

Capitalist economy in continued decline

Millions suffering as jobless rate rises again



Heartbreak for job applicants at Detroit Cadillac plant— see p. 7

By BILL DEL VECCHIO

NEW YORK, Nov. 10—With Christmas shopping approaching and students back in school, fall is usually a time of year when the economy picks up a little.

But not this year. Government figures released for the month of October show that unemployment increased even more than the month before, jumping from 7.8 percent to 7.9 percent. Wholesale prices also rose for the largest monthly increase in a year, which means that more inflation is on the way. (See page 7.) Unemployment among Black people rose to 13.7 percent, and this figure is only what the government admits.

Put it all together and it means that thousands of families have been added to the millions already depending on the meager income of unemployment insurance or welfare. Together with this obvious economic hardship comes a more subtle emotional suffering—feelings of fear, insecurity, worthlessness, personal failure. Although no statistic is kept to measure this suffering, it still leaves its mark.

The almost desperate desire felt by the jobless to return to work was shown last week in Detroit, where 5,000 people mobbed the Cadillac employment office one day after word got out that the company was taking applications.

Although the Ford administration's economic policies have done nothing to provide relief for the millions of people officially recognized as unemployed, the roots of this crisis run much deeper than the policies of one capitalist politician or another.

All the other capitalist countries, such as England, France, Japan, Italy, are experiencing the same economic stagnation. Could the governments of all these countries have made the same policy mistakes at the same time?

No. The world-wide system of capitalism has always gone through cycles of boom and bust. Controlling the money supply and other devices the government uses to manipulate the economy only puts off, but can't stop, the inevitable crisis. Neither Ford, Carter, nor any other servant of big business can change this fact.

Inside: Wholesale Price Index up again, meaning higher consumer prices will soon follow. And government report links suicide, murder, and disease to unemployment. See p. 6.

FREE PUERTO RICO



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A NIGHT OF
SOLIDARITY WITH
THE STRUGGLE IN
SOUTH AFRICA



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workers world

weekly newspaper

Editor: Deirdre Griswold
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Published by:
World View Publishers, Inc.
46 W. 21 St.
New York, N.Y. 10010
Editorial office: 212-675-2555
Business office: 212-255-0352
Published weekly, except for the first week of August and September.
Closing news date: Nov. 10, 1976
Subscriptions: one year, \$7.00; 6 months, \$3.50. Please address requests for bundles to World View. Make checks payable to World View Publishers.
Second Class Postage paid at N.Y., N.Y.

workers world

weekly newspaper

NAME _____
STREET _____
CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____

Please make checks payable to:
WORLD VIEW PUBLISHERS
46 West 21 Street, New York, N.Y. 10010

THE STRUGGLE IN BRIEF

Wisconsin machinists on strike for more than a year

By D. PRYZBYLA
MILWAUKEE, Nov. 8—Machinists at the Giddings & Lewis plant in the small city of Fond du Lac, Wis., have been out on strike for over a year now.

"No, we didn't think it would last this long," said Tom Deer, president of Machinists Local 1402. "Hell, we were just trying to keep what we had in our last contract."

All 650 members of Local 1402 walked out in October 1975. Since then, only one member has crossed the line. But the company has held fast to a proposal for workers to increase productivity or face the possibility of being disciplined or fired.

"There was no way that our members would accept something like that," Deer said.

About 100 scab workers have replaced the strikers. But no new machines have been shipped out.

Giddings & Lewis workers make large machine tool products, and the company at one time was considered the largest builder of horizontal boring, drilling, and milling machines. "The only machines that came out of here are the ones they sold right off the floor—the ones we operated," said one of the picketing workers.

The bitterness of the struggle and the probability that the scab workers would eventually vote to decertify Local 1402, formed in 1937, have left the pickets disgusted.

"This isn't any place where you had a large turnover of workers," one striker angrily told Workers World while walking the picket line. "I've put in 25 damn hard years and so have the rest of the people."

Another machinist on the line commented, "Our worst battles at the beginning of this strike were right here on this sidewalk—against the police! They hauled in cops from all over the county to

break us."

A woman joined the picket and commented, "You work all your life for this company, and what happens? The people in the office would stick their fat faces in the window and laugh at us."

She looked up at the windows, now boarded up. Half of them had been shattered by furious strikers after police attacked the line and clubbed a picket.

WAR PROFITEER

Fond du Lac is a community of 35,000 people about 60 miles north of Milwaukee. The Giddings & Lewis company dates back to 1859. The owners, who profited off war contracts during the Spanish-American War of U.S. expansion in 1898, cashed in again with World War II.

The company received an Army ordnance contract for emergency plant facilities in November 1940. That emergency plant included separate heating and power equipment, separate railroad side loading, special reinforced flooring, 10- and 20-ton overhead traveling cranes—a total self-contained unit. During this period the company was making machinery being traded to racist South Africa. It now has plants in Scotland and West Germany.

G&L, in its present war against the union, has uprooted the lives of just about every family in this small community. Some strikers have had to leave the area and find work elsewhere. But their industrial relations expert says only, "We are certainly looking forward to a profitable 1977."

The workers now facing a hard winter think otherwise. And they are getting help from union brothers and sisters.

Machinists Local 1947 at the neighboring Mercury Marine plant has contributed thousands of dollars to the striking membership when strike money was running low. Individuals have contributed weekly donations to the union. And people in the area as well as other unions have donated food and clothing.

The strikers at G&L are sticking it out.



WW Photo

Center for United Labor Action pickets the United Virginia Bank, sixth largest VEPCO stockholder, to protest the utility company's request for its eighth rate increase in five years.

CULA charges Virginia Electric and Power Company with murder

By JESSE LEE

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 31—"You've pushed us into a corner," charged Theola Johnson, a community organizer with the Center for United Labor Action (CULA), a community labor organization. She warned the Virginia Electric and Power Co. (VEPCO) and the State Corporation Commission (SCC), "When you push people into a corner, they are going to have to come out swinging."

Mrs. Johnson made her statement at SCC hearings here, which began on Oct. 18. These hearings are a sham. SCC claims its purpose was to air publicly VEPCO's request for its eighth rate increase in five years. However, a week before the hearings began, the SCC gave in to most of VEPCO's demands. Only intervention from CULA stopped the SCC from formally legalizing this agreement.

CULA has carried on a widely supported campaign against the "high-rate robbery," a campaign that has made "Say No to VEPCO" household words. A CULA bumper sticker bearing the same slogan is more popular here than any of the presidential candidates' stickers.

John Lewis delivered a statement from CULA saying,

"Last spring two Black children died in a fire that was caused by a tipped-over candle. VEPCO had cut off the family's electricity because they were unable to pay the extortionate rates." He demanded VEPCO be indicted for murder.

CULA also demanded that all utility cut-offs be ended. This organization explained that 26 percent of the families in Virginia cannot afford the present VEPCO rates. In the first eight months of this year eight percent of VEPCO's customers had their utilities cut off.

VEPCO's only response to these charges and the prospect of poor people freezing this winter was a callous press statement refusing to take responsibility for the deaths caused by cut-offs.

NUCLEAR SHAM EXPOSED

VEPCO is one of the nation's largest developers of nuclear power plants. At the SCC hearings CULA attorney Ida Outlaw forced VEPCO's vice president to withdraw his testimony that VEPCO is saving people money by using nuclear power. CULA researchers Bob Mayes and Richard Watkins proved this company's claim that nuclear fuel is the least expensive to be a hoax.

DECLINE AND FALL

100 years—and no change here

Scientific American, September, 1876

"In New York, in Philadelphia, in Newark and in many other of the large populous centers, the abnormal spectacle is now being witnessed of working men standing together and marching in procession to demand of the authorities an opportunity to earn an honest living. It is impossible not to feel the greatest commiseration and concern for men reduced to this predicament. On the other hand, the working men have nothing to gain by closing their eyes to the truth, namely that the terrible financial stress of the past three years has affected everyone. It seems to us that the only sensible course at hand is for the men to bear their misfortune patiently and to be content with any wages that will afford support."

The rich still think the same, but a few socialist revolutions around the globe have taught them not to say it so loud.

How to hide your billions

Fortune Magazine, Nov. 1976.

"H.L. Hunt publicly admitted to being a billionaire.... But the will filed for probate in Dallas on Dec. 3, 1974, put the value of his estate at the less-than-tycoonish sum of \$56. There is no doubt that this figure reflected mainly his lawyers' skill in avoiding death duties."

No excursion tickets to heaven

Associated Press, Oct. 3

"The Pallotine Fathers have been cleared of accusations they ignored requests for prayer dedications when the requests contained less than \$10, the archbishop of Baltimore says.

"Archbishop William D. Borders said yesterday he was 'personally satisfied' the charges were untrue. He ordered an inquiry after former Pallotine employees contended they personally discarded prayer and mass requests accompanied by less than \$10."

Always out of workers' wages

Oregon Times Magazine, Sept. 1976 received the following letter

"Is it true that an expensive naval vessel built in 1972 by the Lockheed Corporation is in the Swan Island shipyard for \$8-10 million worth of repair work already? Am I really paying for this?"

The answer was "Painful but true. It's the USS Stein, a fast frigate that was indeed built by Lockheed in 1972. According to the Navy, the Stein's electronics, which in the last four years have become obsolete, are being replaced with new equipment. The Stein is also being modernized with the addition of a 'CHT' (Collection Holding Tank) a floating sewer system that purifies the ship's waste before dumping it at sea. You are paying for it alright—but only about \$6 million."

Demonstrations in NYC and San Francisco to demand

Free Puerto Rico! Free the Five Nationalists!

By PRESTON WOOD

NEW YORK, Nov. 8—Large numbers of demonstrators will be coming into the streets here and in San Francisco on Saturday, Nov. 13, to demand the immediate release of the Five Puerto Rican Nationalist Prisoners, and to demand freedom for Puerto Rico. Demonstrations in San Francisco and at the United Nations in New York City, sponsored by the National Coordinating Committee to Free the Five, will mark yet another important event in the campaign to free the Five.

The Five Nationalist Prisoners, because of their heroic actions in the struggle to free Puerto Rico, and because of their long imprisonment in the U.S., are symbols of the fight for independence.

THE 1950 UPRISING

As members of the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico, the Five brought world-wide attention to the brutality of U.S. aggression against Puerto Rico and to the ruthless exploitation of Puerto Rico by giant U.S. corporations.

In 1950 Washington sent the FBI, the National Guard, and police units to the island to crush an armed uprising in Jayuya. This heroic uprising, led by the Nationalist Party and Nationalist leader Albizu Campos, was marked by the declaration of the second Republic of Puerto Rico and included armed actions against targets associated with U.S. colonial rule.

Over 4,000 National Guard troops and four pursuit planes were mobilized against the 300 Nationalists, who nevertheless fought valiantly for several days as the uprising spread to other towns.

In the aftermath, thousands of Nationalists and their supporters were arrested. Albizu Campos was arrested and sentenced to 56 years in prison.

In response, on Nov. 2, Oscar Collazo and Griselio Torresola mounted an armed attack on Blair House, the temporary White House and Washington residence of President Truman, to focus international attention on U.S. aggression against Puerto Rico and its people and on the violent repression of the Nationalist movement. In the armed fight at Blair House, Torresola was killed. Collazo, seriously wounded, was arrested and sentenced to the electric chair. Later, under worldwide pressure, the court was forced to change his sentence to life imprisonment.

On March 1, 1954, the Nationalist Party took yet another heroic step in their fight for independence. It was at that time that the U.S.

Congress had officially enacted legislation which would distort Puerto Rico's real colonial status in relation to the U.S., and declare that questions regarding Puerto Rico were "internal affairs" of the U.S.

To counter U.S. propaganda against the Puerto Rican struggle for independence, four members of the Nationalist Party entered Congress. Carrying Puerto Rican flags and shouting "Viva Puerto Rico libre!", their gunfire brought the cause of independence before the entire world.

For these heroic acts, the Five Nationalist Prisoners have remained in U.S. prisons for more than two and a half decades, thousands of miles from their homeland, and suffering the notorious brutality of the U.S.

prison system. The demand for their freedom has reached every corner of the world. Lolita Lebron, Oscar Collazo, Andres Figueroa Cordero, Irvin Flores, and Rafael Cancel Miranda—the longest-held political prisoners in the Western Hemisphere—symbolize the cause of world-wide resistance to U.S. imperialism.

In describing the heroic actions of the Five, Mirta Rodriguez, member of the Committee to Free the Five and leading organizer of the Nov. 13 demonstrations, talked of the courage and dedication of the Nationalist Prisoners. The attack on Blair House and on Congress were necessary, she explained, because the orders to crush the Nationalist uprising came directly from Washington. To fight for independence for

Puerto Rico means to fight against U.S. imperialism. It is the same struggle in Thailand, in Panama, and around the world.

In a message from prison last April, Rafael Cancel Miranda said that "the enemy of our cause is the ruling class of the U.S. . . . Our enemy is the same enemy of the people of the U.S. It is imperialism in its different forms."

Because the same U.S. capitalist ruling class which has imprisoned the Five exploits the working and poor people here in the heart of U.S. imperialism, the campaign to free the Five must continue to grow. The demonstrations in New York, San Francisco, and other cities will clearly show the bosses in Washington and Wall Street that solidarity with the Five Nationalist Prisoners is growing, as is the

struggle for independence and freedom for Puerto Rico.

The Five Nationalists are symbols of courage and dedication for all those who struggle against the brutality of U.S. imperialism. On Saturday, Nov. 13, the cry will be loud and clear: "Free the Five Nationalist Prisoners! Free Puerto Rico, right now!"

In New York City, the march will assemble at noon at Union Square and 14th Street, and will march to the United Nations for a rally. For more information, contact the National Coordinating Committee to Free the Five, telephone (212) 243-6412.

For information on the participation of Youth Against War & Fascism, contact the YAWF branch office nearest you or phone (212) 255-0352.

Pickets at UN protest occupation

Indonesia out of East Timor!

By SHARON AYLING

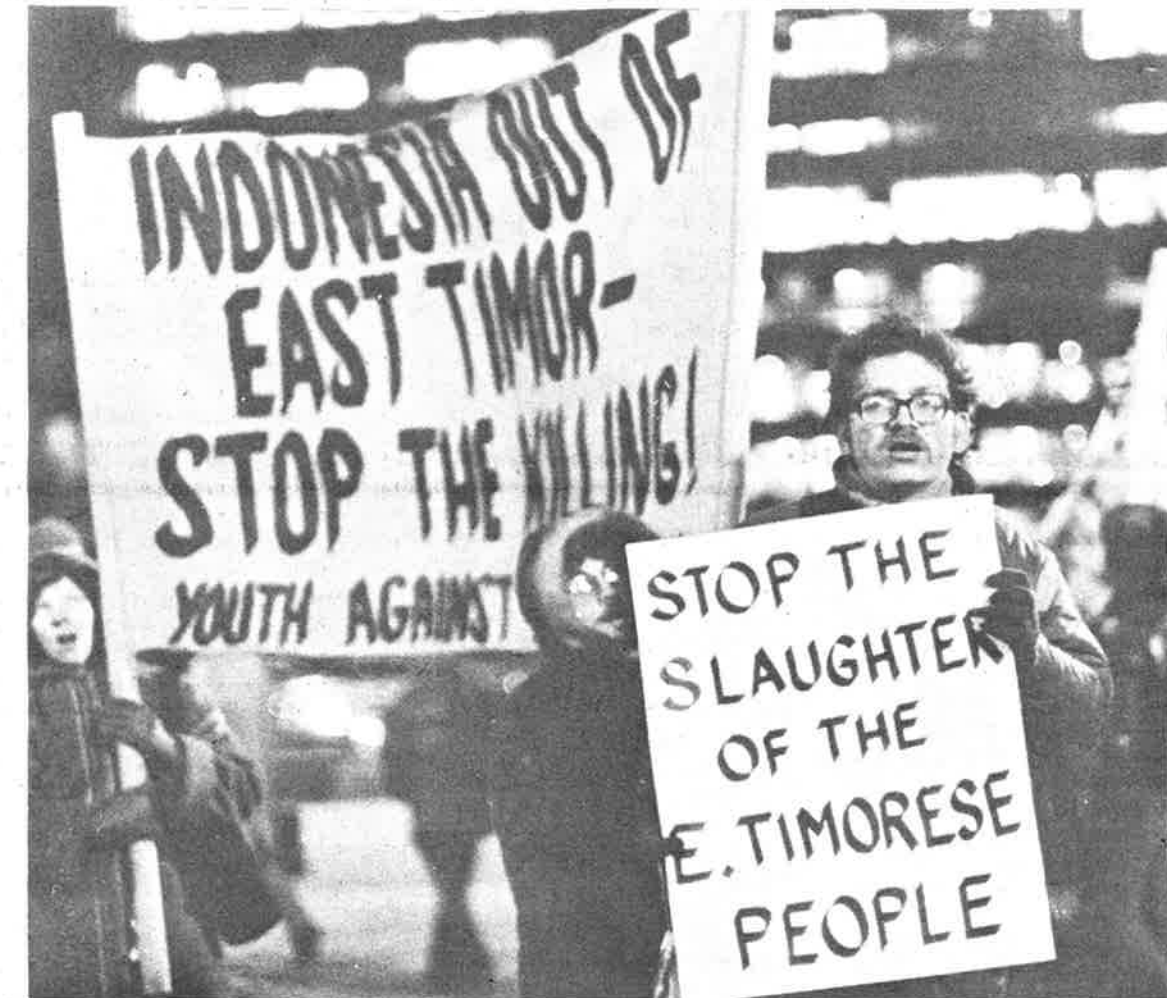
NEW YORK, Nov. 8—The United Nations was the scene of a demonstration today in support of the year-long liberation struggle in East Timor. The 75 participants demanded the removal of the 40,000 Indonesian troops occupying this small Southeast Asian nation and called for an end to U.S. aid to Indonesia, which is the main support propping up the fascist regime.

The picket line, called by the East Timor Defense Committee, also expressed solidarity with Fretilin (the Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor), the movement which led the struggle against Portuguese colonialism and which now leads the struggle against Indonesia's annexation attempts.

This week, Fretilin addressed the United Nations General Assembly calling for the implementation of its resolution demanding the removal of all Indonesian troops from East Timor.

ONE YEAR OF HEROIC RESISTANCE

On Nov. 28, 1975, the people of East Timor declared their independence from Portugal and established the Democratic Republic of East Timor. Fretilin had already begun establishing literacy programs and health care centers, organizing the terribly oppressed people of East Timor to control their own lives. The military junta in Indonesia, claiming they "would never allow East Timor to become Indonesia's



In front of the United Nations, where representatives of the Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor [Fretilin] were addressing the General Assembly, demonstrators express their solidarity with the East Timorese people and their opposition to the U.S.-Indonesian invasion.

WW Photo: Paddy Colligan

Cuba," immediately invaded. Although tens of thousands of civilians have been massacred, the East Timorese people are heroically resisting this invasion.

Mari Alkatiri, Minister of State for Political Affairs of East Timor, stated to the UN General Assembly on Nov. 2 that "after the wars of liberation of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, the conflict in East Timor is the major war going on at this moment in Southeast Asia, involving 45,000 Indonesian regular troops and the Liberation Armed Forces of East Timor made up of a regular army and the people's militias. . . . At this moment, the Indonesian forces control less territory than last February. Fretilin presently controls some 85 percent of the country."

U.S. INVOLVEMENT AGAIN EXPOSED

Alkatiri went on to explain U.S. involvement in this war. "In August, 1976 the role of the


American government in the East Timor issue was clarified when the United States warned Australia against antagonizing Indonesia because of American interest in maintaining access to the Ombae-Wetaer Straits that form part of the territorial waters of the Democratic Republic of East Timor for the underwater passage of their SSBN nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines that roam the waters. American complicity in the invasion of East Timor was verified by the international press on Sept. 20, 1976, when it was revealed that the Americans had just delivered the first three of 16 Vought A-7 Corsair jets to Indonesia, and a similar number of 16 propeller-driven Rockwell OV-10 Broncos, both planes eminently suitable for ground attack on East Timorese terrain and the dropping of napalm as in Vietnam.

"It should be noted that President Ford and Henry

Kissinger were in Jakarta conferring about 'imperialist stability' in post-Vietnam Southeast Asia. In the meantime, Indonesian armed forces, equipped with U.S. warships, helicopters, and tanks invaded East Timor."

Virtually all the weapons used against the East Timorese people are supplied by the U.S. The Indonesian regime itself is the creation of a CIA-sponsored coup in 1965, designed to protect the interests of the U.S. multi-national corporations in Indonesia. A million Indonesians were killed by the junta after the coup, and there are still 100,000 political prisoners.

Today's demonstration closed with a short rally. A speaker from the defense committee called for further actions in the U.S. to support Fretilin, and expressed confidence that the heroic liberation struggle of the East Timorese people will triumph over the U.S.-sponsored Indonesian invasion.



EAST TIMOR:

The Hidden War

by Richard W. Franke

By Richard W. Franke
\$1.00

Order through the East Timor Defense Committee, 166 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10010

A new pamphlet describing the long resistance of the East Timorese people against Portuguese colonialism and their struggle today against Indonesian domination.

Neighbors support victimized families

Buildings in Brooklyn burned out by racists



Tenant of a building burned out by racists examines wreckage: "How can they hate us that much? That was all we had." WW Photos: Anthony

By ANNE DENNIS

NEW YORK, Nov. 6—Last August, an apartment building at 656 Carroll Street in Brooklyn was firebombed. On Monday, 656 Carroll Street was gutted by fire along with the house next to it. These buildings were the only ones on the block entirely inhabited by Black families, and one of them was the only building owned by a Black person.

At the time of the bombing last summer, an all-white "social club," i.e., fascist club, took credit for the firebombing and vowed that the next time it would burn the building to the ground. It carried out that threat.

When the fire was extinguished and the damage all tolled the building and the one next to it were gutted. Families crowded the streets, many weeping, watching everything they had go up in smoke.

"THAT WAS ALL WE HAD"

One woman told this reporter on the scene, "I can't believe it. How can they hate us that much? That was all we had." She was the mother of seven children, and, as she spoke, was shivering in the cold using a child's coat which someone had given her to cover her shoulders. She stared at what was left of the burned-out building and refused to leave the site of her burning home.

One mother had to accompany her six-year-old child to the hospital, because glass had shattered in his face.

How could such a thing happen? Why didn't the police arrest anyone the first time? The social club openly admitted that its members had bombed the house. Why aren't they in jail?

The answer is simple. The police do not often arrest racists for their attacks on Black people. When a young man was beaten to death by a racist mob in Washington Square Park here last summer, no one was charged with murder and the attackers were even projected as good kids just trying to "clean up" the park. In Boston, when racists attacked Black people in their homes, only Blacks were arrested for daring to defend themselves. The racists on Carroll Street



room free. Free to terrorize not only the Black residents of the area, but also to terrorize the white anti-racists there. However, many white residents of Carroll Street joined their Black neighbors in visible anger and showed sympathy toward the families who had lived in what was by then just a gutted shell.

MANY RESIDENTS ANGRY

Their anger was a step in the right direction. Racism hurts not only Black, Latin, and other oppressed people against whom it is directed, but also all working people. When racists are allowed to roam the streets and terrorize people, the working class is divided and many live in fear. But racist organizers can be forced to back down, and Black and white anti-racists can start to draw together into a viable force that will eventually end racism forever.

Freedom Ride to Marquette Park, 1976

Demonstrators defy police, racists

By JOHN LOMBARDO

CHICAGO, Oct. 30—Over six hard months of organizing marches for open housing have pitted the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Coalition against the most vicious forces of racism in the city of Chicago. From the Daley administration and the cops to the Nazis and the Klan, every attempt has been made to stop the Coalition's marches into Marquette Park, where the right of Black people to live has been most seriously challenged.

COALITION RALLIES IN PARK

Stopped at every turn and facing mounting harassment from police, the Coalition leadership proposed a Freedom Ride with the object of reaching Marquette Park. Rev. A.I. Dunlap, one of the leaders of the Coalition, said, "I just want to touch the soil of Marquette Park, even if it means that just a handful of us go over there by car or bus and hold a rally."

No one knew for sure if it would work or what dangers might be in store. But today, the Coalition decorated a yellow school bus with long banners on both sides proclaiming "Freedom Ride to Marquette Park, 1976." Wood signs mounted on two-by-fours were hauled into the bus, and the Coalition members embarked.

Followed by the press and by plainclothes police, the Freedom Bus wound through the South Side, picking up some people along the way. Spirited songs could be heard from those inside the bus as it slowly worked its way west.

In order to keep the police off guard, the bus passed by Marquette Park without stopping. Then, as it came by the Park again, it suddenly halted, and Coalition members hurried out carrying signs and two large green banners.

After so many months of being unable to exercise their right to assemble in Marquette Park, Black and white together "touched the soil" in a spirited demonstration that marched around the area of the park that was supposed

to be "off limits" to Black people.

DETERMINATION AND COURAGE

Sheer determination and courage brought off today's Freedom Ride and demonstration. That something so elementary as a handful of Black and white people gathering together in a city park would have to be organized almost as a guerrilla-type action and that it required so much effort against so many odds proves how necessary it is for the anti-racist forces to unite and mobilize.

Only one Coalition march had actually made it into Marquette Park, and that was on July 17 after a federal court suit (which badly depleted the Coalition's financial resources) forced the city of Chicago to grant a parade permit to the group.

However, far from protecting the civil rights of the freedom marchers, city officials and police allowed a racist mob of over 2,000 to stockpile rocks, bottles, bricks, and chunks of pavement and then brutally assault the 150 heroic women and men who were demonstrating against racism. In fact, police (many of whom live in the Marquette Park area) were in the crowd and themselves throwing rocks! It was only because one of them was accidentally arrested that police collaboration with the attackers was briefly exposed.

COURTS AND RACISTS WORK HAND-IN-HAND

The courts have not since that day interceded on behalf of the King Movement Coalition, even though the city had illegally denied further requests for parade permits. The last court hearing in August upheld the city's refusal to grant a parade permit to the Coalition on the grounds that another "event" was taking place in the park.

RACIST RAMPAGE

That Aug. 21, while the cops stopped the Coalition from marching past the tracks that mark the dividing line, the racists went on a

rampage. Several hundred racists, many wearing "white power" t-shirts, marched to the border between the Black and white neighborhoods and terrorized the few Black families that have dared to move west of that border.

One Black man who shot over the heads of the racists to protect himself and his home was arrested. The charges against him were recently dropped, but no charges were lodged against any of the stormtroopers who marched for racist terror that Saturday.

Today's freedom ride was by no means the King Movement Coalition's final action, but it was a milestone. The King Movement leaders accomplished what they had originally set out to do and all the forces of racism in the city of Chicago couldn't stop them and their supporters.

Take Chicago family's belongings

Cops invade Black home

HARVEY, Ill., Oct. 31—On Friday, Oct. 15, police in this Chicago suburb broke into a home and harassed three young men living there in an attack branded by the NAACP as racist.

Saying they were investigating a burglary, five police officers led by Sergeant Bruce Terry invaded the home of the Burks family in the Black community here. They handcuffed 15-year-old Dennis Burks and in the process of "searching" him stole \$10 from his pockets. When Dennis' two older brothers, Larry and Jay, came home they asked what was going on, Sergeant Terry replied, "This is my house, I'm taking over." Without any sort of warrant or permission, the police led strangers through the house on a "search for stolen property," and the police started to remove the family's personal belongings.

Among items taken were a citizens' band radio, phonographs, tapes, televisions, a wristwatch,

and \$709 in cash (in addition to the money that had been stolen from Dennis).

No charges were lodged against Dennis or Larry, but Jay Burks was arrested for disorderly conduct, taken into custody, and beaten by Sergeant Terry. He is still under a doctor's care for abdominal injuries from the beating.

When a Black policeman, Sylvester Jones, who witnessed the beating, protested, Terry challenged him to do something about it. Jones, a member of the Harvey Afro-American Patrolmen's League, responded by reporting the assault to Police Chief Lower, Mayor Haines, the Harvey Civil Service Commission, and the Cook County States Attorney. A few days later, Jones got a letter in an official police department envelope saying, "Butt out, n---, or this is all that will be left of you." Along with the letter was a dead cockroach and

three strands of hair.

The Burkses are filing charges against Sergeant Terry and the police department with the FBI and the Justice Department. This is the second time in the last year their home has been broken into by police. In an earlier incident, a cop forced his way in at gunpoint.

In a similar occurrence, after much publicity and public outcry, two Chicago cops were found guilty of violating the civil rights of a Black man, Richard Leftridge, whom the cops had beaten so badly he lost his left eye.

These assaults on Black people by racist cops are common in Chicago, where less than ten years ago, Fred Hampton was murdered while sleeping by the Chicago Police Department, aided by the FBI. However, like the militants of the Chicago-based Martin Luther King, Jr., Movement and others, the Burks family and their supporters are determined to expose the racist brutality of Sergeant Terry and the rest of the force.

It's people vs. profits as

Banks launch new attack on NYC

By F. GOLDSTEIN

NEW YORK, Oct. 9—Now that the election is over, the Emergency Financial Control Board has opened up a new attack on the people of New York City. The EFCB is a bankers' committee, including the governor, which has absolute veto power over all financial matters in New York State. New, deep cuts in hospital care, schools and school integration, transit service, and other social services have been demanded by the financial dictators on the board. The amount to be cut back is \$500 million and the cuts have to be submitted to the bankers' committee by Jan. 1, 1977.

Mayor Abraham Beame and Governor Hugh Carey campaigned hard during the election for Carter. They told the people that things would get better if Carter was in. The poor, the sick, the unemployed, the unions were supposed to forget about demonstrations, rallies, sit-ins, and strikes. Just press down the lever in the ballot box for a better life. What the all-too-willing tools of the bankers did not say was that the EFCB was just waiting for the elections to be over to launch this new attack regardless of who won.

The day after his man was safely elected Beame told a Gracie Mansion press conference that "We're not going to let up at all in any way with what we have to do," but he made a passing reference to "friends in Washington."

Friends or no friends, the next day Beame made another move against health care. According to the New York Times of Nov. 4, "Mayor Beame took financial control of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC) yesterday in an effort to force it to carry out . . . deep budget cuts and financial economies . . . This tough position was urged upon him by his top fiscal and political advisers and by the EFCB."

Beame and the banks are aiming for a \$100 to \$150 million cut in the HHC budget, affecting the only facilities for the poor in the city. This is a 10 percent cut on top of previous cuts. The HHC has already lost 3,000 hospital beds and suffered 6,800 layoffs of workers (20 percent of the work force). This "decisive fiscal action" by Beame, stated the Times, "will saddle him with the responsibility for the layoffs of workers and service cuts" demanded by the profit-hungry bondholders.

BEAME'S "BLOODLESS COUP"

Beame's takeover of the finances of the HHC was illegal. It is an independent organization according to its charter. The EFCB had been urging Beame to intervene against Dr. John Holloman, the Corporation director, who has been mobilizing public support against the new cuts. (Stephen Berger, head of the EFCB, has been trying to have Dr. Holloman fired.) Up until the day after the election, Beame had correctly maintained that he was forbidden by law from intervening to cut the budget. But on Nov. 3 after a private meeting with his banker-advisers, he called in the members of the Corporation's board and set up a new financial control committee. His three top financial aides were put on the committee to overrule Holloman, and the committee was summarily told to "revise the budget" in line with EFCB demands. One board member called it "a bloodless

coup" by Beame.

On the same day the Carey administration launched a similar attack on the State Commissioner of Education, Edward S. Nyquist. Nyquist, who has been commissioner since 1965, has been holding out against budget cuts and racist rulings against busing and school integration coming from the

EFCB and Albany.

Carey's deputy, Commerce Commissioner John Dyson, publicly charged Nyquist with acting "like a king" for his defiance of their demand for budget cuts. Shortly thereafter, the Chancellor of the Board caucused by telephone and in small meetings with the 15 members of the Board

of Regents who have power to hire and fire the Commissioner and who are appointed by the state legislature. The Chancellor got 10 of the 15 to agree to tell Nyquist to quit or be fired. The reason? "He is out of whack with the times," said one member who refused to be identified. "His answer to budget

cuts is to ask for more money." In other words, Nyquist thinks that the layoffs of 20,000 teachers is enough!

Even more important, the source told the Times on Nov. 4 that "the Commissioner's problems with the Board stem largely from the fact

(Continued on p. 6)



Hospital workers demonstrate against cutbacks last June, but now NYC rulers want to take away another \$100 to \$150 million from the health care budget.

Black woman prisoner latest victim

Forced sterilization at King's County Hospital

By JUDY GREENSPAN

NEW YORK, Oct. 30—The racist hospital administration committed another atrocity against the poor and working women of this city when Rosalind Johnson, then a prisoner at Rikers Island, was sterilized without her consent at Kings County Hospital this past April.

Johnson, a Black mother of one child, has filed a suit for \$11 million against the City of New York because she is now permanently unable to bear any more children.

The sterilization of Rosalind Johnson was carried out in direct defiance of this city's Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC) guidelines on sterilization. The guidelines were specifically set up to prevent this form of abuse that has been specifically directed against poor women, especially Black, Latin, and Asian women.

FORCED STERILIZATION

Last April, Johnson was brought from Rikers Island prison to Kings County Hospital for a saline abortion. While under the stress of having an abortion, the woman prisoner was asked by the racist hospital staff if she wanted any more babies "now." Johnson responded that of course she did not want any more babies right away.

The Black woman was told by a member of the Kings County staff that her tubes could be tied and that the operation could be reversed "when you become a good girl." Johnson, confused and frightened, consented to the operation, not being told the permanent nature of the sterilization procedure.

RACIST GENOCIDE

A spokesperson for the Kings County Coalition to Save the City Hospitals, a group of workers at Kings County, said, "We are

outraged at the forced sterilization of Rosalind Johnson, an action that is nothing short of a continuation of this city's policy of racist genocide against poor and working women." The Kings County Coalition has been actively trying to force the hospital administration to follow the HHC sterilization guidelines.

The guidelines were originally set up to insure that women would not be railroaded by racist doctors and hospital administrators into unwanted sterilizations. The regulations were instituted by a reluctant HHC only after a massive struggle by city workers and community groups to end sterilization abuse.

The Kings County Hospital administration violated the most fundamental rule of the guidelines, that consent for sterilization may not be obtained under times of stress such as childbirth or abortion.

DOCTORS OPPOSE GUIDELINES

New York City Professors of Obstetrics and Gynecology (OBGYN) have issued a legal challenge against the HHC's progressive guidelines on sterilizations. The doctors, who claim that "their freedom of speech" is being violated, have filed suit against the city.

Rosalind Johnson has also filed suit against the city for its racist policy of sterilization abuse, in violation of the HHC guidelines. Johnson is suing the city for \$11 million for being permanently sterilized against her will.

The 20-year-old Black woman also plans to intervene legally on the side of the HHC in the racist doctors' suit. However, she has no illusions as to the good intentions of the Health and Hospitals Corporation, which has a long history of racism. She fears, in fact, that the HHC will intentionally lose the

suit to the racist doctors.

The working and oppressed people of this city have fought hard for the present guidelines. But, given the example of the sterilization of Rosalind Johnson, the regulations are not enough. "Regulations alone will never stop sterilization abuse," said a member of the Kings County Coalition. "We who work in the city hospitals must understand and enforce the guidelines," she stressed.

Special schools for pregnant students threatened by cuts

By DIANE MONTE

NEW YORK, Nov. 8—Students are among the many who daily feel the increasing hardships inflicted on them as a result of the economic crunch.

One group struggling for their right to a fair and decent education are pregnant students. About ten years ago, several special schools were established in the Metropolitan area enabling pregnant students to attend classes during their pregnancies. The purpose of these schools was to encourage pregnant teenagers to continue their education so that they could graduate or return to their regular schools at the end of the pregnancies. The special schools also provided medical and emotional help as well as guidance in child care, nutrition, and family planning. These special schools have been an alternative to their regular schools where they might have been made to feel uncomfortable, making it impossible for them to concentrate on their school work.

One of these schools struggling for survival is the Martha Neilson School in the Bronx. Strong

Meadow, Long Island.

The municipal hospital system is ill-equipped to handle the 50,000 burn cases that occur yearly in the city. There are only 37 burn unit beds in the three boroughs of Manhattan, Bronx, and Brooklyn (with a combined population of over 5½ million). All have been reported to have suffered staff cuts to half their original strength.

Because of the closing of some fire houses plus layoffs of firefighters, the trucks could not respond to the alarm until the fire was out of control. Engine companies have had to expand their areas of coverage—companies from Brooklyn are dispatched to fires in the Bronx and vice versa.

The response of the bourgeois politicians in this city has been to launch an inspection campaign of similar recreation halls that threatens to further harass oppressed people and close down their few places of recreation, rather than make the landlords renovate the rundown buildings in which they are located.

None of the city officials has even mentioned the need for safe, attractive cultural and recreation centers paid for out of the people's tax money. Instead, the inadequate centers already in existence have had their programs curtailed or have even been closed.

All doors must be opened to and for the people—the hospitals, adequate centers, the fire houses, and emergency escape doors—so that the people will not be deprived of their right to life and recreation.

community support has led to the formation of a coalition, Friends of Schools for Pregnant Girls, which is presently conducting a letter-writing campaign to gain continued support for its struggle to keep these schools open. The student body at this school, like other schools which have been under severe attack recently, is predominantly Black and Latin. The threatened closing is another racist attempt by the Board of Education to deny students a right to an education, thereby channeling them into a demoralizing welfare system.

Since 1968 these schools have had a total of 15,027 pregnant students attending with approximately 9,467 graduating or transferring back to their regular schools, with several hundred graduating from the special schools themselves.

In the last eight years, out of 13,524 students (90 percent of 15,027) who were on welfare when they entered, 8,115 (60 percent) either have already or will be able to find work and go off welfare.

These statistics show clearly how important it is that these young women be given support enabling them to finish school.

Layoffs, service cutbacks in Philadelphia

Marchers demand better transit system



Philadelphians take to the streets to dramatize their opposition to severe cutbacks in mass transit in that city. WW Photo

ECONOMIC NOTES

Poverty-related deaths

A sick economy makes sick people

The depression of the 70s has brought disease, self-destruction, and death to thousands of people in the United States.

A study made by the Joint Economic Committee of Congress, covering the years between 1970 and 1975, says that unemployment is directly responsible for an increase in murder, suicide, and deaths due to stress-related diseases.

At least 26,999 deaths from stroke, kidney disease, heart ailments and at least 1,500 suicides during that five-year period can all be traced back directly to the increase in unemployment.

These shocking facts give new and unanswerable proof of the Marxist proposition that social ills are ultimately caused by economic ills.

They refute the half-baked theories put forth by many modern sociologists who try to come up with new reasons for crime, death, and suicide—reasons that take the blame away from a decaying socio-economic system and lay it on the faults of individuals.

Permissive parents, uninspired school teachers, incompetent doctors, corrupt community leaders were all present in 1970. There weren't that many more of them in 1975.

But what was around in 1975 was the phenomenon of millions more Americans who couldn't afford decent food or decent health care, so that 26,000 more died needlessly of stress diseases than five years earlier.

What was around in 1975 was increasing despondency, so that 1,500 more took their own lives than five years earlier.

What was around in 1975 (as in 1970, too) was two million more living in extreme poverty. Of those, 1,700 more than in 1970 were driven to murder by anger, fear, and despair.

More inflation ahead

Wholesale price index up again

NEW YORK, Nov. 7—All indications are that the "new" U.S. president, Jimmy Carter (same old ruling class, though), will be inaugurated next January in the midst of another big recession. An indicator that took a beating last month was the Wholesale Price Index which rose six-tenths of one percent. This was the second such high increase in a row—in September, the index rose one percent, the largest monthly increase in a year.

The Wholesale Price Index is usually the

forerunner to inflationary trends, as consumer price increases usually lag behind wholesale price increases. This explains why most food prices are currently rising more slowly, but the effects of the sharp rise in the Wholesale Price Index will be felt by consumers over the next two months. U.S. Commerce Department economists reported that the September and October jumps in the index will translate into a 12 percent annualized rate of inflation.

Already the transition administration of president-elect Carter is very worried over the plummeting economy, and it has every right to be—since from the beginning of his campaign, Carter never really held a solution for the plight of the oppressed, poor, and unemployed throughout the country.

Nobel Prize in 'economics'

Milton Friedman—friend of the ruling class

What kind of person would advocate doing away with unemployment insurance benefits as a way of ending unemployment, abolishing public schools, social security, and government testing of new drugs?

Sounds like the ravings of an ultra-right businessman after his fifth martini, right?

No, this is the thinking of a great scientist and brilliant economist, according to the opinion of the capitalist rulers of the U.S. and Western Europe. To show how highly regarded by the ruling class are the vicious, anti-working class theories of this "scientist," Milton Friedman, he was given their highest honor, the Nobel Prize for economics on Oct. 15.

Friedman has earned this honor for his long and tireless work in advising such notables as Barry Goldwater during his unsuccessful 1964 Presidential campaign, serving as economic advisor to the bloody Pinochet regime of Chile, and in working closely with the South African racist rulers. He was also a close associate and advisor to Nixon until breaking with Nixon over the question of wage and price controls (he was to the right of Nixon!) and has had influence over the economic policies of the Ford administration.

Friedman's belief in the ability of the capitalist market to solve all social problems is really nothing new: the bosses have been saying it for years. But the acceptance of Friedman's theories calling for ending all government restrictions on business reveals the true hostility the bosses have always had towards the hard-won benefits of the workers such as unemployment insurance and social security.

Nobel Prize or not, the ruling class is not going to convince the millions of poor and working people who depend on unemployment or social security benefits that abolishing their only source of income is in their own interests.

By W. POWERS

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 30—The fight against cutbacks in this city's mass transit service took another step forward today with a successful six-mile march and rally here which drew almost 300 participants.

Called by the Coalition for Better Transportation in the City (CBTC), the purpose of the march was to broaden the support the coalition gained through an all-day blockade of two bus and trolley garages on Oct. 4 protesting the elimination of night service on 24 bus and trolley routes and the firing of over 300 transit workers earlier this year.

Marchers gathered today at the 26th and Allegheny Avenue depot, in the heart of a Black working class community and the site of two previous blockades. The protestors, led by the residents of this area who, in an earlier effort, prevented the elimination of the "48" bus route, marched to City Hall where a rally was held. Several transit workers in uniform also marched.

An organizer of the march noted, "All too often we have had to walk to our destinations because we couldn't get a bus when we needed one. Well, we are serving notice to SEPTA (Southeastern Pennsylvania Transit Authority) that if we must walk anywhere in the future it will be on our terms, not because we were forced to by cutbacks, layoffs, or high fares."

PASSERS-BY SUPPORT MARCH

On the way to the City Hall rally, the multinational march drew the enthusiastic support of many people standing on the street corners awaiting a bus or trolley. Black, white and Asian demonstrators chanted, "Need a bus, SEPTA don't care, all they want is a higher fare" and "Stop the SEPTA cutbacks, bring the drivers back." Several people joined the ranks of the marchers, reasoning that they might as well walk for better transit since there was no bus in sight to take them to their destinations.

At the City Hall rally speakers from CBTC, several transit workers, neighborhood groups, the clergy, a South Philly transit safety group, state legislator Dave Richardson, and others hammered away at the problems working people face because of the transit cuts. Major attacks were aimed at SEPTA's attempts to shift its financial problems into the pockets of daily riders through a proposed fifty cents fare despite a recent federal grant of \$240 million to the city to be used for transit improvements. The demonstrators opposed use of the federal money, which is their tax money, for an underground railroad tunnel which would only benefit downtown banks and businesses and demanded that it be used to improve working conditions for the drivers, improve vehicle safety, restore all service cuts, and rehire all laid-off workers.

A representative of the Afrikan Peoples Party, whose organization was the target of a recent FBI break-in here, gave a revealing speech on the attempts to derail the struggle through harassment and intimidation.

He said that the raid was "brought on because of our work in the SEPTA struggle."

BUS DRIVERS ADDRESS RALLY

Two bus drivers spoke about the conditions they face on the job. The

first speaker, a Black woman laid off this spring, told the audience that the condition of the vehicles on the street is so bad that they should be condemned. She said many of the buses are riding on bald tires. She also spoke about the reluctance many drivers feel about turning in a problem bus because they fear the dispatcher might send out something in worse shape. "Having had to turn in six buses in one night, we know from experience that people take their lives in their hands every time they ride a bus," she concluded.

The second driver, who is still employed, spoke about the extra work he and his co-workers must do because of the layoffs. He lambasted the company for putting the worst end of the cutbacks in the Black and poorer communities. He pointed out that while the leadership of the Transit Workers Union (TWU 234) was not at the rally, the membership fully supports the demands of the march.

The rally ended with a song entitled "The Workers Are Movin'" and the chant "We can beat the system."

—Banks' attack on NYC

(Continued from p. 5)

that he is too liberal, especially on such matters as racial integration and the use of busing" for the increasingly conservative Regents. The unidentified board member said that "a shootout at the O.K. Corral" had been inevitable and that there was going to be "a bloodbath" at the board in order to enforce the new cuts and the racist policy.

SLASHES IN TRANSIT

The bankers' post-electoral blitz also extends to the subway workers and the millions of New York's riders. The EFCB has repeatedly turned down the Transit Authority's budget on two grounds: they want over \$100 million in further cuts in the already dilapidated and inadequate subway service, and the board is demanding that the TA force the workers to work faster—i.e., "productivity gains." The TA, which is run by bondholders is afraid to provoke a riders' rebellion by raising the subway fare above 50 cents, so instead it has proposed the most drastic cuts in the history of the New York transportation system. Among them are an end of the half-fare program on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays; an end to 25-cent transfers; an end to bus routes that parallel subway lines; increase in after-midnight waiting time from 20 minutes to an hour; elimination of certain train runs (IND AA) and an end to all air-conditioned cars.

While all the Carter election promises are for the future, the bankers are on the offensive now. All working people and the poor cannot live on promises. Beame's hints about Carter's generosity are cancelled out by the meat-ax cuts that Beame himself is making. The only way the people can survive this new onslaught is to fight back now.

Workers World interviews pickets

Workers walk out despite Chrysler-UAW agreement

By a Chrysler auto worker
DETROIT, Nov. 9—Over 25,000 UAW Chrysler workers across the U.S. and Canada marched out on strike Friday, Nov. 5. The contract deadline for both the national and local contracts was set for 6 p.m. Friday. Six plants, including three in Canada and the giant Dodge main factory in Hamtramck, Mich., walked out during the day shift.

At one Windsor, Canada, plant all the workers left for lunch. They never came back.

The UAW and Chrysler representatives bargained right up to the deadline. Had a national strike against Chrysler been called, it would have been the first time the UAW struck a second Big Three company in a contract year since the early 1950s.

Just ten minutes before the deadline, the UAW leadership and Chrysler announced a partial, tentative agreement on the contract. There were no local agreements reached in 28 of the 69 Chrysler UAW locals, and many of

them indefinitely postponed the settlement deadline.

Chrysler workers were told minutes before the deadline about the agreement and that they must not walk out. But the rank and file ignored the last minute order and at Hamtramck Assembly, Chrysler Canada, Dodge Press, Sterling Stamping, Huber Foundry, Mack Avenue Stamping, Lynch Road Assembly, and other plants they walked out anyway.

Three plants—the Chelsea Proving Grounds, Trenton Engine

Plant, and the Brownstown Export Plant—continued the wildcat over the weekend. (See accompanying story for a special report on the Brownstown walkout.)

CHRYSLER PROFITS UP

A month ago, Chrysler announced profits of \$78 million for the first three quarters of this year, amounting to more profits in nine months than they had ever made before in a whole year. To celebrate, Chrysler top executives paid themselves a \$9 million bonus. Yet Chrysler refused to better the local plant conditions where the workers make all their profits for them.

When the auto industry laid off thousands of workers in 1974 and 1975, Chrysler workers were particularly hard hit. The Supplementary Unemployment Benefit (SUB) fund that paid 95 percent of their take-home pay ran dry after four months; many workers then ran out of unemployment compensation as well.

Chrysler scheduled its first layoff during the holidays so it wouldn't have to pay holiday pay, cheating workers out of \$6 million from the SUB fund. It also put

foremen into production jobs, costing thousands of union members their jobs. Job security has been a top contract issue.

Although the negotiations were secret, and there was no warning from the union that there might be a strike, rank-and-file members prepared for it as best they could.

One worker interviewed by Workers World called the Ford agreement "rotten."

"They said we would get 13 more days off, yet they take away five holidays. So they are really giving us only eight more days off. How's that going to get somebody a job?"

"And why should we have to pay for the pensions for retirees out of our cost-of-living? The company should pay that."

Another said bitterly, after looking over the small strike pay available, "Well, we Black people know how to survive with little or no money, anyway."

Although a tentative agreement has been reached, it has not yet been ratified. Nor have most of the Chrysler locals settled at this date. There is bound to be a lot of struggle ahead against the multinational Chrysler corporation.

Prepared for further struggle

Brownstown strikers defy cops

By DIANE BUKOWSKI and MARTIN KLEIN

BROWNSTOWN, Mich., Nov. 9—Afternoon shift workers at the Chrysler Export plant here, a warehouse and shipping operation with about a thousand workers, tried to walk out Friday when the national contract deadline with Chrysler expired, along with tens of thousands of other Chrysler workers who struck despite the tentative settlement.

But first the company guards shut the plant gates. Several workers were fired while they were locked inside, with the company making dire threats against the rest.

Outside, however, dayshift workers who stayed after their quitting time had already set up a picket line, and the guards were finally forced to open the gates and let the afternoon workers flood out to join the line, which swelled to over 150, shutting down the plant.

COMPANY CALLS OUT COPS AS STRIKE-BREAKERS

Chrysler proceeded to call out club-wielding, riot-helmeted Wayne County sheriffs, who brutally attacked the line, arresting nine workers.

One young worker was struck by a car driven by a company security guard and thrown up on the hood. The cops arrested the victim instead of the guard, and took him to jail instead of the hospital, where he received no medical attention all night.

Some of the other workers were beaten at the jail before they were released; one worker's jaw was broken.

Instead of being intimidated by this treatment, the Brownstown wildcatters, angry because their local contract deadline had been postponed indefinitely, vowed to stay out until they got a decent local agreement and until they had won a promise of no retaliation for the wildcat. One striker told Workers World, "In 1973 they put off the deadline for our plant contract, and we never did get one. The national contract has nothing to do with what goes on in here."

DEMAND UAW AUTHORIZE STRIKE

Pointing out that the Brownstown UAW Local 227 is the home local of Douglas Fraser, head of the Chrysler UAW bargaining team, the workers demanded union sanction for their strike.

Many of the wildcatters reported that for some time harassment in the plant had been drastically stepped up, seniority rights had been ignored, many people had been fired on trumped-up charges, and only a hundred or so of 1,300

grievances had been settled. Among other specific instances, an outdoor worker told us of being denied permission to go inside for hot coffee, and several workers reported instances of discriminatory firing and harassment of women.

One Black worker remarked, "Every time we file a grievance, the company just says, 'So what?' They are like worthless pieces of paper without a local contract."

FOREMEN ON BICYCLES RIDING HERD!

The Brownstown strikers also reported that, although their plant is not a production operation, time study and speed-up had been introduced on individual jobs, with foremen on bicycles riding herd on the workers, and the company was making increased use of part-time help, threatening their job security.

As one worker said, "So much built up in there that it finally exploded."

The strikers maintained 24-hour picket lines all weekend in bitter cold weather, using makeshift lean-tos for protection and garbage can fires and blankets for warmth. They slept in their cars and in the shelters, under the constant eye of security guards and police.

On Monday, their perseverance paid off; the wildcatters shut down both shifts at Brownstown Chrysler.

Since the Wayne County cops had told them they couldn't picket, they massed by the two main gates to the plant. Workers coming in saw the crowds and a big wooden "On Strike!" sign, parked their cars along the road for blocks back, and joined their brothers and sisters by the gates.

When TV news cameras came out, and when cars drove by honking their horns, the workers proudly raised their fists. The cops sat in their patrol cars in the company parking lot watching all day, but did not dare to intervene again. "The cops are just a bunch of strike-breakers," observed one worker angrily.

UAW INTERNATIONAL REFUSES TO GIVE SUPPORT

Monday night a union meeting was called. The UAW International told the workers that six were fired, that a total of 49 would be fired if they didn't return to work immediately, and that the International would not guarantee that the cops would not beat heads again if the workers continued the wildcat.

Because of the International's tacit approval of the company's terror tactics, and because they were one of only three Chrysler plants that continued to wildcat,

the Brownstown workers decided to return.

But their unity and strength during the walkout stand as an example for all workers. One day such unity and strength will topple the union misleaders who so brutally ended the walkout, and defeat the company that profits from the conditions that caused it.

Record profits for Ford, GM, Chrysler while

Detroit jobless face desperation



After word had spread that Cadillac's Detroit plant was accepting job applications, more than 5,000 unemployed workers waited in front of the company's employment office before dawn, hoping for jobs that did not exist.

By D. BUKOWSKI

DETROIT, Nov. 2—The desperation of Detroit's unemployed becomes starker every day.

At 5 a.m. yesterday, the Cadillac Motor plant in Detroit opened its doors to job seekers, after posting a few notices inside the plant that it needed job applications on file to re-stock its backlog. No other advertisement was made, but the rumor that Cadillac was hiring had spread like wildfire.

Well over 5,000 people jammed the sidewalks in the dark cold, many wrapped in blankets. Most waited at least six hours, some had been there since 10 p.m. the night before.

No one was hired, and most didn't even get application forms.

POLICE DISPERSE JOB-SEEKERS

The plant closed its employment office doors at 9:30 a.m. and called out plant security and the Detroit police to turn away the thousands still waiting. Company officials admitted they had 5,000 applications available, but Bruce Jellison, plant security manager, would only state callously that "There were some applications handed out until people became unruly."

The Cadillac scene is repeated daily on a smaller scale in downtown Detroit, at the employment offices of the Renaissance Center, the newly opened \$500 million luxury hotel and office complex that is Henry Ford's answer to the Detroit depression. The day after openings in the Plaza Hotel at the Center were announced, 1,500 people showed up at the employment office, and hundreds more have steadily maintained long lines outside the office each day since then.

Renaissance Center officials expect to take at least 30,000 applications before they are done.

COUNTRY'S HIGHEST UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Detroit's official unemployment rate is 12.9 percent. While that is the highest in the country, the real rate, of course, is still much higher, since those statistics don't take into account anyone not reporting to Michigan Employment Security Commission offices for work or unemployment benefits.

The official rate doesn't include the 54,659 persons who have exhausted their unemployment benefits between September 1975 and August 1976, and still have not

found work. It also doesn't include many of the city's youth, particularly Black youth, whose jobless rate hovers around 60 percent. The city's only answer to jobless youths' plight has been to establish a 10 p.m. curfew.

GM PAYS RECORD DIVIDENDS

The same day that the 5,000 jobless waited outside GM's Cadillac plant, General Motors Corp. declared that it would pay the highest year-end stockholders dividend in its history, totaling \$1.6 billion. Ford, Chrysler, and GM have all been earning record profits this year, profits they have taken out of the hides of their workers with increased speed-up and heavy dependence on forced overtime. Those record profits have been earned using more than 50,000 fewer workers since 1973!

One day the crowds of jobless who now line up in the unemployment offices and wait anxiously outside the hiring offices of the city's plants and workplaces, taking all manner of abuse and scorn, will turn the tables on their employers. One day they will join with their working sisters and brothers and take over the plants and offices, and when that happens there will be plenty of jobs for all.

On first anniversary of independence

S. African troops still attacking Angola

By NICK DE FREITAS
NEW YORK, Nov. 9—The six million people of Angola will celebrate on Nov. 11 the first anniversary of the anti-imperialist regime which they established after a long and bitter struggle, first against Portuguese colonialism and more recently, against Pentagon-supplied-and-backed neocolonialist "movements," as well as U.S.- and South African-engineered invasion forces in 1975.

But the 400-year-old war of liberation of the Angolan people is not over, for the imperialists never say die.

One year after Angola's triumphant rout of the South African and mercenary invasion forces from its mineral-rich territory, the forces of the apartheid regime are continuing their attacks against the young African republic.

The southern part of the territory, said Luis De Almeida, general director of information for the Peoples Republic of Angola,

has been "bombarded" by "40 millimeter cannons" fired by the Pretoria regime. The apartheid forces engaged in the fighting against the Angolan republic are said to be joined by remnant troops of the pro-Western Union for Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) and the National Front for the Liberation of Angola (FNLA). Both groups worked in close collaboration with CIA-recruited mercenaries and South African forces in a year-long bloody war against the progressive and anti-imperialist Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), the movement which eventually led the Angolan people to defeat the Washington-supported armies and establish the Peoples Republic of Angola in November of 1975.

In a New York Times dispatch from South West Africa, the territory today under the control of the racist regime of John Vorster, officials were quoted as saying that refugees "who fled from the combat area into South West Africa" told them that "Angolan

government troops backed by tanks and planes had begun an all-out offensive against the guerrillas of the rebel UNITA." The government drive, the dispatch goes on, was being aided by Cuban soldiers and guerrillas from the South West African Peoples Organization (SWAPO). The officials said about 3,000 Angolans fled into South West Africa over the weekend.

However, these reports are not to be trusted, according to journalist Mike Shuster, who recently returned from a three-month trip to Angola. "First of all, the official sources quoted in the dispatches are all South African officials," Shuster told Workers World today. "The supposed refugees have not been allowed to be interviewed by the reporters." Shuster contended that fighting in southern Angola is not just a recent phenomenon but has been going on since the establishment of the Peoples Republic of Angola. The fighting, he said, has been organized by South Africa and Washington in an effort to destabilize the economy and destroy the efforts of the Angolan people to rebuild their war-torn country.

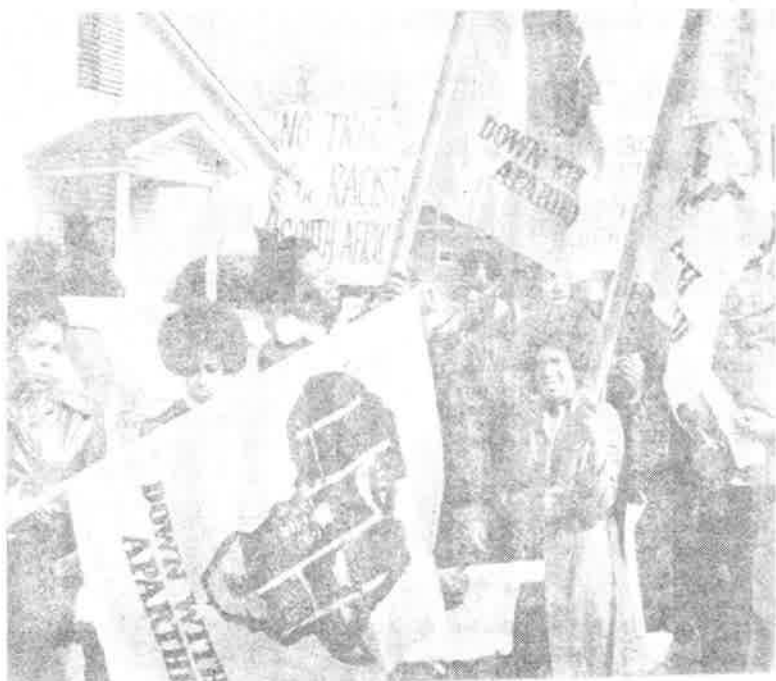
During his stay in Angola,

Shuster said, coordinated attacks also took place near the border with Zaire where the FNLA was based. The South African and UNITA forces, he explained, use the apartheid-ruled territory of South West Africa which borders Angola as a base to stage attacks against units of the Angolan government as well as innocent villagers.

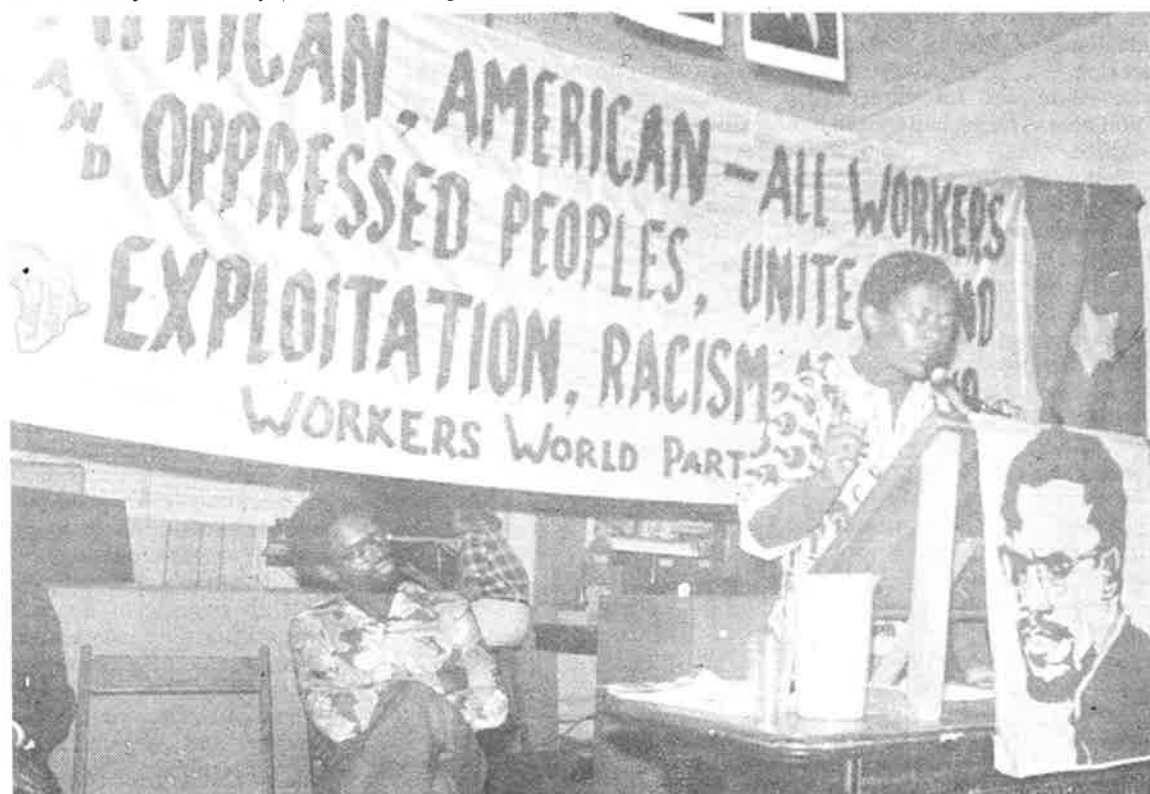
In early September, Shuster said, the Angolan Minister of Defense, Icoarreira, issued a communique stating that the Armed Forces of the Peoples Republic of Angola was involved in a "cleaning up" operation against South African troops and UNITA forces. The communique also announced the capture of a South African soldier and charged that a base in northeast Namibia at Capriui was being used by the South African military for training and equipping UNITA forces to operate in Angola.

Angolans ride
a fork-lift in the
May Day parade
in Luanda.

Photo: Mike Shuster



In two U.S. cities this week, rallies were held to denounce the brutal system of apartheid in South Africa. Above, in Atlanta, 150 students at Atlanta University protested the invitation of a South African judge to speak at the campus. The judge cancelled his appearance. Below, in Buffalo, Mahlubi Ghobosheane and Liz Rivkin, political exiles from Azania, speak at a solidarity meeting and describe the fight of the African people for their liberation from one of the cruelest regimes in history.



WW Photo: Joe

Part 2: Mozambique, Angola

Socialist construction in A

By PADDY COLLIGAN

(The following article is the second of two parts describing socialist construction in the newest African people's republics of Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, Angola, and Mozambique, all former Portuguese colonies. Last week Workers World reported on progress being made in the sister republic of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde, the West African countries where the PAIGC heads the government. This week we will look at the new southern African people's republics of Angola and Mozambique, whose struggle to build a new life for the people brings them into direct conflict with the racist regimes of South Africa and Rhodesia.)

NEW YORK, Nov. 1—Angola would have begun this period of socialist construction as Africa's

second most developed country, in economic terms, surpassed only by South Africa. However, much of its industrial and agricultural base as well as its transport and communications network were viciously and vindictively destroyed by the fleeing Portuguese and South African invaders.

Thousands of Angolan people, including many hundreds of MPLA militants, were terrorized and murdered by the FLNA, UNITA, Portuguese, and South African troops and mercenaries. As the counter-revolutionary forces withdrew, they took all the trucks and cars they could drive out of the country and destroyed the rest. They blew up behind them over a hundred bridges, miles of roads and railroad track, and communication and power plants.

Tens of thousands of Portuguese businessmen, managers, and skilled workers left Angola, often sabotaging the factories and machinery they left behind. If the white settlers and their imperialist bosses could not continue to exploit the people and wealth of Angola, they wanted to leave the Peoples Republic of Angola (PRA) little to build on.

Yet all this could not destroy Angola's vast natural wealth. Oil production in Cabinda is now close to the pre-war levels, bringing in a steady \$500 million a year. Angola is spending this money on restoring industrial and agricultural production and rebuilding the transportation system so that food and other agricultural products, like coffee, can again be marketed.

Agricultural production has been badly set back by the disruption in the transportation system. It has also been affected very much by the absence of agricultural workers on the former Portuguese plantations where most of the commercial farming took place.

During the last few months of the

war, after the Portuguese bosses had fled, the workers also left. Mostly contract workers who had been forced by the Portuguese to leave their families hundreds of miles away to live and work under conditions of slavery, they were anxious to return home, particularly during wartime. Also the FNLA puppet troops brutally victimized the workers who were not native to the area.

BATTLE FOR COFFEE

Before 1975, Angola's coffee exports had been second only to Brazil's. (The current high price of coffee in American supermarkets is partly because no Angolan coffee was marketed last year.) Conditions for agricultural workers, along with those of all Angolan workers, are being vastly improved, but the coffee was ready to be picked before workers could be recruited.

The MPLA appealed to the people to overcome this problem. With the army supplying the transportation and new trucks arriving from abroad every day, the people formed voluntary work brigades to bring in the coffee. In some towns, five and six times the number of people expected turned up. A significant portion of the coffee crop has been picked and will be available for export.

MOZAMBIQUE

The experience of revolutionary Mozambique is quite different from Angola's. Independence from Portugal left Mozambique even more dependent on the racist regimes of South Africa and Rhodesia. Attacks from Rhodesia have never stopped. Since the escalation of the struggle for Zimbabwe, they have increased.

Mozambique led by FRELIMO has had to continue fighting a war on its long western borders while trying to build a better life for its people.

On Nov. 20, in New York City, come to

Night of Solidarity with the Azanian people

By BRIAN BECKER

NEW YORK, Nov. 10—The national significance of the upcoming "Night of Solidarity with the Struggle in South Africa (Azania)" to be held on Nov. 20 here was dramatically underscored last week by the renewed escalation of the war in southern Africa.

The meeting, which will be held at the Joan of Arc Junior High School, 154 W. 93 St., starting at 7 p.m., has attracted the support of scores of progressive organizations in the U.S., and organizers of the event expect a number of delegations from various cities on the East Coast to attend.

Initiated by KARABO (a group of South African residents in the U.S.), PASOA (Pan African Students' Organization in the Americas) and Youth Against War & Fascism, the Nov. 20 solidarity meeting will feature Jeff Dumo Baqwa, an exiled leader of the South African Student Organization (SASO). Brother Baqwa, imprisoned by the racist apartheid regime until his escape in 1974, now lives in Botswana where he works as Director of Projects for the South African Student Movement (SASM).

BAQWA TO DISCUSS CURRENT STRUGGLE

According to a statement released by the meeting organizers, "At the Nov. 20

program, Jeff Baqwa will discuss the significance of the current uprisings in South Africa, the sham 'independence' of the Transkei, the United States military, economic, and political involvement in South Africa as well as all of the southern Africa region. He will also explain the special role that Black people and other progressive people in the U.S. can play in supporting the struggle to free South Africa from oppression."

Since the initial heroic uprisings in Soweto last June the struggle by the South African people has intensified despite heavy casualties and severe repression. Their

struggle has so overwhelmingly galvanized world popular opinion against the pro-Nazi apartheid regime of John Vorster that several United Nations resolutions condemning apartheid were adopted yesterday, including one which affirmed "the legitimacy of the struggle of the oppressed people of South Africa and their liberation movements, by all possible means, for the seizure of power by the people." Only the U.S. imperialists and their Western European counterparts, along with a handful of their puppets, opposed this resolution.

The Nov. 20 meeting, while being

part of the international campaign against apartheid, has a special importance for the people in this country. As Andrew Lukele, a member of KARABO, explained to this reporter, "The objective of the Nov. 20 forum will be to give people in the U.S. an opportunity to express their solidarity with the resistance movement in South Africa. Just as the white racist Vorster regime finds its major support from the U.S. government and other Western countries, the Black people in South Africa have as their natural allies the peoples in these countries who themselves are victimized by a system of inflation, joblessness, insecurity, and all sorts of alienation. In giving support to the resistance movement in South Africa the people in the U.S. will be strengthening their own struggle against the system which torments them."

WIDESPREAD SUPPORT

The organizing effort for the solidarity night has continued to pick up steam. Tens of thousands of leaflets and posters have appeared in every area of New York City. In addition to the initiating organizations many other progressive groups have endorsed the event including the Puerto Rican Socialist Party, Patrice Lumumba Coalition, Association of Vietnamese Patriots in the U.S., Mozambique Film Committee, Guardian, Venceremos Brigade, Puerto Rican Solidarity Committee (Upper West Side), American Committee on Africa, Fightback, Friends of Haiti, Non-Intervention in Chile, July 4th Coalition, Eritreans for Liberation (N.Y.), Iranian Students Association (World Confederation), and others.

Those planning to attend the meeting from outside the New York area can contact the nearest Workers World Party or Youth Against War & Fascism branch. (Listings of the branches can be found on page 14 of this paper.) For leaflets, posters, and additional information write: Nov. 20 Committee, Second Floor, 166 Fifth Avenue. Or call (212) 255-0352, 865-6690, or 989-3932.

Chicago anti-racist meeting planned for Nov. 20

CHICAGO, Nov. 5—In response to the escalated campaign of racist attacks on Black people from Chicago to Boston to New York to South Africa, a "Night of Solidarity with Victims of Racism" has been called here for Nov. 20. This event, scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. at the Midland Hotel, 172 W. Adams, will highlight the experiences gained from several struggles here against racism.

Featured speakers will include Cosmo Pieterse, a member of the African National Congress who escaped from South Africa after being banned from attending meetings there. Mr. Pieterse helped organize the struggle against apartheid from England and is currently teaching in Ohio. An author, editor, teacher, and poet, Mr. Pieterse will speak on the struggle of the Azanian (South African) people for liberation.

Another speaker, Dennis Serrette, president of the New York chapter of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, organized support for the striking municipal hospital workers there this summer and has been active in the struggle to save the Schomburg Library in Harlem, which houses the most important collection of Black history in the world. He will

speak on the role of Black workers in the labor movement.

Also speaking will be Rev. Edgar Jackson, from the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Movement, who has led the many marches against racism into Marquette Park here, and Claudette Furlonge, leading member of Workers World Party and a national organizer of the December 1974 March Against Racism in Boston which brought 25,000 people into the streets of that city to say no to racism.

This Night of Solidarity with Victims of Racism will provide an opportunity for the anti-racist forces of this city to pool their collective experiences in a strong statement against racism. The meeting is seen by its organizers as an important step in strengthening and organizing those who raise their voices against racism.

A spokesperson from Workers World Party, which is organizing this event, mentioned that much preparation and publicity will be needed as well as funds for speakers' transportation and other expenses. Donations can be sent to Workers World, 542 South Dearborn, Chicago, Illinois 60605. For leaflets, posters, and other information, call (312) 922-0326.

African states support Zimbabwe

NEW YORK, Nov. 9—In a strong response to last week's Rhodesian invasion of Mozambique and to U.S. and British imperialism's diplomatic maneuverings in Geneva to save the white racist regime of Rhodesia (Zimbabwe), the five so-called front-line African states—Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania, and Zambia—issued a statement this weekend backing the guerrilla struggle in Zimbabwe.

Four presidents plus the vice-president of Botswana met in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, on Nov. 6, just a week after hundreds of Rhodesian troops had invaded Tete province in Mozambique and killed hundreds of people on the pretext of attacking guerrilla camps there.

The statement attacked the U.S. by implication as responsible for the raids into Mozambique. "These acts of provocation and aggression are an integral part of the overall imperialistic strategy against

the independent and democratic forces of Africa," the five countries said, "in order to preserve and consolidate the white racist regimes and continue the exploitation of the toiling masses."

"At the same time imperialism is speaking about a peaceful settlement, the present escalations in attacks and provocations unmask the true imperialist intentions of gaining time to consolidate the white racist regime and divert our attention from the main issue, which is majority rule and independence now."

Ruling out any compromise with the fascist Ian Smith regime of Rhodesia, the statement continued, "The five front-line states reaffirm their determination to fight back any aggression against any one of them, and further reaffirm their total commitment to support the armed struggle for the liberation of Zimbabwe as the only means by which the independence of the colony can be achieved and colonialism can be removed."

Africa

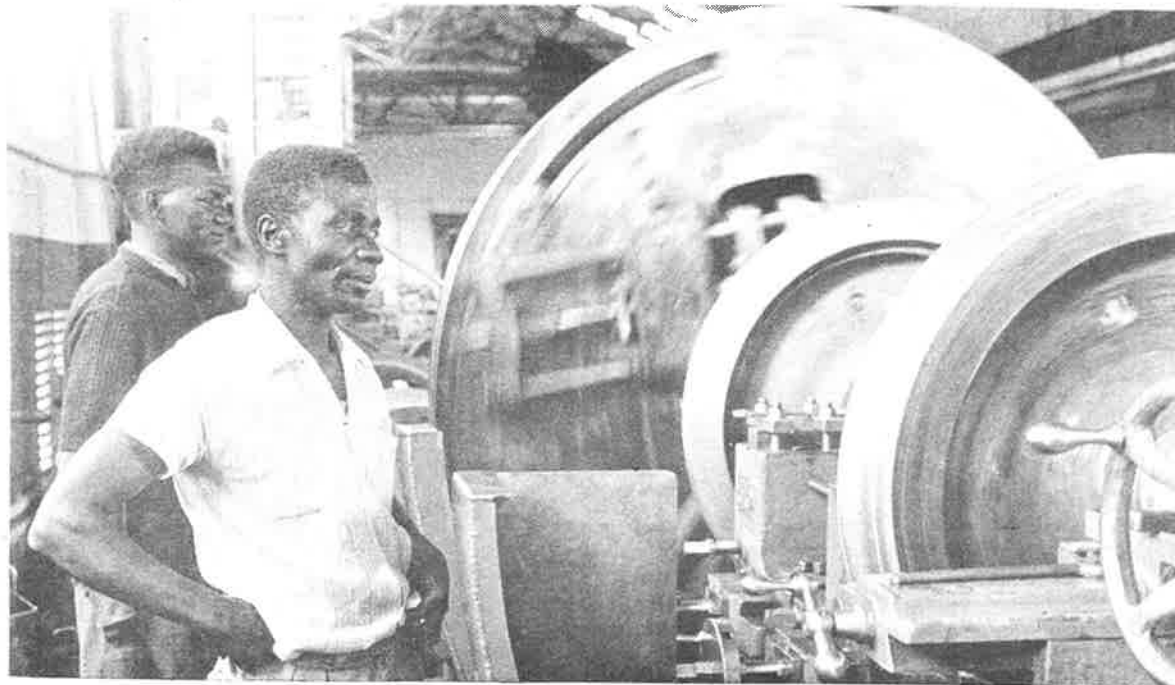
The revolution in Mozambique is tied to the outcome in Zimbabwe. The Mozambican people have shown they support FRELIMO's decision to provide sanctuary and military aid to the Zimbabwean guerrillas. The huge drop of income, resulting from revenue lost by closing the border with Rhodesia, has not been offset by the millions in aid promised and never delivered by the U.S. Instead, for now, the people of Mozambique must continue to rely largely on their own human resources if they are to taste the fruits of their liberation.

The public health programs of the FRELIMO government show how this can be done. An almost total lack of health facilities was inherited from the five centuries of Portuguese exploitation. Except for what FRELIMO had been able

to provide in the liberated zones, what there was had been concentrated in the cities. After decentralizing these resources by sending medical teams and equipment to many rural centers, the FRELIMO government then attacked the problem of bringing health to the people from the basic public health level.

Many of the most widespread diseases could be drastically reduced if the people had access to better sanitary facilities. The government led a nationwide mobilization reaching to the most rural areas to ensure that every family would have access to adequate sanitary facilities. The local "dynamizing" groups, the press, the schools, workplaces, military, and medical personnel were all brought into the highly

(Continued on p. 14)



Workers at the Benguela Railroad in Angola. At the railroad, as well as at all other previously foreign-owned facilities and those factories and agricultural enterprises which have been nationalized, workers' commissions have replaced managers.

Photo: Mike Shuster

EDITORIAL

59th anniversary

November 7 marked the 59th anniversary of the socialist revolution in the Soviet Union. As it approaches its seventh decade, the accomplishments of the USSR's publicly-owned and centrally planned economy are apparent even to the most diehard anti-communists. On Oct. 28, even the New York Times admitted that with the implementation of the new Soviet five-year-plan, "industrial output, now 80 percent of the American, would exceed the United States' 1975 level by 8 percent in 1980."

This is all the more remarkable when one recalls that the Russian gross national product (all the goods and services produced by a country) for the last year of Czarist rule in 1916 was just two percent of the U.S. GNP. Such an impressive and continuous climb in Soviet production is further proof that the USSR is free from the unemployment and inflationary crisis racking the capitalist countries.

Also, the record Soviet crop yield for this year, after the terrible drought of 1975, is another big victory for the workers and farmers there and bad news for the monopolistic grain speculators here.

SOVIET STABILITY

Despite the drag imposed on it by a privileged bureaucracy which sows illusions tending to obscure the aggressive nature of U.S. imperialism, the Soviet economy's dynamic growth rate both reflects and strengthens the overall stability of the basic social system in the USSR.

The appointment of Dimitri F. Ustinov, the first civilian since the early days of the revolution to hold the position of Defense Minister, is a further sign of Soviet confidence and strength.

It should also be noted that the small military contingent in this year's anniversary parade through Red Square contradicts the capitalist propaganda that the USSR is out to "conquer the world," an outrageous lie when one considers that the Soviet defense budget for this year is only \$23 billion, while the Pentagon got \$112 billion—almost five times as much! Nor does the USSR have the vast corporate overseas investment empire which characterizes U.S. imperialism and which has made the slogan "Yankee go home" the battle cry of the oppressed everywhere on the globe.

Under the current highly complex world conditions, which are at once perilous and pregnant with revolutionary opportunities, all progressives and militant socialists naturally hope that the Soviet Union and Peoples China could begin to normalize their state-to-state relations, despite both the apparent ascendancy of political revisionism in Peking and the reactionary aspects of the Soviet bureaucracy. It should be seen as a good thing, then, that on the occasion of the USSR's anniversary celebration this year, the Chinese government sent a somewhat warmer message than usual and that the Soviet leaders in turn refrained from using the event to launch one of their sterile and non-productive attacks on the Chinese that have characterized these exchanges in the past.

The number one enemy is clearly Wall Street imperialism, and any move toward unity in the socialist camp, no matter how small or tenuous, must be viewed as a progressive first step in closing the ranks against the ringleader of world capitalism.

Defend Iranian students

As we go to press, news has arrived of a vicious and racist attack on the Iranian Students Association (National Union) by the cops in Houston, Texas. A peaceful march in front of the French consulate there by ISA members protesting the arrest of two leftist Iranians in Paris was broken up by the Houston cops in much the way these same police assaulted a demonstration called by Youth Against War & Fascism against the U.S.-Israeli aggression in the Middle East during the October, 1973, war. Those jailed on that occasion faced huge prison terms.

Sources in Houston told *Workers World* that 125 Iranian students have been arrested in this most recent attack and that the sidewalks were spattered with the blood of 35 of the injured demonstrators.

Last night the Houston police chief bragged on TV that the "same type of systematic and methodical treatment" will be given to the ISA should it try to picket again.

All this has the earmarks of being ordered from higher up.

Houston is, after all, the oil capital of the U.S. and the petroleum magnates there are enthusiastic backers of the fascist Shah of Iran whom they helped put into office with a CIA coup in 1953.

All progressives should unite in showing equal support for the arrested Iranian students and in exposing the Shah and his U.S. big business masters.



LETTERS

Thailand bloodbath

We would like to express our sincere appreciation for your concern. Series of articles have been appearing in *Workers World* concerning the Oct. 6 bloodbath in Thailand. Your care inevitably brings us, the workers of the United States of America and the Thai People, closer together.

Recently, we have received a letter from our friends in Thailand which stated:

"... we are under a new disguise of 'The National Administrative Reform Council' (NARC).

"As a semi-colonial and semi-feudal country, Thailand has been economically exploited, politically controlled, and culturally dominated by the United States for at least 26 years. With the loyal cooperation of the Thai ruling class, the royalists, the militarist and capitalist cliques, the present NARC dictatorial regime came into existence at the expense of hundreds of people who were either lynched, garroted, or burned in public—and over 3,000 who were jailed. The military coup staged in the early hours of Oct. 6 has completely destroyed our sincere hope for peace and democracy. Their radical right soldiers, police, and suppression groups were

armed with U.S.-supplied weapons.

"Many lives have now been sacrificed, and many more are soon expected to be; all universities have been ordered shut down and searched; and much alleged evidence has been 'discovered.' However, we are still determined to struggle for our just cause to the end. Their 'search and destroy' missions on the campus grounds clearly indicate their desperate efforts to destroy the student-people movement born out of Oct. 14, 1973—an uprising to overthrow the last fascist dictator regime. The United States is now desperately trying to tighten its vicious grip on the freedom-loving people of Thailand. A military coup is the last measure to safeguard the U.S. interest in Thailand.

But they will never succeed as long as the people are strongly determined to fight to the end for their democratic rights and national independence. This so-called 'National Administrative Reform Council' backed by the United States must be overthrown by any means necessary."

Our oppressed friends, being hunted, asked us to relay the message.

The determination of these friends inspires us to support the just cause. Self-determination and democracy for all are our ultimate goals. At the time being we are trying to reach out to American workers.

We would be glad to try to supply

the American people information concerning wasteful and inhuman ways your tax dollars are now being spent in Thailand.

We would try to serve both the peoples to the best of our ability. A request for a small contribution in order to meet the postal and documentary costs, however, might be necessary. The response to this request depends on the voluntary consideration of the American people. We are looking forward to future correspondence.

With appreciation
and in solidarity,
The Union of
Democratic Thais (UDT)

The Union of Democratic Thais
c/o CALC, 198 Broadway
New York, N.Y. 10038

Racist justice

In the Oct. 29 issue of *Workers World* I read about the racist attempt to railroad brother Imani (s.n. Johnny Harris) to the electric chair. I sent a mailgram to the Alabama Supreme Court which read, "Stop the racist legal murder of Imani (Johnny Harris)." I wanted to make it clear that there are people all over America who will not remain silent in the face of the racist terror directed against the men and women held in America's concentration camps.

We know that Imani's only crime is being poor, Black, and daring to stand up to the brutality of Alabama's prisons.

The black-robed bigots of the Alabama Supreme Court evidently have a lot in common with their white-robed friends in the KKK who are the experts at the art of terror and intimidation. The day after sending out my telegram I received a "visit" from the Detroit police who demanded to enter my home and question me about the mailgram. When I told the pig I had nothing to say to him, he threatened to get a search warrant and ransack my house.

The search never happened but when I called the local precinct they told me that the Alabama Supreme Court considered the mailgram a "threat" and that I better not send any more letters to Alabama.

This whole episode is nothing compared to the daily terror that the Atmore-Holman Brothers face.

(Continued on p. 14)



In Houston, 125 Iranian students were arrested and 35 injured in a brutal attack by the Houston police during a demonstration in front of the French consulate to protest the arrest of two Iranian leftists in Paris. [See editorial.]

As the pound sinks to a record low—

What's behind the crisis in Britain?

By KENNY PETERSON

The British pound sterling, once an actual pound of silver, will not buy much more today than a cup of coffee and a pack of cigarettes. As a matter of fact, the high-grade silver known as "sterling" was named after the British currency, and the word "sterling" has even entered the English language as synonymous with excellence. Today, however, the pound sterling is living on borrowed time.

The exchange rate of the pound on the international currency market has been falling almost daily, having plunged from selling at \$2.40 in early 1975 to the historic low of around \$1.60 today. Since 1971, the British pound has fallen by one-half of its value in relation to other major currencies. This depreciation on the world market is similar to the depreciation of the dollar at the local market: in either case, money buys less. Workers must work longer hours to pay for fewer and cheaper commodities. In Britain, the products of world trade that appear on the supermarket shelf are costing the British workers more. Much more.

Since Britain is especially dependent on foreign trade, the effects of this depreciation of the national currency have been catastrophic for the workers. Inflation has been running at an annual rate of around 16 percent, down from 26 percent last year. There is more unemployment in Britain today than at any time since the Second World War, with the official unemployment rate at nearly six percent. Britain's production has dropped.

While the growing crisis in Britain has focused on the plight of the pound, its fall is only the symptom of the disease. The actual disease is an outworn economic system where millionaires profit and the workers must "sacrifice." The conflict between the workers, who produce everything and receive barely more than enough to stay alive, and the bosses, who produce nothing and yet seem to own almost everything, is the root cause of the deepening crisis.

NCLC-U.S. Labor Party—a front name for fascism

By ANDY STAPP

NEW YORK, Nov. 7—It came as no great surprise to socialists and progressives when Lyndon LaRouche, the Presidential candidate of the fascist National Caucus of Labor Committees (NCLC)—also calling itself the "U.S. Labor Party"—strongly endorsed Gerald Ford the night before the elections.

LaRouche had only praise for the reactionary Ford, whom he characterized as "a patriotic American." The anti-Semitic and white supremacist Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General George Brown, also got high marks from LaRouche. All this is to be expected and there is nothing unusual about a small fry rightist politician paying homage to his better known counterparts at the top of the capitalist political heap.

What might have surprised some, however, was the forum that LaRouche used in making his last minute pitch for Ford: a full half-hour paid commercial on NBC network television during evening prime time. Where did the relatively small NCLC get the \$96,000 to buy this TV slot? Who is

One example of the polarization dividing British society is a strike, now in its fifth month, at a giant construction site of 3,000 workers, building the largest oil-fired power plant in Europe. Twenty-eight scaffolders were fired for refusing to work without company-supplied protective clothing. In protest, 900 workers walked off the job.

Although the contractor eventually agreed to supply the 28 workers with the overalls, the company took the opportunity to demand greater "productivity" and "discipline" from the workers. The union's response to this was to continue the strike.

WORKERS POOR AMIDST ABUNDANCE

The British workers already work longer hours, for less pay and with fewer holidays, than the workers of practically all the industrialized, capitalist countries of Europe. Not exactly the legendary idleness of the British worker, who is so often slandered in the bosses' press.

And what about the supposedly gargantuan welfare state that is blamed with bleeding Britain dry? The fact is that the governments of every other Common Market country (with the exception of Ireland) spend more money per capita on social security, health insurance, and welfare than Britain.

Despite all this, the millionaire rulers who spend more in an evening than a worker can earn all year, are asking the workers to sacrifice.

The ruling class is now calling Britain a poor country and therefore a cause for sacrifice. Although the British workers are indeed poor, the wealth that they produce is enormous. The workers of England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland produce vast wealth in coal and steel and textiles, steamships and jet planes and automobiles, chemicals and clothing and locomotives.

In Britain, for all its wealth, only the few reap the profits. According

promoting these fascists with such ample funds?

Last year the NCLC got a \$48,000 loan from David Rockefeller's Chase Manhattan Bank, but this alone would hardly begin to cover the group's estimated yearly budget of \$1.4 million. It is not entirely clear exactly which clique of the capitalist class of big bosses is financing this neo-Nazi gang, but ever since April 1973, when the NCLC began initiating hundreds of physical attacks on progressives, Marxists, trade unionists, and especially nationally oppressed Black and Latin organizations, money has been pouring in to support LaRouche's stated aim of "mopping up" the left and anti-racist forces in this country.

An interesting piece of information on the links between the LaRouche outfit and the state's organs of repression is contained in the pamphlet "NCLC—Brownshirts of the Seventies," put out by the Terrorist Information Project:

"In the fall of 1974, an NCLC telex operator dialed into the newsroom of the Ritter Newspapers in Minneapolis-St.



British workers protest closure of a Merseyside refinery that will put 2,000 people out of work. "The English working class has a rich heritage of militant and revolutionary struggle. . . . They will turn this crisis of the bosses around."

to government figures, the poorest 10 percent of the people receive only 2.4 percent of the national income. The richest 10 percent, who produce nothing, manage to receive 23.9 percent.

Yet, like a broken record, the bosses repeatedly blame the workers and the unions for Britain's economic problems. They blame industry's low productivity on the workers, even though it is common knowledge that technological modernization is lagging from a lack of capital investment. The British bosses must also answer for the enormous drain on the economy from their occupation of northern Ireland with 20,000 British troops, their 55,000 troops in Germany with

NATO, their troops in Cyprus, in Singapore, and so on.

WHERE DOES CRISIS ORIGINATE?

Where does the economic crisis originate? Why the collapse of the pound?

Like any other commodity, the pound is subject to the laws of the market (of supply and demand). Doubtful of its future, more people want to sell sterling than to buy it. Actually, the exchange rate of the pound is being driven down by the enormous quantity of sterling being unloaded on the market by the giant currency speculators, the banks and multi-national corporations. (In London alone, 256 banks are authorized to deal in foreign currency, in other words, speculate against the pound.)

The fall in the value of sterling reflects an underlying loss of confidence within the ruling class. Like a corporation on the verge of bankruptcy whose shares tumble downward on the stock market, Britain is viewed by the bankers as a country with a dim future.

There is a real basis for this loss of confidence. Besides the unmanageable inflation and record unemployment, Britain is suffering from a long term slide on the world market. In 1925, Britain's manufactured exports amounted to one-fourth of the world's total. Today, Britain's share of world trade is below 5 percent. If the present trend continues, according to finance minister Denis Healey, the former "workshop of the world" will become a net importer of manufactured goods in the near future.

The poor productivity of Britain's industrial plant has made it increasingly non-competitive on the world market. At the British Leyland automotive works, for example, the annual output per worker has been six cars. At Japan's Nissan Motor Co., maker of the Datsun, annual output per worker is 35 cars.

A BANKERS' CONSPIRACY

While this weakening of Britain's economic performance is the major factor in the decline of the pound, there is another

element, one more concealed, that is at work. That is the deliberate policy of driving down the pound by the British and U.S. banks.

This policy accomplishes two things for the bourgeoisie. First, it makes British goods more competitive on the European market. And second, the bankers are creating a financial crisis for the government in order to compel the Labour Party leadership to adopt harsher measures against the workers, particularly sharp cutbacks in public spending.

This conspiracy is being put into effect in stages by gradually removing central bank support for the stricken currency. It is a very delicate operation, since "a sharp exchange rate collapse can be dangerous," as The Economist (Britain's prestigious business magazine) confesses. The danger lies in forcing down the living standards of the workers too quickly, thus sending Britain on the road to revolution. In the immediate future, the bankers are fearful of propelling the Labour Party left-wing into the leadership of the government and at the head of a mass struggle. In the ruling class press, nervous references to revolution are cropping up for the first time in generations.

The U.S. bankers are directing the moves of their junior partners in London through their organ of international economic coercion, the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Britain has just been granted a badly needed \$3.9 billion loan from the IMF in return for submission to the dictates of the U.S.-IMF officials. The U.S. bankers have already indicated they will be demanding substantial cutbacks in government spending and a possible further devaluation of the pound.

Of course, the U.S. is not demanding cutbacks in Britain's huge military spending, but in public health programs, unemployment compensation, public employment, rent control subsidies, and so on. In essence, the Wall Street banks are using the same blackmail technique that they applied in New York City.

(Continued on p. 15)

Medicaid boycott by pharmacists hits the poor

By JOAN MARQUARDT
BUFFALO, Nov. 10—As of today, pharmacists in over 23 New York counties are participating in the boycott of the Medicaid prescription program. The burden of their complaints against recent state and federal changes in the reimbursement schedule, however, falls completely on the backs of the poor working and unemployed people.

The pharmacists claim they cannot maintain their business at a profit under the new system drawn up by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare limiting all Medicaid prescription payments to a predetermined cost for each drug, plus a fixed \$1.80 "dispensing fee."

PHARMACISTS GROW RICH

But yesterday the federal government released the names of 2,500 doctors, dentists, laboratories, and pharmacies that made more than \$100,000 each from the joint federal-state-Medicaid program last year. In New York State the list contains the names of 223 drug stores that made at least \$100,000 and four

that grossed at least \$400,000.

The new system for Medicaid and Medicare reimbursements is aimed at forcing the Medicaid doctors and pharmacists to prescribe non-brand name drugs, which are much cheaper than brand names. Many pharmacists consciously encourage the prescribing of the most expensive brand of a drug to Medicaid patients because they would get more money back.

Behind the pharmacists' boycott of Medicaid patients are the big drug companies who have the most to lose from the new federal ruling.

The administrators of many counties are doing nothing to prevent the boycott, since they are not only in sympathy with the pharmacy owners, but stand to save a lot in Medicaid funds while the boycott continues. Here in Erie County one administrator made this clear when he said publicly that his office stands behind the pharmacists in their fight for "the right to earn a profit."

The senior citizens, sick, disabled and poor are suffering as a result of this boycott. On Long Island alone, in the average

pharmacy, about 40 percent of the prescriptions filled are for Medicaid and Medicare patients. One patient turned away when the boycott reached this area on Oct. 25 was Molly Vortin, 72 years old, who lives at the Breakers Hotel in Long Beach, Long Island.

"He didn't want to give me anything," she said of her druggist who is participating in the boycott. "My husband is dead. I have no children or relatives. I have no money. I'm all alone in this world. I need the medicine badly. Please help me."

THE POOR SUFFER

Russell Strowger, president of the Pharmaceutical Association in Niagara County, unsympathetically stated that the people in need of medicine can "buy the medicine tablet by tablet, pill by pill, day by day, week by week... or pay cash."

Poor people are victimized year-round by this capitalist society which makes profits from the sick a big business. This current Medicaid and welfare prescription boycott is making their plight desperate.

—Baltimore Two

(Continued from p. 16)

he didn't submit to their orders fast enough they slapped handcuffs on him and beat him. He is now charged with disorderly conduct and his case comes to court on Jan. 12 at the Western District Police Station in Baltimore.

People at the street meeting listened intently as another supporter, Claudette Furlonge, declared, "All cities are the same as Baltimore, which now has a curfew on its youth, in that there is a growing war against the poor in anticipation of resistance against the economic repression and layoffs." She added, "Who are the real criminals? The big corporations, the warmakers, and the bankers are!"

A shipyard worker told how Maryland's Governor Marvin Mandel, who is himself under indictment for fraud, has plans to expand the prison system, because they expect a growing number of prisoners due to the economic crisis.

Both the street meeting and the benefit were held in the same vicinity as the original attack on Ceci and Pione, showing the refusal of supporters to be intimidated by the Baltimore police.

One of many examples of the support the case enjoys was the moving statement given at tonight's benefit by a member of the Iranian Students Association (World Confederation) when he presented the chairperson, Sharon Black, with a donation of \$150.

Also James Harrison showed his solidarity with the Baltimore Two by attending the benefit.

Another high point occurred when Eugene O'Sullivan, a leader of the Washington Post strike, spoke. O'Sullivan faces charges stemming from that strike which could lead to 41 years in jail. He called for unity as he described how the rulers of this country try to divide people, Black and white, women and men, gay and straight. He talked about the Post strike as well as many other battles of workers and oppressed to defend themselves. He emphasized, "We're fighting for what's justly ours."

Bigots renew attacks on Black families in East Boston projects

By ELAINE LEWIS
BOSTON, Nov. 5—Over the past two years, Black families in the East Boston Maverick Housing Projects have been subject to ongoing racist attacks. In the last year, over 25 Black and Hispanic families were forced to move. As a result of these attacks, seven Black people, the victims of the attacks, were brought to trial, including eight people who joined with them to defend their lives and homes.

All of these attacks were organized and promoted with protection from the police.

The most recent attack has been against the Swindale family, who moved into the home formerly occupied by Mrs. Anna Mae Lewis, a Black woman who was arrested when her home was under attack

last year in the Maverick Projects.

The Swindales had lived in the projects for three weeks when Gene Swindale, his brother Earl, and his cousin Elroy were attacked. Gene, who is 10 years old, went to the Sunnyhurst Market in Maverick Square, where he was jumped by a group of racists. He went back home and got his cousin and brother. The three were met by a racist gang of 20 or more on foot and in cars. Bats and clubs were passed out to the racists from one of the cars. Gene, Earl, and Elroy wound up in the hospital, and Earl needed 13 stitches. At least one of the racists also wound up in the hospital.

POLICE THEMSELVES FILED CHARGES

Two days later, Earl, Gene, and

Elroy were served with notices stating that the racists had charged them with assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. At the ensuing hearing however, the racists said that they had not pressed any charges and accused the Swindales of bringing them to court. The racists made clear that they had neither signed any complaints nor wanted the matter to go to court. The case was dropped.

Who filed the charges?

Anti-racist forces have concluded that it was the racist Boston police who stated a felony was committed and filed the charges in the name of Daniel Berry, the racist white who led the attack, believing the whites would go along. It is now believed that in



Nurses at Chicago's Cook County Hospital, told they would have to give up paid sick leave, respond by going out on strike.

Chicago nurses walk out, demand sick pay

By JEFF SOREL

CHICAGO, Nov. 4—Over 1,200 nurses are on strike here against Cook County Hospital in an important struggle to save their right to paid sick leave.

The Governing Commission of the hospital wants to do away with all paid sick leave for the nurses, represented by the Illinois Nurses Association, in return for a paltry 5 percent pay increase. The nurses, who run a greater risk of getting sick than most workers because they are constantly exposed to sick people, have walked off their jobs rather than submit.

At 7 a.m. yesterday over 300 nurses set up a spirited picket line outside the hospital's main entrance. Chanting "S-I-C-K, we want our sick pay!" and "Hey, hey, give us Haughton's pay," they picketed in the cold for 15 hours. James Haughton, the executive director of the hospital, makes \$74,500 and doesn't have to worry about how he'll feed his family if he has to miss work due to illness.

As soon as the walkout began, the hospital authorities went to court to try to stop it. Judge Walter Dahl, who like all judges sides with the bosses against the workers, proposed that the nurses return to work for a 15-day "cooling off" period. But the nurses, boiling mad about low pay, poor working

conditions, poor patient facilities, and the attack on their long-held right to paid sick leave, rejected the judge's proposal 3 to 1.

The Governing Commission responded by filing a \$1 million damage suit against the union and seeking an injunction barring the strike, which is expected to be granted tomorrow.

The hospital's Governing Commission is attacking the nurses and their union as part of an attempt to cut back services at the only hospital in the city which is free to poor people. Their stated goal is to reduce it to 500 beds from the present 1,200.

Despite this pressure, the nurses are stronger than ever. Today 90 percent of them stayed off their jobs and picketed in 4-hour shifts.

Workers World spoke with Debbie Evans, a nurse in pediatrics who, like everyone on the picket line, was wearing a "Nurse Power" button. She said the nurses are prepared to stay out until they've won their demands, no matter how many suits and injunctions come down on them. She noted that many community organizations are supporting the nurses, recognizing that their struggle is part of the larger struggle for decent health care for poor people.

past racist attacks the police were the ones who brought charges against Black victims, not only letting the racist attackers go free but using their names as complainants.

ATTACKED AGAIN

Earl Swindale again was attacked when a known racist picked a fight with him. The racist returned later with more of his friends.

The Swindale house is supposedly under 24-hour police protection, but as usual the police were nowhere in sight until after the attack occurred.

Anti-racists here have been organizing against these attacks

consistently over the last two years. Anti-racist defense guards organized by East Boston People Against Racism have turned back racist attacks in the past, and the Committee to Free the East Boston Black Defendants has won 11 court victories in cases of Black people and their supporters who were tried as a result of racist attacks against them.

Now a strong defense is being organized for Robert Phifer, Gary Franklin, and Brian Swan, Black men from East Boston who go to trial this month on firearms and explosives charges after defending their families from racist attacks. The fight to enable Black people to live in East Boston in peace and safety and to defend themselves against racist attacks will be won!

Two systems of justice**The rich get richer, the poor get jailed**

By F. GOLDSTEIN

There are two systems of justice in America, one for the rich and one for the poor. They are vastly unequal.

For example, Malcolm X was the son of a domestic worker. He grew up during the Depression in Georgia and Michigan. Without schooling, jobless and hopeless, in 1946 he was caught with a few hundred dollars of clothes and jewelry and sentenced to ten years in jail at the age of 21.

Another example is George Jackson, who was the son of a postal clerk. He grew up in the ghettos of Chicago and Los Angeles. At the age of 18 he copped a plea to a \$70 gas station robbery and received a sentence of one year to life! He had been in jail 10 long years when murdered by prison guards.

Another case is Joann Little, who grew up in the poverty of North Carolina. At the age of 19 she was charged with breaking and entering in a petty theft and was sentenced to 10 years in prison. A prison guard tried to rape her in jail.

Those who remember the Black rebellions of the 1960s recall the killing of dozens of Black people who may have taken a few dollars worth of food and clothing for their families. Last year in Wilmington, Delaware, 13-year-old Sheila Ferrell was killed for stealing a peach. This list could go on and on.

As the economic crisis in this country deepens, more and more poor people are arrested every day for shoplifting food and clothing or for other acts of desperation aimed at survival.

Contrast the harsh justice for the poor with the case of Daniel Houghton.

REAL CRIMINALS LIVE IN LUXURY

Houghton led a gang of 16 men who conspired over more than 10 years to steal far more money than was stolen by the entire prison population of the United States put together.

Not one of them needed a nickel to survive. The crimes of Houghton and his gang are known to every judge, every cop, and every lawmaker in the land. Yet he and his gang are scot free. Not only are they free, but they are living in



The two systems of justice. For the poor [left], Johnny Spain, David Johnson, and Hugo Pinell, the San Quentin Three, were framed up, convicted, and sentenced because they are Black prisoners who spoke out against the horrible conditions in California jails. For the rich [right], Robert Dorsey of Gulf Oil, Robert Haack of Lockheed, and John Conner of Allied Chemical, while guilty of crimes ranging from bribery to murder, live in wealth, leisure, and respectability.

luxury off the spoils of their crimes in plain sight.

Why is this? It is because the name of Houghton's gang is the Lockheed Corporation. Its members are called the Board of Directors. Houghton, their former leader, was called the Chairman of the Board.

Their take was in the hundreds of millions.

In spite of the respectable titles these criminals have given themselves, the 16 are known to have conspired to give at least \$20 million in bribes to get military contracts from foreign governments. They bribed the Prime Minister of Japan for \$1 million and an ultra-right wing Japanese underworld figure with military connections for \$7 million. The gang slipped Italian cabinet officials and members of an Italian fascist group \$2 million. Prince Bernhard of Holland, a former SS member, got \$1.1 million. Smaller

amounts went to agents in West Germany, Spain, Turkey, Mexico, Colombia, Sweden, and other countries.

They broke U.S. laws and the laws of a dozen countries to get many more billions in profit from illegal contracts. Every nickel of the \$20 million in bribes was public money belonging to the people here, and every nickel spent on Lockheed by the foreign governments belonged to the workers of those countries.

LOCKHEED CRIMES

Lockheed is well practiced at swindling at home, too. In the 1960s, the company in collusion with the Pentagon, perfected what they called the "buy in" and "cost overrun" racket. It worked like this: Houghton and his cronies would "buy in" on a military contract at a normal price to produce what they brass wanted. After the contract was signed,

Lockheed would dole out money in high salaries, executive bonuses, excessive profits to sub-contractors, enormous executive retirement funds, and other more sophisticated methods of diverting the money into their own pockets. When they got through milking the company, the books would show a loss or "cost overrun." Houghton would run to his Pentagon buddies and ask for millions more. The Pentagon would fork it over, because after all the brass had to have their weapons.

This game worked for years until the gang overdid it. The economic crisis caught up with Lockheed. When they "overran" by \$655 million on the C-5A and a few other war items in 1971, there was not enough money in the till to cover their extravagance. They were facing bankruptcy.

Such white collar crime on a grand corporate scale is called "mismanagement." Instead of

hauling them into court for fraud and throwing them in jail, the way things are done with the poor, Congress and the banks decided instead to lend Lockheed \$250 million—of the people's money!

What happened to Houghton, the mastermind of all these crimes? When the news broke of the bribery scandal no cops came to his house to smash in his door, wreck his house, terrorize his family, pinch his wrists in handcuffs, throw him into a dark paddy wagon, and haul him off to court. No judge looked at him with contempt and mercilessly sent him off for years to toil for pennies an hour in an inhuman, overcrowded prison staffed by sadistically brutal guards. Not for ten years or ten days or even ten minutes. Yet his crimes were written about in every newspaper and talked about over every air-wave in both hemispheres.

What was Houghton's punishment? Why, he gracefully stepped down as leader of the gang and retired to his two-story stucco mansion in Studio City outside Burbank, California. If his duties as a member of the gang at Southern California Edison and the United California Bank don't occupy too much of his time, he can spend his new-found leisure raising Black Angus cattle on his 425-acre ranch at Marietta, Georgia, where he rose to power in the corporate underworld of Lockheed.

BUSINESS AS USUAL

And what of the rest of the gang? They are doing business as usual. Naturally, they have a new leader, Robert Haack, former head of the gambler's incorporated, known as the New York Stock Exchange. According to the latest reports of the New York Times financial section, "problems linger but defense money is pouring in" to Lockheed.

Joann Little is still in prison. So are the thousands of other poor people, driven to desperation and unjustly jailed. But, the spirit of resistance shown by Joann Little and other political prisoners and their supporters in the face of such overwhelming odds hearkens a new day when the system of "justice" which favors only the rich will be overthrown. The poor and oppressed who are now the victims will judge the real criminals.

Mother of four serving five lifetime sentences**Black woman framed up on robbery charge**

By JANE KAAZ

BOSTON, Nov. 5—Ella Ellison, a poor Black woman and mother of four children, is currently serving five lifetime sentences with no chance of parole for allegedly participating in a bank robbery during which a Boston policeman was killed. She is innocent.

In November of 1973, three young men from Columbia Point, an all-Black city housing project on the edge of South Boston, were arrested for robbing the Roxbury Loan Company. Two of the men confessed their involvement and under the threat of no-parole life sentences or the death penalty, they turned state's witnesses and changed their testimony, describing a young "light-skinned girl . . . about 16 or 17" as the driver of the getaway car. Ella Ellison, a matronly dark Black

woman of 26, was never mentioned.

RACIST HYSTERIA

This incident took place the summer before Phase I of Boston's school desegregation order took effect. Racist hysteria was at a fever pitch as ROAR, City Hall, the police, and the press, under the code word of "anti-busing" launched a full-scale attack on Boston's Black community.

In this atmosphere of racist violence, pressure increased to "avenge" the death of the slain policeman, John Schroeder. Newman Flanagan, later to become famous for his racist prosecution of Dr. Kenneth Edelin, forced the two men to name the "girl" involved. They named Ella Ellison, knowing that she had moved out of the state.

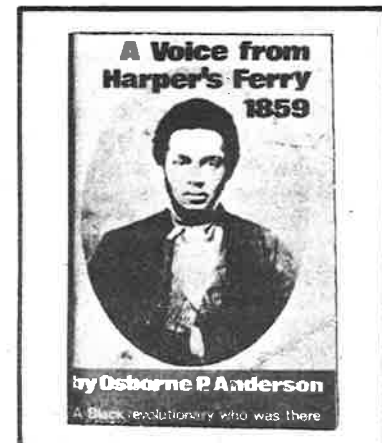
The prosecution pursued Ella's case with unveiled racist contempt. Key evidence establishing Ella's innocence was denied to Defense Attorney William Homans by the prosecution. Blatantly contradictory testimony of the two men was ignored. The fact that Ella had carefully left a forwarding address when leaving the state a month earlier was disregarded.

UNJUSTLY CONVICTED

Ella Ellison was convicted of driving the getaway car, and, under the state's brutal felony-murder law, of first degree murder. In addition, she was convicted of fleeing the state to escape prosecution. Her sentence was for five lifetimes, including one natural life sentence which does not allow for any parole.

This week, Judge Roger Donahue is hearing motions for a retrial. Despite the risk that their no-parole natural life sentences will be reinstated, the two men have come forward to testify that Ella Ellison "had no connection whatever" with the robbery. In addition attorney Homans has taken the stand to prove prosecution had intentionally withheld crucial testimony clearing Ella at the time of her trial.

Judge Donahue has 30 days to decide if he will allow a retrial. Ella Ellison should not have to undergo a retrial, she should never have been tried at all, yet she has already been in jail for two and a half years. Her five-lifetimes sentence is another example of the "justice" oppressed people receive at the hands of the courts and the whole racist system.



By Osborne P. Anderson

Written by the only Black survivor of John Brown's courageous military operation of 1859 to free the slaves. This is a detailed account of the raid, the months spent planning it, and its tragic aftermath. Introduction by Vincent Copeland, entitled The Unfinished Revolution, predicts that Black and white workers will finish the struggle begun at Harper's Ferry.

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Rigged elections 1876-1976

The 1974 'election'—Arranging a cold coup d'etat

By V. COPELAND

In the summer of 1974, the long so-called Constitutional crisis of what to do about Nixon came to an end. Nixon was forced to resign—but not before his Vice President, Spiro Agnew, also resigned. And Nixon's appointee as Vice President, Gerald Ford, later became President.

With the universal hallelujahs in the capitalist press after this event, it was clear that the ruling class had decided to call it a day for awhile and patch up the intense internecine struggle in the interest of stability.

HIS MASTER'S VOICE

When Ford was appointed by Nixon to be Vice President, the Democratic-controlled Congress approved the appointment overwhelmingly, with Rockefeller Republicans such as Sen. Jacob Javits of New York even more rapturous about it. And why not?—since part of the secret deal was for Javits' boss to become Vice President when Ford was promoted.

Javits commented even before Rockefeller's appointment—in fact, the day after Ford's approval for Vice President—"The critical phase is over." And so it proved.

Ford's and Rockefeller's accession to power, then, was not at all a coup d'etat from the point of view of the contending imperialist factions, but only from the standpoint of the constantly betrayed working class electorate. The whole thing was worked out in utter contempt for the people themselves. However, the long Watergate hearings did prepare the people psychologically for the ousting of Nixon.

But as to the question of who would oust him, nothing much was said.

WHY NO POPULAR ELECTION?

It would have been relatively easy to hold a general country-wide election for Nixon's replacement. Capitalist countries such as Italy—and even Germany and Britain on occasion—hold elections for their top officials much oftener than does the United States.

Why was no such election held here? Why, in the great reaffirmation of the great American system sung in unison by the chorus boys of capitalism, was nothing said about having an old-fashioned American election?

THE RAZOR'S EDGE

The answer, of course, is that in the temporary resolution of their differences, the ruling class factions were so poised on the razor's edge of open battle that there had

to be the most precise agreement on just who should hold the top two executive positions for U.S. capitalism if any political equilibrium could be established.

The tendency toward military dictatorship was extremely strengthened during this period and even now has not been wholly erased. The imperialist generals are waiting in the wings.

The formal procedure they followed is still fresh in the memory of many observers. But it is worth repeating here—if only to fill out the story of rigging the election in one of the worst cases, if not the very worst, since 1876.

Nixon, it will be recalled, was accused of conspiring to cover up the Watergate burglary. It couldn't be proved that he had actually participated in it—just that his closest associates planned the crime!

But now the well-known "White House tapes" contained the conversations that proved Nixon's complicity to any listener's satisfaction. While Nixon defied the Congress and the public and refused to surrender the tapes, the lawyers went after him for income tax evasion (a tactic which he himself had used liberally against his political enemies in the ruling class).

Of course, the fact that he had railroaded the liberal Alger Hiss to jail and manufactured the evidence against him, the fact that he murdered tens of thousands in an undeclared war, the fact that he invaded Cambodia and secretly bombed Laos, the fact that he was a reactionary, racist enemy of the poor and working people and a known purloiner of funds 20 years earlier—these facts were hardly mentioned. But there was much talk about "respect for the Presidency" and "following Constitutional procedures," etc.

REMOVING AGNEW FIRST

The obvious embarrassment in getting rid of Nixon was that Spiro Agnew would become President. So before forcing Nixon to resign, the Watergate investigating group "discovered" that Agnew had taken bribes from engineering contractors for the state when he was Governor of Maryland.

This was a fact well known to every capitalist politician in Maryland for nearly a decade.

The revelation forced Agnew to resign to avoid criminal prosecution. And every knowledgeable person was now aware that the individual picked to fill Agnew's vacated position was the one finally slated to take Nixon's place—if all went well.

Gerald Ford, a 25-year member of Congress (13 terms, no less) was

the one for whom the heavens opened.

Ford had been a close friend of Nixon, although not as deep in the Nixon politics as Agnew, and highly acceptable to the Nixon forces. At the same time Nelson Rockefeller, the then hidden choice for Vice President after Ford's elevation, was from a different faction.

FORD AND ROCKEFELLER—BIRDS FROM DIFFERENT NESTS

Ford was reactionary and racist to the core, an all-out supporter of the military, and even more crooked than the average Congressman. (See the book Washington Payoff by Robert N. Winterberger, published by Lyle Stuart, 1972.) He had conducted a long feud with another militarist, Melvin Laird, who happened to be in the Rockefeller group, to get the post of House Minority Leader.

This made him still more acceptable to the anti-Rockefeller forces.

Rockefeller himself was supposed to be in the "liberal" wing of the Republican Party, a wing which is owned by a number of old established Northeastern fortunes and usually led by the Rockefellers. But the "liberal" label is merely a fiction fabricated by the right wing.

At the time, it was clearly a compromise between two broad tendencies in the ruling class.

DEMOCRATS IN ON DEAL

The Democratic Party faction of the ruling class (if people who bribe both parties' politicians can be called such a thing) was very much in on the deal.

Clark Clifford, a Democrat and the last Secretary of Defense under Johnson, and a Washington "super-lawyer," advocated the course followed in getting rid of Nixon to the letter. In fact, he practically wrote the scenario and published it in the New York Times in the early spring of 1973. (The Times was so enthusiastic it reprinted it in the fall!)

Clifford was, of course, fronting for at least one section of the ruling class and making a proposal to the others. Clifford was an instrument of bigger forces, but judging by his record, the proposal was really his own scheme.

He is reliably credited with masterminding Harry Truman's remarkable win in 1948 and with shepherding the measures to save the duPonts' \$2 billion in GM capital gains taxes through Congress and a veritable maze of Washington bureaus, any one of which could theoretically have

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

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

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

- ATLANTA—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 424, Atlanta, Georgia 30301. (404) 523-8990.
- BALTIMORE—Workers World Party, 2402 St. Paul St., Baltimore, Maryland 21218. (303) 366-3713.
- BOSTON—Workers World Party, 419 Boylston Street, Room 204, Boston, Mass. 02116. (617) 247-1778.
- BUFFALO—Workers World Party, 730 Main St., Buffalo, N.Y. 14202. (716) 855-3055.
- CHICAGO—Workers World Party, 542 S. Dearborn, Rm. 310, Chicago, Illinois 60605. (312) 922-0326.
- CLEVELAND—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 12576, East Cleveland, Ohio 44112. (216) 451-9538 or 231-8456.
- DETROIT—Workers World Party, 229 Gratiot, 3rd fl., Detroit, Michigan 48226. (313) 962-4979.
- HOUSTON—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 52115, Houston, Texas 77052. (713) 224-2842.
- MILWAUKEE—Workers World Party, 150 E. Juneau, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202. (414) 224-0422 or 224-0429.
- NEW YORK City—Workers World Party, 46 West 21 St., New York, N.Y. 10010. (212) 255-0352.
- NORFOLK—Workers World Party, P.O. Box 7032, Norfolk, Virginia 23509. (804) 627-0870.
- PHILADELPHIA—Youth Against War & Fascism, P.O. Box 9894, Philadelphia, Pa. 19140. (215) 227-3517.
- RICHMOND—Youth Against War & Fascism, P.O. Box 12132, Richmond, Virginia 23219.
- ROCHESTER—Workers World Party, 171 State St., Rochester, N.Y. 14614. (716) 546-6429.
- WASHINGTON, D.C.—Workers World Party, 930 F St., North West, Rm. 720, Washington, D.C. 20004. (202) 783-7079 (evening).

made the money-gorged family cough up.

Thus with connections to the right wing duPonts in addition to the generally liberal Democrats, and perhaps other quarters, too, Clifford spoke especially to the Democrats in Congress. But even

so, he must have been surprised at the large number of "liberals" and "independents" in Congress who voted for the reactionary Ford and the equally reactionary Rockefeller without a murmur.

Next: 1976—They Run Against Themselves Again.

—Socialist construction

(Continued from p. 9)
successful campaign.

With very little to spend on expensive imported medicines, a government research program is examining many traditional herbal remedies to see which might meet Mozambique's great health problems.

STRUGGLE CONTINUES

Economic development is complicated even when conditions are favorable, but the progress made in Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, Angola, and Mozambique is remarkable. Led by movements which acquired their skills in long and difficult wars of liberation and which are one with the people they lead, the African peoples' republics have made great

progress in overcoming the legacy of Portugal's cruel colonial exploitation and are beginning socialist construction. A Luta Continua! Victory is certain!

—Racist justice

(Continued from p. 10)

But it shows once again that the brutality of Alabama "justice" (police, prison guards, KKK, and courts) is part of the whole American system of "justice," which extends to every section of this country, including Detroit.

These kind of threats will not stop support for Imani and the Amore-Holman Brothers. Free Imani! Tear down the walls!

M.Z.
Detroit

FOR THE BIRDS ...



POLITICAL PRISONERS



Prisoners Coalition: 'Stop death penalty!'

By BRUCE SMITH

ATLANTA, Oct. 30—In spite of cold, wind, and rain, more than 150 people rallied here today to demand jobs and an end to the death penalty and the use of prisons to oppress poor and Black and Latin workers. The Atlanta chapter of the National Coalition to Help Prisoners and Their Families sponsored today's activities including a rally and march through downtown Atlanta followed by a caravan and march to the governor's mansion.

On July 6, the Supreme Court upheld death penalty laws in Georgia, Texas, and Florida. Now 31 condemned prisoners await execution in Georgia alone.

LEGALIZED DEATH PENALTY IS RACISM

Between 1930 and 1967, when the death penalty was declared illegal, almost 4,000 people were executed. Of them, 54 percent were Black, who constituted roughly 13 percent of the population. The Supreme Court's July decision to legalize the death penalty once again is a direct attack on Blacks who are still most often victimized by the racist judicial system.

Today's demonstration here was aimed at Atlanta's ruling

class and particularly at Georgia's Governor George Busby.

There were representatives at today's activities from Black, labor, gay, religious, welfare, tenant, prisoner, and national rights organizations from Mississippi, Alabama, Virginia, the Carolinas, and Georgia. Participants also included people struggling for Puerto Rican liberation and an end to U.S.-backed fascist rule in Chile.

The picket signs, banners, and chants called for jobs—not jails, human rights for all prisoners, and an end to executions, and freedom for the Five Puerto Rican Nationalist Prisoners.

The Mississippi Gay Alliance carried a banner and chanted, "Gay, straight, Black, white, same struggle, same fight!"

GOVT'S ANSWER TO UNEMPLOYMENT

Before noon the picket line was almost a block long and the pickets gathered to hear speakers from the National Welfare Rights Organization, the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, the Peoples Movement for Justice, and the Puerto Rican Solidarity Committee. All the speakers pointed

out that U.S. prisons and the bringing back of the death penalty are the answers of the U.S. government and big business to growing unemployment, poverty and rebellion among working people and oppressed nations in the U.S.

From the Post Office, the Rev. Joe Boone of the National Coalition and the Metro Atlanta Summit Leadership Congress led the people into the street. Chanting and singing, they marched down Martin Luther King Jr. Drive and up Peachtree Street to Central City Park.

The marchers then boarded buses and cars for a caravan up Peachtree St. to the governor's mansion. There was one short detour. They stopped to visit NBC affiliate Channel 2 to protest the lack of coverage for the march by all of Atlanta's major media. Demonstrators jumped out of the buses chanting "Stop the war on Black America" as they began pounding on the doors. There was no response from the lords of the media who remained snugly inside.

Arriving at the governor's mansion in the heart of a super-rich neighborhood, the people again took to the streets, marching and chanting up to the front gate. In a brief rally, Mrs. Ethel Matthews of the Atlanta Welfare Rights Organization called to "Governor Buzzard" and warned him and his neighbors to heed the demands of the people or face the eventual wrath of the oppressed.

Sekou Lumpen of the Peoples Movement for Justice in Mobile, Alabama, reminded the demonstrators that "we will have to bring our fight against the racist death penalty, prisons and joblessness back to the Georgia governor, and organize more people in Georgia, Alabama, Boston, Chicago, and California to stop the racist lynchings in the courts and in the streets."

MOBILE LYNCH-LAW

After the demonstration the Prisoners Solidarity Committee of Workers World Party sponsored a disco-social for the benefit of the Peoples Movement for Justice from Mobile, Alabama. Brothers Sekou and Casmarah told the 75 people assembled about police lynch-mob terrorism in Mobile. Sekou and Casmarah explained how the struggle of Black and other oppressed people for justice in the courts, the prisons, the streets, and on the job is the leading force in the struggle of all workers for a decent living and freedom from exploitation and oppression.



National support for Gary Tyler is building, with demonstrations this week in Cleveland [above] and Detroit. Tyler, a Black youth was framed up on a murder charge at the age of 16 and has been sentenced to die.

WW Photo: Alan R.

200 march to save Gary Tyler

DETROIT, Oct. 30—"None of us, we are not free. We are not never going to be free, unless we get ourselves together. There's going to be some more Gary Tylers, so don't stop building even if Gary gets free!" said Mrs. Juanita Tyler to a rally of 200 people in Detroit today. She called on those present to show support for her son Gary, who has been sentenced to death in Destrehan, Louisiana, on a racist frame-up charge of murder.

A strong march through downtown Detroit and picket lines at the Federal Building and the Detroit Free Press building followed the rally.

Today's activities were sponsored by the Committee to Free Gary Tyler and the National Student Coalition Against Racism.

GARY'S LIFE STILL IN DANGER

Mrs. Tyler explained that her son Gary's life is still in danger. While Louisiana's death penalty laws were recently overturned by the Supreme Court, legislators in that state are working hard on drafting a new death penalty that would meet with Supreme Court specifications.

She movingly described that day in October two years ago when a racist white anti-busing mob attacked the busload of Black high school students on which Gary was riding.

A shot intended for the bus was fired from the mob and accidentally struck and killed a white youth in the mob. Although the bus driver, a 20-year army veteran, testified that no gun was fired from the bus and police, after a thorough search, could locate no gun on the bus, Gary, at the age of 16, was convicted of murder by an all-white jury and sentenced to death.

MOTHER TELLS OF SON'S BEATING

Mrs. Tyler tearfully told the rally of how she waited in an outer room of the police station on the day of Gary's arrest and listened while Gary was stripped, beaten from head to toe, and kicked in the

groin by the police for hours. She described how, after Gary's trial, her husband lost his job of twenty years, another son and daughter lost their jobs, and two of her other sons were arrested on frame-up charges as a result of the virulent racist hysteria against Gary whipped up and led by the Ku Klux Klan.

Also speaking at the rally were Paul X Moody, a Muslim student and organizer in Ohio, who is being framed up on the classic racist charge of raping a white woman.

A speaker from the Committee to Free Billy Holcomb linked the attack on Gary Tyler with the racist attack currently being mounted on Black youth in Detroit, in the guise of a war on "street gangs." Billy Holcomb is a Black community organizer whom the cops and courts are attempting to jail because of his organizing work on this city's East Side.

MARCH TO FEDERAL AND NEWSPAPER BUILDINGS

After the rally, the participants marched through downtown Detroit to the Federal Building. On the picketline that was formed outside this building, brightly colored banners from Workers World Party and Youth Against War & Fascism could be clearly seen bearing the slogans, "Free Gary Tyler, stop the racist frame-up," and "Stop racist attacks on Black youth, from Detroit, Boston and Louisiana to South Africa."

The marchers proceeded to the offices of the Detroit Free Press to protest the virtual news blackout of nationwide activities in Gary's defense. While the picketers outside chanted loudly, "Cops and Klan work hand in hand, Free Gary Tyler", youths from the Committee to Free Gary Tyler met with the Free Press management to demand coverage of Gary's case.

Faced with such a strong show of support for Gary Tyler. The Free Press editors agreed to do an article on publicizing his case.

Supporters of Dacajeweah initiate campaign to demand clemency

By LESLIE FEINBERG

NEW YORK, Nov. 6—Supporters of prisoner Dacajeweah (aka John Hill) are initiating a campaign to pressure the Governor of New York to grant executive clemency to the last Attica Brother to remain imprisoned.

Dacajeweah, Native American Indian, is imprisoned in Green Haven serving a sentence of 20 years to natural life for a crime he did not commit. His real crime



was participating in the Attica rebellion five years ago.

On Sept. 9, 1971, the historic prison rebellion began at Attica against the unbearable living conditions there. On Sept. 13, Rockefeller ordered the uprising crushed. The siege by the State left forty-three people dead and many injured. The McKay Commission admitted in its official report that, "With the exception of Indian massacres in the late 19th century, the State police assault which ended the four-day prison uprising was the bloodiest one-day encounter between Americans since the Civil War."

Dacajeweah is still being held as a political prisoner as a result of that bloodbath of rebelling prisoners and their hostages by the repressive forces. Those who wish to support Dacajeweah can send postcards, letters and telegrams to Gov. Hugh Carey demanding freedom for this Native American man. Write to Governor Carey, Executive Mansion, Albany, New York, 12226. For more information, contact Attica News, 219 E. 10th St., NYC 10001.

—Britain

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where they blocked the city's credit and then imposed massive layoffs and cutbacks.

CALLAGHAN FEARS WORKERS' WRATH

Prime Minister James Callaghan balked in response to these demands. Since his Labour Party government depends on the electoral support it receives from the workers and the trade unions (although the Labour Party leadership is absolutely committed

to the preservation of capitalism), such a vastly unpopular program would drive the Labour Party from office, at the very least. It would also push the Party and trade union rank and file into support of the left-wing against the present center-right leadership.

As an indication of the kind of pressure Callaghan is under, he recently threatened the U.S. with pulling Britain's troops out of NATO. This has made the U.S. pause a bit, although Callaghan is, on his own, unable to seriously challenge Wall Street's position.

The current economic stagnation of the entire capitalist world has aggravated the crisis in Britain.

Particularly damaging has been the declining fortunes of its senior partner, U.S. finance capital. The loss of its empire has added too to Britain's troubles, which the London bankers can never forget.

The national bankruptcy which looms on the horizon also spells bankruptcy for the workers' collaborationist leaders, such as Callaghan. The British working class has a rich heritage of militant and revolutionary struggles and a deep understanding of its position in society. With their militant spirit they will turn this crisis of the bosses around and reorganize production on a socialist foundation.



By Bob McCubbin

Traces and links the roots of gay oppression to the overthrow of the patriarchy and the rise of class society. It points to socialist revolution as the only means to end the persecution of gay people. \$1.00 Order from World View Publishers 46 W. 21st Street New York, N.Y. 10010

South African troops continue their attacks on Peoples Angola on the eve of this country's first anniversary of independence. Page 8.

Campaign builds to free the Baltimore Two

By L. STEIN
BALTIMORE, Nov. 6—"We're not going to let them put Ray and Mike in jail! The courts have never freed anyone. It's the people's support that freed Joann Little, and we're going to free Ray and Mike by packing the courtroom to let them know they can't put them in prison."

Kathi Dennis's voice rang out defiantly. Her words reflected the spirit of more than 100 supporters who heard her speak at a benefit given here tonight in defense of the Baltimore Two. The Baltimore Two are Ray Ceci, a longshoreman, and Mike Pione, a laid-off shipyard worker, who face up to 20 years in prison after being arrested while posting leaflets for a meeting to build the massive July 4th demonstration demanding Puerto Rican independence, an end to the oppression of Blacks, Chicanos, and Native Americans and jobs for all.

This evening's benefit was preceded by a street meeting held in a busy downtown area early this afternoon. Despite the pressure of police harassment and the

presence of cop cars and a van, supporters were not intimidated. A large crowd of predominantly Black people gathered in front of a banner which read "Stop police brutality. Free Ray and Mike. Free James Harrison!"

POLICE FRAME UP RAY AND MIKE

Several passersby bought tickets to the benefit after hearing the story of how Ceci and Pione, members of Youth Against War & Fascism, were assaulted by a right-wing merchant in their community while they were publicizing the meeting to build the July 4th demonstration. The merchant attacked them and attempted to run them down with his truck. At this point, the police arrived and arrested Ceci and Pione. While they were being held by the police, the rightist continued to beat them.

Following this brutal assault, Ceci and Pione were themselves charged with aggravated assault, littering, and illegal posting. Ceci was forced to wait five hours for the emergency oral surgery he needed after the beating.

James Harrison's case was shown to be another example of the escalating police terror in Baltimore by speakers at the street meeting. This Black man was sitting on his front steps when the police ordered him to move. When

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WW Graphic: Janet

Long list of progressives back Ceci and Pione

NEW YORK, Oct. 30—In support of the right of free speech and in defense of the right to organize against colonialism, racism, and oppression, over 50 individuals and organizations have come to the support of the Baltimore Two. These sponsors were announced here tonight at a fund-raising night of solidarity with the Baltimore Two, Ray Ceci and Mike Pione. Mike and Ray, members of Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF) were organizing for the historic July 4th demonstration held in Philadelphia when they were marked as objects for a police frame-up. These two activists face a possible 20 years in jail for aggravated assault, littering, and illegal posting if they are convicted.

PSP LENDS SUPPORT

The list of sponsors supporting the Two is headed by Jose Alberto Alvarez, First Secretary of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party, and Alfredo Lopez, National Coordinator of the July 4th Coalition. The National Interim Board of the July 4th Coalition made the following statement: "Stopping the frame-up of the Baltimore Two will be a victory for all those who fight repression. The July 4th Coalition gives this effort its full support."

Others who were sponsors of the July 4th march and have joined the defense of the Baltimore Two are; The Committee to Free Lureida Torres, Ann Gael (national coordinating member, Native American Solidarity Committee), Grand Jury Project, Rev. Frederick Douglass Kirkpatrick,

Father Paul Mayer, and Howard Zinn.

POLITICAL PRISONERS

Many of the sponsors were themselves victims of the courts. They include: lesbian activists Ellen Grusse and Terry Turgeon who each served eight months in jail for refusing to cooperate with the Grand Jury in the state's conspiracy against Susan Saxe; Daniel and Phillip Berrigan who served years in jail for the destruction of draft files at the height of Nixon's destruction of Vietnam; Morton Sobell who

served close to 20 years convicted of espionage during the most intense time of the witch hunt. Helen Sobell who sustained Morton's defense until he was freed in the early 1970s, is also a sponsor.

Long-time champions of civil liberties who have stepped forward to support the Baltimore Two as sponsors are: Gene Guerrero of Atlanta, Arthur Kinoy, Professor of Law, Rutgers University; Elliott Wilk, National Lawyers Guild; and Herb Singleton, Black Baltimore attorney.

"This inexcusable attack by some members of the Baltimore

police on Ray and Mike requires our unrelenting defense," states Professor Jesse McDade. He and Frank Brown, a Black artist from South Africa and instructor at Morgan State, are joined in defending Ray and Mike by their colleagues: Prof. Jack Sinnegan, University of Maryland; Jo Ann Fuch, Towson State University; Steve Rose, Essex Community College.

UNION ACTIVISTS

In recognition of Ray's and Mike's work in the trade union movement, Local 1199 organizers

Les Baliss and Rich Erhmann as well as President of Local 75A United Furniture Workers, Jeff Bigelow, join the list of sponsors.

Dennis Serrette, President of the New York Chapter of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists has lent his name to the defense of the Baltimore Two in recognition of Ray's success in defeating the racist union leadership in the Baltimore shipyards in order to build a stronger union.

Mike was arrested while supporting the struggle of the Upland Tenants Association in Baltimore. Kate Boyd, chairperson of this organization, is offering her support to the Baltimore Two.

Mike spent a month in Boston two years ago helping to organize the tremendously successful Dec. 14, 1974, march against racism there. Mike's efforts have been acknowledged by support given to his case by Dennis Serrette and Black artist Ossie Davis, who sponsored the Boston event.

Among the organizations sponsoring the Baltimore Two Defense and organizing in Baltimore for a presence in court during the trial of the Two are: the Baltimore Alliance Against Racism and Repression, Baltimore School, Baltimore Marxist Group, Baltimore Welfare Rights Organization, Baltimore Women's Union, Chile Solidarity Committee (Baltimore Chapter), Coalition to Stop Unemployment and Inflation, Gay Caucus of Johns Hopkins University, Johns Hopkins Student Council, Jonah House, Native American Solidarity Committee (Baltimore Chapter), and New American Movement (Baltimore Chapter).

Statement of Iranian students

We are living at a time when people throughout the world are struggling for freedom and justice, struggling in different ways in different places. We are happy to have this opportunity to express our solidarity with Youth Against War & Fascism, and our support of their struggle against imperialist wars abroad and fascism at home.

Youth Against War & Fascism is one of the organizations that has been working to defend the rights of the American people against the injustices of monopoly capitalism. Youth Against War & Fascism has defended workers' strikes for their just demands, and student protests against U.S. wars of aggression. They have defended women's struggles for equality. They have been active in supporting the Black peoples' struggle against racism, Chicano

peoples' struggle against racial and cultural chauvinism; they have supported American Indians struggling for self-determination, and the Puerto Rican peoples' struggle for independence.

In a truly internationalist manner, Youth Against War & Fascism has risen to defend the cause of national liberation movements around the world. They joined in celebrating the victories of the Vietnamese, Cambodian, Mozambican, and Angolan peoples. They firmly support the continuing struggles of the Palestinian, Omani, Chilean, Zimbabwean, Namibian, and Azanian peoples.

The Iranian Students Association is a part of the Iranian peoples' democratic and anti-imperialist movement, and has waged a continuing campaign to expose the fascist system of Iran

and its dependence on world imperialism led by U.S. imperialism. In this campaign we have enjoyed firm solidarity with Youth Against War & Fascism in many of our actions. More than that, they have always supported the Iranian revolutionary movement.

Because of their progressive struggle, it is natural that they should arouse the hatred of precisely those who profit from the system. It is not surprising that YAWF members were criminally attacked by thugs of the Baltimore City Police, and framed on phony charges.

Ray Ceci and Mike Pione deserve total support from the people. To defend them vigorously is going to prove to the Baltimore Police that wherever there is oppression, there is resistance, and that victory will be ours.