It looked like South Africa or South Korea. But this class war is in mid-America.

**Cops shoot tear gas, rubber bullets at Ohio Labor Day rally**

By John Catalinotto

It may have been in Coshocton, Ohio, but the Labor Day attack on the workers by the Stone Container Company and the sheriff's department looked more like South Korea or South Africa.

With strikers picketing at the plant gate and supporters from 30 unions gathered a block away at the town's Labor Day rally, sheriff's and deputies shot tear gas, rubber bullets and wooden bullets at the strike supporters in an attempt to break the union. Over a dozen strikers were arrested by nighttime.

The 180 members of Local 544 of the International Union of Operating Engineers had been on strike since Aug. 17. Like the International Paper Co. in Jay, Maine, the Stone paper mill is trying to impose a new takeback contract on the workers.

In fact, the main issues of the strike are the same. The company wants to take away the Christmas holiday. They also want to end premium pay on weekends. Stone Container spokesperson Bob Weaver even justifies these takebacks by citing what International Paper is trying to do to its workers. But all these paper companies have had a very profitable year in 1986 and expect to do even better this year.

And now, according to Weaver, the company has decided to impose this new contract even though the union won't agree to it. In other words, Stone Container has used supervisors and contract scabs to try to break the strike, and is hiring "permanent replacements" to try to break the union.

To reverse this union-busting attempt, workers in Ohio scheduled a solidarity rally for Labor Day in Coshocton, a town of about 14,000 people between Columbus and Canton. Workers from some 30 unions, including steelworkers and miners, swelled the Labor Day crowd to over 1,200 people, according to Local 544 leader.

**Tens of thousands in Flint honor sitdown strikers**

By Jerry Goldberg

The 30th anniversary of the UAW-Coatline, the longest strike in labor history, was commemorated in the UAW's Flint, Mich., labor center on Labor Day.

Area-wide Women's Coalition march in Flint, Mich., wearing the uniform and beret of the Women's Emergency Brigade of the 1930s.

September 7 — Labor Day in Michigan was celebrated with large parades in Flint and Detroit. In Flint, the parade took place Sept. 5.

It was organized by United Auto Workers (UAW) Region 1C, and was part of a weekend series of events commemorating the 30th anniversary of the sitdown strike. The sitdowns led to recognition of the UAW by GM and spurred the organizing of many of the industrial unions of today.

The Flint parade consisted of hundreds of floats, marching bands and contingents, all dedicated to honoring the sitdowners. On many floats sat the pioneers who fought the battles which led to the UAW. A multinational group of over 50 women organized by the Area-Wide Women's Coalition marched in formation, chanting and singing, wearing the white uniforms and red berets of the Women's Emergency Brigade. It was this brigade that heroically fought on the picket lines in the 1930s.

Area-wide Women's Coalition march in Flint, Mich., wearing the uniform and beret of the Women's Emergency Brigade of the 1930s.

What was most striking about the Flint event was that tens of thousands of workers joined in Labor Day events around the country.

**WORKERS MARCH**

Hundreds of thousands join in Labor Day events around the country.
Canarsie attack highlights racism in New York City

By Carmen Roundtree
New York

Three Black youth were chased and beaten by a group of white youth on Sept. 2 in New York City in another incidence of racial violence, directing attention to an ongoing myth of "liberal New York City."

This latest rash of racial violence is just another episode of continued racism that has fueled the notion that New York City is the country where President Reagan has been in office.

This incident took place in Canarsie, a predominately white section of Brooklyn, as the three youth waited outside a bagel shop for their co-workers. Ewan Lawrence, 17, and his friends, Devon Goffin, 17, and Shy Melvy, 19, were chased and beaten with baseball bats and iron pipes. Two of the young men suffered head injuries, one requiring at least four stitches.

The three youth were taken to City Hall Palace Friday afternoon to meet with Mayor Koch, who in response to the beating, presented each of the injured men with a gold and gold city neckties, featuring the design based on the city seal. He then told the group that if they "ever get into a fix, do what we have to do to fix it, they are ever attacked again to show their neckties and tell the attacker that they are under the protection of the mayor."

This latest trend is indicative of Mayor Koch who has more than periodically sputtered racist remarks since he took office in July of this year. New York City is this same type of patronizing attitude that marks the city that "acts as if" it has occurred in this city, from Howard Beach to the South Bronx. Koch hands out wonder neckties that are to ward off all attackers, a fantasy that only works in superman comic books.

To date only one of the 25 youth who were involved in the attack has been arrested. It is obvious the New York City police are trying to shrugged off another racist attack by stating that they feel that it is just another example of racism that is isolated in what way? Tell the parents of Michael Griffin, killed in racial violence that he was killed in the neighborhood that it was an isolated incident.

Lest we not forget, not just the Latino youth who were beaten in Canarsie, but the two Latina lesbians who were beaten by the police right near the Brownsville deli. The last incident in a pattern of racial violence in this city does not stop there. Just last night, on Sept. 4, just two days after the attack in Canarsie, two police beat a young Korean bicyclist, Oye Young, in Manhattan. Mayor Koch is not only going to be stopping Young for riding his bike against rush hour traffic and asking him for identification. When Young couldn't produce it, the two police officers became violent.

One witness said that she was walking down the street when she saw one of the police officers violently snatch Young off of his bicycle and throw him to the ground. The incident was corroborated by many witnesses who watched the incident. Another witness said that the police officer shouted at Young when Young would not get off his bike, and that one police officer threw Young to the ground as the other one started to beat him. She said that this behavior continued until a crowd broke the attack up, and by that time the police to "stop it, stop it." The cops then handcuffed Young and arrested him.

Young was bruised about the face and bleeding from his right eye and at his WNYC radio show on Saturday.

Several witnesses followed the police officers who were being chased by the young people. They told me that they would have to appear in court next Wednesday and Thursday.

This is another episode of an avalanche of racism that has not just New York City, but the entire country.

It's time to put Koch, Reagan and all the right wing cronies on notice, and once and for all bring to justice, by what ever means necessary, these racist thugs.

Ohio Labor Day

Continued from page 1
Harold Maple.

"They brought in more than 80 extra cops to protect the 26 union "heroes," Maple told Workers World. "All through the day they were provoking our people, riding around town and giving us the finger. We feel the whole thing was set up by the sheriff's department and the company."

Cops attacked

With the 80 cops lined up along the plant, the march was directed into town, winding up at the rested house said that "in a minor way by hanging a block from the main plant gate. "The cops lined up a block away," said Maple. "They said someone had thrown a rock up by the plant. Then they fired

wooden slugs and rubber slugs and tear gas at the unionists. If there was a riot, they were prepared to fire."

A pregnant woman who lived near the union office was taken to the hospital for a tear gas intoxication, but she came out unharmed, but the state of her baby is still unknown.

When the march reached the union van, dragging 56-year-old unionist Adrian Mathias from the truck and beating his head against the ground. Maple said also that some unionists had wounds from the wooden slugs.

Later that evening, the cops came to the rented house and put a 10 p.m. curfew on it. They also smashed up some windows on the house, knocked down some windows and arrested 13 people inside, charging them with "disorderly conduct."

Maple said that another solidarity rally is planned for Sept. 9 in Cohosch, and many of the same unions planning to come.

Atlanta homeless union demands $6.3 million in housing

By Barbara Gate
Atlanta

Activists working to build a union of homeless people have demanded that the city of Atlanta authorize a $6.3 million project to build housing for the homeless. AHA, which has been building housing for the homeless, has been denied the necessary funding.

The housing authorization has been pending for almost five years. Homeless organizations discovered the existence of the funds while meeting with Atlanta Housing Authority Director Sam Hider. Hider says the money has not been used because AHA has not found a suitable site for the housing. Admits, however, that AHA knew in advance that its only proposal to HUD so far had not met federal guidelines because it was not near existing public housing and distant from population centers.

Discovery of the idle and threatened funds was met with outrage, particularly from the homeless community. The union committee led a picket at AHA on Aug. 18, chanting, "We're not going to go quietly. We're not going to take it!" Many have asked why AHA will not build on available sites near existing public housing and nearby neighbors.

All public housing built in recent decades has been placed at the very edge of the city. Poor people have lived there for years, for that is an attempt to hide the poor in out-of-the-way places. Recently the city has begun a more direct campaign to make poor and homeless people less visible. In one weekend 150 people were arrested in a sweep of downtown which is part of a city effort to "sanitize" the central city. Police overflowed the city jail with charges such as "public sleeping," loitering or "blocking the side street."

Others echoed the call for unity in an organization. Ethel Matthews of Homeless Projects, Inc., said, "Poor people have always had to fight for what they get. "Charlise Orrick of United Steel Workers Local 917 wrote a letter about the threats of Atlanta's last steel mill to close and eliminate 1000 jobs. "A lot more of us may be at the homeless rallies in the next two years. We've got to stick together."
If you don’t act now, Workers World could be homeless in 1989! The lease on the Workers World office is running out. We’re caught in the desperate crisis between soaring homelessness and extortionate real estate developers and bankers. Our only solution is to purchase a permanent home for the newspaper. But that requires an enormous amount of money — as much as $1 million. That’s why we’re initiating a two-year campaign: the Workers World 30th Anniversary Building Fund.

Workers World will celebrate its 30th anniversary in 1989 — the same year the lease runs out. Therefore we are beginning a campaign now. We need your help. If you value what Workers World brings you each week — our national and international coverage from the revolutionary perspective of working and oppressed people around the world — then plan today to invest in the Workers World 30th Anniversary Building Fund. You will be investing in the fight against exploitation and all forms of reaction and oppression — including landlords! You will be investing in the struggle for socialism.

Watch for a special mailing that will give you more information on the many ways your dollars will help Workers World build for the future. Find out how YOU can participate in buying a permanent home for Workers World.

Invest today in Workers World. For your future. And the future of humanity.
Carl Jacob — he let people hear the truth

Carl Jacob, well known in New York as a skilled sound technician and progressive activist, died of a stroke on Sept. 2. His death is a loss to New York's cultural life.

Born in Kansas in 1910, Jacob joined the Merchant Marine in the turbulent days of the Great Depression and was later a sailor on the World War II merchant fleet. He was a skilled sound technician and progressive activist, died of a stroke on Sept. 2. His death is a loss to New York's cultural life.

After the Second World War, he became a pipefitter and member of the IBEW. In the 1950s, he moved to San Francisco, where he worked on San Francisco, met his wife, Dorothy, a social worker, and the city, working on the city's black radio stations. He was active in the local movement for peace and justice, and was a committed opponent of the Vietnam War. He was a member of theband, the shortage of sound equipment available for demonstrations and rallies, Carl was able to use his skills as a sound technician and loudspeakers that became his contribution to the movement.

"Carl deeply believed in the causes of justice and peace, not just in the U.S., but around the world. He had a great need to let people know the truth. And providing sound at rallies was an important way of helping in the struggle."

After settling in Crawford, N.J., Jacob became a teacher in the area, bringing his vanload of sound equipment to anti-Vietnam demonstrations in Philadelphia, housing marches in Jersey City, N.J., and labor rallies in New York City. On Aug. 30, he was in Hartford, Conn., providing sound for the march and rally in support of Santo Tomas de Guzman. "Carl was always a radical politically," said Dorothy Jacob. "He went wherever he could and brought the message to the people."

A memorial service will be held Sept. 14 at 7 p.m., at Washington Square United Methodist Church, 135 W. 4th St., New York.
By Lanira Stein

On Labor Day 1987 trade unionists marched in a show of unity in the fight for pay raises, the right to a job and an end to contract concessions. They were joined by a huge crowd in support of workers' struggles around the world.

"This is an upbeat march, the largest we've seen in years," a representative of the New York City Central Labor Council told Workers World. The council estimated that marchers in New York City numbered over 200,000 and filled Fifth Avenue from 34th to 42nd Street. Unions in the city have grown 0.5% in the last three years to include about 180,000 workers.

A great surge in the participation of Black, Latino, Asian and women workers marked the march upbeat. This was best exemplified by the Garment Workers Union, whose members consist of workers from all around the world. Contingents like this also had a large number of workers and were active in raising political issues.

Singers chanting — "We want more pay" — came from AFSCME Local 1549 which is composed of clerical workers. Their placard demanded, "Koch settle our contract now."

There were placards which read, "Fight plant closures and layoffs." The Coalition of Labor Union Women carried a banner, "Emplea, no guerra, justa lucha." The Nationalists carried two coffins signifying the burial of giveback bargaining and two-tier wage systems. The IUE float demanded child care and pay equity. TWU signs read: "Don't privatize pub-

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lic jobs.

International Solidarity

An international banner carried by Black, Latino and white service workers read: "Local 144 SEIU marches in solidarity with South African trade unionists and all workers' struggles around the world." Many unions raised a solidarity sign with "Solidarity with South Africa. UAW District 65 sponsored an African National Congress (ANC) banner.

There were placards demanding an end to contra aid. Some of the signs were against the U.S. contra war in Nicaragua to the struggle against apartheid.

Bringing struggle against war home

Responding to the growing inci-
dence of racist attacks in New York, Musicians Local 802 and UAW District 65 had signs calling for opposition to racism and racist violence. Here were signs showing labor's opposition to Reagan's latest ap-

Continued from page 1

nointment to the Supreme Court. "Civil rights yes!" was a Food and Commercial Workers union sign.

An AFL-CIO float along with signs from a great number of unions called for a health care plan to cover every-
none.

Nearly all the unions carried ban-
er in support of the Farmworkers' struggle against unsafe pesticides: "Don't buy poison grapes."

NABET, on strike against NBC, and PAM workers also raised a banner against International Paper Company (IP), requested all of labor's sup-

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port.

Hospital Workers 1199 demanded, "Justice for home care workers." And the Flight attendants requested, "Don't fly TWA." Leaflets called for a boycott of Hormel and Consumer Re-ports for using union-busting tactics.

UAW District 65 took an important initiative by sponsoring the Lesbian and Gay Labor Network along with representatives from the Oct. 11 march on Washington.

An organization of disabled people was hosted by the Transport Workers. Bus drivers, glad for support from the disabled, pushed wheelchairs along the march route.

The Greyhound workers' union sponsored the bike messengers' In-depended Couriers Association. These workers, mainly poor oppressed youth, have been hit hard by Mayor Koch's bicycle ban. They brought up the end of the march in pouring rain.

"Are we wet? No!" they chanted. "Ban Koch! We want the streets back!"

Also on Labor Day, over 500,000 took.

Michigan

of people turned out, lining the parade route about an elbow for miles. Virtu-

ally the entire community came out to honor the sidetowners. This reflects the deep-seated labor consciousness in the Flint area. Following the parade, a beautiful monument commemorating the 1937 sitdown was dedicated in downtown Flint.

The UAW Jackson Educational Community poolside float for the Flint parade under the saying, "Jack-

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the local printed hundreds of these which read "A Job is a Right." Marching with UAW Local 22 was a large group of young, black football players carrying the local signs. The UAW Local 22 float won the award for best float in the parade.

The demand for a moratorium on plant closings and layoffs was raised by many locals in the parade. The Job is a Right Campaign signs were very popular. The Campaign joined the Wayne County Unemployed Council (WCUC) and the local Free Press, both of which received and displayed on about 75% of the floats. Flint is already being hard hit by GM's plant closings and lay-

offs.

Detroit's parade

In Detroit, over 100,000 people turned out Sept. 7 for the annual Labor Day parade. Over 100,000 militant contingents from the Detroit Fed-
eration of Teachers, and UAW 2800 from Blue Cross-Blue Shield, both of these unions went on strike last week. Other strikers present included USWA Local 17075 from Karmasin Corpora-
nation in Wyandotte fighting proposed company wage cuts and takebacks, and UAW 9885 members from Quinco Tool who have been on strike since September 1985.

The theme of the parade was "Jobs and economic justice" and the fight to stop plant closings was a major theme throughout the march. UAW Local 15, representing the GM Flint Plant which is scheduled for closing in De-

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New York City Labor Day.

By Bettye Pottie

Philadelphia

Services for Blind workers

Win union struggle in Philadelphia

September 6 — Labor Day in Phila-
delphia was marked by the victory of 35 workers after a week long strike to over unfair labor practices against the Associated Services for the Blind (ASB) in Philadelphia. A labor and community solidarity for the striking workers was notable, it was the ASB's first strike by themselves who made this strike particularly inspir-

Along with the traditional picket signs announcing their demands, these workers carried white-tipped sticks used by guide dogs. The majority of ASB workers are blind or otherwise vision-

ASB translates and produces books and magazines in Braille for the Li-

library of Congress and other institu-

tions. In April, the ASB Employees Group won union recognition after a two-year long struggle. However, while mandated by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) to ne-

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ANC appeals for support for political prisoners

By Monica Moordhead

The following statement was issued by the African National Congress Political Prisoners Committee. It is a call for international support for political prisoners in South Africa who face execution.

Since this statement was issued, two political prisoners, Moses Mantsa and Mampeli Wellington Mveli, were sent to apartheid’s gallows for the “crime” of fighting against the fascist, racist regime.

The heroic freedom fighters, the majority in their 20s, and their supporters are calling upon the international community to come to their defense, to launch a campaign to save their lives and those of all South African political prisoners.

Awaiting execution in Pretoria, there are now one woman and 29 men who have been convicted on charges directly related to the vicious repression in the country today. Their trials arose as a result of the people’s resistance to the corrupt system of puppet community councils, “resistance to the war the regime is waging against the people of the townships, resistance to the persecution of trade unions and political activists.

It is now longer possible to count the number who have been killed and injured as a result of depression and resistance in South Africa. The police and army of the regime have carried out massacres in Soeto, Uitenhage, Durban, Mamelodi and other places inside the country, as well as over the borders in Mozambique, Lesotho, Botswana and Zimbabwe.

The police and their agents, the armed vigilantes, roam the townships harassing, kidnapping and often shooting on sight; people have been shot while simply walking in the streets; young children have been shot while playing in the doorways or in the backyards of their homes. Elected leaders and spokesmen of trade unions and local organizations have been found murdered — sometimes horrific — in mysterious circumstances. One has been arrested and charged for these crimes.

Indeed, it seems that some activists are being brought to court and framed on serious charges.

Those on death row now are political prisoners. The terrorists of South Africa are still walking free. These political prisoners are:

Six from Sharpeville, sentenced December 1986:
1. Mojalefa Regina Sefasa (30)
2. Credo Sebele (22)
3. Oupa Moses Diniso (30)
4. Theresa Ramashomola (24)
5. Duma Joshua Mashjulo (20)
6. Francis Don Mokhesi (29)
Two from Transkei, sentenced June 1986:
1. Solomon Mankopane Maowassa (23)
2. Alex Matapha Matepapane (23)
Three from Oudtshoorn, sentenced September 1986:
1. Patric Mzamande (23)
2. Desmond Majola (27)
3. Dickson Madikane (26)
Two from Soweto, sentenced September 1986:
1. Josiah Tsawane (29)
2. Kevin Malele (25)
One, sentenced in Jasenvale:
1. Ellie Webushe
One, sentenced in Bloemfontein, sentenced 1986:
1. Paul Telo Selaba (22)
Four from Addo, sentenced January 1987:
16. Mzwiko Christopher Makenzi
17. Mekhesewana Menze (43)
18. Ndumiso Silo Siphupheka (26)
19. Similo Lennox Woci (22)
One from Durban, sentenced to death three times, April 1987
20. Robert McBrade (23)
Three National Union of Mineworkers members from Vaal Reefs mine, sentenced to death four times, May 1987: Andries Magedi (25)
21. Solomon Mangaliso Nongwati (38)
22. Paulos Tsetai Tshelwa (38)
23. Paulos Tsetai Mzouwane, sentenced June 1987:
24. Mzwandile Gqaba (22)
25. Mzwandile Mamiti (27)
26. Thembonkosi Pressent (30)
27. Matibelele Sanga (27)
28. Monde Timane (28)
29. Lundi Wana (20)
30. Bekistwwe Ngidi (19)

Campaign to save their lives: A campaign to save their lives has been launched in South Africa. The Young Communist League, the National Union of Mineworkers, the South Africa National Students’ Congress and the National Education Crisis Committee are asking people to write to:

President Mugabe,-house of Commons, Lon-
don SW1, England;

President Reagan, The White House, Wash-
ington, D.C.;

Chancellor Kohl, Bundeskanzler-
rat, Bonn, Federal Republic of Ger-
many; asking them to use the influ-
ence of their governments to stop the hangings. They are also asking people to write to:

The State President, P.W. Botha, Union Buildings, Pretoria, South Af-
rica, demanding a reprieve for the 30.

Free all South African political prisoners! Death to apartheid!
Korean strikers stage plant, city hall takeovers

By Sharon Shelton

On Sept. 2 in the industrial town of Pusan, a major port on Korea's south coast, thousands of Korean workers were staging a mass demonstration against the unfair treatment of Korean workers by the U.S. government. The demonstration was held to protest against the unjust treatment of Korean workers by the U.S. government. The workers were demanding better wages and working conditions.

During the protest, several workers were arrested, and the protest continued throughout the day. The protest was peaceful, and the workers were able to voice their concerns to the authorities. The protest was a success, and the workers were able to bring attention to their cause.

Takeover of city hall

The next day, a strike began in Ulsan, a southern industrial center, where workers resumed a strike begun in August. Police attacked strikers who were barricading a luxury hotel, including the city's main port facility, and drove them into the city's industrial area. They seized the administrative building.

Philadelphia

According to the U.S. industry, the strike caused severe disruptions in the city's economy. The strike lasted for several days and caused the city to be shut down for a significant period.

U.S. secret role in Philippine coup

By Andy Stapp

A year-and-a-half ago the Reagan administration ended its covert support of the Aquino coup. It was in the interest of the U.S. to support the coup, but it was not in the interest of the Aquino regime to support the coup.

For several days, Aquino alternately flirted with the Marcos regime and the American-backed military, or with the American-backed military and the American-backed military. Both of these strategies have failed to produce a lasting military solution to the problem of the Marcos regime.

In February 1986, Washington finally dumped Marcos. Aquino got the nod.

But now everything is back to square one. Aquino's regime has been less than a year in power, and it faces a difficult situation against the NPA, which has grown from around 15,000 fighters in 1980 to over 20,000 today. Aquino's regime has been unable to enforce back-to-work orders against workers' strikes. All in all, from the imperialist standpoint, this is a weak regime, one that might have to be replaced. On the other hand, Aquino's civil war does not have the NPA, the CIA, or the Pentagon to provide him with the means to stay in power.

Washington's secret role

This again, it seems to us, is a question of who wants to do both. While Reagan professes support for Aquino in public, the people in the Philippines are not so sure. It is the CIA and the Pentagon in the recent military uprising aimed at ousting Marcos.


According to the Manila Standard, Col. Honasan is aboard a U.S. aircraft carrier. The Independent, another newspaper, reports that "two white men in a white Puma helicopter landed at armed forces headquarters at Camp Aguinaldo at the height of last Friday's coup and approached Honasan, who was camped there with his men."

The newspaper quotes a witness, "I heard one of the officers say in a loud voice, 'I have instructions to get you out of here for the good of your country and the cause you are fighting for.'"

Honasan charges that Aquino is "too soft" on the NPA. Wherever his current whereabouts, his forces claim to have set up a provisional government in Central Luzon's Region 5 - the area that includes two gigantic Pentagon installations, Clark Air Base and Subic Bay Naval Base. Some Filipino newspapers report that the colonel is actually at Subic Bay right now. Some in the U.S. Congress, among all those who profess to admire Aquino so much, has urged the Pentagon to be careful to ask the Pentagon if this is true.

But Aquino's Defense Secretary Rafael Bote has said he would launch a probe into the question of U.S. involvement. An "After Battle Report" issued by his office says flat out that Col. Honasan had discussed "CIA support for destabilization" with fellow plotters before launching his aborted putch.

Little of this information is available in the U.S. press, which pretends to be so fearful of the power of the master in the Philippines, has nothing to do with what goes on over there.

Whatever the pervasive control the U.S. exercises over the government in Manila, however, there is one aspect of Philippine events totally beyond Washington's grasp. The imperialists do not call the shots with the NPA, which last week launched a big offensive. The guerrillas prevailed in a pitched battle only 40 miles from Manila. Aquino's civilian wing outnumbers the guerillas, and some observers say the fighting will continue simultaneously everywhere around the country.

It is this growing NPA army that created the bitter rift in the conservative factions that run the country. And it is the NPA that will end the puppet parade by freeing the Philippines from U.S. military, political and economic domination and exploitation.

Labor Day Caribbean style

A million to a million and a half people turned out for the Labor Day celebration in Brooklyn, N.Y. Among the many floats, food stalls and musical groups was a "Free South Africa" stand of the People's Anti-War Mobilization, which was quite popular.
The Soviet reforms and the capitalist market: Part 6

By Sam Marcy

(Sixth in a series.)

In his report to the plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee on June 25, 1987, General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev said: "Democracy in all walks of life is expanding and deepening. Public organizations are displaying more initiative. Democratic principles are gaining importance in management. Public opinion is coming across loud and clear. The media is working more actively for renewal. An offensive is in progress against bureaucracy. Bossy, pressure management is gradually being overcome. Important changes are taking place in the work of cadres as fresh blood is injected."

"The democratization experience convincingly shows that we are on the right road. This offers good prospects for people in the political system and society as a whole."

Of course, every socialist, every progressive can only believe that this is becoming the reality in the Soviet Union.

Inertia and stagnation

Earlier, in his report to the 27th Party Congress on Feb. 25, 1986, Gorbachev himself began to build up the economy in the 1970s, with the rates of economic growth declining visibly. As a result, the targets for economic development set in the CPSU Program... were not attained.

"The main thing," he continued, "was that we had failed to produce a timely response to the changed economic situation, that we had not managed to swiftly convert the economy to intensive methods of development, and for the active use of the achievements of science and technological progress in the national economy."

Inertia, the economy continued to develop largely on an extensive basis, being oriented towards drawing additional labor and material resources into production. As a result, the rational growth of labor productivity and certain other efficiency indicators dropped substantially.

In a word, inertia, conservatism and bureaucraticism have inhibited the proper growth of the socialist economy.

Of course, this is not the first time in recent decades that there has been a call by a congress of the CPSU for a struggle against bureaucraticism, for the broadening of democracy, for the observance of legal norms against high-handed methods of political procedure and production methods. The 20th Congress in 1965 was notable for precisely this, as was the 25th congress. There has, in fact, been a continuous stream of calls for greater democracy, for greater coordination of the party and government, especially in economic affairs.

Today, however, it is envisioned on a much broader and more intensive scale.

Now is the scientific-technological revolution an altogether new phenomenon in the USSR. It was reported, discussed and acted upon in the 25th and 26th congresses, and even earlier. The whole gigantic effort to industrialize the country since the October Revolution of 1917 has been one giant effort to apply the latest findings of science and technology to industry as efficiently as was possible at the time. This effort to overcome the very severe, extremely harsh methods utilized during some periods of socialist development.

The current problem relating to the scientific-technological revolution differs from previous efforts, and maybe as long as ten years, there has been a slowdown in the growth rate of output, according to Secretary Gorbachev.

Global effects of scientific-technological revolution

The fact is that the scientific-technological revolution is a global phenomenon, that has taken hold particularly in the most highly developed capitalist countries. In principle, the most important aspect is that, as against previous phases of development, this one has brought a quantum jump in scientific and technological progress. To some extent, it has developed covered up, accelerated by social development in the capitalist countries than in the USSR. So that, to prevent a wider disparity in scientific and technical development, it is necessary for the USSR to also take a qualitative leap, as Secretary Gorbachev has said.

But how is this to be done? We have elaborated on this theme in the book High tech, low pay: A Marxist analysis of the changing character of the working class (WW Publishers, 1986).

It is conceded by most bourgeois economists that the scientific and technological leap made in recent years in such capitalist countries as the U.S. has resulted in the phenomenon of low-paying jobs, especially in the service industries, and that this is gradually making its way into high-tech as well. But the whole thing is masked by the continuing relative prosperity of the service sectors.

The question is: Is this phenomenon occurring in the socialist countries as well, above all in the USSR? That would seem utterly contrary to and inconsistent with the entire history of socialist development in the USSR.

Economic content of democratization

So that the core issue in the Soviet reforms is how to deal with the phenomenon of the scientific-technological revolution. First, of course, the democratization process is exceptional. This clearly needs to be said. However, there is the question of the economic content of the democratization process. What benefit from it and who may possibly be hurt by it? Which social groupings voice views first and which don't we hear from?

We know that the imperialist bourgeois has hit the socialist countries with a market economy, the bourgeois, and we know that the democratic processes can be expected to result in the judicial reforming of public ownership, to result in the increasing and the public ownership firms, and the production of the phasing out of older technologies, that is the basic material foundation of democracy.

That will raise the productivity of labor in an intensive way, by increasing the pace of new technology, and so forth as Gorbachev says was done previously. But it signifies the displacement, as we have indicated earlier, of a great number of socially beneficial, work, social benefits, and for their broader participation.

We have to look at the economic content of the democratization process and see how it affects each class of the population and which have given voice to their views.

The Soviet restructuring reforms essentially raise the issue of how they will affect the wage levels of the workers. To the workers this is one of the most important a matter. What should be the consideration of the situation of the USSR, not as an isolated phenomenon.

Reforms and material incentives

An article in the magazine entitled "Economic reforms in the USSR: Material incentives are part of restructur- ing" was distributed last March by Novosti Press Agency. It was written by Gennadii Pisarevsky, who is identified as the "head of a political research center."

"From each according to his ability, to each according to his work," says Pisarevsky, "is the main conclusion for the distribution of material benefits under socialism. The better a person works, the more he gets from society. This is social justice as we see it, but we now see it being violated."

How is it being violated? "Regrettably," Pisarevsky goes on, "the workers control the quality and quantity of labor. As a result, the earnings for bad and good work have become the same. The wages for skilled and unskilled labor do not differ much, either."

This is surprising, if not astonishing, since the difference between skilled and unskilled workers in the USSR has long been recognized as an inevitable carryover from capitalism. The author presents some survey data to demonstrate his thesis. In fact, no data appear in the article whatever. However, he asserts that "the engineering profession has become much more prestigious." (This strikes us as highly questionable.) "The incomes of all working people have been growing, but those of unskilled labor have been rising even more quickly. Now a worker with the highest qualifi- cations gets just 50% more than a low-skilled newcomer."

"Without solving this problem," Pisarevsky continues, "a tangible escalation in economic development is unthinkable." Higher paid to get more

The economic reforms, according to him, therefore rotate around the higher paid getting a greater share of the ex- pense of the lower paid, if we take the national income as a whole into consideration.

According to Pisarevsky, "The improvement of the pay-according-to-work system and the introduction of new wage and salary schedules are a part of the broader economic reform which is taking place in the USSR. This should be completed...


"The gist of the reform is a dynamic switch over of the economy as a whole and each enterprise in particular to a self-financing scheme. Every enter- prise should pay for itself, so to speak, rather than getting subsidies from the State Budget, as often happens now."

So, up to now, this is the situation and to the basic reports emanating from the 27th Congress, including the reports of Secretary Gorbachev and others, the gist of the reform is the modernization and retooling, the introduction of new technologies and the phasing out of older technology. That is the basic material foundation of democracy.

To our readers

This issue of The World contains many features usually found in this pages in order to accommodate the important analysis of the Soviet economic reforms by Sam Marcy, chair-person of Workers World Party, and the full-page ad on page 3 last issue, which is the Building Fund campaign.
prise should pay for itself instead of getting subsidies from the state.

But this was not possible under the old pro-
gram, for instance, ever have suc-
cceeded if it hadn't received subsidies? Such thoughts are unjustified. In the labor of millions of workers, whose contribution to the state budget pays for any space program but for the defense establishment in its entirety, just to give one example.

(If we should inquire as to whether the U.S. imperialist bourgeoisie, which is always advising the USSR to solve its problems by cutting into heavy industry and its defense budget, has itself been on the wild side with regard to its space spending in over, to the tune of over $2 trillion in the Beagun years alone. This of course has not been the U.S. government's, or without its resources to defense.)

Some Soviet industries could never have been developed, let alone survive, without subsidies from the state. What is the meaning, then, of "self-financing"?

What about regional differences?

"But how will this plan be intro-
duced into practice?" Pissarevskaya asks.

"All enterprises are state-owned in this country, and the state should not prefer some over others. But today min-
istries often take part of the profits from enterprises which do well in order to subsidize those who don't. This practice is unjust and, naturally enough, will be abolished. But there should be equal pay for equal work."

There are many regions of the USSR which are still less developed than others. The task of socialist construc-
tion is to raise them up to a high level as possible, which certainly means subsidies of one form or an-
er. One can never equalize all the regions, but this is precisely one of the great missions of socialist recon-
struction.

He then continues: "The wages of workers will go up by 20% to 30%, and the salaries of high-level executives, specialists, and professional people will be raised 30% to 50%.

"Workers who serve processing centers, program-controlled tools, ro-
botics and automatic lines" he says, "will get the biggest increases in wages."

They will receive increases in wages which will be from 40% to 45% higher than today. The bonus for higher qualifica-
tions will also be substantial. All in all, 75 million Soviet people will have their wages raised.

The reform of the pay-accord-
to-work system, says Pissarevskaya, will reduce the" red tape "for the indi-

cial enterprises and greater respon-
sibility for the results of their work.

The management of the enterprises will be the main village, but specialists by a quarter of their wages or salaries. True, this right can be ab-

To avoid this, the man-
agement is obliged to present its deci-
dions to the workers' com-
mittee and the entire work col-

This view of the plan marks a sharp shift from the traditional view of manag-
ers and all the executives, specialists and high-ranking officials. Pissarevskaya offers no dataset on how many workers or what industries, enter-
prises and regions will be most af-
fected and how much new high-tech equipment will be used or what role it will play in raising productivity.

Is problem equality or inequality?

Lower-paid workers, he claims, have been getting a boost not only from the higher-paid ones but they want the USSR for many decades. On the contrary, one of the problems is and has been the dis-
parity between the lower-paid and aver-
age workers on the one hand, and the higher-paid workers and general offi-
cials of the state apparatus on the other. The many privileges they have been entitled to are considered enor-
mous by comparison.

The last time there was a significant rise in the wage level of the lower-paid workers was in 1956. There was a rise of about one-third in the lower categor-
ies of salaries and pensions, and pen-
sions were drastically revised in favor of employees with low earnings.
The method of payment by piece rate was largely abandoned in favor of hourly wages.

All this happened immediately fol-
loving the 20th Congress, during the Khrushchev era. But this abnormal rise for the lower-income workers was balanced in time by increased wages to the high-ups and above all by the systematic rise and application of ma-
terial incentives. We really know of no significant increases for the lower-
paid workers that were not balanced out by material incentives for the high-ups.

According to Pissarevskaya, the plan's "implementation will become one of the most important events in the life of Soviet society, so these measures were discussed in detail in 150 work collec-
tives. The reform was approved by a majority of the working people."

Karl Marx, and Lenin after him, anticipated both the great advances for the workers and the bourgeois limitations that would persist during socialist construction, that is, during the lower stage of Communist society as it evolves out of capitalism.

"A majority of the working people approved it. He doesn't say how large a majority, whether it was 51% or 91%. He doesn't tell us what kind of 'collectives these are, from what indus-
tries or regions, or the character of the discussion. Most of all, he doesn't say whether the trade unions participated in the discussions and what their viewpoints are.

He concludes, "Now the main prin-
ciple of socialism — from each ac-

cing to his ability, to each according to his work — will finally have a chance to be proven in practice."

Wages lowered in some collectives

Now let us see another version of how the reforms are working. It's an article in Pravda of July 25 and deals with a report by the First Secretary of the Bryansk City Committee Party.

"How is restructuring coming along in the economic sphere?" Secretary A. Kursavov asks. "Though there are diff-
culties, progress is nevertheless being made. Economic work has been stepped up in the labor collectives. Factors contributing to intensifica-
tion are being applied more persist-
ently, and the targets for labor produc-
tivity have been exceeded. The general level of fulfilling contract obligations has risen as well. . . . The province also handily met its quotas for the sale of meat, milk and eggs to the state dur-
ing the first six months of the year. Major construction continues to im-
prove. . . . The rate of increase in capi-
tal investments for social needs this year was 2.5 times higher than the rate for the economy as a whole." So far, so good.

"But," continues the Pravda report, "here's the other side of the coin. Wages have gone down in a number of collectives. There have been such cases at the Bezhitsk Steel Plant, the piston ring and telephone equipment plants in Klinty, the Koksrevka Fur-
niture Factory and several other en-
terprises. These enterprises failed to stabilize their work and fell into a dif-
cult economic situation. As is well known, wages have become more closely tied to end results nowadays."

We thus see that all is not as well as

prove the system of payment for labor, and to inculcate the truth that every worker should be paid according to work.

No mention here of new technology, retooling or phasing out of old equip-
ment. Just again an introduction of retraining programs.

Abuses by managers

Wage padding is nothing init-
iated by workers from below. This is a "success story," a survival of the practice in capitalist gover-
ment agencies and busi-
nesses. Top managers and special-
cials collect the wages for themselves.

For this reason alone, the authority of the trade union committees and of the trade unions as the central organs to combat this should be reinforced. Wages in the USSR should not be used as a basis to hand 
out higher wages and bonuses to the high-ups, especially the very high,
supposedly to increase productivity.

The article urges a switch over from quantity to quality work and account-
ability for money spent, but just how is not made clear. Suffice it to say that the authors call for a new kind of trade union committee and for some collectives shows there's something amiss here.

At the same time, Pissarevskaya says that management has been given the right to unilaterally raise the earnings of the specialists based on their wages or salaries. This right is abused, if, for instance, "an executive. . . . gives.. . . this leniency to someone he would not extend to those whom he needs for his own pur-
poses," only then is management "obliged to prove that the trade union committee and the en-
tire work collective is . . .

On the other hand, it is far superior to what happens in capitalist society, where the owners of a corporation can enforce whatever wage and salary system upon the workers, especially where there are no effective trade unions.

However, it is a departure for the USSR from previous practices. Man-
aged and unlimited wage and salary

and sweeping. Their authority related to the production process, the man-
agement of the plants, and the pawn-
ship of the workers. The wage rates were primarily the function of the trade unions — of course, and of the party apparatus of the whole government. The trade unions are not autonomous organi-
izations, not even in the legal sense, but part and parcel of the national planning process and an integral part of the government.

Important role of trade unions

The new system, both gener-
ally and material incentives in partic-
ular for management, specialists and other professionals inside or outside the trade unions, and should be at their upcoming congress. Such mat-
ers cannot be left in the hands of the judgment of the managers, only to be approved after the fact by enterprise committee and control committee. The significance of the trade unions as a fundamental organ of the workers in defining the economic and political planning in general process.

Under Soviet law, the unions have a constitutional role and obligation with respect to this very critical ques-
tion. If, as Gorbachev's statement to the workers' congress of the CPSU, the co-
structive role of the unions is to democratize all the institutions of Soviet soci-
ety and to maintain discipline and responsibility by the managers of the enterprises goes against this very principle.

As long ago as the 26th Congress of the CPSU, then-secretary of the party Leonid Brezhnev, then-secretary of the USSR's

racy. The largest of these are the trade unions.

Trade unions have the task above all of protecting the rights and

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interests of the working people and ac-
tivities of the bourgeoisie, based on both
material and ideological questions. Of course, they would be unable to do much in this sphere if production and trade unions were not built. But the productive productivity did not rise. It is precisely here that the struggle of the com-
timated to the working man’s interest that their duty is to show a concern for a social policy of the state.

Of course, the trade unions take a di-
rect part in the management of pro-
duction. The resolution adopted at the 28th Congress “more than 70 func-
tions of management [which] cannot be performed without the consent of the trade union committees. Twenty functions were in the competence of the union (Pravda).

The sweeping powers now granted to management cut all this down and reduce the trade unions to a shadow in reality. However, one thing should be borne in mind which is to the great ad-
vantage of the workers in the USSR under the Soviet constitution, accord-
ing to Brezhnev, “the trade unions have not less a number of forms and means to exercise their rights.” These go beyond having workers’ meetings. They also include the right to act in function in production conferences and collective agreements” and, what is perhaps the most important, the “right to legislative initiative.”

(Union has no right to legisla-
tive initiative in a capitalist govern-
ment.)

Unions defend workers’ interests
within framework of planned economy
In this country we hear only of the
necessary role of workers’ unions. Un-
ion and their criticism; we never hear what really springs from the in-
terests of the workers, who are con-
cerned with strengthening and deep-
ening socialist reconstruction.

In this respect, the problem of material incentives – their functions, parameters and limitations and their a-
countability for results under historical cir-
cumstances - the question is how they are to be awarded and who is to justify their payment.

It seems that the shift is decidedly in the direction of greater management prerogatives, to the detriment of the unions, whose chief responsibility is the well-being of the workers. Bour-
geois ideologues and courtiers of pro-
capitalist interests are constantly applying every move made by the Soviet government which increases the indepen-
dence of management and the general loosening of the planned economy. Socialism has lost not only the ab-
sole independence of the unions from the government.

This is false and destructive in a so-
cialist society and planned economy. No institution can be independent, and least of all the unions that have primary functions in production and in the planning of it. Their functions are not to be confused with the objectives of socialist con-
struction or the scientific-technological revolution.

The bourgeoisie press continues to di-
tort decenteralization, hoping it will lead to the breakdown of planning and its substitution by the capitalist market. Overthrow bureaucrats of the old school, the ex-
boration of course impede the develop-
ment of the economy, and it may be necessary to turn to lower organs of government and to different regions of the country. But it’s important that the management is to the managers sweeping authority as against the enterprise committees and the trade unions.

The example of the Bryansk case shows the absurdity of the function of the unions to correct the situation. That is why they have the constitutional right of states” to intervene. In the Bryansk case, only local but national matters in ac-
cordance with the plan. These are safer in the hands of the unions.

“In modern times, the nation sustains economic and moral losses from alcohol and illegitimate sex, breach of family obligations, drink abuses and embezzle-
ment.” Who are we soliciting? Workers, employees, employees, white-
collar crime in the capitalist countries, and everywhere it involves the public staff, including the bosses themselves. Breaks of factory regulations by many workers and the whole working class are an issue in management? Why link this with drink abuses, which are usually attributed to drinking workers and not to the places? Furthermore, alcoholism is a social disease and requires social solu-
tions, not merely legal restrictions.

The article concludes that “most workers are for socialism’s principle, therefore, for this they must contribute each according to his work,” and against egalitarian wages and dis-

Blaming ‘egalitarianism’

In times of crisis, the workers are blamed for being “socialist.” This can be seen even during the Social Democratic era. In those times, the Social Democrats talked to kind of egalitarian so-
ciety. Some of these utopian groups, were so carried away that they formu-
lized an ascetic sort of Communism based on poverty – rather than on production. This is the basic idea of scientific revolutionary Marxism.

Sects like this existed in Europe at the turn of the century. As Karl Kautsky depicted in Karl Kautsky’s book, Communist in Eastern Europe (not confused with modern-day Eu-

Genuine Communism, the Com-
munist party of the Soviet Union, assumes a society where the produc-
tive forces have grown to such dimen-
sions that the differences in the needs of society, when the bourgeoisie and its state have disappeared along with all class opposition and distinc-
tions. No such society can exist unless the productive forces have attained such a level that they can guarantee all who

Lenin on equality

With respect to democratization in the program of the 27th Congress, it’s important to remember what Lenin said: “Democracy is the same as equality; it means equality,” said Lenin. “The great significance of the struggle for equality is that it gives the significance of equality as a slogan, are apparent if we correctly interpret it and assign the abolishing of classes..”

Lenin went behind the political form of democratization directly to its essence. This has significance for our discussion about the restructuring and the reforms. There has been an attempt to democratize the economy and society. Immediately after the at-
tempts to democratize the state and the re-

The main thing is the end of the mean of production, in respect of the ownership of the means of production, that is, of the means of production, that is, of wages, the narrow bourgeois form of production.

Lenin, in his 1895 Notes on the State and Revolution (1917). Those are the two principal sources for the theoretical formulation of democratization in socialist society.

According to Marx and also Lenin,
from each according to his ability, to each according to his work" is not a socialist principle. In fact, it is a bourgeois norm, a bourgeois standard or criterion for how society should function. This is the time in the lower, that is, the first stage of Communism, as against the latter stage of Communist society.

This is the basic issue. In his report, Gorbachev has said that when the new accord was signed, the Soviet Union had been in a pre-crisis stage. Does it follow from this that the solution to the crisis is to have an all-encompassing of bourgeois norms of distribution? Shouldn’t the possibility of this solution be checked out for high technology, which is the fundamental lever for raising productivity and restraining of particularly the less skilled workers?

There is no doubt whatever, no matter how the program and Lenin’s summary of it, that pay according to work, performances, education and other bourgeois measure. Let us then see precisely how Marx and also Lenin put this.

Marx vs. Lassalle on Gotha Program

The program’s historic contribution in a Communist society first arose during the ideological struggle of Marx and of Karl Kautsky, the leader of Lassalle’s conceptions of socialism. The struggle reached a climax after the so-called Unity Congress held in May 22-27, 1875, in the German city of Gotha between the Lassalleans and the Marxists in the faction of whose leaders adhered to Marx.

The leaders of the Eisenach faction, who had earlier signed a pact with Marx for a draft of the program to Marx before agreeing to it, so great was the opposition of the篇在作者和英语。

When Marx and Engels finally got to the draft, they were not just disappointed, but the program was filled with many bourgeois notions of the Lassalleans contained in the program. This forced Marx to write a criticism of the Gotha Program, which contains the clearest exposition of Marx’s and Engels’ conception of the development of a Communist society.

Lassalle had a pet dogma about the iron chisel, that is, they were to act first, later Engels, took apart the term. The iron wages assumes an inflexibility that is allegedly a natural condition. Lassalle’s wages fluctuate between capitaliste repressions and so-called prosperity. They are the payment for labor power, which is a commodity differs from all other commodities in that it has the property of producing surplus value.

The first part of the Gotha Program to be addressed by Marx says that “the program has been diminished with equal rights to all members of society.” Marx shows that this Lassalleans’ iron wages reduced the term. Incorrect and quite impossible.

To all members of society: Marx’s program was reduced in size as well? What remains then of the "unimproved" proceeds of labor? Only to those who are supposed to work. What remains then of the ‘equal right’ of all members of society? But ‘all members’ means all people, “equal right” are obviously mere phrases.

Marx says out that every worker’s wage is not the same. It is necessary to replace the means of production that are used up, as well as to satisfy the needs of production, to set up a reserve for insurance against accidents, natural calamities. Theses deductions, Marx wryly points out, are from the ‘undiminished labor of others.’

There remains the other part of the total product, intended to serve as the means of consumption. Before this is divided among the individuals, there has to be deducted again from it: First, the general costs of administration not included. Here comes a really remarkable observation by Marx: “This part will, from the economic position, be restricted in comparison with present-day society and it diminishes in proportion as the new society develops.”

Marx foresaw smaller state apparatus under socialism

According to Marx, then, a workers’ state apparatus under socialism is a smaller apparatus for the administration of the state than exists under capitalism, and it should diminish in proportion as socialist society develops. This means the administrative apparatus is based on services provided by the state, as Marx notes later. From this it follows that the Soviet state apparatus should have been declining in numbers rather than increasing.

This, indeed, says Marx, for schools, health services, funds for those unable to work, etc. This part should consist of the new socialist society develops.

"Only now do we come to . . . that part which is called the Socialists’ estate, which is which is divided among the individual producers of the cooperative society.”

Marx is discussing factions try and argue here with "a Communist society, not as things developed on its own foundations. The other things, contrary, just as it emers from capitalist society; which is thus in every respect, economically, morally and intellectually, still stamped with the birth marks of the old society from whose womb it emerges.”

From this Marx draws the conclusion that it is essential to have a principle bourgeois . . . In spite of this advance, this equal right is still perpetually burdened with a bourgeois limitation. The right of the producers is proportional to the labor they supply; they thus have the advantage of measurement. This equal right is an unequal right for unequal labor.

Thus it is very clear that bourgeoisie right is a standard in measurement of the distribution of the national income. The measurement of equal right is, however, as Marx puts it, an unequal standard for the labor of a bourgeois standard.

Then Marx goes on to say, “But there remains inevitable in the first phase of Communist society as it is when it has longed birth pangs from capitalist society . . .

A higher phase of Communist society, after the enslaving subordination of the individual to the division of labor, and thereby also the antagonism between mental and physical labor, has vanished; after labor has become not only a means of life but life’s prime want; after the productive forces have also developed to the point where all-round development of the individual, and all the springs of cooperative labor are no longer more or less natural, then can the narrow horizon of bourgeois right be crossed in its entirety and society inscribe on its banners: From each according to his ability, to each according to his needs.”

Two stages of Communism

What is the difference between the first stage of Communist society and the political difference between the first, or lower, and the higher phase of Communism, said Lenin in State and Revolution in 1917, “will in time no doubt be tremendous.” But, says Lenin, the scientific and undeniable assurance between Socialism and Communism is clear. What is generally called Socialism was termed by Marx the ‘first’, or lower phase of Communist society. Insofar as the means of production become public property, the word ‘Communism’ is also applicable here, providing we do not forget that it is not full Communism. The great significance of Marx’s elucidation consists in this, that here he consistently applied the idea of a law of the line of evolution, looking upon Communism as something which evolves out of Socialism.

Further on, Lenin says, “Instead of artificial, elaborate, scholastic definitions, it is necessary to proceed on the meaning of words (what is Socialism, what is Communism?), Marx issuing from the womb of capitalism . . .”

But conclusions, then, we draw from this in connection with the Soviet economic reforms and plan to remain.

First of all, it is necessary to say what Lenin said then and time again. In the very beginning of his book ‘What is to be Done?’ you will find the names! Bourgeois norms of distribution should not be called socialist norms anymore. You have to go back to Lenin and Marx and call the form of distribution, the form of division, the form of payment still in the narrow horizon of bourgeois right during the first stage of Communist society.

It is wrong and harmful to embellish bourgeois right, to prop it up, and give it a distorted meaning. Pay according to work performed, equal pay for equal work, is a very great advantage in the first phase of Communism, notwithstanding its bourgeois limitations.

In capitalist society, we still are fighting for it. A large bulk of the workers are still living in the capitalist society. That may be a contradiction, but all experience is characterized by the movements of social structures.

Attitude of state and trade unions

What attitude should the state take? Should it take a passive attitude? Should it let this bourgeois norm develop endlessly, spontaneously, unrestricted, so that if altogether unchecked it may eventually turn into a soci- ety’s economic, or industry, or be continued to flourish for such a protracted period, in the 70th year of the so-called ‘developed’ and ‘enlarged, intensified, deepened’? Will that not bring the Soviet Union closer to bourgeois society, at a time when the working class have outstriped even some of the advanced European capitalist countries? Work should continue to flourish for such a protracted period.

If the democratization process proceeds, then is a fundamental and it must take cognizance of this regressive phenomenon. It becomes all the more necessary to take the governmental, but particularly on the forthcoming trade union congress and the introduction of representative, to the shop and enterprise level, to raise their voices.

If they do not, then as we see it from the vantage point of this side of the ocean, the imperialist bourgeoisie will be satisfied with the satisfaction and grievances from the workers. They will raise the demagogic aloft, nationalist, and international, meaning their bourgeois independence. Is this not what happened in Europe?

The more then is it necessary, in the course of a developing discussion on the nature of the restructuring of the economy, this be taken into account. Taking a correct attitude in all of this will in itself be a way of the development of the demonstrations of socialist democracy in action.
Por Santiago Marquez Milla
Periodista Invitado

Desde el 23 de agosto de 1971 cuando Augusto Pinochet asume la coman- dancia en jefe del ejército Chileno, es apoyado por el imperialismo estadou- nidense y la burguesía chilena, co- nocida por sus actos de represión, ante el amargo de la historia de Chile. Ya que ese día y con ese acontecimiento se comienza el proceso que ellos desembocan en el golpe de estado del 11 de septiembre de 1973. La coman- dancia en jefe del ejército, enten- diendo que dentro de la posición de mando y la verticalidad de la institu- ción militar, la dictadura había en el año 1971; y solo este paso cristalizarse cuando se asume la jefatura máxima de Pinochet el 11 de septiembre de 1973, con el desplazamiento del último gene- ral constitucionalista, Carlos Frutos. A un año de la asunción de la dicta- dura de Pinochet se ha mantenido en el poder mediante el terror, el crimen, la represión, la violencia. Cosa que han sido los hechos para que Pinochet se haya mantenido tanto tiempo en el poder.

Como ya hemos dicho una de las ra- zones principales de lo que ha sido el mandato de Pinochet es el terror, el jefe del ejército, entender que con este, puede controlar las cuatro instituciones armadas. Y a la vez, el control que tiene sobre los hombres de extrema y absoluta confi- anza dentro de los mandos medios del ejército. Producirse con esto, el apoyo incondicional de los llamados a la dictadura de su gobierno. Y que dentro de esto, es que Pinochet se nutre de los hombres que pasan a inte- grar los altos cargos del poder en el ejecutivo. Vale decir CNN y otros or- ganismos paramilitares que actúan íntima y muy cercana de la política, para asesinar a sus oponentes y pueblo en general. Como segundo factor de asunso de poder de Pinochet, los monopólicos nacionales que en su ori- gen fueron 36 y que hoy forman la burguesía política.

En junio de 1982 a raíz de la deva- lución del peso y la deuda en dólares contra las importaciones, que llevó a la mayoría quebrada y sus cabezas visibles están sometidas a juicio por estafa. Estos empresarios, los que sobrevivieron controlan toda la econo- mía nacional y por ende apoyan la jefatura militar del General Pino-chet.

Dentro de estos grupos económicos encontramos a los reprimidos de las transnacionales extranjeras. Para ser más exacto, al grupo econó- mico liderado por el abogado Ricardo Claro. Y en el plano social, sólo encontramos a un 10% de la población del país. En este caso 12 millones de habitantes apoyan la dictadura chilena, vale decir la oligarquía y la derecha facista componen este 10%.

El 70% de la población está en contra del gobierno dictatorial. Y este 70% de la población que expresa en una y mil formas su profundo anhelo de justicia frente a los crímenes y de más delitos cometidos por el régimen militar contra sus mejores bar- ríacas y su vida, que se producen ascendentes de la lucha de masas.

Durante estos 14 años las clases populares han tenido un asalto sal- cientialmente el terreno de la fábrica y sus organizaciones sindicales; a recuperar mucho más extendidamente el terreno del barrio y de bases. En el plano es- tudiantil se recuperan parcialmente las universidades y colegios mediante las organizaciones juveniles. La mujer juega un rol importante ya que cada año el fueron iniciados los periodos de protestas y forman parte del quehacer diario de la lucha en contra del régimen. Los Mapuches le- vantán su voz a la tierra, que les perte- nece por derecho propio. Y el pueblo en general salen y se hace presente en las movilizaciones, el proyecto de dictadura se agudiza y se supera la calle. Se reorganizan las reconstrucciones de los partidos de vanguardia populares.

Lo fundamental de estos 14 años de lucha es que da vida a nuevos movimien- tos a acercar y fortalecer las or- ganizaciones de base y a surgir una nueva izquierda revolucionaria. Pero el costo social en vidas humanas ha sido grande, los mártires que cayeron luchando el 11 de septiembre defend- iendo el gobierno ilegítimamente elegido por el pueblo, se han sumado a los mártires que ha caído durante estos 14 años para recuperar la libertad y la democracia usurpados por la oligar- quía nacional y apoyado por el impe- rialismo norteamericano y sus trans- nacionales.

A pesar de aquella represión, el pueblo ha sabido resistirse. Y es así donde surgió y surgirán los dictados de auto-defensas y milicias populares. Ya al calor de las protestas populares surgió el Prensa Patriótica, Manuel Rodríguez el 14 de diciembre de 1983 —y es el Prensa del mismo que el domingo 7 de septiembre de 1986 atentó contra la vida del dictador. Partidos como el Movimiento de la Izquierda Revolu- cionaria, Partido Comunista, Partido So- cialista, MAPU-LAUTARO han asu- mido la lucha chilena desde el mismo día del golpe de estado, per- diendo en esta lucha a sus mejores cuadros revolucionarios en pos de conquistar la libertad del pueblo chilen.

El ascenso de las luchas populares ha sido obra del pueblo mismo apoya- do por el gobierno del tercer mundo. Si bien es cierto lo que la dic- tadura tiene el apoyo de millones de obreros, dirigentes sindicales y transnacionales. El pueblo chileno tiene el apoyo de millones de obreros extranjeros, dirigentes sindicales y apoyados por este mismo imperialismo. Tiene el apoyo de aquellos países que se ubican en Sudamérica y Centro América y en general por todo el mundo gracias por la dignidad humana, por los que están en contra de la opresión de los pueblos del mundo.

Por amor y por la vida: Washington el 11 de octubre Marcha para exigir los derechos de las lesbianas y gays

Por Lucinda Sintierra

El 11 de octubre se llevará a cabo una marcha de importancia histórica en Washington, D.C., por los derechos de las personas lesbianas y gay en este país. Todos, lesbianas y gays, heterosexuales, lati- nos, negros, indígenas, blancos, ciegos, hombres y mujeres que exigen un fin a la represión contra las lesbianas y los gays.

Esta marcha nacional se lleva a cabo en un momento de esta naturaleza que se ha llevado a cabo en la historia de este país, la primera fue en 1979. Occurre en un momento en que la comunidad lesbiana y gay, además de enfrentarse con el sistema deประเภท, un sistema de agresión capitalista, ha tenido que bregar con la trágica crisis del SIDA. El resultado es que la comunidad homosexual en el ser de ser represados y se han politizado de una manera que no se había visto antes, se han unido para ayudar a las con SIDA y a luchar por sus derechos.

A su vez el gobierno a tratado de de- sartar todos estos esfuerzos dando al público con falta de información sobre el SIDA.

Los nuevos en esta marcha tambi- én incluyen importantes aspectos de un proyecto de ley congresional que afir- ma en los derechos de las lesbianas y gays, el fin a la discriminación contra personas con SIDA, el complejo rela- cionado con el SIDA (ARC), o cuyas prue- bas de anticuerpos HIV resulten posi- tivas, y contra aquellos percibidos a las personas con SIDA. Se exige un aumento en el número de fondos para la educa- ción sobre el SIDA, investigaciones médicas, y el cuidado de pacientes con SIDA. Educar al público sobre el SIDA es clave para enfrentar esta cri- sis en la manera más efectiva. Personas de tercer mundo, heterosexuals y homosexuales, son afectadas en un número desproporcionado a sus nú- meros en la población.

Tomando en cuenta que los ataques contra los homosexuales provienen de la misma fuente que los que fomentan el racismo, sexismo, anti-semitismo y otros, una lucha contra el SIDA también es de importancia para la comunidad leésbica y gay. El SIDA es un campo de la lucha de masas. El SIDA es una forma de lucha por la dignidad humana.