YORK, Oct. 24—The campaign to build "A Night of Solidarity with the Struggle in South Africa (Azania)" here on Nov. 20 has been gathering steam in New York City and many other East Coast cities.

The meeting, sponsored by KARABO (a group of South African residents in the U.S.), the Pan African Students Organization in the Americas (PASOA), and Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF) will begin at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 20, at Joan of Arc Junior High School, 154 W. 93rd Street.

Since mid-June a groundswell of anti-apartheid rebellion has swept over Azania, shaking the brutally racist Vorster regime to its very foundations. The U.S. press, in collusion with the apartheid regime, has tried to portray the liberation struggle of the Azanian people as "riots" to hide its true significance from workers and oppressed peoples here. The upcoming Nov. 20 event will cut away the curtain of misrepresentations and slanders by U.S. imperialism and will reveal the true story of the Azanian people's struggle against

the murderous apartheid system.

AZANIAN SPEAKER FEATURED

Featured speaker at the gathering will be Jeff Dumo Baqwa, a lifelong anti-apartheid fighter just arrived in the U.S. from southern Africa. Brother Baqwa escaped in 1974 from South Africa where he'd been exiled to a Transkei village for his activities in the South African Student Organization (SASO). Currently, he is Director of Projects for the Southern African Student Movement (SASM).

In a recent interview in *Workers World*, Brother Baqwa spoke of the determination of the Azanian people to continue to struggle until full victory over apartheid is achieved. "I know what the (Azanian) people want," he explained. "They want their land; the people want the means of production to be turned over to the rightful owners of the land. We will make sure the struggle is won in a real and definite sense and our aspirations and goals are reached."

It is in solidarity with the goals and aspirations of the rebelling



Building the Solidarity with Azania forum on Nov. 20, supporters rally as they prepare to launch a massive poster and leaflet campaign in New York. WW photo: Susan

Azanian workers and students that the Nov. 20 event is being organized. Moved by their heroic struggle, Black, Latin, and white supporters of the event have

pasted eye-catching posters in both English and Spanish throughout the city. Thousands of bilingual leaflets will also be passed out publicizing the meeting.

For transportation or information on how you can help, contact YAWF or Workers World Party branches in your area. (See Branch list on p. 10).

Chile-style coup

Thai bloodbath made in U.S.

By ROBERT DOBROW

OCTOBER 25—An unbridled campaign of right-wing terror is being unleashed against the workers, peasants, and oppressed of Thailand. A junta of the most fascistic and pro-U.S. forces in that country, brought to power by the military coup of Oct. 6, has already tortured and assassinated hundreds of progressives.

Over 4,000 people have been arrested, according to official sources. They can be held for six months without trial or charges and are subject to a military tribunal with no right to appeal.

Thailand is in the grip of a Chile-style bloodbath where the teaching of any political theory, including "democratic concepts" has been banned. All writings are under strict censorship, and membership in "communist organizations" is punishable by death.

Reminiscent of the U.S. "strategic hamlet program" in

Vietnam in the 1960s, the Thai junta has announced that large areas of land are to be designated "communist-infested areas" and people prohibited to enter or leave, with all civil liberties suspended.

ACCOUNT OF EVENTS IN THAILAND BEFORE COUP

The pretext of the military seizure was a "bloody riot" between leftists and rightists, with the military stepping in to "maintain order." However, according to Holger Jensen, a reporter for *Newsweek* in Bangkok, "The take-over was planned well in advance and the violence was clearly orchestrated."

"The recent coup in Thailand must be seen as a reaction to the events in that country over the last three years," according to David Milliken, a University of Massachusetts economics teacher who spent many months in Thailand and recently returned to the U.S. a few weeks before the coup.

Milliken notes that the overthrow of the pro-U.S. dictatorship of Thanom Kittikachorn in 1973 resulted in a deep politicization and radicalization of the Thai people. For instance, overnight the Farmers' Federation sprung up with mass support among the peasants, demanding land reform and rent control. Labor unions began to get active and in some areas factories were taken over and run by the workers. Guerrilla warfare raged in the northeast.

When Thanom returned to the country last month wearing the garb of a Buddhist monk, it provoked mass outrage at what was considered an effort by the military and the U.S. at counter-revolutionary intrigue.

Over 100,000 people demonstrated in Bangkok against Thanom. Despite the U.S. press characterization of the protest as exclusively "student," most of the protesters were workers and poor, observed Milliken. They were

clothed and fed by sympathetic merchants and vendors. The demonstrations had the support of 43 labor unions. In addition, all the universities were closed shut.

This was the climate in Thailand before the military seized control.

U.S. ROLE GLARING

The Internal Suppression Operations Command (ISOC) was set up in Thailand as a base for counter-insurgency in Asia. All of its leaders were trained in the U.S. or on U.S. bases. It is common knowledge in Thailand, according to Milliken, that ISOC was behind the formation of the Red Gaurs (Wild Buffaloes) and Nawapol, the two principal right-wing organizations responsible for the attacks and assassinations against progressives over the last three years.

The Administrative Reform Council (the junta) includes six or seven low-ranking officers of the border police. This force, the direct creature of the CIA, was used in Bangkok on the day of the coup.

An Oct. 20 dispatch from Bangkok reports that the U.S. military continues to use the Takhi Royal Thai Air Force Base for reconnaissance (i.e., espionage) flights, despite the supposed withdrawal of all American military forces from that country many months ago.

And latest reports indicate that the most recent government purges are aimed at those who were even mildly nationalistic or neutral in relation to the U.S. and only those who are the most solidly pro-imperialist are being allowed in the government.

U.S. imperialism, still reeling from the three staggering blows it received in Vietnam, Kampuchea, and Laos, could not reconcile itself with what it considered a "weak," "vacillating," or "neutral" ally in southeast Asia. The U.S. government is clearly the architect, the organizer, and the arms supplier of the counter-revolution in Thailand.



In Vientiane, Laos, students and workers march to protest the U.S.-backed right-wing military coup and bloody repression of the left in neighboring Thailand.

Ten armed FBI agents launch attack on Afrikan People's Party

Special to *Workers World*
PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 23—The Afrikan Peoples Party (APP) here has once again become the target of government repression.

On Wednesday, Oct. 20, ten heavily armed FBI agents invaded the home of APP members at 1351 Jerome St. in North Philadelphia forcing residents and some visitors onto the porch in the pouring rain. Guns were trained on everyone, including six half-dressed children, ranging in age from eight months to ten years old.

As four or five of the all-white assault squad kept the family and friends outside, the others entered the home with flashlights. While allegedly searching for a fugitive, they rampaged through the entire house, opening closets, drawers, scattering books, clothing, folders

and files. When asked by residents if they had a search warrant, the agents replied that they didn't need a search warrant, in between shouts of "Shut up and get against the wall!" Afterwards, \$217 was found missing.

Alarmed by the sight of strange, white men brandishing pistols, rifles and shotguns, scores of Jerome St. neighbors came out onto their porches in the driving rain. At the request of the APP members, two people began to take photos of the agents. As a crowd gathered, the neighborhood people began to speak—first, in whispers, then later with shouts of encouragement. APP members requested that they remain on the scene, so that their presence as eye witnesses would tend to prevent brutality and possibly murder.

In order to justify their unconstitutional behavior, the FBI agents arrested a young visitor who hadn't the remotest resemblance to the person in the photograph they produced. Immediately afterwards, they took him down to the local FBI office.

APP ATTACKED BEFORE

This attack is the third against members of the APP within the past year; the first taking place exactly one year ago, on the same date, at the same residence, when members of the repressive forces used a search for the same alleged fugitive as an excuse. At that time 15 local police and detectives led by a Captain Martin and armed with automatic weapons kicked in the door, terrorizing Saladin

(Continued on page 10)



Israeli soldier aiding wounded Phalangist militiaman. Israeli involvement in the war in Lebanon belies the claim that it is merely a religious conflict.

Israel-Syria-Phalange axis explodes myth of religious war in Lebanon

By ANDY STAPP
NEW YORK, Oct. 26—The sixtieth ceasefire between rightist and leftist combatants in the Lebanese conflict appears to be breaking down as the fascist Phalange troops press an offensive operation against Palestinian and progressive Lebanese in the southern part of that country. Only this time, instead of the 23,000 Syrian soldiers (who invaded Lebanon last spring) providing the muscle for the reactionary armies of the Phalange, Israel is doing the job.

According to a British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) report of Oct. 21, "Members of the Christian Phalangist militia who have been fighting in southern Lebanon were trained in Israeli military camps and have been equipped with mortars, artillery, automatic weapons and uniforms." In addition the Israeli colonialist army provides transportation, communications facilities and artillery support to rightist columns besieging Merj 'Uyun, according to the BBC.

ISRAELI INVOLVEMENT

Such large scale Israeli involvement in this war, which has taken over 40,000 lives, should put to rest once and forever the myth that the root cause of the Lebanese conflict is religion, as the capitalist press here has been claiming. The Syrian leaders, who are Moslem, the Phalange (a group of ultra-right stormtroopers who wear the Christian cross the way the Nazis flaunted swastika armbands), and the Zionist bosses of Israel have all banded together against the progressive movement in Lebanon.

That top Phalange officials traveled to Germany during the 1930s for personal meetings with Hitler, whom they consider a great hero, does not seem to bother the Israelis at all. Nor is the conservative Syrian President Assad opposed to working hand and glove with Israel against the oppressed Palestinians, despite his supposed commitment to liberating Syrian territory currently occupied by the Zionists.

All three major reactionary forces in the Lebanese war, Syria,

the Phalange and Israel, are backed to the hilt by U.S. imperialism which is bent on destroying the Palestinian and progressive Lebanese organizations that potentially threaten Wall Street's grip on the vast Middle East oil deposits.

Viewing the leftist fighters in Lebanon we can also see religion is not at the root of their struggle. Many of those raised as Christians, both Lebanese and Palestinians, are active in the struggle against the local fascists, the Syrian in-

Deliberate provocations against DPRK

Pentagon pours in aid to s. Korea

By BARBARA TEEL
NEW YORK, Oct. 24—U.S. imperialism has carried out an ominous series of military provocations against the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea (DPRK) in recent months, showing once more the growing danger of war in Korea.

Since the U.S. defeat in Vietnam, the Pentagon has poured increasing numbers of weapons into south Korea and neighboring Japan, and U.S. officials have repeatedly declared their intention to maintain an occupation force in south Korea. U.S. troops have kept Korea cruelly divided since World War II, subjecting the south Korean people to brutal exploitation by multi-national corporations.

There are currently 42,000 U.S. troops in south Korea, armed with 1,700 nuclear warheads and billions of dollars of conventional weaponry. They are the only foreign troops in all of Korea.

Completely equipped by

Washington, the south Korean puppet army, with 700,000 soldiers, is under the command of a U.S. general. All of south Korea has been turned into a huge military camp, with the entire adult male population subject to draft into the reserves.

TREE INCIDENT

In a deliberate provocation against the DPRK, the U.S. carried out a reckless show of military power last August during the so-called tree-cutting operation. On the flimsy pretext of a dispute over the pruning of a tree provoked by the U.S., the Pentagon sent a virtual armada to Korea, including the nuclear aircraft carrier Midway, as well as numerous bombers and fighter planes. The Pentagon has admitted that at least 40 of the planes flown in during that incident are still in Korea, a direct violation of the armistice agreement.

Since August, both the commander of the U.S. forces in the Pacific and the commander of the U.S. 7th Fleet have held strategy sessions with the commander of the U.S. forces in Korea and with officers of the south Korean puppet army.

These high-level planning sessions have been accompanied by a large number of highly provocative military maneuvers, intended as a threat against both the Korean people and the rest of the world. Beginning Sept. 2, the U.S. launched a series of bombing practice runs over south Korea, repeating similar activities conducted last August. In announcing the resumption of these exercises, the Defense Department said the missions "will be flown periodically for an indefinite period."

On Sept. 8, the U.S. moved

fighter planes from Okinawa to the Osan and Kunsan airfields of south Korea on the thin pretext of taking shelter from a typhoon. A few weeks later, 600 Marines were brought into south Korea from Okinawa for a month-long firing exercise, using guns capable of firing shells with nuclear weapons.

On Oct. 9, the missile cruiser Oklahoma City, part of the 7th Fleet, sailed into the Pusan port of south Korea on a so-called goodwill visit, designed to intimidate the Korean people with U.S. military power.

The U.S. ruling class envisions south Korea, its last major military stronghold on the Asian continent, as the base for aggression in Asia. Admiral Noel Gaylor, Commander-in-chief of the Pacific forces, admitted this in 1974, stating that U.S. forces in Korea could be useful for "potential use elsewhere" in the East.

Ever since its stunning defeat in Vietnam, deep in the throes of an economic crisis it cannot solve, is stepping up its aggression against Korea. This war build-up poses grave danger for both the Korean people and the people of the U.S. Opposition to this imperialist war threat must be mobilized in this country.

On Oct. 29, the Committee in Solidarity with the Korean People is sponsoring a forum to discuss this U.S. intervention in Korea as well as repression and exploitation in the south. Co-sponsors include the U.S. Out of Korea Committee of YAWF, Friends of Indochina, Guardian Committee to Support Korean Reunification, Puerto Rican Socialist Party, and others. The forum will be held at 7:30 p.m., at Washington Square Methodist Church, 137 West 4th St., in New York City.

Austerity program hits Italian workers

By JOHN C. OTTO
NEW YORK, Oct. 25—Over the past three weeks Italy's Christian Democratic (DC) government has announced its austerity program.

With inflation at 20 percent annually, far over a million unemployed, the lira at 870 to the dollar, and a crippling debt owed U.S. and West German imperialism, Italy is among the hardest hit of the industrialized capitalist countries. The DC government has already raised gasoline prices 25 percent and electricity rates 15 percent and plans tight limits on wage increases and a cutback in automatic increases tied to the cost of living. These measures imposed by the capitalist government strike directly at the workers and other poor.

The one measure planned against the rich is to restrict investments outside Italy. Already billions of dollars have been sent by the wealthy, both legally and illegally, to Swiss banks.

The Christian Democrats, who finished first in the national elections last June 20 with 38 percent of the vote, have been ruling Italy's 60 million people since July with a one-party minority government in Parliament.

PCI PROGRAM

The Italian Communist Party (PCI), which with 1.7 million

members is the largest non-ruling Communist party in the world, finished second in that election with 34 percent of the vote. It has abstained from each vote in Parliament to avoid bringing down the DC government. This allows the DC to pass its program over the votes of the smaller parties.

But the DC's austerity program has met the hostility of the mass of the workers, and the PCI is in a dilemma: either abstain in Parliament and allow an unpopular program to pass, or vote against the DC and bring down the government.

In the first week of October, the PCI central committee held an extraordinary meeting, and decided that the number one priority was the fight against inflation: only thus, they said, could economic catastrophe be avoided. The PCI would pressure the DC for a program which would spread sacrifices throughout the population, would fight to guarantee vital social services, would fight to keep jobs—but essentially it would support an austerity program aimed at restoring capitalist stability.

WORKERS ANGRY

The PCI called for ten days of mobilization and held meetings throughout Italy to explain its program to tens of thousands of its militants, going over the difficulties of the balance of

payments, explaining the need for sacrifices. But many PCI members, especially those from the factories, were dissatisfied.

In a meeting at the PCI stronghold of Sesto Fiorentino on Oct. 9, a young Communist worker asked, "In sum, comrades, what we want to know is if the government will be our captive or if we will remain captives of the government." Others complained of the sharp taunts of their fellow workers: "You're social democrats." "You're doing what the Socialists did earlier" (i.e., betraying the demands of the workers in return for government posts).

At the same time workers in the plants were showing with action how they felt about the DC's austerity program. When gasoline prices rose, wildcat strikes exploded in Milan and Turin.

Afraid of losing contact with the workers, the leaders of the three union federations—largely influenced by the PCI—tried to call a joint action. Since they were unwilling to directly challenge the government, they proposed only a series of regional 4-hour general strikes.

DISSENT REACHES PCI CENTRAL COMMITTEE

By this past week, the tensions within the PCI reached the point that two leading members of the central committee, both veterans

of the struggle against Mussolini's fascism, gave public voice to the opposing positions.

Luigi Longo, former secretary and now president of the PCI, said that the party could not go blindly into cooperation with the DC just to show that the PCI is a party of "responsibility." "We are only fooling ourselves," he added. "We not only will lose the influence and prestige among the masses that is the source of our strength but we also will lose our bargaining power."

While the words are mild, they reflect a powerful sentiment among the PCI rank and file and among the Italian workers.

Giorgio Amendola expressed the other position, that inflation is enemy number one and must be stopped at all costs, even if the workers must sacrifice. Party leader Enrico Berlinguer leaves out the "at all costs," but basically upholds Amendola's position.

On the world scene, the PCI had been the leading proponent of the false position that a "peaceful, electoral road to socialism" was possible in countries like Italy. When U.S. imperialism and the Chilean ruling class showed they preferred bloody, dictatorial fascism to Allende's democratic, peaceful social reforms, the PCI, not wanting to admit the need for arming the workers, drew the false conclusion that a peaceful road is

(Continued on page 8)

Oct. 30 in Springfield, Mo., and Nov. 13 in New York City

All out for the freedom of the 5 Puerto Ricans!

By PRESTON WOOD

NEW YORK, Oct. 24—The national campaign to free the Five Puerto Rican Nationalist Prisoners continued to build this week as organizers across the country prepare for demonstrations in Springfield, Missouri, on Oct. 30, and in New York and San Francisco on Nov. 13.

The Five Puerto Rican Nationalists, the longest-held political prisoners in the Western Hemisphere, are a symbol of the struggle of the Puerto Rican people for independence and freedom from colonial occupation of their country by U.S. imperialism.

The demand "Free the Five Nationalists!" has been heard around the world.

Oscar Collazo, Lolita Lebron, Rafael Cancel Miranda, Irvin Flores, and Andres Figueroa Cordero have been held in U.S. prisons for more than 25 years. Collazo, along with Griselio Torresola, mounted an armed attack on Blair House, the residence of President Truman, in 1950. This heroic assault, in which Torresola was killed, was timed to coincide with an armed uprising against colonial occupation on the island.

The four other Nationalists fired on the U.S. Congress in 1954, bringing worldwide attention to the U.S. propaganda campaign at the United Nations that the question of Puerto Rico was an "internal affair" of the United States.

NEVER YIELDED TO CAPITALIST PRESSURE

In spite of the severity of the sentences received by these five Puerto Rican freedom fighters at the hands of U.S. imperialism, they have never yielded to the repressive and brutal pressure of the capitalist state. In the last few years, they have joined their sisters and brothers in the fight



WW photo: Julio Ghigliotti

Freedom for the Five Nationalist Prisoners, whose portraits were held aloft, was one of the major demands at the celebration of "El Grito de Lares" in Lares, Puerto Rico on Sept. 25.

against brutal conditions inside the prisons. In 1971, Lolita Lebron organized a work stoppage in Alderson prison. A year later, Rafael Cancel Miranda and 100 other prisoners staged a work stoppage at Marion Federal Prison to protest the brutality of the racist prison guards there.

Because they do not recognize the authority of the U.S. government over themselves or their country, the Five Nationalists have refused to accept parole or ask for a pardon. They refuse to accept conditions on their release and are to this day deeply committed to the struggle for Puerto Rican independence.

Among the five heroes it is perhaps Andres Figueroa Cordero who has suffered the most. Due to

lack of medical attention in prison, it was discovered too late that Cordero has cancer. Although he is very ill and facing death, this great fighter and symbol of the struggle for Puerto Rican independence has stated that if ever freed he will "keep on fighting the best way possible, even to death, that is a duty. I will never abandon the principles that brought me here."

IMMEDIATE RELEASE FOR CORDERO

The Oct. 30 demonstration will be held at the U.S. Medical Facility at Springfield, Missouri, where Andres Figueroa Cordero is being held. Supporters of the Five Nationalists will demand Cordero's immediate release, independence for Puerto Rico, and

freedom for all political prisoners.

Nov. 1 will be Andres' birthday, and all supporters of the Five Nationalists are urged to send greetings and messages of solidarity: Andres Figueroa Cordero, 789, 98-132, Box 4000, Springfield, Missouri 65802.

All of the planned demonstrations have been called by the National Coordinating Committee to Free the Five Puerto Rican Nationalists. For leaflets, posters, and additional information, write to the National Coordinating Committee to Free the Five, P.O. Box 319, Cooper Station, New York, N.Y. 10003.

For information about YAWF's participation in the demonstration, call (212) 255-0352. For those

Puerto Ricans poorest in U.S.

Although government figures on poverty and unemployment in the U.S. are almost always understated, the recent release of poverty statistics by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights was nevertheless astounding. The latter revealed that the percentage of Puerto Rican families living in poverty in the U.S. rose from 29 percent in 1970 to 33 percent in 1974! This compares with 11.3 percent for all U.S. families.

In a report entitled Puerto Ricans in the Continental United States: an Uncertain Future, the Commission also states that, "Puerto Rican family earnings were 71 percent of the (U.S.) national average in 1959 ... but in 1974 Puerto Rican family earnings were only 59 percent of the national average. In relative terms, Puerto Ricans are worse off than they were in 1959, before the Federal Government declared a 'War on Poverty'."

If the U.S. government admits to one out of every three Puerto Ricans in the U.S. living below the official poverty line, then the true figures are probably much worse—which makes the Ford-Carter campaign even more of a hoax, since there is absolutely nothing in their domestic programs which remotely deals with this brutal economic oppression.

coming to the demonstration from outside the New York City area, contact the branch of Workers World Party and Youth Against War & Fascism nearest you. (A listing of the branches can be found on page 10 of this paper).

New York meeting hails five Nationalist political prisoners

NEW YORK, Oct. 23—Tonight a movie called "The Nationalists" was shown at a branch meeting here of Workers World Party. This film contained documentary footage of the events in the 1950s surrounding the heroic attempt of the Puerto Rican Nationalist Party to bring the suffering of their colonized people before the eyes of the world.

In one moving part of the film the daughter of Oscar Collazo, convicted in an armed attack on President Truman's Blair House, read a letter her father wrote to her just before his death sentence was commuted. He wrote, "For me death is freedom. ... If we can't be free we might as well be dead, if we can't struggle for our liberty." Oscar Collazo is still serving a life sentence for his patriotic act, which was timed to coincide with a rebellion against U.S. colonialism in Puerto Rico.

Standing beside a picture of Albizu Campos and flanked by banners reading, "U.S. imperialism out of Puerto Rico," and "Free the Five Nationalist Prisoners, Free Puerto Rico right now!" Tom Soto of Workers World spoke of the development of the armed struggle for the

liberation of Puerto Rico in the 1950s during which Oscar Collazo, Lolita Lebron, Andres Figueroa Cordero, Irvin Flores and Rafael Cancel Miranda, the Five Puerto Rican Nationalists, were imprisoned here.

Soto told of the history of a people whose oppression began with the Spanish invasion of the island of Borinquen, the original name for Puerto Rico. He described the Puerto Rican people's undying resistance, beginning with the original inhabitants of the island who were nearly exterminated by the Spanish. Their struggle was carried on by the captive Africans imported and exploited by the Spanish imperialists and finally by the Puerto Rican people under the domination of U.S. imperialism.

The account Soto gave of Workers World Party's consistent record of support for Puerto Rican liberation was met with deeply felt enthusiasm by those who attended the meeting.

"Most important," Soto said, "the history of the Puerto Rican people is one of resistance like that of all oppressed people—and that history of resistance is the history of our class."

Condemn CIA-Cuban exile murder of 73 civilians in Cubana airline jet

By JUDY GREENSPAN

NEW YORK, Oct. 21—Over 150 people picketed the office of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) at Federal Square here today to condemn CIA involvement in the recent bombing of a Cubana Airline jet in which 73 Cubans, Guyanese, and north Koreans were murdered.

Since the fall in 1959 of fascist Fulgencio Batista, a U.S. puppet, and the birth of the socialist Cuba, the CIA has been trying to undermine the government of Prime Minister Fidel Castro. CIA-instigated terrorism has been stepped up this past year in retaliation for the Cuban people's expression of international solidarity with the people of Angola. In direct defiance of U.S. imperialism, Cuba aided the MPLA both economically and militarily by heeding Angola's request for troops and ammunition.

On Oct. 6, a Cubana Airlines jet carrying workers and students to Cuba exploded in mid-air seconds after taking off from the Barbados Airport. No passengers survived the crash. Two passengers who had left the plane in Barbados before the explosion were arrested. The two men, Hernan Ricardo and Freddie Lugo, were notorious

members of the reactionary Cuban exile community with direct ties to the CIA.

CIA-DINA-CUBAN EXILE TRIANGLE

One speaker at today's demonstration blasted what she called "the CIA-DINA-Cuban exile triangle of terrorism." The DINA, the secret police of the Chilean fascist junta, is believed to be responsible for the recent murder of Orlando Letelier, former Foreign Minister of the Allende government, and an aide, Ronnie Karpen Moffitt, in Washington, D.C. This speaker charged that these three groupings were behind the murder of Letelier and Moffitt and the bombing of the Cuban plane.

MEMORIAL MEETING IN CUBA

In Cuba, a public meeting attended by more than a million people was held in Havana's Plaza de la Revolucion on Oct. 15, as a memorial to the 73 people who were killed.

Prime Minister Castro expressed his grief and anger over the loss of his comrades' and friends' lives.

"They were not millionaires on a pleasure trip. They were not

tourists who had time and resources available to visit other countries. These were poor workers, students, and athletes who were fulfilling with modesty and dedication, all the tasks given to them by their Homeland," said Fidel Castro, memorializing the slain men and women.

The revolutionary Cuban leader also paid tribute to the Guyanese and north Korean passengers who were on the plane. "They remind us that the imperialist crimes have no frontiers, that we all belong to the same human family and that our struggle is a universal one," he said.

Castro announced that Cuba was terminating a 1973 agreement with the U.S. on the hijacking of planes. The Cuban leader said that his country would not sign any more agreements "until there is a total ceasing of the terrorist campaign against Cuba."

Prime Minister Castro said that despite the acts of terrorism by the U.S., the people of Cuba would not be intimidated. "We could ask ourselves: what is the intention behind these crimes? To destroy the revolution? It is impossible. The revolution becomes even stronger in the face of every blow, in the face of every aggression," he said.

'Independent' Transkei region created by racist Apartheid regime

By SHARON SHELTON

NEW YORK, Oct. 27—Even as it was putting over its ridiculous face-saving charade of granting phony independence to South Africa's Transkei region, the John Vorster regime showed it was business as usual in the rest of the country with its brutal killings this week of at least seven more opponents of apartheid.

The Transkei was officially pronounced "independent" on Oct. 26, amid widespread criticism of the scheme as a less-than-genuine move by a racist regime desperate to gain credibility. South Africa has conveniently retained control of the army, the judiciary, the police, and the prime minister's office. Those who have been designated by the Vorster government as Transkei "citizens" but who live and work elsewhere in South Africa are now to be considered foreigners in their own land.

So far, no country has recognized the Transkei, and the United Nations General Assembly (with the U.S. as the lone abstainer) voted unanimously today to prohibit any dealings with the puppet state.

FUNERAL GOERS MOWED DOWN BY VORSTER'S GESTAPO

Meanwhile, Vorster's gestapo police continued the brutal repression against the Black population which has long characterized apartheid. On Oct. 22, all of the teachers and students at the Morris Isaacson High School in Soweto were arrested following a raid on the school. So far, there are no indications on what charges

they are being held.

The same day, youths shut down drinking halls and government-owned liquor stores throughout Soweto, smashing bottles and ordering patrons out. The action followed a demand the day before that all bars should be closed in respect for Black people who have been murdered by the police in recent demonstrations.

On Oct. 23, police fired into a crowd of 1,000 mourners attending the funeral of a Soweto schoolgirl. Police killed one of the funeral goers, wounded another, and arrested 115 people. Assistant Police Commissioner Major General David Kriel said his troopers had acted in "self defense" to ward off the unarmed mourners who refused to disperse. However, eyewitnesses were reported to have said that the crowd had not acted threateningly toward the police, but instead had been suddenly attacked by them.

The following day, police attacked another funeral, this time leaving six Black people dead, and 51 injured, according to reporters on the scene. The crowd of 4,000 mourners had gathered in Doornkop Cemetery to grieve the suspicious death of Jackie Mashabani, a university student, who died while in custody of the Vorster regime. The police used submachine guns and shotguns in their attack on the funeral. Black reporters covering the funeral were also fired upon and chased by the racist cops.

Also, amid rumors that another strike is being organized by Black workers, Vorster's police are currently occupying the streets of Johannesburg. A month ago,

Soweto workers stayed off their jobs in Johannesburg in a three-day general strike in protest of apartheid policies.

U.S. SUPPORT FOR APARTHEID

The abstention by the U.S. on the vote on prohibiting all contacts with the Transkei puppet state just once again underlines U.S. imperialism's backing of apartheid. During the recent U.S. presidential debates on television, President Gerald Ford inadvertently let the cat out of the bag when he defended the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General George Brown, as needed for possible operations in three strategic locations, including southern Africa.

Despite Henry Kissinger's pious words about apartheid being an insult to humanity, U.S. corporations like Chrysler, Caterpillar, Firestone, Ford, General Electric, General Motors, Goodyear, IBM, ITT, Mobil Oil, and Caltex are busily raking in huge profits off this system which keeps average yearly wages of Black workers at only \$1,670. Currently, Citibank is planning a multi-million dollar agreement to head a new consortium loan to the apartheid regime. U.S. bank loans to South Africa have grown in the past ten years to an estimated \$2 billion.

But neither the backing of U.S. imperialism nor face-saving schemes such as the phony independence of the Transkei will save the apartheid regime from its hastening downfall at the hands of the aroused Black people of Azania (South Africa).



The people of the Transkei have been relegated to the most grinding, most basic human rights. Yet, now South Africa's white rulers have declared them "independent," except that the army, the police, the judiciary and the police are under white control.

Part 1: Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde Islands

Socialist construction

Editor's note: This is the first in a two-part series on socialist construction in Guinea-Bissau, the Cape Verde Islands, Angola, and Mozambique.

By PADDY COLLIGAN
NEW YORK, Oct. 27—"Keep always in mind that the people are not fighting for ideas, for the things

in anyone's head. They are fighting... for material benefits, to live better and in peace, to see their lives go forward, to guarantee the future of their children. National liberation, war on colonialism, building of peace and progress—independence—all that will remain meaningless for the people unless it brings a real improvement in conditions of life. It is pointless to liberate a region if its people then remain without essential goods."

This observation made by Amilcar Cabral to the militants of the PAIGC early in the struggle for liberation in Guinea-Bissau is the core of the programs of the revolutionary governments of Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, Angola, and Mozambique.

LEGACY OF COLONIALISM

For almost five centuries Portugal controlled large areas of Africa. European and American fortunes were built on profits from the sale of millions of Africans from Portugal's colonies. When this barbarous trade declined, African people were forced to work on Portuguese owned plantations and mines to make further profits for European and American capitalists. The lives of most African people throughout the Portuguese empire were very much like those of their brothers and sisters living under slavery and sharecropping in the American south.

But then came the 1960s. With world economic and political conditions more favorable to anti-colonial struggles, the people of Portugal's African colonies began their wars of national liberation. From small, isolated groups, they built national movements, finally succeeding in breaking the grip of foreign domination in 1974. These movements grew and developed because they consciously and consistently fought to overcome barriers built or fed by colonialism, such as tribalism, regionalism, sexism, superstition and illiteracy.

These obstacles, as well as others produced by destructive

Labor, community groups march in Cleveland

Protest condemns racism at home and abroad

By RACHEL SIMON

CLEVELAND, Oct. 16—Outraged by racism at home and the racist apartheid system in Africa, today over 100 demonstrators, Black, Latin, and white, converged on this city's downtown for a march and rally to say "no" to apartheid.

The statewide demonstration called by Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF) received broad cosponsorship by labor and community groups and individuals, including the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, Ron Daniels of the National Black Political Assembly, Dick Niebur, general vice president of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers Union, Third World Women's Center, Puerto Rican Socialist Party, and Corda Kutscher of Welfare Rights

Organization.

GREETED WITH CLENCHED FISTS RAISED

The demonstrators launched a mile long march to the indoor rally site. Chanting, "Power to Soweto, Freedom for Azania" and "Stop the war against Black America," the march militantly took to the street without a street permit. All along the march route they were greeted with clenched fists raised in solidarity.

Cosmo Pieterse, a member of the African National Congress of South Africa, exposed the Kissinger-Vorster plans for an interim government in Zimbabwe as a neo-colonial solution. "While Smith maintains control of the military, he plans to see the guerillas disarmed, his own settler soldiers

armed, and plans to continue to trade with Smith's Rhodesia. These peace-makers want a peace soiled with our blood." Mr. Pieterse called for "unequivocal support to those in South Africa fighting for what has been achieved in Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau and Angola."

SOWETO MEANS NATIONAL UPRISING

Mr. Bojie Jordan of the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania drew cheers as he noted, "Soweto does not mean isolated riots, Soweto means national uprising!"

A white woman worker and chief steward in her Detroit, AFSCME local stated, "Ford Motor Company transfers auto plants to South Africa where there are laws prohibiting unions and strikes and

where they can rake in profits two to three times greater than in the U.S. The victory of the Azanians means greater job security here!"

Brother Shakir Muslim Shabazz of the Paul X Moody Defense Committee urged support in the fight against the racist frameup of Paul X Moody here.

In a profound show of solidarity, the officers of the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC) of Toledo sent a telegram stating in part: "... the same insatiable thieves rob us of the fruits of our labors in the fields and canneries of the United States and in the gold and diamond mines of South Africa, Namibia, and Zimbabwe. ... Unidos Creemos Fuerte" (Together we grow strong).

Claudette Furlonge of YAWF drew applause as she stated, "These events in South Africa signify a revolutionary upsurge, shaking to its foundations the world's most racist and fascist system—apartheid." She emphasized, "the role of a revolutionary organization is to expose the U.S. role in South Africa and to organize against it."

In Cleveland, where heroic rebellions against national oppression in the Black community were viciously repressed in the 60s by the cops, today's demonstration has special meaning. As Paul Dickson, an unemployed Black worker at the demonstration, stated, "If anyone wanted to learn about South Africa, they should have been here today."



Demonstrators march through downtown Cleveland to express their solidarity with the struggle against the brutal and racist system of apartheid in South Africa. WW photo: Patricia Bray



ing poverty and denied even the have declared the Transkei "in-
e prime minister's office remains
Photo: Afrika Bulletin

As Geneva talks begin

U.S. pushes neo-colonialist scheme in Zimbabwe

By DEIRDRE GRISWOLD

NEW YORK, Oct. 27—Talks on the future of Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) open in Geneva, Switzerland, tomorrow amid a last-minute flurry of behind-the-scenes maneuvering by "unofficial" U.S. representatives.

Set up by Britain to implement the so-called "Kissinger Plan," the conference is seen by the imperialists as an extension of Kissinger's shuttle diplomacy in southern Africa, which is aimed at preserving imperialist economic interests in the area through a nominal transfer of power to a Black majority government. The alternative feared by the imperialists is the loss of their lucrative investments when African revolutionaries inevitably win in a drawn-out guerrilla war.

The key to the U.S. plan, however, is point number three, which puts control over the army and police during an interim government in the hands of the present clique of white racists, led by Ian Smith, and which also sets up by a bi-racial council of state dominated by a white chairman.

The Smith regime, which represents a tiny minority of 270,000 European settlers in a country of over 6 million, has maintained its existence through the cruelest repression of the vast African majority. The police have kept potential leaders of the opposition under arrest; the army has been conducting a brutal war of annihilation against the forces of national liberation.

In their drive to exterminate the opposition, Rhodesian troops have even gone so far as to carry out assaults on refugees in neighboring Mozambique, itself recently liberated from colonialism. This Aug. 8, in the Mozambican town of Nyazonia, nearly 1,000 women, men, and children, most of them refugees from Rhodesia, were shot down in cold blood by one of Smith's raiding parties disguised as Mozambican soldiers.

It is this army and this police force which would retain power under the Kissinger Plan.

GUERRILLAS SAY "NO!"

Leaders of the Zimbabwean struggle, particularly those arising out of the armed liberation movement, have categorically rejected these provisions. Robert Mugabe, a high official of the Zimbabwe African National Union who comes to Geneva from the guerrilla camps in Mozambique, said that the guerrillas have "completely rejected" the plan.

ZILA, the guerrilla army, said in a statement from the Mozambican capital of Maputo on Oct. 1 that it would only negotiate the outright surrender of the Rhodesian government. "Under no circumstances," said ZILA, "are we prepared to share power with racists and fascists."

The U.S. imperialists are resorting to more open pressure on the so-called front line African governments as their hopes of negotiating an end to the armed struggle fade. In subtle wording, the New York Times of Oct. 26 revealed that the Ford administration has "urged key Black African presidents to use their influence to prevent Black Rhodesian nationalists from making such extreme demands that the Geneva conference collapses and the British-American plan for a Rhodesian solution is scuttled."

In blunter language, this is understood to mean that the U.S. imperialists are using threats, bribery, and blackmail, particularly with the governments of Tanzania and Zambia, to force them to abandon any support for the liberation fighters.

U.S. TRYING TO LINE UP INVESTMENT CAPITAL

Meanwhile, the U.S. State Department is quietly trying to line up banks and corporations here to provide the capital for a massive investment in Rhodesia. On Oct. 5, Assistant Secretary of State for Economic Affairs William Rogers met privately with representatives of 20 major firms in New York to encourage investment in Rhodesia. This would parallel a proposed \$2 billion "insurance plan" to encourage wealthy colonialists now living in Rhodesia to stay there in the event of the kind of "majority rule" that Kissinger envisions.

But companies like Union Carbide, Mobil Oil, 3-M, Citibank, and Chase Manhattan, which attended the New York meeting, are reported to have postponed any decision on sinking investments in Rhodesia pending the outcome of the Geneva conference.

As badly as they want to contribute to keeping the racist settler state alive, they are first and foremost interested in profits, like all good businessmen. Not even their racist solidarity with the Smith regime and similar reactionary world outlook can override the fears of these men of property over the risk involved in another revolutionary victory in southern Africa. That is why they would far sooner commit the lives of American GIs to the defense of Rhodesia than their precious capital—if they could only get away with it.



Political education is one of the key factors in the development of a socialist society. Here, young and old attend a political meeting in eastern Angola.
Photo: Mike Shuster

uction in Africa

wars and deliberate economic underdevelopment and sabotage on the part of the Portuguese colonialists, are what the revolutionary governments of Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, Angola and Mozambique must now overcome. The governments of these countries are beginning to plan their economic development based on evaluations of their countries' problems and potential, and on their peoples' needs. They are involving the masses of peasants, workers, young people, and women in the revolutionary process and in socialist construction.

GUINEA-BISSAU

The PAIGC in Guinea-Bissau gives priority to gaining control of the country's badly-off economy and restoring agricultural exports to pre-war levels. It plans to develop transportation, education and then industry.

This country has had to resettle tens of thousands of Guinean refugees who fled the Portuguese terror.

Agricultural production, particularly of rice, which is a staple, rose considerably during 1975 with the help of experimental farms. The results for 1976 are even better. Construction has begun on food processing plants for export.

The building of roads, schools, hospitals and people's stores continue in response to requests from base committees. As with many of the PAIGC's political forms, the base committees (earlier known as village councils) evolved during the war years in liberated areas. The committees are composed of five adults elected from the village; at least two must be women, a requirement laid down in the struggle because of the need to involve everyone in the new society.

CAPE VERDE

Guinea-Bissau's sister republic, Cape Verde is composed of ten islands, 350 miles off the West African coast. The PAIGC also led the Cape Verdian people to their

independence and now leads the revolutionary government. Achieving independence at a time when the agricultural-based economy of this country was devastated by the seven-year Sahelian drought, Cape Verde's government is calling on its people to maintain the spirit which defeated the Portuguese in order to defeat the drought as well.

Water surveys have been made. Large amounts of underground water were found and the construction of a system of dams, reservoirs, and irrigation canals is planned to conserve rain during normal years. The rich volcanic soil, combined with water, should produce bountiful crops both to feed the people of Cape Verde and to be sold in the markets of Europe (only two days' sailing from this country's excellent natural harbors). Agrarian reform has begun, as well as work on improving education and on establishing a health care system in Cape Verde.

Next: Socialist construction in Angola and Mozambique.

Against U.S.-Moroccan puppets

Polisario wins support of people in Sahara

By G. DUNKEL

NEW YORK, Oct. 23—The summer offensive of Polisario, the National Front for the Liberation of the Western Sahara, which featured lightning raids against widely scattered targets in temperatures of 130 degrees, has immobilized the Moroccan army and driven it from some of the points it initially seized.

Spain was the colonial power in the Western Sahara from 1880 on to 1975 when it had to hand its interests there over to Morocco because of its own political and military weaknesses.

Polisario, whose program calls for the nationalization of all wealth producing property, scientific socialism, and national independence for the Western Sahara, was founded in 1968. This national liberation organization

held its first demonstration in 1970, and began armed struggle in 1973. Support for Polisario has been so unanimous that even the puppet legislature set up in the Western Sahara by Spain joined Polisario after Spain's deal with Morocco.

MOROCCAN SOLDIERS DON'T WANT TO FIGHT

Morocco wanted the Western Sahara because it contains the richest phosphate beds in the world at Bou Craa, as well as off-shore oil. The Moroccan king, Hassan II, managed to get the support of his legal "opposition" by whipping up patriotism and bought the support of Mauritania with a slice of Saharan territory.

But cracks have begun to develop in this support. Common soldiers in the Moroccan army look to capture by Polisario as their only salvation, since their supply

lines are so cut up. Hassan II was forced to make wide-scale arrests this summer and to murder some of his opponents. Moroccan garrisons have been placed in all important Mauritanian cities.

Polisario has won some diplomatic support in the UN and at the conference of non-aligned nations. In the Organization of African Unity (OAU), because of the pressure from Morocco and Mauritania who threatened to split the OAU, the Western Sahara did not get any clear-cut support.

Algeria has been the most help to Polisario by allowing Saharan refugees to live there and by supplying weapons and material. Morocco is attempting to cut off this aid by threatening Algeria with war, since it feels that it could win a wider, conventional war.

The United States has stakes in

Morocco's continued occupation of the Western Sahara. One stake is strategic—to help an ally that controls the entrance to the Mediterranean and to keep another progressive government from being established in Africa.

The other reason is economic. The phosphate fields at Bou Craa are the richest in the world. (Phosphate is a vital ingredient in fertilizers.) These fields in the hands of a progressive government would mean U.S.-Moroccan interests would not get the same huge profits.

In the Western Sahara, U.S. imperialism is trying once again to use a developing country, namely Morocco, as a puppet to maintain its interests.

But Polisario is now proving that the United States and its puppets will be defeated.

EDITORIAL

Plunge of the pound

The latest run on the pound, which was selling at \$2.40 early last year and has now plummeted to under \$1.60, is the steepest plunge of the British currency in history. Its collapse is a reflection of the deep and insoluble crisis that is racking Britain's economy, aggravated by the general crisis of world capitalism. The sinking of the pound is also an unmistakable sign of deep pessimism and gloom within the British ruling class.

Once known as the "workshop of the world," and the home of the industrial revolution, Britain has now the highest inflation rate of the leading capitalist countries. On top of a projected 10 percent drop in real income for Britain's workers over the coming year (15 percent inflation and 5 percent allowable wage hikes under a government "incomes policy") and the greatest unemployment in decades, the intention of the British capitalists is to impose further substantial cuts in the workers' already meager standard of living.

The decline of the pound cannot only be attributed to the "normal" speculation profitably engaged in by the banks. As revealed this week by the London Sunday Times, intense pressure from the U.S. finance capitalists (who long ago made Britain their "junior partner") has impelled the English ruling class on a strategy of removing support for the pound in order to compel the Labour Party government to cut public spending to the bone. In essence, this plan is very similar to the catastrophic series of cutbacks imposed on the people of New York City by the banks when all credit was denied to the city.

Depreciation of the pound is translated into a corresponding decline of purchasing power for the British workers. The losses already suffered by the working class in employment and income have generated a new upsurge of militant struggles. In the guarded language of Britain's financial journals, like The Economist, veiled and anxious references to revolution are cropping up for the first time in generations!

The shackles that have bound the workers and their trade unions to a bourgeois government through the so-called Labour Party are coming undone. As British capitalism and the pound sink deeper into stagnation, the possibilities for compromise between the classes are being squeezed out and the stage set for renewed militant struggle by Britain's deeply class-conscious proletariat.

Transkei 'independence'

On October 27, the Nigerian representative to the United Nations presented a resolution co-sponsored by 50 countries prohibiting "any dealings or contacts" with the Transkei rump state created by the South African white supremacists.

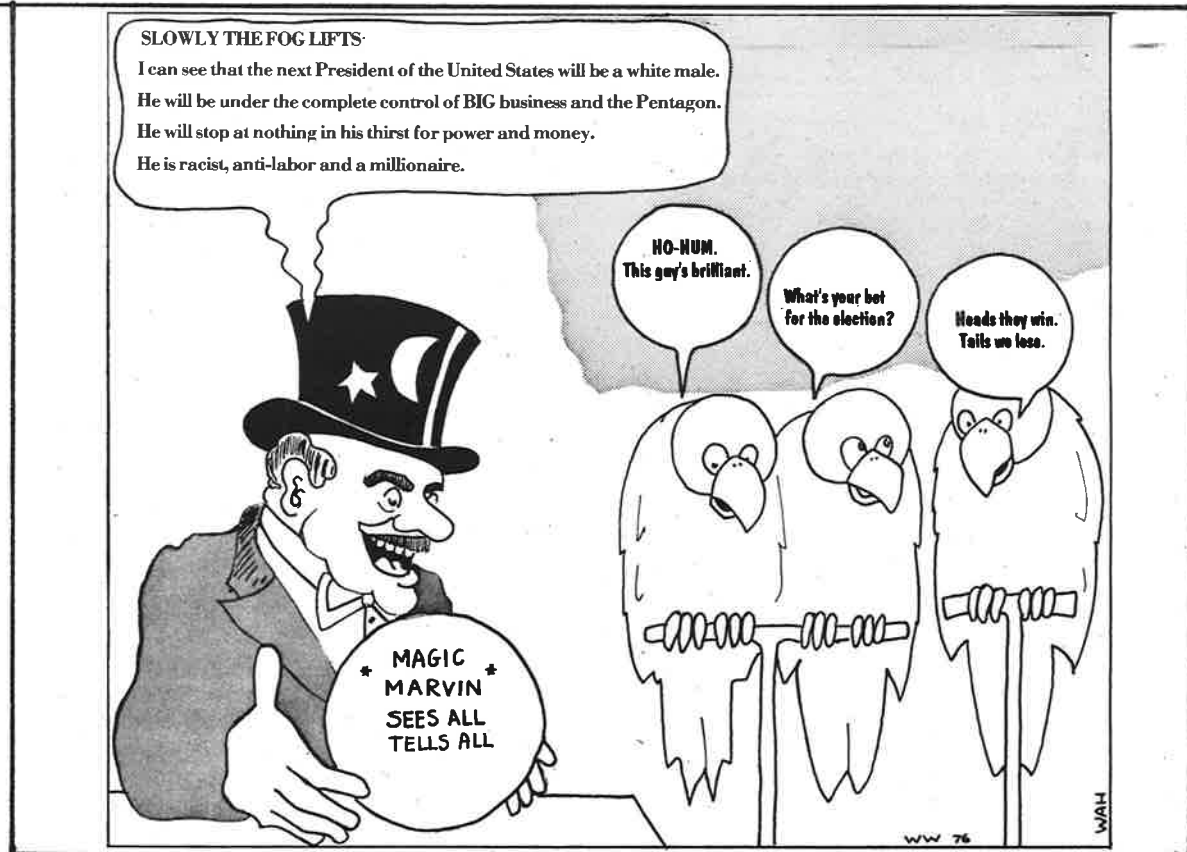
"It is a dark day," said the Nigerian delegate, "it's a day for mourning in much of Africa to note that early this morning puppet chiefs appointed by the South African racist regime proclaimed the birth of the Transkei."

And indeed the Transkei's satellite relationship to South Africa couldn't be more blatant. Despite its so-called independence, the Transkei retains all the old repressive security acts that are in force in the rest of South Africa. The Transkei departments of Forestry, Justice, Interior, and Education continue to be headed by apartheid fanatics "on loan" from Pretoria, while communists, nationalists, SASO (South African Student Organization), and trade unions remain outlawed. Although it is a potentially rich farming area, the Transkei is so impoverished that it will have to import 90 percent of its food from the outside. Over 85 percent of the "new" government's expenses will be met by the old master class of European settlers, who view the Transkei as a reserve for cheap labor, since most of the Transkei's "citizens" work in other parts of South Africa outside their "homeland."

Last July all those Africans living in the Transkei who openly opposed this fake nationhood were arrested.

It is not surprising then, that 134 countries in the UN voted in support of the resolution against the South African fascists and their Transkei client state.

One country, however, opposed the resolution and failed to vote in support of it—the United States. By giving aid and comfort to the hated South African colonialists and to their Transkei collaborators on this clear yet profound issue, and by being the only country in the whole UN to openly do so, the U.S. government reveals itself to be the world's supreme racist and the most bitter enemy of African freedom.



Ford and Carter to jobless:

Keep tightening those belts

By BILL DEL VECCHIO
NEW YORK, Oct. 26—Instead of convincing working people which candidate should be elected president, the last of the debates held on Oct. 22 left millions wondering whether choosing between Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter is really a choice.

Nothing was said by either candidate to the millions who have no job. Neither candidate addressed himself to the problems of the Black, Latin, Asian, and Native American people, who are being victimized by a new upsurge in organized racist violence.

The union busting, the social service cutbacks, the speedups, and the loss of purchasing power that workers all across the country have been hit by were passed over without mention. The possibility that the masses of people don't want their tax money used for the Pentagon's new plans of aggression never even crossed Carter's or Ford's mind.

NEITHER CANDIDATE CONCERNED WITH THE OPPRESSED

No, the mounting crises facing the millions of working and oppressed people in the coming months were not the topics of any of the three debates, or the entire election campaign for that matter.

Both candidates agreed that the "American people will be called on to tighten their belts," with Carter giving consolation that under his administration, "the sacrifices would be less."

And the two opponents didn't really have much to debate when it came to discussing the Pentagon. Both basically agreed that the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Brown, was a fine man. Ford even got carried away, saying that the old warmonger's experience was needed "if we have operations that might be developing in the Middle East or in southern Africa or in the Pacific." Ford's admission of possible military operations in these three areas shows how deep his administration's "peace initiatives" go.

CANDIDATES MAKE NO PROMISES

While Republican Ford has honestly continued his anti-people,

Nixonite policies, Carter's campaign is a shift away from even the false promises and phony appeals to the progressive sentiments of the poor and working people that the Democratic Party is known for. This indicates that the ruling class factions that run both the Republicans and Democrats are unified in a policy of dumping the burden of the growing capitalist crisis on the backs of the working class here and abroad. They fear allowing either of their candidates to arouse the masses, even with demagoguery.

So instead of false promises, Democrat Carter is making no promises. "Take it or leave it," is the attitude of the two capitalist parties—and then they call the election a democracy. Choose between a President with a phony smile or one with a mindless stare.

Even the meaningless rhetoric of liberal Eugene McCarthy, a loyal defender of the capitalist system, was dealt with as a threat by the powers that be. In a highly undemocratic manner, the Democrats used their influence to keep him off the televised debates, tried

to get him barred from the ballot in New York State, and made it almost impossible to get funds.

WORKERS' HEALTHY DISBELIEF

Following the experiences of the war in Vietnam, Watergate, and now the deepening economic crisis, millions of people have developed a healthy disbelief in the legitimacy of the bosses' government. Referred to by Ford and Carter as a "loss of faith in government," this disbelief has grown as a result of the current presidential campaign.

This latent anger and frustration of the masses of working and poor people can quickly be turned into a new wave of protest and struggle as the crisis deepens.

The masses of people have rightly felt left out of this so-called exercise in democracy where the exploited can choose only between two exploiters. This year's election campaign is teaching a valuable lesson about what the bosses' democracy is all about.

—Italy

(Continued from page 4)

still possible, but only after an "historic compromise" with the leading bourgeois parties.

The following summarize the PCI leadership's current position: They start with the assumption that socialist revolution is impossible in the present epoch in Italy. They must not bring down the DC government, as that will only worsen the economic crisis, and the workers will suffer more. What is worse, if the economy collapses, then businesses fail, people are thrown out of work, and there will be a mass base for fascist demagogues to appeal to. Fascism will be a threat.

PCI'S DUTY: PREPARE FOR STRUGGLE

But in that case, isn't it the duty of the PCI, or of any workers' party, to prepare the workers for struggle?

If the PCI gets in, it won't be the first time the capitalist ruling class has let a workers' party into the government to cool a struggle during a crisis, and then swept it

aside, or crushed it, when it lost the workers' support. In fact, the German Social Democrats during the Weimar Republic made exactly the same argument that the PCI does today: because of the fascist threat, we must defend bourgeois stability. This helped lead, step by step, to the Nazi takeover.

In Italy today, the workers are in a better position to struggle than the German workers were under Weimar. The fascists have almost no popular support, and the PCI is a popular, mass workers' party. The major weakness is the PCI's false orientation—the myth of a "peaceful road," and the phony "independence from Moscow" which is really capitulation to U.S. imperialism (support for NATO, the Common Market, and economic independence of Italy on the U.S.).

With all these weaknesses, the PCI remains a mass workers' party, and the only workers' party capable of determining the outcome for Italy in the coming period. It is of a struggle deep enough to change the direction of the PCI, which could then make best use of the tremendous energy of the Italian working class.

Part 3

The suppression of the left in China

By SAM MARCY

OCTOBER 26—The fall of Chiang Ching, Yao Wen-yuan, Chang Chun-chiao, and Wang Hung-wen marks the end of the Mao era in general and the end of the Cultural Revolution in particular. There might be minor turns of an episodic character in the ensuing period.

Everything, of course, will be done under cover of Mao's name, and the employment of virtually the same terminological armor will continue. But there can be absolutely no doubt that what we are witnessing is the final triumph of the Thermidorian reaction over the Jacobin revolutionary dictatorship.

Just as the Jacobin dictatorship enraged and terrified the possessing classes of both Europe and America, so did the Cultural Revolution bring down the wrath of all the forces of bourgeois reaction as well as of the ruling revisionist regimes in the socialist countries.

Only when the Cultural Revolution was already in decline, only when Mao began a series of efforts at an accommodation with the U.S. and swung sharply and violently in an anti-Soviet direction, did the bourgeois publicists begin to take note of some of the accomplishments of the Cultural Revolution. Only then did they really begin to recognize People's China, without, of course, letting down in the least their relentless effort to favor the so-called moderates against the radicals, the rightists against the revolutionary left.

There isn't an easily definable line of demarcation between the right and left in China and much of the struggle may have been obscured by the nature of the controversy itself, and by the fact that individual leaders, as is often the case, go from one camp to another. But there is absolutely no question that there have been, for many years, and certainly from the beginning of the Cultural Revolution, two lines of struggle represented by two divergent political groupings. The battle has raged over a period of more than a decade, the lines have gone through a series of changes, but now in the end the rightist camp has triumphed.

"LAW AND ORDER" GROUP HAS WON OUT

The "law and order" group is now in authority. It clearly stands for "stability," an end to experimentation with mass struggle, an end to evoking and involving the masses as the fundamental lever in the social evolution lifting China from poverty and backwardness into the socialist future.

The Cultural Revolution was the high point of the Chinese Revolution, its distinctive feature—that is, the feature which distinguishes it from the socialist transformations in other countries since the Second World War.

The suppression of the left, that is, of Chiang, Wang, Yuan, and Chang, marks the end of a ten-year-old struggle to avoid the so-called Soviet model. In the context of a vast and industrially underdeveloped country, it may have proved unavoidable. This is the true significance of the final denouement, the ouster of those now referred to as the "gang of four."

In our previous articles we have characterized the Cultural Revolution as an attempt to thrust back the forces of neo-bourgeois restoration and as a heroic attempt



The rightist opponents of the Cultural Revolution wanted to "demolish the people's communes," wrote Yao Wen-yuan back in 1965. Here, peasants and soldiers work and study together at the Lungshutao Commune in Shantung province in 1969. Photo: Hsinhua

to storm the heavens in advancing and promoting the proletarian revolution and the dictatorship of the proletariat.

PRIVATE PROPERTY VS. THE COMMUNES

The very first attempt, the very first shot fired to hurl back the forces of political and social reaction came in the form of a now famous literary criticism of a play, "The Dismissal of Hai Jui," on Nov. 10, 1965, in the Shanghai newspaper Wen Hui Pao. Not accidentally, the criticism was written by Yao Wen-yuan. In it he went far beyond mere literary criticism and made the following political point:

"China, as everyone knows, ran into temporary economic difficulties, caused by three successive years of natural calamities. The imperialists, the reactionaries of various countries, and the modern revisionists launched wave after wave of attacks on us, and it was at this time that evil people in China started clamoring for 'individual farming.' . . . They played up the 'superiority' of 'individual farming' and called for the restoration of a private economy and the 'return of the land.' In other words, they wanted to demolish the people's communes. . . ."

Leaving aside polemical exaggerations here and there, this is the basic issue that runs like a red thread throughout the entire ensuing period and through all the stages of the Cultural Revolution to the present day.

When, for instance, the new Constitution of the People's Republic of China was adopted in January 1975, key provisions (contained in Articles VII and IX of the Constitution) were clearly victories for the rightists and a partial confirmation of the charge made by Yao almost ten years ago.

CHANGES IN 1975 CONSTITUTION

These provisions, which were of course endorsed and approved by the National People's Congress, affirmed, among other things, the right of the peasants to farm private plots. They also endorsed so-called side line production and vigorously approved the so-called

principle of income distribution—to each according to his or her work, that is, abiding by bourgeois norms of distribution. Finally, they guaranteed to all citizens the right of private ownership of personal possessions (but not of the means of production).

These provisions in and of themselves do not signify retrogression in a workers' state. It is very important to understand this. Under certain conditions they could even operate as a healthy temporary spur to economic development and alleviate the general conditions of the workers, the peasants, and the mass of the population. Lenin's New Economic Policy, for example, was a much more drastic change than these relatively mild provisions. But Lenin frankly and bluntly explained the NEP was a step backward. He called things by their right names.

However, in China the incorporation of the above provisions in the Constitution by a triumphant rightist majority under conditions of a fierce factional struggle against the left invest them with exceptional significance. They were clearly intended as a thrust at the revolutionary innovations of the Cultural Revolution and as an attempt to turn the clock of history back, to reinvigorate the chase after material incentives, sanctify the growth of bureaucratic privilege, heighten the standing of the managerial elite, and enliven the growth of neo-bourgeois elements.

It is not to be forgotten that this period marked not merely the reemergence of Teng Hsiao-ping, but his virtual assumption of the powers normally exercised by Chou En-lai, who unquestionably pushed Teng forward as his own health began to fade rapidly.

It is precisely for the above reasons that Mao demonstratively stayed away from the January 1975 meetings of the Central Committee and the Fourth National People's Congress.

In retrospect his de facto boycott of these meetings was indicative of the fact that the Maoist supporters were clearly in the minority and that the rightists were in fact try-

ing to reverse earlier "correct verdicts."

MAO AND THE LEFTISTS

If there is any grain of truth at all in the report that Chairman Mao had warned his grouping of Chiang, Wang, Yao, and Chang against forming a faction, as is alleged in an editorial in the People's Daily of Oct. 25, it could be only because he felt that the left was vastly outnumbered and weakened. There had been all the "rehabilitations" of right-wing figures and their reemergence under the aegis of Teng's leadership as well as the campaign of "rectifications" which was directed against the left and inspired by Teng.

Nevertheless, the struggle that was finally launched against Teng was clearly led by Mao and carried out by his close supporters—Chiang, Wang, Yao, and Chang. It is they who unquestionably under Mao's direction, initiated the campaign to "beat back the right deviationist wind which," as they said, "seeks to reverse correct verdicts."

It was they who were responsible for a highly authoritative article reflecting their, and of course Mao's, view in the Peking Review of March 1976.

"Around last summer," it said, referring to 1975, "a right-deviationist wind trying to reverse previous correct verdicts was whipped up in society at large. Its aim was to negate the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution personally initiated and led by Chairman Mao ten years ago and the socialist new things that have emerged during the Cultural Revolution, to reverse the correct appraisal of the Cultural Revolution and practice revisionism. . . . The bourgeois representatives who whipped up the right-deviationist wind to reverse correct verdicts were mainly those capitalist-roaders who were exposed and criticized during the Cultural Revolution but refused to mend their ways."

It can now clearly be seen against whom it was directed: Teng and his "rehabilitated"

supporters as well as the whole right-wing.

The only question that remains to be answered apropos the victory of the rightists at the Central Committee session and the NPC, is how and why Mao had tolerated, if not acquiesced, in the rehabilitation and the reemergence with such vast political authority of Teng, admittedly an "unrepentant capitalist roader," as he had been called. Here again, it can only be explained by the erosion of revolutionary left support and the waning of Cultural Revolution enthusiasm by the popular masses. To this must be added, of course, the intractability and stubborn persistence of those social trends based on pre-existing broad social and economic conditions which are a continuing source for the sustenance of the rightist social grouping. The latter do not yield in this period to mere continual purgations and least of all to exhortatory revolutionary polemics.

FROM CULTURAL REVOLUTION TO FALL OF LIN PIAO

The Cultural Revolution may be divided into stages, the first lasting from November 1966 until the attempt to set up the Shanghai Commune.

This phase probably marked the period when enthusiasm for the Cultural Revolution was at its height. The apparent inability to set up the Shanghai Commune on the basis originally conceived, that is, like the Paris Commune with its broad participation and conflicting tendencies, opened up a period of disillusionment. It was slow and gradual, but nevertheless discernible. All the same, the Cultural Revolution was still marching on.

The next phase, however, ended in the fall of Lin Piao and his associates, and this properly marked the beginning of the Thermidorian ascendancy.

The revolutionary left—the Maoist grouping—was weakened tremendously by the fall of Lin Piao and his associates. Lin, after all, was one of the top leaders of the Cultural Revolution. His fall meant a split in the left wing of the party.

This is a crucial point to bear in mind in what is happening now. The split was in Mao's grouping and could not but have delighted and emboldened the rightists.

At the same time, it weakened the morale of the People's Liberation Army. Whatever one may say about Lin, he was no Peng Teh-huai; his predecessor as head of the PLA and a man identified with the revisionists. It would take little to convince the rank and file on that point.

LIN INCIDENT USED AGAINST LEFT

The rightists thereafter used the Lin incident to discredit the left. It was one thing when members of the same left faction, like Wang Hung-wen, attacked Lin. It was another thing when Chou En-lai, in his report to the Tenth Congress, pulled out all the stops in one of the basest attacks on Lin, accusing him not merely of an attempted coup and assassination of Mao, but of trying to restore capitalism, trying to install a feudal, compradore, fascist dictatorship, of capitulating to Soviet revisionism and social imperialism, of allying himself

(Continued on page 10)

NYC teacher union loses dues check-off as penalty for 1975 strike

By J. STEVENS
NEW YORK, Oct. 18—The New York State Public Employment Relations board (PERB) stripped the United Federation of Teachers (UFT) of its right to automatic dues checkoff for two years in a decision handed down Oct. 13.

The penalty was levied against the 60,000-member local as a result of a five-day walkout in September 1975. That strike was ruled by the courts to be in violation of New York's anti-labor Taylor Law. Penalties paid directly from the teachers' paychecks included a fine of two days' pay for each day of strike participation.

The 1975 strike was called to protest the massive layoffs of teachers and other school workers under the municipal budget cuts. Faced with mounting fines under the Taylor Law, the teachers were forced to return under a "memorandum of agreement" between the union and the Board of Education, thinking that some of the lost positions had been restored

and that the Board of Education was bound to the terms of the agreement.

Instead, the conditions in the schools continued to deteriorate. Class size increased, the school day was shortened, teachers worked longer hours, vital support services were cut, and the negotiated wage increases were "frozen."

SHANKER CAVED IN

Faced with the massive attacks on the school budgets by the banker-backed New York City Emergency Financial Review Board, UFT President Albert Shanker followed a policy of capitulation. In October of 1975 Shanker committed \$150 million of UFT pension funds to bail out the Municipal Assistance Corporation's bondholders!

In response to rank-and-file anger at this betrayal and other manifestations of gross misleadership, Shanker developed a legislative strategy to restore

funds to the New York City school system. The state courts, which had been so quick to find the union in violation of the Taylor Law, also found a way to defeat the legislation Shanker had supported.

The recent PERB decision to do away with dues check-off is only the most recent attack on the UFT. The expenses involved in collecting dues individually from members will run into millions of dollars. Many teachers, resentful of the Shanker leadership, will be reluctant to write a monthly dues check.

Faced with having to lay off staff at UFT headquarters, Shanker has not ceased giving in. It was today revealed that the UFT has agreed to increased hours of work for psychologists and social workers assigned to the Bureau of Child Guidance.

Despite the inertia of the UFT leaders, several parent groups and community school boards have called for boycotts to protest the budget cuts.

—China

(Continued from page 9)

with imperialism—etc., etc., ad nauseum.

In reality, Chou with his enormous skill was deflecting the struggle onto the left wing at the congress. It's hard to believe that his harsh rhetoric composed of amalgams of rightist and leftist charges was not deliberately calculated to undermine the left.

Inevitably, the fall of Lin was followed by the reemergence of some of the rightist figures and attempts at "rectification" to undo aspects of the Cultural Revolution were begun. Soon this took on formidable proportions.

But just as inevitably, the counter-attack on the rightists was

also in full swing under what certainly must now be considered a fruitless campaign against Confucius and Lin. This was really directed against the rightists—but the rightists also used it to undercut the Maoist supporters with whom Lin was, after all, long associated, having been a top leader in the Cultural Revolution.

It seems that from then on, the People's Liberation Army could not be counted on to come to the aid of the Maoists against the right.

LEFT LOSES SUPPORT OF PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY

If, as we raised earlier but which we strongly doubt, Mao warned his close supporters Chiang, Wang, Yao, and Chang against opening an attack, it was because he well knew also that they could not succeed because the PLA was no longer an ally as it was in the early Maoist struggle for the Cultural Revolution.

In the final analysis, it was the PLA's role in the Cultural Revolution which made its triumph possible. Without the PLA, the victory of the right was inevitable.

The PLA has never been just a military force. It has always been a political force, an instrument for the preservation of the proletarian revolution, and a pillar of the dictatorship of the proletariat, but not necessarily allied with the Maoists.

LAST CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE RIGHT

The campaign launched by Mao's supporters to beat back the "right deviationist wind" in early 1976 enabled the Maoist grouping to hold on to the trappings of office,

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

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

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

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—FBI attack

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Muhammad, his wife, and infant daughter.

Two months later APP member Muhammad Adil (Eugene Sojourner), a known drug and community problem-fighter, was framed up on a false drug charge and sentenced to from four and a half to eight years.

A spokesperson for the APP stated, "The APP views these attacks against our residence and members as an attack against our Party. This is because of our involvement in the mounting struggles against the ills of our Community—such as unem-

ployment, poor housing, drugs, poor schools and the cutbacks in SEPTA (the company that runs Philadelphia's public transportation—WW). The APP has played an extremely active role in building a city-wide mass movement against the alarming SEPTA cutbacks, and believes that this current attack is a direct result of this activity. These attacks are an odious attempt by the power structure to alienate the APP members from Community people, by depicting us as outcasts and a threat to their well-being."

At a press conference called by the APP on Oct. 22, community members came to give support to the campaign to expose the racist police and FBI attacks. Speakers stressed the need to build an anti-repression movement.



POLITICAL PRISONERS



Interview on Charlotte 3, Wilmington 10

By JIM HARLOW
RALEIGH, N.C.—“The power structure was out to silence Jim Grant. It was out to silence Ben Chavis. This was the use of the so-called criminal justice system to silence dissent, to break union organizing, to break any kind of community organization and destroy its leadership,” said Lewis Turner of the Wilmington 10 and Charlotte 3 cases.

In an exclusive interview with Workers World held during the Labor Day March for Human and Labor Rights here, Dr. Jim Grant of the Charlotte 3 and Lewis Turner, husband of Wilmington 10 defendant Ann Shepard Turner, explained the present situation in the fight to free the defendants in these two cases.

In July 1972, Dr. Jim Grant, a leader in the fight for equal education for Black people in the state of North Carolina, was framed up with T.J. Reddy and Charles Parker, charged with burning down the Lazy B Riding Stable near Charlotte, N.C. The stable had burned in 1968; the charges were brought three years

later. Grant was sentenced to 25 years; T.J. Reddy, 20 years; Charles Parker, 10 years.

That same year Black students in Wilmington, N.C., were demanding equal education and fair treatment in newly integrated schools. Their peaceful marches were met by vigilante terror and their pleas for police protection were ignored. Finally, they barricaded themselves in a church while armed Ku Klux Klan motorcades drove by, firing and wounding over ten people. During the terror, a white-owned grocery burned down.

Rev. Ben Chavis, a well-known Black leader, who had come to Wilmington to help at the request of the students, and nine others, were charged almost a year later with conspiracy to burn the grocery.

In September 1972, they were convicted. Rev. Chavis got 34 years. Eight Black students—Marvin Patrick, Connie Tindell, Jerry Jacobs, James McCoy, Reginald Epps, Wayne Moore, Joe Wright, and William Earl Vereen—received sentences of 29

or 31 years. Ann Shepard Turner, white mother of two who had supported the students, got 10 years.

The growing support for the Wilmington 10 has recently led to the recanting by the chief prosecution witness, opening the way for an appeal in Federal Court.

PUBLIC SUPPORT FORCES APPEAL

Jim Grant is presently free along with T.J. Reddy and Charles Parker pending a decision by the U.S. District Court in Charlotte on whether to reverse their earlier convictions by a state court. Explaining the reason for their release, Grant stressed, “I think it’s very important to understand that the only reason we were allowed to go free, and in fact the only reason that evidence was gathered that led to the situation



Dr. Jim Grant of the Charlotte 3 at Labor Day March for Human and Labor Rights in Raleigh, North Carolina: “What happened in Vietnam can happen all over the world.” WW photo: J. Long

wherein the case was sent to Federal Court, was because of the pressure that people put on various law enforcement agencies—the FBI, the local Charlotte police department, the powers that be—to let us go.”

“If I’m correct,” said Lewis Turner, showing the real reason

for the convictions in both cases, “Jim Grant, T.J. Reddy and Charles Parker were indicted approximately four years after the fact. Ben Chavis and the other members of the Wilmington 10 were indicted over a year after the fact. Had Ben Chavis left Wilmington a week after the disturbances, a month after the disturbances, he would never have been indicted. He was indicted for staying in Wilmington and working to organize the community. The same is true of the Charlotte 3.”

DEFENDANTS’ WORDS ARE TWISTED

An example of the frame-up nature of the two cases can be seen in the charges against Ann Shepard, who supported a boycott by Black students of the Wilmington High School because of racist policies there. For publicly stating at a meeting that she agreed with the boycott, “The State contended that Ann meant that the defendants who were indicted were right in allegedly plotting, planning, and conspiring to burn Mike’s Grocery,” said Lewis Turner.

The statements, “I think what you all are doing is right” and “I think you ought to do this,” were the state’s main evidence in convicting Ann Shepard Turner, according to Lewis.

“Currently the Wilmington 10 are under tremendous pressure from the prison authorities, particularly Ann Shepard Turner, who is at the Women’s Prison at Raleigh,” said Jim Grant. “Her mail has been tampered with, her phone calls monitored, her visitors have been turned away. They’ve also been denied to the Rev. Ben Chavis, who is currently on a fast for I think 130 days (as of Labor Day—J.L.),” Grant added.

Speaking of the Wilmington 10 defendants, Grant said, “Jerry Jacobs is in the hole at Wagram prison, and he and Joe Wright are being denied honor grade, which would mean minimum custody status, even though they are eligible. Grant added, “There’s been tremendous pressure on all of these defendants to give up their appeals, to accept the degradation and the humiliation that the State Department of Corrections metes out.”

Grant urged that letters of protest should be sent to David Jones, Secretary of the Department of Corrections, demanding that the Wilmington 10 be given the same rights and privileges as other prisoners.

“A Ku Klux Klan resurgence is taking place all over the country, not just here in North Carolina,” Grant stated. “The ruling class knows that it’s on the way out, because they’re confronted with a world in rebellion.” Grant pointed out, “What happened in Vietnam can happen all over the world.”



WW photo: J. Long

Lewis Turner, husband of Ann Shepard Turner of the Wilmington 10. With public support for the Wilmington 10 growing, the chief prosecution witness has now recanted his testimony.

Clinton State prisoners continue fight against guard-prison brass brutality

NEW YORK, Oct. 25—Prisoners at Clinton State Prison in New York State have been fighting the brutal repressive practices of the prison administration and the guards there more than two months. On Sept. 15, several prisoners participating in protests were thrown into Unit 14, the so-called “behavior modification unit” and vindictively charged with “illegally organizing to cause a disturbance.”

In a letter received by Workers World, the prisoners at Clinton have charged that prison guards in jails throughout this state have “combined, conspired and manipulated staff, personnel and management to maintain a condition of denial and repression.”

PRISONERS PROTEST REPRESSION

On Aug. 26, prisoners conducted a “silent demonstration” in the mess hall to protest “the total disregard for many prisoner grievances that have been filed to stop the repressive policies, practices and procedures and change the deplorable conditions of this prison.”

That same day, prisoners in two industrial shops walked off their jobs because they were not being paid their earned wages.

The prison authorities responded to the demonstration with a show of force. Heavily armed guards were stationed

throughout the prison to serve as a warning to the prisoners.

THROWN IN SEGREGATION

Outraged with this form of naked repression, prisoners circulated a petition throughout Clinton. It was at this point that the repressive prison administration moved in to suppress the growing protest movement. Several prisoners were thrown into the “box” as the vicious behavior modification unit is called and held on trumped-up charges.

On Sept. 22, the prisoners confined to Unit 14 began a five-day hunger strike to protest “the adverse conditions and the dehumanizing atmosphere of that Segregation Unit 14.”

The segregated prisoners are refusing to participate in the modification program and have demanded that the “illegal” program be ended immediately. The prisoners have demanded an end to the brutalization of prisoners by guards who are assigned to the “box.” The incarcerated men want at least one hour of exercise privileges per day.

The prisoners have asked that letters protesting the continued segregation of the demonstration participants and demanding that the prisoners’ grievances be acted upon, be sent to Governor Carey and Commissioner of Corrections Ward, State House, Albany, New York.

Bienvenida Lureida Torres

NEW YORK, Oct. 25—Lureida Torres, a 26-year-old schoolteacher and member of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP), will be released from jail on Oct. 28 after being incarcerated for over four months in the Metropolitan Correction Center (MCC) here. Torres was jailed for refusing to testify before a federal grand jury allegedly investigating a series of bombings in New York City attributed to the Armed Forces of National Liberation (FALN).

On Thursday night, the date of Torres’ release, hundreds will gather at MCC at 10:30 p.m., located at 150 Park Row, to greet the young Puerto Rican woman upon her release from jail.

“Lureida Torres was the victim of an illegal government fishing expedition into the Puerto Rican independence movement,” said a spokesperson from the Campaign to Free Lureida Torres.

The grand jury expires on Oct. 28 at midnight, which is why the incarcerated woman is being released at that time. However, the new grand jury has the power to resubpoena Torres and continue the repressive assault on the PSP and the anti-imperialist movement to free Puerto Rico.

“We will be out there on Thursday night to greet our sister, Lureida, and to demand that she be freed once and for all,” said a Campaign spokesperson.

Leonard Peltier facing extradition from Canada

By LESLIE FEINBERG

NEW YORK, Oct. 23—A demonstration has been called here for Saturday, Oct. 30 to demand that the Canadian government grant Leonard Peltier, last of the Oglala 4 to be tried, the right of political asylum.

Leonard has been held in solitary confinement since February of this year on death row in Vancouver, British Columbia, although he has never been officially charged with any crime. He is awaiting extradition to the U.S. on charges of murdering an FBI agent. Extradition hearings are expected to resume in Canada in November.

The planned demonstration, co-sponsored by the American Indian Movement (AIM) and the Native American Solidarity Committee (NASC), will gather at 2 p.m. at the Canadian Consulate at 251 6th Ave., and will march to FBI Headquarters at 201 E. 69th St. here. For more information, phone (212) 986-6000.

Leonard, a Sioux Indian and member of AIM, along with three other Indian leaders together known as the Oglala 4, are being falsely accused of the murder of two FBI agents on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota last July 26. He is one of the scores of Native Americans being framed up in the aftermath of the 1973 Wounded Knee occupation in

which he participated.

Leonard, who can show he wasn’t even in South Dakota at the time of the alleged crime, explains, “Because I have fought so hard for my people, I am being charged with murders and god only knows what. The only thing I’m guilty of is trying to help my people.” For years Leonard has been an activist for his people, involved in the Wounded Knee takeover, the takeover of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C., and the occupation of Fort Lawton in Seattle.

THREE OF OGLALA 4 SET FREE

The trial of two of the Oglala 4, Robert Robideaux and Dino Butler, ended in acquittal in the wake of growing support for the Indian Movement. Although the U.S. government recently dropped the charges against another defendant, Jimmy Eagle, it appears that the government and specifically the FBI are going to pursue the extradition and trial of Peltier with a vengeance that stems from the early victory and exposures of the first trial.

AIM has viewed the trials of the Oglala 4 as pivotal cases against Native people which must be won in order to turn back the U.S. government’s tide of repression against Native Americans.

The campaign to build a Night of Solidarity with the Struggle in South Africa (Azania) in New York City on Nov. 20 has gotten off to a strong start. Page 3.

Chicago cops attack freedom marchers as

Racists bomb Black church

By JOHN LOMBARDO
CHICAGO, Oct. 9—The Faith Temple Baptist Church here has been active in voter registration drives and has served as a community center, as well as a periodic meeting place for the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Coalition. Its pastor, Rev. Ulysses Wright, and any possible passersby in the community, narrowly escaped death when a powerful explosive ripped a hole in the wall of the church at noon today.

The concussion shattered windows for half a block and literally knocked people at homes nearby out of their chairs.

Shortly afterward, witnesses saw an unidentified white man shooting from a speeding car.

POLICE COMPLICITY IN BOMBING

These incidents took place on the very day at the very hour that the King Movement Coalition was preparing to march into Marquette Park, a white enclave on Chicago's Southwest Side which has been the scene of a struggle for fair housing by the Coalition.

The march was scheduled to begin exactly at noon, but it was decided to wait for a while so that the police, who have harassed coalition demonstrators in the

past, would not know exactly when the marchers would step off. While Coalition members and supporters were enthusiastically making signs for the march, the explosion went off, in spite of a heavy police presence in the area and in spite of the fact that the church was only two blocks away!

None of the marchers heard the explosion, and no one knew it had happened as they prepared to march and were stopped immediately by police. While the police were declaring the attempted march an "illegal assembly," and while they were arresting two of the Black marchers, the racist terrorists were getting away.

This is one of a series of attacks on Black people in the area. Homes have been firebombed and Nazi-led street assaults have occurred both here and on the Northwest Side of Chicago. Nazis have been organizing in Marquette Park for several years, with the tolerance or complicity of the police and Daley administration.

POLICE, FBI ATTACK ORGANIZATIONS OF THE OPPRESSED

Long experience has shown that whenever Black people begin to organize into a movement to fight

for their democratic rights, the most vicious repression is brought down upon them. The same is true for Native Americans, Puerto Ricans, Chicanos, and all other oppressed peoples. In recent years the FBI and local police have systematically engineered frame-ups, internal disruption, terrorism, and even murder to crush movements by and for oppressed people.

Chicago, where the FBI-organized murder of Fred Hampton and Mark Clark took place, is no exception to this rule. Attempts to stop the organizing of the King Movement Coalition include terror and repression. However, a broad anti-racist movement in this city will ultimately be built in spite of all attempts to stop it.

RULING CLASS PROFITS FROM RACISM

Such a movement is a must. It is the billionaire bank and corporation heads in this country who are profiting from racism, because a divided working class cannot effectively fight back against the tremendous cutbacks in the peoples' standard of living. An anti-racist movement is a direct threat to the rich, because after their racist goons like the Nazis and the KKK are defeated, they know that they will be next.



Above, Chicago police move in to stop members of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition from beginning a march to Marquette Park on Oct. 9. This week police arrested two Coalition members, while ignoring the racist thugs who had bombed the Coalition's meeting hall just minutes before. WW photo

In racist Alabama courts

Atmore-Holman Brother fights death penalty

By SUSAN SCHNEUR
ATLANTA, Oct. 16—On Nov. 8, the Alabama Supreme Court will hear oral argument in the death penalty case of Atmore-Holman Brother Imani (s.n. Johnny Harris). Imani is one of two men, both Black, convicted in the 1970s under a law which had been used only seven times in the 114 years since it was passed. Written while Alabama was in the Confederacy, the statute provided for a mandatory death sentence for a prisoner convicted of murder while serving a life sentence. The state of Alabama is trying to execute Imani because he is a Black man who, while incarcerated in an Alabama jail, protested the inhuman prison conditions there.

Several months ago, the Supreme Court upheld death penalty laws in Georgia, Texas, and Florida. In order to insure Imani's execution, the statute under which he was convicted has been replaced since his trial with a new model more closely fitting the U.S. Supreme Court's latest requirements.

BLACKS THE TARGET OF DEATH PENALTY RULING

Before giving the go-ahead to executions, the Supreme Court heard arguments about racial discrimination in application of the

death penalty. Nationwide, 53.5 percent of those executed since 1930, and 89 percent of those executed for rape have been Black, while Black people make up only 11 percent of the population. State prosecutors even agreed that many more Blacks than whites have been executed in the past and face execution now. However their counter-argument was that the whole judicial system is rife with examples of arbitrary or racially discriminatory law enforcement and that to let this be a factor in considering whether to legalize the death penalty would mean that the whole judicial system should be overturned!

The Supreme Court understood this argument very well in its recent decision legalizing the death penalty. This decision protects the unequal, racist system of justice in this country.

Law enforcement and execution practices in Alabama are neither better nor worse than those in the rest of the country. In this state Blacks are 30 percent of the population. Yet in the period from 1971 to 1972, Black males in Alabama were sentenced to prison at a rate 4.2 times greater than whites. Black males were sentenced to life imprisonment at a rate 6.1 times greater than whites, making them that many times more eligible than whites for

prosecution under the same law that put Imani on death row. From 1927 to 1972, Blacks have been executed at a rate 8.4 times greater than whites and 80.7 percent of all those executed in this period have been Black.

THE MAKING OF AN "INCORRIGIBLE"

The law under which Imani was sentenced to death does not take into account that the previous life sentences may have been handed down by racist courts in sham trials. It is prior convictions that put Imani on death row.

Imani has been serving five life sentences since 1971. In 1974, due to his activism while in jail, Imani was framed up on charges of murdering a prison guard, for which there is an automatic death sentence. Imani's first life sentence was for an alleged robbery of property valued at \$11. His second was for robbery of \$67; third for robbery of a total of \$90; fourth for two items valued at \$500 and \$205; and fifth for a phony rape charge.

At the time of each of his sentences all charges against him were capital (death penalty) crimes in Alabama! (Since then, "enlightened" legislation has reduced the maximum robbery sentence to life imprisonment.) "Representing" Imani were two court-appointed lawyers who,

during jury selection at his first trial, practically forced him to change his innocent plea to guilty on one charge in return for a "light" life sentence. Sentence was given immediately on all five charges; there was no trial or appeal.

REPRESSION OF PRISON ACTIVISM

Imani did not rape, rob, or murder. He is in prison because he is Black and poor. He is on death row because he is Black and because while in prison he became politically aware and active. The "crime" for which his all-white, all-male jury sentenced him to death was his protesting of horrendous prison conditions since declared illegal by a federal judge for being "cruel and unusual punishment."

All of the Atmore-Holman Brothers are members of Inmates For Action (IFA), an organization which through education, discipline, and collective self-help aids its members to counter the effects of brutal prison conditions. IFA leaders are under constant attack by the prison administration. In January 1974, the 64 inmates in one segregation unit participated in a protest over conditions at Atmore Prison Farm. Two guards were taken hostage to be exchanged for communication

with the outside world. The warden's response was to launch a full-scale shooting attack on the prisoners during which one hostage-guard died.

IFA leader Chagina (s.n. George Dobbins) was murdered on the way to the hospital the same day.

Five prisoners, all IFA members, were charged with murder of the guard. Four were eventually convicted; a fifth, Frank X, was hanged in jail while awaiting trial after having finished his original sentence.

No government action has been taken for the murders of Chagina, of Frank X, or of Yukeema (IFA leader beaten to death by guards at nearby Holman Prison two months after the Atmore protest).

Now the same racist forces responsible for these outright murders of other IFA leaders are trying to use the racist Supreme Court ruling legalizing the death penalty to execute Imani. Executions of Black and poor people will not be stopped by the courts. The legal murder of Imani and those like him will be stopped only by massive public pressure.

Telegrams protesting the railroading of Imani should be sent to the Supreme Court of Alabama, Montgomery, Ala. Letters to Imani can be mailed to Johnny Harris, Route 2, Box 37, Holman Station, Ala. 36503.