

PEOPLE OF
THE WORLD
UNITE TO
DEFEAT
IMPERIALISM

THE CALL

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WHICH WAY OUT OF THE CRISIS?

Gerald Ford, faced with evidence which would make a blind man see, has finally admitted that the U.S. economy is "moving into a recession."

There are only two solutions to the "recession" and the capitalist economic crisis: the imperialists' way out—which is starvation and war—or the way of the working class—which is a revolutionary fight-back against every attack.

What are the causes of the current crisis? What will it lead to? These questions are asked by millions of people today.

As the chieftains of the capitalist system try to maneuver their way back to the profits of the days when the economy was "healthier," they know only the ruthless tools of provoking imperialist war, and using fascism against the people of their own country in order to force the working class to absorb the impact of the crisis. As the crisis sharpens the contradictions in society, the brutal thinking of the imperialists sees only two choices: killing the workers slowly by starvation, or killing them quickly on the battlefield in wars fought for new markets and spheres of influence.

The "current" economic crisis is actually a deepening of crisis conditions which have existed since U.S. imperialism

suffered its first major defeat in the Korean War of 1951-3. Since that time, the recessions of 1957, 1963, the tight money crisis of the late sixties, and the devaluation of the dollar in 1971 have taken such a toll on the economic system that "recovery" from each has taken on a new meaning—just keeping capitalism above water. For example, in 1967, Lyndon Johnson, then U.S. president, said that the economy would be "safe" as long as unemployment didn't go over 4 per cent. Today, government economic experts talk as if 5 percent unemployment is a healthy level, and the current 6 per cent really won't mean much until it hits 7 per cent. But unemployment is only one symptom of the economic crisis. Behind unemployment lies recession (stagnation of the economy), inflation (rising prices), monetary and trade crisis, and stock market collapse.

The reality of the current crisis can best be seen in the terms used by the capitalists themselves to measure their own economic stability. The Gross National Product (GNP) which measures the total value of all goods and services produced, has declined, in real terms, by about 2 per cent over the last six months. Since capitalism is a system based on the continued expansion of its productive forces in order to take out more profits and drive competition out of business, any sign of a shrink-

ing GNP is a sign of weakness to the capitalists.

Inflation, which is represented by the rise in prices, has hit proportions unknown in the U.S. since the 1920s. Wholesale prices in the U.S. last year rose 44 per cent, while retail prices to the average consumer are rising more than a full per cent a month.

Production in the key industries such as auto has stagnated so completely that the Chrysler Corporation closed down all its factories but one for the month of December, while GM and Ford laid off over 50,000 workers indefinitely. Altogether, the Big Three automakers' cutbacks and plant closings have meant loss of jobs to over 185,000 auto workers. In the field of construction, only half as many homes are under construction as last year at this time. This has meant a loss of half a million jobs, and large cutbacks in steel, plaster and other construction material production. It is estimated that between auto, steel and construction—three industries currently in sharpest decline—nearly one out of every five jobs in the U.S. is affected!

For the U.S. imperialists the crisis cannot be confined at home! The dollar has virtually collapsed on the interna-

(PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 6)

WORLD SUPPORT BUILDS FOR:

VICTORY FOR PALESTINE

Yasser Arafat's appearance at the UN General Assembly "with an olive branch in one hand and a liberation fighter's gun in the other," marked a great day for the people of the Third World and the Palestinian and Arab peoples in particular.

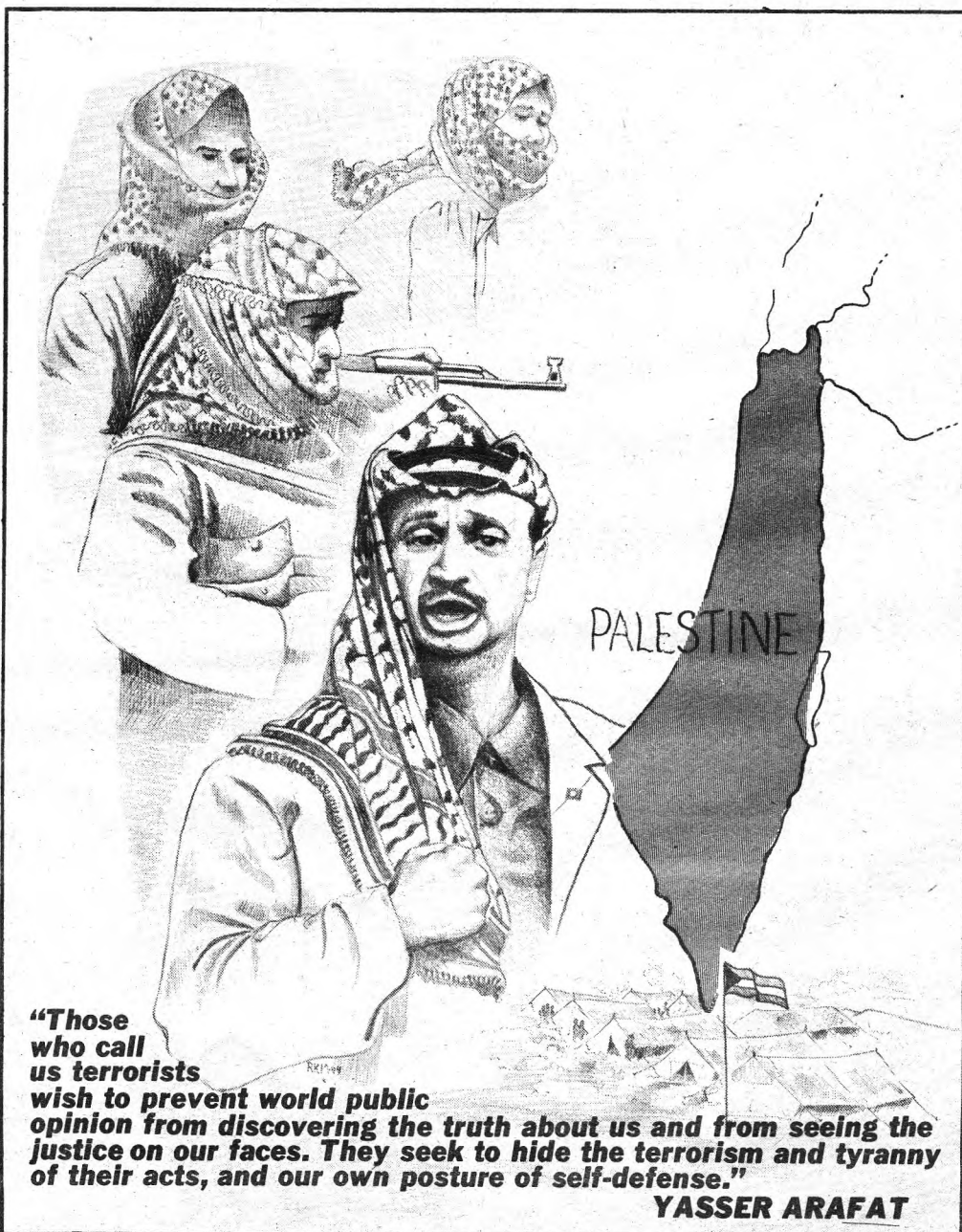
His words underscored the unity of the Arab and Palestinian people in their determination to fight for the return of their stolen lands and were met with great enthusiasm by every country who has been bullied by the imperialist super-powers.

BACKS THE PLO

Representing the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), Arafat spoke for the first time with the united support of all the Arab countries, who agreed at October's Summit meeting to authorize the PLO to negotiate exclusively for the Palestinian people. His UN appearance was endorsed by 105 countries at first. But by the middle of the debate, a proposal by Qatar (a small Arab Gulf country) to expel Israel from the UN, was receiving wide support.

Arafat concluded his remarks to the UN calling on all the countries of the world to "aid our people's return to its homeland from an involuntary exile imposed upon it by force of arms, by tyranny, by oppression...so that we may regain our property, our land thereafter to live in our national homeland, free and sovereign, enjoying all the privileges."

Across the Arab world, the speech was viewed as a tremendous victory.



"Those who call us terrorists wish to prevent world public opinion from discovering the truth about us and from seeing the justice on our faces. They seek to hide the terrorism and tyranny of their acts, and our own posture of self-defense."
YASSER ARAFAT

A Kuwait newspaper editorialized, "To see the PLO as the representative of the Palestinians in the world body is to see the justice of the PLO's struggle." The Egyptian newspaper Al Ahram added, "The tide of world opinion has decisively turned. The Palestinian cause, so long ignored, will at last be heard and understood around the world."

In Israeli-occupied areas of Palestine, mass demonstrations of solidarity with the PLO streamed through the desert towns, despite orders from Zionist police prohibiting them. The Arabic chants of "Down with Zionism!" and "Free Palestine!" resounded through the West Bank of the Jordan River valley, the area in which the PLO has demanded the establishment of a base for the Palestinian state. In this area, PLO declared Nov. 13 "Palestine Day," and Palestinians responded with a general strike closing all stores and Israeli-owned factories. Zionist police tried to intimidate storekeepers by painting an "X" on the doors of the closed stores and threatening retaliation unless they were opened. Most shops remained closed however.

Arafat's picture was displayed prominently in marches under the nose of full-battle dressed Israeli troops near Nablus. The words of his speech, broadcast into occupied Palestine from Egypt, Syria and Jordan could not be drowned out by Israeli jamming.

Even while Arafat spoke, Israel was launching new attacks against Lebanon, bombing villages in five consecutive days of terror across southern Lebanon. Prior to Arafat's speech the Israelis made it very clear that they would go to war (PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 14)

THE PEOPLE IN STRUGGLE



PEOPLE UNITE AGAINST REPRESSION!

Florida Rally Hits Repression ... Leavenworth Brothers ... Sterilizations March ... L.A. Youth Killed by Cops ...

Gainesville, Florida—A spirited march and rally against repression in the Black community was led by the African People's Socialist Party on November 9th. Joining the march and speaking at the rally were members of the Iranian Student Association, Pitts and Lee Defense Committee, Revolutionary Student Brigade, and the October League.

A focal point of the demonstration was the special oppression women face and in particular the racist treatment of Black women. The case of Floretta Allen, who spoke at the rally, is an example of this oppression. Ms. Allen was forced out of her job for resisting the sexual advances of her supervisor.

Posters and chants at the demonstration called for "Justice for the Simmons family," an entire family that was arrested while resisting a police attack; and "Free Pitts and Lee," two Black men who were framed on murder charges in 1963. Other signs read "Community Control of the Police," "Stop Police Attacks in the Black Communities," and "Self-Determination for the Black Nation." As the militant marchers approached City Hall, they chanted, "Stop, Stop ... the Racist Cops ... the Racist Cops in Gainesville!"

Yankton, South Dakota—A significant Wounded Knee legal victory was won this past month when Sarah Bad Heart Bull was released on parole from the South Dakota women's prison November 15. Since the day following her conviction on charges of "arson where riot was committed," Sarah has been held without bond pending appeal of her case.

She was charged in connection with an American Indian Movement-led protest in Custer, South Dakota on Feb. 6, 1973. On the occasion of this protest, two hundred Indian people went to Custer to demand that justice be done to the murderer of Sarah's son, Wesley Bad Heart Bull. The murderer, a local white businessman, had been charged only with second degree manslaughter even though eyewitnesses were willing to testify that it was premeditated murder.

Chicago—Political repression stepped up at Roberto Clemente High School here when a police riot resulted in 35 students and a number of cops being injured, with many arrested besides. The riot was followed by two days of demonstrations outside the school by largely Puerto Rican students.

The events leading up to the police attack began when the school district superintendent and three cops tried to transfer Carmen Valentin, a Puerto Rican counsellor and teacher.

This isn't the first time that the school system has tried to get Ms. Valentin out of the school. Two years ago she led a successful movement to remove the principal because he was a known racist who opposed bi-lingual programs. More recently, she backed 25 students who fought to keep an Afro-American poetry teacher who was being fired. Throughout these struggles, it has mainly been the support of the students that has prevented the school system from firing or transferring her.

For all these reasons, Ms. Valentin has been very popular with the students. When they found out she was being transferred, they spontaneously organized a walk out. Even though brutally attacked by the police, the students were not intimidated. They plan to continue the protests until she is reinstated.

Wichita, Kansas—All charges against Leavenworth Brother Jesse Lopez arising from the rebellion at Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary on July 31, 1973 were dropped November 6 in the U.S. Federal Court here. Lopez was charged with four counts of kidnapping. His co-defendant, Armando Miramon, still faces four counts of kidnapping and one charge of assaulting a prison employee.

Judge Theis sustained a defense motion to dismiss the charges after the prosecution rested its case. He ruled that the government had not produced any evidence.

Lynn Unruh, spokesperson for the Leavenworth Brothers Offense/Defense Committee, said, "The dismissal of all charges against Jesse Lopez proves that the prison administration at Leavenworth attempted to frame him because of his political activity and leadership in the prison movement."

Los Angeles—Another Black youth was gunned down by L.A. police on November 22. Frederick Shorts, 18, died after being shot in the stomach, while obeying a police command to hold his hands up. The murder was witnessed by several other residents of the Aliso Village, a low-income housing project. Four other young men were clubbed and beaten while handcuffed after trying to save their wounded brother from further police assault. They are charged with "interfering with an arrest."

The Black and Chicano community of Pico-Aliso responded instantly. Hours after the shooting, mothers and children marched to the police station, and 200 people attended a community meeting called by the United Brothers organization to protest the killing. Suit is also being filed against the police for Shorts' death. At the funeral, a member of United Brothers told *THE CALL*, "I'm here because I am a mother. It could just as easily have been my own child killed."

Community organizations in Pico-Aliso have called for a mass "Save the Children" protest to be held on Saturday, December 7 at noon at the Parker Center (L.A. Police headquarters), 150 N. Los Angeles St. Demands of the demonstration include a full inquest into the murder of Fred Shorts, suspension of the officers involved, and an end to harassment and threats towards witnesses in the case.

New York—Following the police murder of Claude Reese, Jr., a fourteen-year-old Black youth, the Brownsville community here took to the streets in protest. Hundreds of people demonstrated all throughout that week, up until the night of the funeral. Over 1,000 mourners attended Claude's funeral.

The newly-formed Committee for Justice for Claude Reese, along with the New York Anti-Repression Coalition, has since decided to follow up with a series of forums to show people that Claude's death was not an isolated incident. The first of these forums was held October 19 in Brownsville, and was attended by about 200 people including Mr. Claude Reese, Sr., and one of his daughters. Speakers represented three states—the People's Committee Against Police Repression and Brutality from New Jersey, the Atlanta Anti-Repression Coalition from Georgia, and representatives from the Committee for Justice for Claude Reese, the Committee for Justice for Clifford Glover, and the Staten Island Black Delegates from New York.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

NATIONAL

Which Way Out of the Crisis?—1
Rally Hits Massive Auto Layoffs—3
Fight Don't Starve!—3
Boston: Workers Must Take A Stand—4
Join Fred Hampton Contingent—4
A Call for National Days of Resistance—5
Black Inmate Murdered in Southern Prison Strike—5
Sugar Prices Go Sour—6
Capitalism's Newest Savior—7
"Hit the Company From Both Sides"—8
Interview With Vietnamese Student—11
"Deport a Million!" Says Saxbe—11
Strike in the Coal Fields—12
Target Set On Organizing—12
Women Are Fierce—13
On the Cultural Front—18

INTERNATIONAL

Victory for Palestine—1
China's Prices Remain Stable—7
Fighting for Their Homeland—14
Superpowers Cause Hunger in Third World—15
Filipino People Will Sweep Away All Traitors—16
What is the Real Reason for the Polish Visit—16
Soviet Film Praises Nixon as "Peacemaker"—18

FEATURES

People in Struggle—2
On the Line—9
Editorial: RU Takes a Turn Toward Social-Fascism—10
Letters—10
Taking Up the Call—17
From the World Press—17

Los Angeles—Women who were forcibly sterilized without their knowledge or consent have filed suit against Los Angeles County for \$6 million in damages. Their case was backed up by a mass protest at L.A. County Hospital on November 23, sponsored by the Committee to Stop Forced Sterilizations.

L.A. County, the largest hospital in the U.S., was exposed as having sterilized a large number of low-income women patients during delivery of babies. The majority have been Spanish-speaking and Black patients who were either drugged or in heavy labor when "asked" to sign "consent" forms for the operation. Women who only spoke Spanish were given English forms, and the actual nature of what they were signing was never revealed to them (see *THE CALL*, Nov. 1974).

At the November 23 rally, Isabel Chavez of the National Committee to Free Los Tres pointed out that undocumented women (particularly Mexican aliens without "legal" papers) had been subjected to forced sterilization but have no legal rights in this country. They cannot bring suit against the hospital, or any agency of the U.S. government for stealing their right to have children.

The examples of forced sterilizations in L.A. County are the latest to be uncovered. These acts are carried out with the support and encouragement of the U.S. government and the various agencies that it funds. The Committee Against Forced Sterilizations plans to continue exposing these atrocities and educating the people who live in the communities served by the public hospitals.

"We have nothing to lose but our chains!"



GIVE THE CALL TO A FRIEND THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!!

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JEFFERSON

RALLY HITS MASSIVE AUTO LAY-OFFS

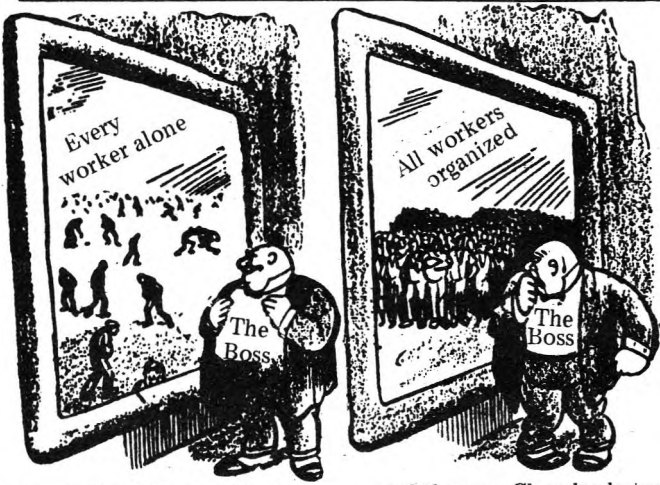
Detroit, Mich.—Chrysler Corporation's Chairman of the Board, Lynn Townsend broke the news in October that Chrysler would shut down its Detroit Jefferson Assembly plant. Immediately following this announcement, a coalition of Black organizations headed by Operation PUSH called for a rally to protest the proposed closing which would throw nearly 5,500 workers out of work, 75 per cent of whom are Black workers and other minorities. Roughly 500 people, mostly Black and many from the Jefferson Ave. plant, attended the rally held at a local Black church.

Townsend's announcement followed a huge wave of lay-offs by all Big Three automakers, and similar layoffs are taking place in European countries where cars are produced. Detroit, the motor city, has been turned into the unemployment capitol of the U.S., with total layoffs nationwide reaching over 185,000 as of this writing. Chrysler, true to form announced that there would be "no more lay-offs" the day before it closed nine more plants. Explaining the closing of Jefferson Assembly, Townsend said that the move was taken in order to "cut costs," because Jefferson was "obsolete and inefficient."

SPIRIT OF UNITY

The rally, held in a spirit of unity and alliance, included speakers from PUSH: the Congress of African Peoples' (CAP), United Black Trade Unionists, NAACP, as well as Jefferson workers and a local clergyman. The speakers attacked Townsend's "reasons" and spoke to the real reasons behind the proposed shut-down. All the speakers pinpointed the blatant discrimination demonstrated by the company. As Rev. Adams said, "If that plant is ineffective and just can't produce, well, who let it get like that? If all of a sudden that plant is out of date, they planned it that way." Alfonso Jackson from the Jefferson Ave. plant echoed this. Pointing out that the plant was located in the heart of the Black community, the move demonstrates an attempt to phase out the plant and move it out of that community. This was repeated in a NY Times interview with Arthur Cox, another assembly line worker. He stated, "Chrysler began right here in this plant, this plant made Chrysler... You'd think they'd have more consideration. They knew 20 years ago this plant was old and they could easily have put up another plant here. They own the land from Vernor clean to the river."

Speaking for the Congress of African Peoples (CAP), Sababu explained the proposed shutdown by going to the root of capitalist oppression of the working class. "The real reason for the closing of the Jefferson Assembly plant is the capitalist system of 'surplus value.' The capitalists attempt to squeeze every cent out of the workers—thus they have workers producing commodities (cars in this case) worth far more than the hourly wage they are given. This system has built into it constant speed-ups and layoffs—cutting back the work force, yet maintaining the same or higher



The picture Chrysler likes... and the one Chrysler hates.

levels of production, so that fewer and fewer workers are forced to produce more and more cars. He pointed out that historically this speed-up/cut-back system has fallen hardest on Black people who have always been "last hired, first fired." "But," he concluded, "history shows, where there is oppression, there is resistance." He ended by calling for an alliance to oppose the shutdown, and pointed to the workers taking the lead by a general strike.

A history of resistance to oppression has certainly been true at the Jefferson Assembly plant. This is another reason for Chrysler's move to close this plant. It was the site of a militant shut-down in the summer of '73 against racial discrimination and speed-up and has been the scene of several wildcat strikes, and organizing movements. This resistance is directly linked to the conditions found in the Chrysler plants—especially those in the inner city. Of the Big 3, it is widely known that Chrysler plants are the oldest, dirtiest, hardest and most dangerous plants to work in. As the largest employer in the city of Detroit, they have bullied and harassed workers left and right. As PUSH leader Jesse Jackson said, "Detroit is the pink slip capitol of the

CHRYSLER SHUTS DOWN



JEFFERSON ASSEMBLY PLANT IN DETROIT—More victims of the capitalist crisis of overproduction will be the 5,500 workers at this plant, most of whom are minorities. Minority workers, the hardest hit by unemployment, have been in the forefront of the struggle for "JOBS OR MONEY!"

world." He called for an alliance to oppose the shut-down, saying the catchword now must be "Save the Worker."

Douglas Fraser, vice-president of the UAW, and other UAW officials responded publicly to Townsend's announcement with weak appeals. Giving credence to Chrysler's story that it has to lay-off in order to "cut costs" or it will go under, these labor aristocrats are attempting to reach a "compromise." Rather than rely on the workers themselves, Fraser appealed to the "New Detroit Committee" to intervene and prevent the closing to "protect all of Detroit." It happens however, that the same Lynn Townsend is also the vice-president of this committee! The only concrete result of this compromising was that the final decision on layoffs was postponed by a few weeks.

It is not clear at this point whether the plant will shut down completely. What is clear is that Chrysler will use this threat to try to bolster their floundering profits and to intimidate the workers from fighting back. All the the Big Three auto companies are losing profits—60 per cent for

Chrysler and 94 per cent for GM—totalling a record low in profits since the end of WWII. So what they are attempting to do is push the brunt of this crisis onto the backs of the working class, particularly the Black workers, and come out smelling like a rose. Already they have announced that close to 2,000 workers will be "indefinitely" laid-off at Jefferson Assembly. Thus, even if they "agree" to keep the plant open, the workforce will have been cut in half and it is a sure bet that those people left will be expected to produce the same amount as 5,000 did before. In addition, they will continue to oppress the workers by cutting down on car production, increasing their truck production, moving more plants to other countries like Canada where Chrysler is currently expanding because of tax breaks from the government, or South Africa and Saudi Arabia where wages are very low. All the while they will try to blame the people for the crisis—blaming strikes, people not buying cars, etc. But, as the speakers at the rally pointed out, it is not the people but the system that's at fault.

SOLUTION TO UNEMPLOYMENT?

FIGHT DON'T STARVE!

CORPORATION "EXPERT" SAYS,
"WORKERS ARE THE PROBLEM."



Unemployed auto workers total 185,000 with every indication that this figure will go still higher. Unemployed construction workers over half a million. Electronics workers, 400,000. Steel workers, 150,000 and rapidly rising. These statistics bring with them the misery of economic crisis. Workers who only last year thought they had a steady job now find they are having trouble putting food on the table, to say nothing of meeting house and car payments, or buying new clothes for their children. While the big layoffs in industry have brought despair and hardship to millions of people, they have also triggered a new spirit of militant struggle to defend jobs and unemployment benefits.

The demand of "Jobs or money!" has been heard at every auto plant, as workers have insisted that the auto makers either maintain plant employment or come through with the supplementary unemployment benefits workers are supposedly guaranteed. Minority and women workers have filed lawsuits and staged mass actions to protest the fact that because of discrimination they were the last to be hired in many industries, and are therefore getting laid-off first.

For the government, unemployment is a frightening problem. In the 1930s the unemployed workers' movement forced many important concessions out of Hoover and Roosevelt through the occupations of factories, marches on Washington, and mass actions in the workers' communities. Today, the capitalists are trying to "solve" the problem of unemployment that they themselves have created by first pretending that it isn't there; and second, threatening workers with fascist forced-work programs that amount to little more than slavery. Both these "solutions" were put forward in a November 18 U.S. News and World Report interview with Raymond Livingstone, who is billed as an "authority on employment trends." His supposed authority comes from his 24 years as vice-president of TRW corporation.

CAPITALISTS SAY THEY'RE NOT WORRIED

Livingstone says initially that unemployment isn't a problem: "I don't think we're in real trouble at today's rate of 6 per cent, and I think the rate could go quite a bit higher and we still wouldn't be in trouble. There are just too many jobs available. Read the classified section of any newspaper in the country."

This statement while ridiculous in asserting that there are "too many jobs available," was made even more ridiculous by a recent Wall Street Journal survey which showed that classified advertising is off 20 per cent, and that only one in ten of the jobs in most classified sections can realistically be filled.

Livingstone goes on to assert that the real cause of unemployment is not capitalism with its crises and impoverishment of its workers, but instead, "strikes" and "women." According to Livingstone, "two or three times the number" of workers actually engaged in strikes are out of work as a by-product of strikes. He thinks these people shouldn't be counted in the statistics, because they are "not really unemployed."

When it comes to women, Livingstone says that most women are working to help the family "buy new furniture or a new car," or because they "find life mundane." He says that if the majority of women workers lost their jobs and could not collect unemployment benefits, "it would not be an economic catastrophe." Between women, strikers, and young people, Livingstone says that 80 per cent of the unemployed don't really need help from the government. He therefore opposes any legislation to increase unemployment benefits or stimulate jobs through government programs.

Claiming that "relatively few of today's unemployed are the sole support of their family" and that "most unemployment today is of relatively short duration," Livingstone proposes that anyone who tries to collect unemployment be "required to accept any job they are sent out for," even if it is at one-third of their former pay. He even proposes that some states lower their compensation amounts because they are too close to "subsistence levels" and therefore don't keep people hungry enough to go out job hunting!

Livingstone is not one crazy economist apart from the rest of the capitalist system. In a very blatant way, he is proposing what all the capitalists see as "solutions" to unemployment. And it is these "solutions" which the working class should prepare to fight by building unity between the unemployed and those still working, by fighting every attempt to deny jobs and benefits to the people, and expanding the movement for "jobs or money!"

BOSTON- Fight for Democratic Rights WORKERS MUST TAKE A STAND!

In an effort to pull the rug out from under the rising strike wave and the trend towards stronger working class unity, the forces of big business and reaction have made Boston the target city for their racist anti-busing movement.

This movement, led by petty fascists like Louise Day Hicks (a landlord) and with the degenerate influence of groups like the American Nazi Party, the Ku Klux Klan and the American Party, has received open support from the main forces among the monopoly capitalist ruling class, including President Ford. But the main target of the fascist propaganda is the working class in general and in particular, the white workers. Anything other than open condemnation of the anti-busing movement by the working class and its organizations, could well seal the fate of workers in this country for decades to come.

The fascists have resorted to every sort of lie and demagoguery imaginable in the efforts to win the white workers. Playing cynically on their desire for better schools and their fear and racism towards Blacks, the anti-busing leaders have organized their so-called "white boycott" which should not be mistaken for anything but a reactionary racist attack on Black people.

Fascist leaders like Pixie Palladino make no bones about it. In referring to the eventual order which will bus minorities in the all-white communities of East Boston and Charlestown next year, she warned at a November 3 rally: "We got some bricklayers who will shut off the tunnel and some bridge wreckers who will blow up the bridges if these kids are bused into our communities."

ROAR

The leadership of the main anti-busing organization in the city, ROAR ("Restore Our Alienated Rights"), has pulled into its ranks recently sections of the inner city, noticeably the predominantly Italian North End, while continuing to organize further support from suburban communities of the metropolitan area. Small-time political representatives get together weekly to address anti-busing rallies, looking for the white vote. Their line is: "Black people want to take over the city and the suburbs will be next!" City Councilwoman Hicks speaks, blaming the minorities for dirty streets, rape and bad housing. Of course, she does not mention inadequate schools and educational system, the rundown housing and high crime rate which capitalism has spawned in her own predominantly white "Southie" (South Boston).

The main force they rely on in spreading their fascist influence within the working class is the labor aristocracy—the most reactionary leaders of the trade unions and those sections of the working class that are the most corrupted and craft-minded, who have historically been broken off from the basic sections of the laboring people. These parasites and traitors who have historically shared in the oppression of the minorities and have nothing in common with the interests of the workers (white or Black) are the main vehicle for the spread of white chauvinism within the labor movement.

Back in early October, the Boston fire-fighters (known for their racist hiring policy of excluding minority workers) were the first to give their support to the fascist anti-busing leaders. They were followed by the Mass. Construction Trades Council, with a membership of 7,000 mainly white construction workers and Local 25 of the Teamsters.

Another voice of support for the racist drive is the Boston Policeman's Association whose official publication, "Pax Centurion" is used as agitational literature at every rally and meeting of the white boycott forces. The openly racist stand of the Boston police has led to broad support

"AT COLUMBIA POINT HOUSING PROJECT, RESIDENTS ORGANIZED HEROIC SELF-DEFENSE FOLLOWING ATTACKS BY KKK NIGHT RIDERS."

within the Black community for the demand of federal protection. But with Ford's open stand against busing and therefore in favor of segregation, this protection has been refused. Without federal troops, people in the Black community are justly organizing their own self-defense.

At the Columbia Point housing project, residents organized themselves in their own heroic self-defense efforts following attacks by KKK "night riders" and police who fired guns into the buildings where many small children live. More recently, on October 13, community leaders and politicians led a rally of over 1,000 through the streets of Roxbury into the downtown Commons. Militant slogans chanted in unison spirited the march. They demanded strict protection of all students from the racist gangs, who have dragged several Black people out of their cars and beaten them.

A good example of the anti-working class nature of the anti-busing movement could be seen in "Pax Centurion" where along with their racist anti-integration stand, the police organization came out against government protection for workers facing unsafe working conditions. In an interview with Leo Kahian, candidate for governor on

the American Party ticket, "Pax Centurion" attacks OSHA (the Occupational Safety and Health Act) and the Environmental Protection Agency as being "destructive of our free enterprisystem!" This attack on the very puny and minimal protection given workers by these government agencies demonstrates clearly that the anti-busing leadership has no real regard for the needs of working people.

Another example of the way in which the white workers are being hurt by the anti-busing movement occurred three years ago when Southie High was overcrowded by over 500 students, while Girls High in nearby Black Roxbury had an almost equal number of vacancies. The school committee refused to transfer students across racially drawn lines. Money was spent on makeshift class-



ONE OF THE MANY centers set up and heavily financed by the fascist backers of the Boston anti-busing movement. (Call Photo)

MARCH AGAINST RACISM

JOIN FRED HAMPTON CONTINGENT

A massive march and demonstration has been called to demand an end to the racist attacks against the Black community of Boston. The demonstration, called for December 14, is being sponsored by a broad coalition including civil rights groups, liberals, and revolutionary organizations.

The October League has called for the formation of the "Fred Hampton Contingent" to march within the demonstration as an independent force in unity with the general aims of the action. The purpose of this independent contingent in the march is to demonstrate that there are many forces among the people who are opposed to racist attacks, and at the same time who do not go along with the views of the liberal millionaires like Kennedy and the Democratic Party who are a major influence in the demonstration.

Some of the sponsors for the December 14 march include: Clyde Bellecourt, a co-founder of the American Indian Movement (AIM); Father Phillip Berrigan; John Black, vice-president of Dist. 1199, Drug and Hospital Workers Union; Walter Collins, a leader of the Southern Conference Educational Fund (SCEF); Carlos Feliciano, Puerto Rican political prisoner; Corky Gonzales, head of the Denver Crusade for Justice; the San Quentin Six, political prisoners; and a host of progressive groups and individuals.

Plans for the demonstration were announced at a press conference called by Black Senator-elect William Owens of Boston on behalf of the Emergency Committee for a National Mobilization Against Racism. Senator-elect Owens stated, "The eyes of the nation and the world are now focused on Boston. The December 14 demonstration against racist violence will show that the vast majority of Bostonians, black, brown, yellow and white, stand on the side of human rights and justice and oppose mob violence against all school children. We call on justice-loving people from all 50 states to come to Boston and join our freedom march."

The purpose of the "Fred Hampton Contingent," named for the Black liberation fighter who was murdered five years ago by police, is to show that these racist attacks are part of a system built upon the enslavement of people of color all around the world, and that all the liberal schemes aimed at integration and "everyone loving their fellow man" will not solve the basic problems which Black and other oppressed people face. These problems can only be finally solved in the course of the revolutionary fight against imperialism which is the root cause of national oppression and racism. Aside from opposing the fascist attacks on Black people, demanding protection for Black and other minority children, the Contingent will also voice its support of the right of self-defense and the cause of Black liberation.

rooms for students at Southie High. If the School Committee had genuinely been concerned with "quality education" they would have spent money improving Girls High and transferred the excess white students there. But the School Committee is only concerned with preserving segregationist barriers.

In response to the segregationists, broad support for the Black community is coming from the rank-and-file and from many union representatives, led by minority workers. Speaking out in opposition to the anti-busing movement and voicing support for the December 14 "March and Rally Against Institutionalized Racism and Violence" in Boston are: The Hospital Workers Union, the International Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, Teamsters, Local 10, Hotel, Restaurant and Cafeteria Workers, the Southern Tenant Union, Communication Workers of America, Retail Store Employees, United Electrical Workers as well as leaders from the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) and the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists to name only a few.

The October League has initiated a Fred Hampton contingent in the December 14 march, named after the murdered Black liberation fighter who died five years ago this month.

In a major concession to the racists, "liberal" Judge Garrity (who initially called for the Boston Busing Plan) approved a racist crash tutorial program for 8,500 boycotting white students. The phony stand of the liberal politicians like Garrity and Kennedy is increasingly being exposed before the people. Kennedy, while making a few speeches on behalf of the busing program, has only seen the program as a way of building his political base, using unprotected Black school children as cannon fodder in the process. These liberal politicians and judges cannot be relied on to stand up to the fascists and ultimately will side with them. Garrity's approval of the white boycott "tutorial program" is another clear example of this fact. As one Black Roxbury mother said of the program and the boycott, "It's racist, I mean, besides a few schools where safety is still a factor, what color are the majority of boycotters—white?"

"QUALITY EDUCATION"

Both anti-busing forces as well as the liberals in Boston claim that the real struggle is over "quality education." They thus try to hide the fact that the heart of the Boston struggle is the question of Black liberation and an end to national oppression and racial discrimination.

The Kennedy liberals as well as the liberal press have also been trying to push busing as the answer to all the problems. Busing, at best, can only partially integrate schools which exist in a racist segregated society where housing, jobs and all forms of discrimination are woven into the fabric of capitalism. But even this liberal faith in integration is too much for the fascist leaders of the white boycott.

They now are trying to put economic pressure on the Boston Globe, for example, which they say "doesn't tell their side of the story." Superintendent of Schools Kerrigan, one of the fascist leaders behind the anti-busing movement revealed his bitter hatred of integration when he recalled four Boston students who visited a Charlotte, N.C. school to learn of their experiences with integrated education. The Globe and other "liberals" in Boston have been trying to use Charlotte as a model for "achieving racial peace."

The fascist-led attacks on Boston desegregation efforts, as well as being of a thoroughly anti-working class nature are a continuation of centuries of national oppression and discrimination directed against the Afro-American people as a whole by the ruling class.

This was pointed out by an October League speaker at a forum on the busing situation held November 24. The OL representative pointed out the vital importance of working among the white workers and within the unions to fight for a working-class stand in support of full democratic rights for all minorities. She pointed to examples of the special work the OL was doing in the unions and in the white working class neighborhoods. She also exposed the lies by some groups on the left like the Revolutionary Union who tried to paint the anti-busing movement as something "progressive" instead of the fascist-led movement that it is.

Other speakers at the rally included Puerto Rican activist Rudolfo Rodriguez, representatives of the Haitian Patriotic Committee, the National Lawyers Guild, several tenants groups and STRUGGLE newspaper.

The main thrust of the program put forth by most of the speakers called for full democratic rights for the Afro-American people, including forms of community control in the Black community, and also including the right to attend integrated schools if they choose, free from racist attacks. Criticized strongly were the abstract cries of those opposed to "all violence" and who failed to distinguish between the racist terror campaigns of the fascists and the self-defense of the people.

The forces in Boston are preparing themselves for a decisive struggle, the outcome of which could well determine the fate of this city's working people in the face of the worsening economic crisis. The forces that stand for fascism, racial discrimination and terror are mobilizing themselves and consolidating themselves as are the forces which stand for freedom, democratic rights and working class unity.

The first step in achieving these things as well as putting an end to exploitation and oppression under capitalism, lies in the leadership of the working class breaking cleanly from the racist policies of the big capitalists and their flunkies in the labor movement.

Wherever there is oppression, there is resistance. This is a historical truth, borne out in the struggles of the world's peoples against imperialism, and for independence, national liberation, and revolution. It is no less true here in the U.S.

The October League has taken up this call to resist oppression by initiating a broad united front of forces who stand against the fascist tide now sweeping the country. The National Days of Resistance to Repression, December 7 and 8, will be a way for the masses of people to protest the police violence and terror now being directed mainly at minorities. They are also a call to shatter the fascist labor front that is being built in opposition to the basic rights and living standards of the whole working class.

The National Days of Resistance will link up the many struggles to defend our democratic rights into a national campaign. It will also be aimed at organizing the people to take the offensive against the capitalist ruling class which is directing police terror against the working class and oppressed minorities.

ANTI-REPRESSION EVENTS SLATED

A list of events planned during the National Days of Resistance include the following:

*New York, a forum sponsored by the New York Coalition Against Repression will commemorate the police murder of Fred Hampton five years ago. Hampton was a leader in the Black Panther Party and spoke out for class struggle and Black liberation. The forum will be held December 7 in Harlem, and speakers from three groups—the New York Coalition Against Repression, the Committee for Justice for Claude Reese and the Commandos,—will link up the many struggles against police terror with the need to smash the fascist offensive by the ruling class now underway. The film, "Murder of Fred Hampton" will also be shown.

*In Milwaukee, Wisconsin, two events will be held focusing on the themes, "Get the Nazis Out of Our Schools, Communities, and Workplaces," and "Defend the Rights of National Minorities Against Racist Attacks." Organized by a broad coalition of groups and organizations, the events will include a march and rally on December 14, as well as an educational forum the evening of Saturday, December 7. The programs will consist of speeches, films, and cultural presentations.

*A rally commemorating the murder of Fred Hampton and in support of the Attica Brothers will be held in Chicago on December 6 at St. Paul the Redeemer Church, 4945 So. Dorchester St.

*In Boston on December 7 at 7:30 p.m., the October League will sponsor a film show and benefit for Jean-Louis Andre Yvon, a Haitian immigrant worker who was attacked by a fascist-led mob opposed to busing. The event will take place at the Hennigan School, 200 Heath St. in Roxbury. The film, "Murder of Fred Hampton" will be shown, and a speaker will talk about the busing struggle in that city and the need to defend the democratic right of Black and other minority children to go to the schools of their choice.

*An anti-repression program December 8 at 7:00 p.m. in Detroit will feature speakers from the African Liberation Support Committee (ALSC), Progressive Detroit, and the October League. Jehu, a representative from the October League in Boston, will speak on busing and the fight for democratic rights. The program will take place at the Trinity Methodist Church, corner of Woodward and Buena Vista, in Highland Park. There will be live music.

*In New Orleans, there will be a demonstration on Sunday, December 8 at 1:00 p.m. in Congo Square. The main slogans raised at the demonstration will be "Unite to Fight Repression," "Self-Determination for the Afro-American People," and "People Have the Right to Decent Housing." This latter slogan will call attention to the Pacherter Housing rent strike—now into its 6th month—as one example of people organizing and fighting for their rights. Among the groups participating are the African Liberation Support Committee, the Black Workers Congress, and the October League.

A CALL FOR NAT'L DAYS OF RESISTANCE TO REPRESSION



(Photo: Myamavu, Congress of African People)

Demonstrators rally outside the Newark City Hall September 2, 1974 to protest police brutality and repression. Although 2 Puerto Ricans were killed and over 75 arrested, the Newark rebellion served notice on the police and their bosses that fascism and police repression would be resisted by any means necessary.

*People in Atlanta, Ga. plan to march against repression on Saturday, December 7. In addition, there will be a city-wide educational rally on the night of December 6. The program will include a videotape showing of "Murder of Fred Hampton," and speakers will address the question of repression and the rising fascist tide.

The Atlanta Anti-Repression Coalition (AARC) is sponsoring the demonstration and rally, with many other groups and individuals working on it. These include students, factory caucuses, revolutionary organizations, and concerned individuals from Black communities like Capitol Homes, Bowen Homes, and Bankhead Courts. All those places have recently been the scene of violent police attacks. Fourteen-year-old Pamela Dixon was shot in the stomach in Capitol Homes in June of 1972 and seventeen-year-old Brandon Gibson was killed in Bowen Homes this past June. In October, Bankhead Courts was the scene of a violent police siege.

*Odis Hyde, member of the October League and a veteran of over 40 years of struggle for Black liberation, will join other speakers at a forum on December 7 at 7:00 p.m. in Oakland. The forum will be presented at Fremont High School, corner of Foothill and High St.

*In Los Angeles, there will be a forum on December 14 with the theme, "Unite to Fight Repression." It will be a broad program, featuring speakers from the October League and La Raza Unida Party, among others. A film will also be shown on the anti-repression movement in Atlanta, Georgia. Also in Los Angeles, on December 7, a rally outside the Parker Police Center will protest the murder in cold blood of Fred Shorts, a youth killed by police on Nov. 22.

*"Murder of Fred Hampton" will be shown as part of an anti-repression forum to be held in Denver on December 7 at 7:30 p.m., at the Park Hill Congregational Church, corner of 26th and Leyden.

*A wide range of forces from around the state of Florida will be uniting in Tampa to commemorate the police murders of Fred Hampton and Mark Clark and to fight back against the tide of increasing repression. The demonstration, planned for December 7, will be in support of the Black liberation movement and against the racist police violence which has been directed at the Afro-American people and their struggles.

It will, at the same time, focus in on some of the particular cases of repression being fought in Florida, such as the movement to free Pitts and Lee, two Black men framed on murder charges in 1963. In Tampa, the racist police terror that has been steadily on the rise has met with increasingly organized and militant resistance. Cases such as that of the Jackson family (a mother and her two sons) who were fired upon, beaten, and arrested because of their opposition to police terror tactics, will occupy an important place in the December 7 activities.

In all these events, the need for all people to stand up and oppose the rising fascist tide will be the main feature. Particular stress must be placed in this fight on supporting and defending the rights of national minorities from the brutal attacks of the ruling class, whether it be the police murder of Black people or the fascist deportation of "illegal" immigrant workers. Fascism is neither inevitable nor invincible. The organized and militant struggle of the people can smash the fascist offensive. In this spirit, the October League urges all people to take part in the National Days of Resistance to Repression as one important step in this struggle.

END POLICE TERROR! !
FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS! !
UNITE TO STOP THE FASCIST TIDE! !
SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE AFRO-AMERICAN PEOPLE! !

BLACK INMATE MURDERED IN SOUTHERN SIT-DOWN STRIKE

Atlanta, Ga.—One prisoner was shot dead and numerous others were injured November 4 when guards at Reidsville State Prison opened fire on prisoners who were staging a sit-down strike. This is only one of several murders that have occurred at Reidsville, whose guards have a statewide reputation for brutality (two inmates were severely beaten only a few days before the strike took place). The murder of inmate Andrew Griffin, a 32-year-old Black man, is another instance of the growing fascist repression aimed especially at the Afro-American people.

For several days after the murder, prison officials did not allow reporters or even lawyers inside the prison. But according to a former inmate at Reidsville, who is in contact with eyewitnesses, Griffin was hit by two shots. The first shot knocked him to the ground where he was shot a second time, killing him.

To keep this information from reaching the outside, at least 22 prisoners were transferred to other prisons within days of the killing, before anyone was allowed in the prison. Over 100 other inmates were locked up in solitary. Several

inmates have been coerced into turning states evidence, saying that Griffin was responsible for his own death (this in spite of the officials' initial story that he was killed by accident).

This is the second strike at Reidsville in the last six months. In June, after a fight broke out among inmates, the prisoners united to prevent further violence. From this, they organized and put forward seven demands to the prison officials and went on strike. The demands were for more staff, less harassment, better medical care, better housing, and desegregation. The warden verbally agreed to the majority of the demands, but little was actually done.

The local capitalist media has tried to blame "integration" for the problems at Reidsville, playing up every "disturbance" as a "racial dispute."

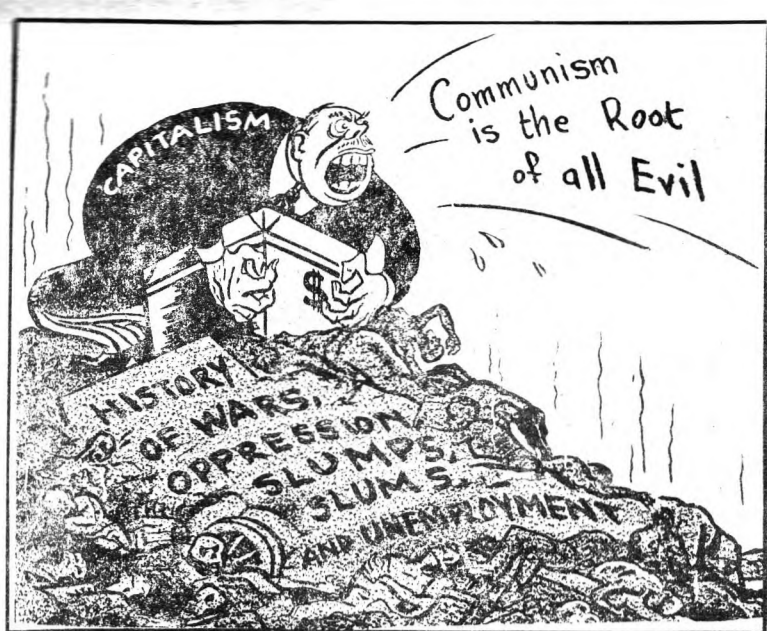
But it is the conditions inside the prison and the fascist policies of the prison authorities that are the real causes of "trouble" at Reidsville. Beatings, like the two that occurred shortly before the latest strike, are commonplace.

The current struggle is taking on a more conscious, organ-

ized form. Prior to this strike, inmates made up and circulated leaflets throughout the entire prison. When the morning of the 4th came, the strike was almost 100% effective. Reports reaching *THE CALL* indicate that at least 5 of the inmates' leaders have been placed in "quarantine" since the strike. According to a spokesman for Community Aid to Prisoners, a local political action group, this is a decades-old tactic designed to keep the prisoners divided and disorganized. But at Reidsville, it isn't working.

People have rallied to the support of the prisoners. On November 8, 150 people picketed the State Capitol in Atlanta demanding a full and open investigation, and an end to the murder and brutalization of prisoners. The march, held in a drizzling rain, was sponsored by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the Atlanta Anti-Repression Coalition (AARC), the National Welfare Rights Organization, the National Lawyers Guild, the October League, and others. A second demonstration was held on November 12. Georgia's Governor Carter has not responded to the protests.

As the unemployment lines continue to grow, we can expect the capitalists to rely increasingly on the police and prisons to put down the people's struggle. But, as Reidsville and Attica and numerous other prisons have shown, prisoners themselves are organizing against repression. The struggle against racism and fascism will go on inside and outside the prison walls, no matter how many billions they spend on new jails or more "effective" repressive techniques.



WAY OUT OF THE CRISIS ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

tional market, buckling under the weight of unfavorable trade balance, and lack of gold reserves. Four years ago, gold, the standard on which the whole world capitalist system is based, sold for \$35 an ounce. Today, it is fast approaching the \$200 mark, having risen \$30 in the last two months alone. The change in the price of gold has sent an earthquake tremor through the capitalist system. The U.S. is having a hard time selling its goods on the world market because of their high price. Meanwhile, U.S. interests have been forced to pay much more for imports, especially to the Arab oil producers, and other raw material exporters around the Third World. All of this has resulted in what is known as a "balance of payments deficit," meaning that the U.S. is spending far more for imports than it is receiving from exports. Prices on the stock market are always much higher than the actual value of the stocks, but in times of economic crisis, when the confidence of investors in their own system is very low, exaggerated prices are forced back down to their real value and below. This has resulted in the spectacular downturn of the Dow-Jones industrial averages from 1000 to 600 in the space of a year.

So far, neither Ford, nor any leaders of other capitalist nations, have been able to solve the problems of inflation, unemployment, industrial stagnation—all the result of basic contradictions of capitalism. Not a single program formulated by their economic advisers has worked; no single significant aspect of the world economy has gone without a downturn over the last year. One capitalist country is unable to shift the crisis on to the next, as they have done historically because all face the same crisis conditions. This is heightening the possibility for renewed world war, especially in Europe where the U.S. and the USSR are vying for domination of the West European countries.

Despite the various terms economists call it, the current crisis is objectively a "crisis of overproduction." When Marxist-Leninists use this term to characterize the crisis in capitalism they mean that the capitalists have expanded their production with no regard as to who will buy all these goods at the prices they are charging. When the goods don't sell, they are forced to cut production, close the factories, and lay-off the workers, often destroying the

goods themselves rather than sell them at lower prices. We have already evidenced this with the dumping of 300,000 gallons of milk in Los Angeles, the shooting of cattle in the Midwest and other graphic examples. Leontiev, a Soviet political economist writing at the time of the Great Depression, illustrated the crisis of overproduction with the following example: A miner's son asks his mother, "Why don't you light the fire, it's so cold?" The mother responds, "We have no coal. Your father is out of work, and we can't afford coal." The son demands, "Why is he out of work?" And the mother replies, "Because there's too much coal."

This bitter story shows the meaning of capitalist "overproduction." The reason new cars are not selling is not that no one needs them, but rather, no one can afford them. In their greed and haste to make profits, the Big Three auto makers sped up production lines to record levels earlier this year, working thousands of workers 10 and 12 hours a day. They also raised their prices more than 10 per cent. Suddenly, they had 100,000 cars piled up in show rooms, and no one could afford to buy them. Revealing the utterly unplanned and chaotic nature of the capitalist system, they turned around and laid-off a large percentage of the workers, in order to slow down production. But in fact, all this does is throw more workers out of work and keep even larger numbers of people from buying cars. It is this cycle which, in the past has thrown world capitalism into the depths of starvation-torn depressions. In this country, it is of course the minorities that are the hardest hit. Unemployment among non-whites is more than double that of the white workers. In some Black communities, unemployment is up over 40 per cent.

Like the auto industry, the recession in housing construction is not due to "too much" good housing. In fact, the government itself has recently released surveys showing that in communities like Harlem and Newark, over 60 per cent of the housing is "below standard."

In the midst of the obvious deterioration of living standards, and the sharpening of all of capitalism's contradictions, the government has consistently tried to convince people that "there is no crisis," and that everything will be alright "soon." The best testament to this was Ford's refusal to admit even the existence of a recession prior to mid-Novem-

ber. Meanwhile Ford's top economic adviser, Alan Greenspan, has announced that "The U.S. economy is already well on its way to recovery, and the worst of inflation is over."

Stressing the controls on the economy that have come about since the 30s, government experts assert that bank insurance, stock market regulations, unemployment compensation and social security will prevent anyone from going hungry no matter how bad things get. Many of these "controls" however were won only through militant mass struggles in the earlier part of this century and will undoubtedly require a new wave of working class struggle merely to keep them, let alone expand such things as social security or unemployment payments to keep pace with inflation. Other "controls" such as Federal insurance to banks, have already shown themselves to be inadequate, with the recent closing of New York's Franklin Bank. Banking officials admit that there are 180 other banks in serious financial trouble.

All the features of the Great Depression are present in today's economy: record-high interest rates, personal debt on a par with personal income, rapid recession in the production of many items, inflationary prices, and mushrooming unemployment. The solution to that crisis, for the imperialists, was the Second World War, which stimulated receding production with the vast demand for weapons and equipment, and crushed working class struggle under the banner, "everything for the war effort." As a result of the war, the U.S. captured tremendous new markets and sources of cheap labor all over the world, replacing the decaying empires of Germany, France, Britain, and Japan, thus becoming the chief imperialist superpower.

Today, the possibility of another world war is very great, as the capitalists desperately try to untangle themselves from the web of crisis, and as the Soviet Union expands its imperialist empire into areas formerly controlled by the U.S. The propaganda for such a war is already being dished out by the leading figures in U.S. political life such as Kissinger, Simon and Ford. Kissinger, in a speech in late October, observed that "The developed countries of the Western world cannot allow the Arab countries to wreck in a few short years an economic system which took centuries to construct."

"EVE OF SOCIALIST REVOLUTION"

In the period of the first imperialist war, World War I, V.I. Lenin, the leader of the Russian revolution, observed that imperialism was capitalism's most developed stage, and that it was creating its own gravediggers. He called imperialism the "eve of socialist revolution," because as it brought with it the inevitable brutality of economic crisis and war, it also turned the masses of workers and peasants around the world into anti-imperialist fighters.

By plundering the peoples of the oppressed nations while at the same time, exploiting its own working class, the system of imperialism lays the foundations for a united effort by the peoples of the whole world in revolutionary struggle against all oppression.

Today, in the face of sharpening economic crisis, the working class is rapidly concentrating its experiences in class struggle, and fighting back with new militancy against every capitalist attack. The miner's strike in the coal fields of Appalachia is one such example. In the midst of the workers movement, for the first time in twenty years, communists are present, lending militancy to the movement, and at the same time pointing out its final aims: The overthrow of imperialism and the establishment of a socialist system, run by the working people themselves, free from economic crisis because it is free from the contradiction of soaking profit out of workers' labor; and free from war, because it has no business plundering the resources of another country or fighting for the "right" to dominate a foreign land.

SUGAR PRICES GO SOUR

People going to the market to buy a five-pound bag of sugar are more often than not leaving empty-handed with a look of anger on their faces. The reason?—They just can't afford it.

Outside Detroit, a group of housewives have organized a sugar boycott. While at a rally in Connecticut, a bakers' protest was held against the raising of a 100-pound sack of sugar from \$13 to \$63 over the past year, with no let-up in sight.

Over the past year retail sugar prices have increased more than 300 per cent and they are still climbing. In mid-November, a price check of a five-pound bag of sugar at Los Angeles supermarkets, showed an increase from \$2.16 to \$2.72 in one week. The threat of further price hikes has led to consumer attempts to stock up until the price goes down, but many markets have limited customers to two-pound purchases.

Newspapers claim that the skyrocketing prices are due to "shortages," but it is a proven fact that huge quantities of sugar are being held off the market to boost profits for the big refineries and commodity speculators. A similar situation took place during last year's fuel "crisis" which the government blamed on the Arabs, but where the oil monopolies increased their profits upwards of 300 per cent by hiding fuel in empty gas stations and tankers as they doubled the price of gasoline.

The Nov. 18 issue of Newsweek reports: "Speculation on sugar futures in markets around the world has reached such a frenzy that the current price of raw sugar is climbing by an average of two pennies per day." While Newsweek goes on to blame the people, who it says "are eating more sugar than ever before" it can't help but notice that the sugar refiners are taking windfall profits. "One company," says Newsweek, "reported profits running as much as 1,121 per cent ahead of last year and another gained 228 per cent."

HOARDING BY WHOLESALERS

There are also many reports of wholesalers hoarding large volumes of sugar in order to drive up the price. Among the hoarders are the capitalists in the Soviet Union who don't mind making the people of the world suffer while they reap more profits, now that the country is no longer socialist in any sense.

The Philippines, which suffered extensive damage to its sugar crop this year, sells an estimated 700,000 tons on the world sugar market. Recently the Wall Street Journal reported that the Soviet Union grabbed up 500,000 tons from the Philippines and is sitting on it. Following their purchase, the world spot price for sugar on the commodity market went up to a record 53.5 cents per pound.

The U.S. government has refused to freeze sugar prices and freeze the profits of the giant refiners. They simply echo the claims of the monopolies who say that these

windfall profits are "justified" because, as Newsweek explained, "...they are simply making up lost ground," meaning that they are taking advantage of the present situation to grab all they can at the people's expense.

SMALL BAKERS BEING HURT

Aside from the consumer, thousands of small bakers are being badly hurt by the sudden rise in sugar prices. They are being driven out of business by the big baked goods monopolies, who can well afford to keep pace with the increases to get a larger share of the bread market. In fact they have bought up large quantities of sugar in advance.

Two different solutions are being put forward in answer to the "sugar crisis." The mass media, reflecting the views of big business, are telling people to "stop eating sugar" if they don't like the price. Telling people to do without has also become the favorite solution of Ford and his gang who certainly won't "do without" themselves and know full well that people need the basic necessities of life.

The other solution is the militant fight-back of the people, organized into a united struggle of workers, consumers and small business owners who are being hit hard at the present time by inflation.

Rallies, boycotts and demonstrations can be effective in putting the load where it belongs, on the capitalists.

By Chen Feng, China Features Service

New China has kept its commodity prices stable since its establishment a quarter of a century ago.

Over this period China has developed its socialist economy by self-reliance and by giving full rein to the enthusiasm of the people on the principle of "maintaining independence and keeping the initiative in our own hands and relying on our own efforts." Price stability has been brought about on the basis of a rapid expansion of production and the gradual improvement of the people's living standards.

For two yuan (about one U.S. dollar) any of the following commodities in the specified amounts can be bought in the Peking market: 11 lbs. of rice, 11 lbs. of wheat flour, 3 lbs. of mutton, 3 lbs. of beef, 44 lbs. of tomatoes, 33 lbs. of onions, and 2.2 yards of white cotton cloth.

The retail prices of these items have undergone almost no change since 1952. In fact, little change has taken place in the retail prices of all major items of consumer goods



A section of a Lanchow woolen fabrics store, Northwest China. (China Features Photos)

and, in the case of some manufactured goods of daily use, there have been price reductions. The price of medicines is one example. In the interest of public health, medicine prices have been cut repeatedly, and today average one-fifth of those in 1950. House rent, which generally accounts for three to five per cent of wages, water and electricity charges and fares remain practically unchanged. With the growth of the petroleum industry, the price of gas for household use has been cut.

In socialist new China, a developing country, wages are in general relatively low and the people's living standards need to be raised. However, the supply of basic necessities is ensured and commodity prices have been kept low and stable. Unemployment does not exist. Moreover, no tax is levied on individual income. All this guarantees the people's security of livelihood and creates highly favorable conditions for a continuous expansion of the national economy.

To enable the peasants to draw a higher income and to speed up farm production and the development of the entire national economy, the state has, on several occasions, raised the prices it pays for farm and sideline products and at the same time has lowered the sales prices of agricultural

CHINA'S PRICES REMAIN STABLE

NO INFLATION UNDER SOCIALISM

production requirements such as chemical fertilizer, pesticides, farm machinery and diesel oil.

How does China keep prices stable?

First of all and most fundamentally, China's socialist economy is a planned economy. Output quotas and prices for industrial and agricultural products are in the main worked out and readjusted in accordance with state plans; they are not governed by the relationship between supply and demand. This means that price fluctuations, with prices rising when commodities are in short supply and dropping when they are in surplus, do not occur. Production is not for profit, not dictated by what makes the most money; instead, it is aimed at promoting the building of socialism and meeting the needs of the people. The production, circulation and distribution of industrial and agricultural products are controlled under the overall state plan. All the social purchasing power, in the forms of the workers' wages, sums paid by the state for farm produce (to be converted into the peasantry's purchasing power), and the appropriations for the administrative expenses and welfare undertakings of government organizations and enterprises (to be converted into the purchasing power of social groupings), comes within the framework of state planning. In this way the contradiction between social production and social requirements is constantly regulated by the state plan and price stability is guaranteed.

Guided by the general principle "Take agriculture as the foundation and industry as the leading factor" in developing the national economy, new China has rapidly expanded its industrial and agricultural production over the past two decades and more. Grain output has more than doubled compared with the early post-liberation period. Output of

cotton, oil-bearing seeds, sugar cane and beets, bast fibre, tobacco, tea and other industrial crops as well as of aquatic and animal products has risen from several to a dozen or more times. Increases in the output of cotton yarn, cotton cloth, gunny sacks, paper, cigarettes, leather and other items also range from several to several-dozen fold. The development of heavy industry has been even more rapid. Output of iron and steel has grown over 100 fold. The fast-expanding petroleum industry has made the country self-sufficient both in quantity and variety and also able to export a surplus. In a word, the development of industrial and agricultural production has provided a solid material foundation for price stability as well as ample supplies of goods to the domestic market.

Secondly, a balanced state budget and elimination of currency inflation form an important factor in achieving price stability. In old China under reactionary Kuomintang rule, currency inflation reached astronomical proportions. In



Workers shop at a store in Luta city, Northeast China, where prices on basic items have not risen since 1952.

the 12 years from July, 1937, to May, 1949, under Kuomintang rule, the rate of inflation rose more than 140,000 million times and prices 8,500,000 million times.

Soon after the founding of new China, the state adopted measures to halt the currency inflation and stabilize prices. Over these 25 years a balanced budget with a small surplus has been maintained. China's state revenue comes mainly from the income turned in by the state-owned enterprises which operate on the basis of increasing production and practicing economy. The Chinese currency "renminbi" is based on the ample supplies of goods at the state's disposal, not on domestic gold or foreign exchange reserves. The currency is issued in a planned way and in complete compliance with the requirements of economic development and circulation. The principle to issue no currency in excess of actual requirements is strictly implemented.

As a result, the "renminbi" is one of the few stable currencies in the world, and an indicator of the people's confidence in it is the growth of bank savings throughout the country. Internationally, its reputation stands high. Before 1968, China's foreign trade and aid to other countries and other economic transactions were conducted in foreign currencies. Since then, however, an increasing number of countries and regions have been using the "renminbi" to quote prices and settle accounts in their dealings with China.

BALANCED FOREIGN TRADE

China's balanced foreign trade is a third factor in its price stability. Under the principle of independence and self-reliance, China has worked out its import and export plans in accordance with the requirements of economic development and within the range of its resources. It has incurred no adverse trade balance, no foreign exchange deficits. The days of old China, when foreign goods flooded the market and the imperialists ruthlessly exploited the Chinese people through exchange of unequal values, have gone once and for all. Likewise, currency depreciation and soaring prices following on gold and foreign exchange reserves depletion and heavy national debts caused by adverse foreign trade, prevalent in old China, have become things of the past. In China today, the big majority of commodities are produced with raw materials supplied and processed domestically. Trade is now carried on with more than 150 countries and regions on the principle of equality, mutual benefit and supplying each other's needs; this also serves to promote the friendship between the Chinese people and the people of other countries. However, China's economy keeps its foothold at home: China's commodities come mainly from home industry and go mainly to the Chinese people, mostly to the peasant masses. There is a vast home market. As a result, changes in the economic situation abroad do not affect commodity supply and price stability in China.

The fourth factor is that price fluctuations in the international market do not affect domestic market prices because the same commodities China sells at home and abroad are priced differently. Under a policy of state control of foreign trade, foreign trade departments handle all China's export and import trade and keep business accounting of it in accordance with unified state plans. Imported goods are sold on the domestic market at prices comparable to similar goods made in China. Goods for export are purchased by the state in the market at the same prices paid in domestic trade. And China prices its export goods in accordance with the rise and fall of world market prices. In this way, China's domestic market is basically cut off from any direct link with the world market and stable prices can be domestically maintained despite stormy changes that occur in international market prices. This not only protects the stability of living costs for the Chinese people but plays a positive role in developing production in the country.

CAPITALISM'S NEWEST SAVIOR

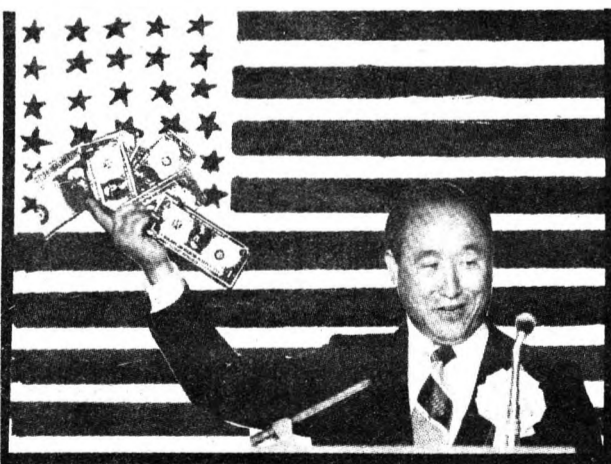
The latest anti-communist crusade has come to the U.S. in the form of a new prophet, the Rev. Sun Myung Moon, and his so-called "Unification Church."

Moon is a south Korean businessman worth over \$15 million in factories that make drugs, guns, minerals and tea. He claims to bring "the new future of Christianity." This "new Messiah" brought 1000 young people from all over the world to Chicago, all expenses paid, to promote his nation-wide tour and spread the word that "the great D-Day of the Messiah is coming." An expensive advertising campaign that included TV spots, full-page newspaper ads, posters plastered all over the city, and free tickets given out at every street corner in the Loop, brought a full house to McCormick Place to hear the word.

Rev. Moon is supported by some of the most reactionary elements of big business, including Nixon. He had breakfast and prayed with Nixon on his last visit to the U.S., and held "God loves Nixon" rallies in Korea during Watergate. Moon is like a little brother to Pak Jung Hi, the fascist dictator of south Korea. Every year Pak sends groups of military leaders, village chiefs, teachers and provincial officers to Moon's religious center for indoctrination. Here in Chicago, Mayor Daley proclaimed November 12 "Unification Church Day," and encouraged all Chicagoans to go to Moon's rally.

The ruling class uses people like Moon to whip up anti-communist public sentiment. One of Moon's main messages is: "Communism is atheism." As the economic crisis grows deeper, people become more aware of the class contradictions in our society and therefore more open to revolutionary thought. As a result, different methods are used to distract people's attention from their real problems. Pornography is fostered; mystical ideas about the supernatural are cultivated. Some people, oppressed, confused,

and denied access to Marxist ideas, begin to look to astrology or believe the world is coming to an end. All kinds of cults spring up (from Charles Manson to the Maharishi) and find their followers. The capitalists promote all this stuff and give it lots of free publicity. Rev. Moon preaches



"God Loves Nixon," "Communism is Atheism," says Moon.

that all men are brothers and that "We are in God's kingdom on earth." These ideas are meant to deceive people about what's going on; we are not brothers with Rockefeller and it is wrong for workers to love the exploiters and fascists who oppress us as Moon would have us do.

The imperialists have chosen an Asian front-man this time in order to split Third World people. But this scheme won't work. A mass movement is rising in Korea against Moon's friend, dictator Pak Jung Hi. Moon has been chosen to create a new church, the Unification Church, because even the Catholic and the Protestant churches in Korea are solidly against the fascist dictator and many of their ministers have been imprisoned and tortured. Moon tries to sow division between the Korean and Japanese people with fairy tales about Japanese women being captive in north Korea.

Despite this propaganda, 30,000 Japanese people rallied last month against the Korean dictator in unity with the south Korean masses. Rev. Moon and his like will soon find themselves being dumped in history's trash bin along with his friends Nixon and Pak and their rotten fascist ideology.

"HIT THE COMPANY FROM BOTH SIDES HERE AND IN PUERTO RICO!"

"Sure we're striking for higher wages and a cost-of-living increase," explained a rank-and-file leader of the month-long UAW strike against Standard Motors Inc., "but that's not all."

As he spoke, pickets crowded together in a circle. Our interview (conducted in Spanish because 80 per cent of the work force here is Latino) was suddenly turned into a group discussion, examining the history of the struggle, summing up the conditions in the plant and attacking the company's discriminatory policies.

A long row of pickets had directed us towards one worker: a Puerto Rican, who spoke from 20 years experience with Standard Motors. Last year the company fired him for his outspoken defense of the workers' rights.

"We're out here," he said, "to defend the workers in this plant against the company's discriminatory policies. Wage demands are one thing, but unless we specifically fight to defend the rights of the women, the illegals and the minorities, the company will divide us every which way, undermine our unity and weaken our struggle." Examples started flying from all directions to sharpen the picture.

Standard Motors, an auto parts manufacturer, employs over 1,000 workers—some 800 at its main plant in Long Island and another 300 or so at its shipping department in the Bronx. These workers, part of UAW Local 365, went on strike Oct. 2 when their 3-year contract expired. They wildcatted after local officials of the union stalled and then refused to sanction the strike, despite almost a unanimous vote. Two days later, Oct. 4, the International overrode the local leaders, authorizing the strike. The shut-down was 100 per cent effective.

On Nov. 5, the strike ended with Standard making a few wage and benefit concessions. The workers got a 13 per cent increase plus some holiday, sick and vacation time. Negotiations had been mainly in the hands of the UAW international representatives with a token participation of the workers' Plant Committee. The overriding concern of those gathered around the negotiating table was to bring a swift end to the strike. The UAW reps would get the company to concede on a few percentage points and in exchange they would work to silence the aroused discontent of workers against discrimination and the oppressive conditions.

LEADERSHIP OUTSTRIPPED

Rank-and-file sentiment far outstripped in consciousness and militancy, the leadership imposed by the union. Although there was no alternative leadership which was able to consolidate and direct the rank-and-file sentiments in time to push the strike and its demands further, the struggle against Standard Motors sparked a broadly-based movement struggling to recapture control over the union and turn it into a militant, fighting, democratic organization. This movement didn't end with the new three-year contract.

"Talk to the women," a strike leader insisted, "they have it worse in this factory. They are the ones who stand on the production lines; they get hit hardest by speed-ups and they're the ones who have to wreck themselves meeting production quotas..."

"If we don't meet the quota 100 per cent," a young Puerto Rican woman continued, "we're out. Most women on the line stand backed up against a wall; we can't move around and we aren't free to leave the line for so much as five minutes to go to the bath room. Standard Motors drives us for everything we have, forced overtime most days plus Saturdays. And the union officials have sold-out to the Company so bad that Standard can use them as tools in their attack on us."



Guardian Photo

WOMEN played a key role in the Standard Motors strike and the woman question was a central focus of the strike.

"Just look at the last contract," another striker added, "The Local negotiated a contract with no paid maternity leave. And who do you think gets the lowest wages in this place? The women of course. What's more, week after week, women on the night shift have complained about being molested by the night foreman. Some of us men have tried to help out, but the company won't let us on the same floor."

"You can work at this place for 20 or 30 years and never know what goes on, on other floors."

The workers spoke about the company's use of foreign-born workers to break the strike. "Since it was a wildcat strike at first," a striker pointed out, "illegals were afraid to walk an unauthorized picket line." The strikers seemed to have a good understanding that it was not the "illegals who were to blame" and for the most part felt the need to fight for protection for them against deportations and discrimination as a way of strengthening the struggle.

The main point the striking Standard workers made to us was the need to fight discrimination. They know that the UAW has muscle, but also they know that it doesn't flex that muscle for all the workers equally. At Standard, about half the workers are women and 90 per cent Latino and Black. 80 per cent of the workers here speak Spanish, yet the contract was never translated. Union meetings and notices appear only in English. Standard has been a UAW shop for a long time, yet starting wages for unskilled workers range from \$2 to \$2.20 an hour. The main contract demands included a 25 per cent increase in wages plus cost-of-living increases for each year of the contract. The strike was settled with a concession by the company of only 10 per cent.

The strikers pointed out that Local 365 was crooked from the start. Before 1965, Standard Motors had a separate independent Local-188. It had been built up from within the factory. According to a veteran worker, Local 365 "moved in like an invading army." They sent spies and agents into the plant with help from the company and through a series of dirty tricks "absorbed" Local 188.

"We weren't organized or real conscious then of what was going on," commented another old-timer. "It seemed like all of a sudden our local union was dissolved and instead, we had a handful of crooks and traitors wheeling and dealing with the company in our name."

But the struggle to throw out the sell-out leadership is too strong to be turned back now. Local 365 has already had their agents axed at Eagle Electric, the other plant organized in the same local. The rank-and-file at Eagle called a mass meeting in October and elected a full slate of 12 workers to replace the hacks from 365. With the momentum gained in the rank-and-file movement during the Standard strike, it looks like the rank and file in Local 365 will be able to do the same.

Standard Motors, like many other companies has taken to threatening the workers with closure if they don't stop putting demands on the company. The strikers we talked with however, weren't being bullied by threats of a run-away shop. "SMP has already run once," a worker explained. "They have a plant in Puerto Rico where they used to pay workers about \$40 a week. In mid-1972 the workers there mounted a big strike and won union recognition and higher wages. (The plant is SMP's subsidiary in Rio Grande, P.R.-ed.) Still the workers got paid less than they do here and my family tells me the cost of living in Puerto Rico is about 25 per cent above what it is in New York."

Some of the workers talked hopefully about the possibility of the Standard workers in Puerto Rico striking at the same time as the Standard workers here and "hitting the company from both sides." When we asked them about Puerto Rican independence, nearly all the strikers responded favorably.

"Well," said one striker, "they won't be able to run off so easy; they won't have free reign over Puerto Rico either. Now they don't even have to pay taxes there."

While the strike at Standard Motors ended abruptly because the workers had been unable to surmount all of their many difficulties at this time, the struggle there is rapidly moving forward and the consciousness of the workers is very high. The role of the international leadership has been exposed, even though they intervened over the reactionary local crooks and authorized the strike. It is clear that they were simply using another tactic to pull the carpet out from under the rank-and-file movement.

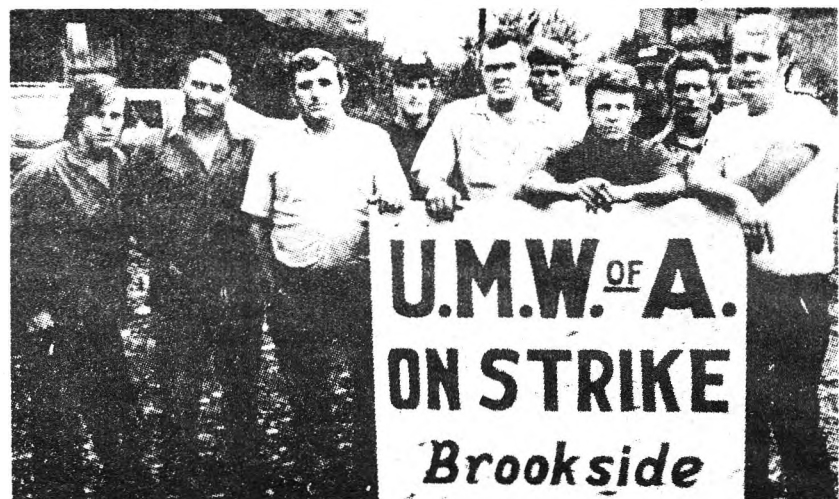
Despite the attempts of the company and union officials to divide the workers and their failure to fight discrimination, it was obvious that the majority of the rank and file were unified and aware of each other's problems. The heavy Latino concentration accounted for the high degree of internationalism, especially towards the Puerto Rican independence struggle. We also found that many of the advanced workers were to a large degree conscious of the need for socialism and a country "where the workers had power."

What most of the Standard workers saw was the need to build a fighting democratic union that would unite the workers across national and sex lines and would take up the special demands of minority, women and "illegal" workers. We left convinced that the Standard Motors workers would make great advances in their struggle in the months ahead.

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A SUMMARY OF WORKERS STRUGGLES FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY



TEAMSTER ASSAULT ON UFW WEAKENED BY SPLITS

The drive against the United Farm Workers by the leadership of the Teamsters has relied from the start on an army of professional scabs and mercenaries. Now it appears that this army of goons and scabs have turned against each other in Local 1973 of the Teamsters Union. Twenty-nine organizers in the local were fired in late October and charges are flying back and forth between rival factions. The Teamster leadership will continue their attacks against the UFW, but the factional in-fighting will slow their anti-union drive down, for the time being at least.

Local 1973 is the Teamster organization supposedly representing 50,000 farmworkers in California and Arizona. The contracts were won through backroom deals with growers, sending goon squads against UFW strikers, and other gangster-type tactics. Teamster President Frank Fitzsimmons pledged in June, 1974 in Monterey, California that his union would build Local 1973 into a viable, unified arm of the farmworker struggle in the Southwest. He also promised elections would be held shortly. The elections were never held and the local will be dismantled, and merged with various trucking locals throughout California.

Fitzsimmons claimed the firings were simply part of planned "economic cutbacks." Despite his efforts to picture the mass firings as just another measure of support for Gerald Ford's WIN program, UFW organizers believe the firings come from long-standing internal conflicts in the Teamster leadership. For instance, during the Coachella struggle in 1973, William Grami, head of the local, and Ralph Cotner both headed up goon squads against the UFW. At times, Grami's thugs fought with Cotner's thugs, with gunfire exchanged. This was a Mafia type of "turf war" between rival gangs of paid hoods.

Along with the firings, Grami was "kicked upstairs" to head the Warehouse Division in the Western Conference of Teamsters. The local was put into receivership and is now managed by Cotner.

One of the organizers, Cono Marcias, fired last month gave a possible explanation for the dismissals.

"They (the international leadership) are afraid of it (the local): it's grown too much, it will get bigger and they are afraid of the power of the workers."

Marcias is typical of the kind of "organizer" used by Fitzsimmons to break the UFW. He began his career in labor organizing on the Agricultural Right to Work Committee, a grower organization to prevent any union activity among farmworkers. He moved on the Federation of Agricultural Workers, a company union. Finally, he was recruited as an area "organizer" for the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee, the predecessor to Local 1973.

Teamsters all across the country are on strike right now, and they are not receiving the backing of the international leadership. Fitzsimmons ordered strikers in the UPS (United Postal Service) strike to abandon picket lines or loose strike sanctioning and benefits. The Teamster Union leadership is rife with contradictions between rival factions as well as its basic contradiction with the rank and file. These contradictions will multiply and sharpen as the rank and file fight to survive the economic crisis and as they see the militant example of the rank and file in unions such as the United Farm Workers itself. A large number of Teamsters have already come over to the side of the UFW and the firings in Local 1973 are likely to win more backers to the UFW, the union that really fights in the interests of agricultural workers.

Landside Victory Sadlowski Wins Victory

Overcoming a vicious red-baiting campaign and illegal election practices by the I.W. Abel machine in the United Steel Workers union, Ed Sadlowski won a landslide election as head of USWA District 31.

Sadlowski defeated Abel flunkey Sam Evett in this, the largest district of the USWA, by a two-to-one margin. Nearly 300 federal agents had to supervise the election, since last time the vote was taken, Evett came out winner. The election was overturned by a federal judge because of fraud.

The turnout of District 31 members was 30% higher this time, as Sadlowski captured all six subdistricts, and every large local, reflecting the massive anti-Abel sentiment among the rank-and-file.

Evett used red-baiting tactics in a vain attempt to scare off the rank and file. At a gathering of Republic Steel workers (Local 1033) an Evett backer stood up and said, "In 1948, the communists marched into Poland, and today, Sadlowski is running with the communists." But the workers weren't won by Evett's tactics.

Sadlowski's election objectively represents a defeat for the anti-strike policies of the present international USWA leadership, as well as their racist treatment of minority union members.

Wildcat Over Use of Vinyl Chloride

Painesville, Ohio—Rubber workers at Uniroyal, Inc. walked out in a wildcat here that lasted over a week. They were protesting their exposure to vinyl chloride, a cancer causing chemical, and demanding compensation for their exposure.

Uniroyal officials deny that there is any adverse effect on the workers as a result of the exposure. To date, 16 people in the US has already died from cancer of the liver directly traced to exposure to vinyl chloride.

Danger to health has been connected with this chemical since 1937, and foreign chemical firms found vinyl chloride to be cancer causing as far back as 1970. but there was a pact to keep secret all research and information on this deadly chemical.

Both the company and the United Rubber Workers union declared the wildcat illegal, because the contract isn't up until 1976, but the workers at Uniroyal, exposed to this deadly chemical daily, weren't going to wait until they started dying to get protection from this deadly chemical.

New Punch Added to UPS Strike

New punch was added to the three-month-old strike by United Parcel Service (UPS) workers in New York, when on November 12th, the entire Los Angeles area UPS walked out over new contract demands.

This closed two of the major hubs of the domestic parcel shipping industry in the continental US, with around 4,500 striking in NY and another 3,000 in LA. UPS is the largest parcel shipper in the US, doing a bigger business than the US Postal Service and the smaller shippers combined, and employing more than 24,000 people nationwide. Its net profit last year was roughly 57 million dollars.

The New York UPS strikers, members of Teamsters Local 804, have been out since August 28. A major issue is the UPS union-busting tactic of hiring many non-union "part-timers"—mainly college students—who work for substandard wages and have continued working during the strike in both NY and LA. The other main beef in both cities is wages. Drivers of UPS's huge fleets of trailers and package cars are striking for a real cost-of-living raise to keep up with the projected cost-of-living rise over the next three contract years. In LA, the drivers have asked for a five-dollar hourly raise spread over three years.

But the LA hold-outs are not greedy, they are just reading the signals from the NY strike. In New York, strikers have been threatened by UPS that it would shut down its NY facilities permanently rather than settle on Teamsters terms.

Teamster International President Frank Fitzsimmons has been hotly criticized by rank and file and leadership of Local 804 for turning his back on their struggle, and for outright sabotage. Running interference on behalf of UPS management, Fitzsimmons ordered strikers to disband militant picket lines at UPS outpost stations or lose the sanction of their strike by the International.

The LA strike now ties up UPS on both coasts. Strikers interviewed by *THE CALL* pointed out the personal risk they ran by walking out so close to the holiday season. "UPS thought they had us over a barrel, that we wouldn't go out near Christmas time. But it's us who have them cornered—they've never taken a loss during their heavy season before. Of course it hurts in the short run to strike now. But we can't afford not to. And that's what counts. What we get now we have to live with for three years. With the economy the way it is, that's what's on our minds."



"FITZSIMMONS, WHERE ARE YOU?"—ask striking members of Teamster Local 804 in New York. UPS strikers held on months with hardly any support from international.

Sloane Backs Down; Reopens Negotiations as Boycott Takes Toll

Sun Valley, Calif.—"You'll all be back in three weeks when you run out of tacos and beans!" 21 months after telling the strikers of United Rubber Workers Local 621 that they had no hopes of holding out until victory, the R.G.Sloane Mfg. Co. has asked for further negotiations with the union in hopes of winning at the bargaining table what they were unable to win any other way.

It was Sloane that broke off negotiations in December 1973, and who said that they would never ask for further contract talks with the union. At that time they held top dog position, claiming that the "real union members" were back to work inside the plant, and that the local was "defeated".

Although negotiations have produced nothing concrete so far, union members look at Sloane's return to the bargaining table as a sign that their local is winning the battle that has now lasted longer than the Farah strike.

Over the course of the strike many changes have taken place in this mainly-Latino local. During the first months the strike received little publicity or support, even from the international union leadership. Eventually, however, the struggle became known in the Chicano community and supporters began to build strike support throughout the Los Angeles area. La Raza Unida Party, the October League and other organizations and individuals were welcomed as plans were laid to build a boycott of Sloane products. Support committees were organized in San Francisco and Denver. As a national organization, the October League played an active role in extending the boycott to cities across the country, and taking the message of the Sloane struggle into dozens of union locals and factories. To this day, however, the struggle hasn't received the support or attention it deserves.

Two things have been key to building up the Sloane struggle to the favorable position it holds today. One has been the unity of the strikers, and their determination to hold out against the company. The other has been the unity between the local union and supporters. This unity has kept the struggle alive, even though many have predicted failure. These spreaders of pessimism include many "left" groups, including a Trotskyist group that passed out leaflets to the strikers predicting the defeat of Local 621. Other groups have abandoned the strike, also predicting failure.

So far, though, unity has been unshakeable. Strikers overcame mass police arrests early in the strike, and took the more recent red-baiting in good stride. At a recent union meeting, striker after striker stood to speak against red-baiting attacks on the October League and other supporting organizations. In turn, supporters pledged their continued support for Local 621 and the strike.

Through continued unity of this kind, Local 621 is showing Sloane that they will have to either settle on the strikers' terms or face the continued militant strike and boycott.

The Oct. 23 issue of the Guardian, an independent radical newspaper, published in New York, reported the following incident: "A delegation of some 50 people, led by members of the Revolutionary Union (RU) and including members of the Revolutionary Student Brigade and other RU supporters, made an unannounced 'visit' to the Guardian office on Friday, Oct. 11."

The purpose of the "visit" according to RUIers was to "hold a discussion with the Guardian staff" concerning its editorial policies. When the Guardian staff refused to hold discussions under such circumstances, the "visitors" then set up a "picketline" in front of the office where they began a series of asinine chants attacking the Guardian as "deceivers of the people."

When several staff members tried to leave the building, they were, in the Guardian's words, "harassed and briefly prevented from walking down the street." One staff member in particular had to fight her way out of the clutches of the RU-led gang.

In a subsequent statement, the Guardian said: "These arrogant, strong-armed tactics have been unfortunate characteristics of the RU for some time, not only in relations to the Guardian, but other left and people's organizations as well. Such tactics also provide fertile ground for police provocateurs. They are clearly intended to intimidate us, but the RU will find, as have others in the past, that the Guardian will go on advancing its political line and telling the truth as it sees it, and will not be intimidated by this type of 'fraternal' harassment. To the contrary, the RU will find that its present isolation from the rest of the new communist movement will only intensify."

In the Aug. 1974 issue of the I.W.K. Journal, the political organ of I Wor Kuen (IWK), an organization of Asian-American communists, the following incident is reported: "during one NLC meeting (NLC stands for National Liaison Committee set up between RU and various groups-ed.) our representative was physically held in a city until our representative would state personal agreement with the line on the Black national question as stated in Red Papers 5." In describing its relationship with the RU, the IWK Journal concludes, "The result was that instead of a relationship of equality, respect and principled struggle, the NLC meeting descended into bullying, slander and gangsterism." (P. 14)

We in the October League are not taken by surprise at the trend towards social-fascism and gangsterism developing within the leadership of the RU. For one thing, we ourselves have been the target of these gangster tactics on more than

REVOLUTIONARY UNION TAKES A TURN TOWARD SOCIAL-FASCISM

one occasion. For another, we view this behavior as a manifestation of RU's growing isolation as a result of their opportunist line. It is a line characterized by sectarianism, and a disdain for the masses, combined with the worst features of white chauvinism. RU's actions against groups with whom it has political differences, is also a sign of their petty-bourgeois infantilism and their opportunistic, get-rich-quick approach to organization-building. On many occasions this has led to RU trying to dominate and bully even its closest allies.

Some of our direct experiences with RU's gangster tactics include: 1) a September public meeting at which RU leader Bob Avakian was going to speak, where an RU-led gang of 10 goons attacked three people selling *THE CALL* on the street. The sneak attack followed efforts by the RU to stop *THE CALL* from being distributed to the people. *THE CALL* carried an article criticizing the RU's white chauvinist line on the national question as well as their dual-unionist approach to the labor movement.

2) In October, a gang of RU-led thugs tried in vain to stop a group of people from distributing copies of an article from the newspaper *Struggle*, called "White Reactionaries in Revolutionary Trimmings" which was an exposé of groups like the RU who sided with the racist anti-busing movement in Boston.

There have been several other occasions where RU members and leaders have threatened violence against OL members and others who took a principled stand against RU's rotten line. Because of these tactics they are becoming more and more associated with groups like the National Caucus of Labor Committees (NCLC) who in the past were notorious for their attacks on the progressive and revolutionary movement and whose activities RU in many

ways justified. A case in point took place following an attack by NCLC goons against a member of the revisionist CPUSA. The RU claimed that the people shouldn't oppose the assaults by NCLC and should instead "let the tigers fight." They were soundly criticized by broad sections of the left by people who correctly saw the danger of neo-fascist gangs like the NCLC to the whole working-class movement. RU also built undue sympathy for the revisionists who were able to rally some support for themselves from the middle forces.

The reason for RU's stand towards NCLC is becoming clear. RU shares this same approach to the ideological struggle. In October, members of the RU reportedly assaulted a member of the revisionist party who was leafleting at a

steel plant in Cleveland. Naturally the revisionists didn't waste a moment to cry about the attack in the *Daily World*. The headline screamed: "MAOIST SECT ATTACKS DW SELLERS AT CLEVELAND PLANT." The revisionists could not have been happier since they found another opportunity to spew their slanderous venom at the entire "Maoist movement."

While launching these gangster attacks and playing right into the hands of the imperialists and revisionists, the RU hasn't had the same kind of determination when it comes to exposing the political line of the revisionists before the masses in order to teach people what is wrong with the CPUSA. Worse yet, they haven't had the same kind of fighting spirit they have shown against communists and progressives when it comes to opposing the KLAN and the racists in Boston, who are using violence and open terror against the Black community.

We say this as a warning to those die-hards in the RU leadership who are hoping to continue these desperate attacks on the people and who think they can succeed. The OL and scores of other revolutionary and progressive people will not tolerate gangsterism from you or from the bourgeoisie. We will support the efforts of all progressive groups to defend themselves from these and any other attacks.

To those rank-and-file members of the RU who are being misled or lied to about the facts behind these incidents, we ask you to heighten your vigilance and your struggle for a revolutionary line and a revolutionary approach to the correct handling of contradictions among the people and with the enemy.

If the Guardian, IWK, October League, etc... are your enemies--who are your friends?

LETTERS TO THE CALL



ATTICA PRISONERS WERE RIGHT TO REBEL

Dear Editor:

...The prisoners at Attica were protesting against the racist attitude of the guards and other prisoners. They also protested strongly against bad prison conditions.

First of all, I think that the prisoners had a right to protest against the prison conditions. Like anywhere else, people complain about the problems they have and therefore they don't want to be bothered with others and their problems. This is the same way the government acts too. I'm sure the Governor of New York should have had some insight on the needs of the prisoners and the conditions of the prison. Unfortunately, he didn't. He has ignored and closed his ears to the cries of the prisoners in Attica. This neglect by the government caused the prisoners at Attica to bring the government's attention to them. After all they only wanted to get some things done that were desperately needed. Despite the efforts of the prisoners their causes were hopelessly lost.

Now, three years later they are fighting another battle in the courts for the actions they were involved in at Attica. Unfortunately, from your article, the system is trying every way possible to condemn 61 men who were said to be the main leaders of the Attica incident.

R.T., Jersey City, N.J.

BUSING EXPERIENCES SUMMED UP

Dear Call,

I was a student in the Charlotte schools during the beginning of the busing program. Many things there were similar to what is now happening in Boston. The busing in Charlotte occurred because of a federal court suit brought about by Charlotte Blacks. Blacks there were frustrated after years of the separate and unequal schools and felt without some integration they would never get an equal education under this system. They saw busing as one way to at least begin to improve their situation.

Whites in Charlotte reacted in different ways to the busing. Some boycotted the schools for a while. A racist all-white group called "Concerned Parents" formed and began to organize a few private schools for the richer white kids and to attack the busing plan. This group was not as well-organized as the white resistance in Boston, but did manage to win 2 School Board seats. They raised the racist slogan of "Neighborhood Schools"—which meant neighborhood schools to keep the Blacks out of white neighborhoods. Other whites who appeared more liberal talked of "quality schools for all"—which I came to see meant equal, but separate and was equally racist.

My school had been an all-white school where Blacks were now bused in. A lot of struggle went on there. For a while, we had daily bomb threats directed against the Blacks, fights, and a partial but short, white boycott. Some white students totally opposed the busing and the presence of Blacks in their school, while others wanted to "make the best of a bad situation." However some whites, after talking with the Blacks learned, as I did, of the inequalities in the Charlotte schools. One Black teacher I had told me of how she cried when she saw all the books and equipment in our school. She had bought her students' literature from her own pocket for years. On the basis of recognizing such inequalities of the schools, some whites *did* come to support the right of

the Blacks to attend the school they wished. Furthermore, during the most troubled time at our school, we had a huge spontaneous rally of *both* Black and whites, demonstrating that we wanted to work things out.

Generally in my school, the presence of Blacks made great changes. Some Blacks began to raise various demands around general student rights and around discrimination. They also raised issues outside of the school—political issues. White students came to see the Blacks as real fighters and also came to a greater awareness of political questions. A new level of student militance grew in many Charlotte schools, with Student Unions groups raising student rights.

To sum up from my experience, I see busing as at best a temporary help in a bad situation. Busing and integration do not solve the problem of national oppression and do not end racism. National oppression certainly still exists in Charlotte, but progress has been made. Some whites have come to support the rights of Blacks to attend any school in order to get an equal education. This support of whites for the democratic rights of minorities is essential in building working class unity. And without this unity, we can never bring a *real* end to national oppression.

S.O., Chicago, Ill.

"LET'S TALK ABOUT RESISTANCE..."

Dear Friends:

THE CALL must print more articles from Albanian Telegraph Agency (ATA) concerning the recent events after the Nazi Coup in Chile.

We hear too much pessimism about how people are being shot, fired from jobs and the selling of Chile's economy to U.S. Imperialism, backed-up by Soviet Socialist Imperialism.

Let's talk about the resistance to Nazi occupation in Chile. Some time ago, last summer, ATA revealed an article of how a Nazi Convoy was ambushed, circa, north of Santiago de Chile. The Chilean Patriots imposed heavy casualties on the Nazi Scums. About 3 vehicles were blown up and a number of enemy soldiers were killed. Resistance like this is still continuing in all parts of Chile, and it's up to *THE CALL* to expose this.

Inflicting heavy casualties like this helps demoralize the enemy thus bringing the downfall of the Nazi junta, U.S. Imperialism and Soviet Socialist Imperialism.

P.M., Syracuse, N.Y.

GREETINGS FROM LEAVENWORTH BROTHER

Greetings Comrades,

This is to request a change of address in my subscription to *THE CALL*. (This Brother has been transferred to the infamous Federal Prison at Marion, Illinois, following his frame-up conviction on charges stemming from the Leavenworth rebellion in July of 1973—Ed.)

While the trials of the two Chicano Leavenworth Brothers are currently taking place in Kansas, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my deepest revolutionary love to you for all the support you have expressed in the struggle of political prisoners.

Brother In Arms,
Alf Hill
Leavenworth Brother

What is your background?

I came here in 1968 under the sponsorship of the Agency of International Development (AID). I came here mainly to study and get my degree in California. I was majoring in Mechanical Engineering. After about one and a half years I became involved in the anti-war movement.

What was your political position regarding the Saigon regime and the war when you first came here?

When I was back home I did not take part in any of the activities against Thieu because I was not at that time aware of the reality of the U.S. involvement in south Vietnam. I stayed in the city of Saigon and I did not have an oppor-

for several hours. The charges were criminal trespassing. Later due to the pressure of the anti-war movement the charges were dropped.

In June of 1972, I received a letter from the State Dept. indicating that the Saigon government requested the U.S. government to terminate my program of studies and that as of June 1972, my program had been terminated. This is a clear example of political repression by the Saigon government. The Saigon government has attempted to stop Vietnamese students in the U.S. from engaging in political activities. One of the methods used by the Saigon government is not to extend passports of dissident students. Without

south Vietnam, our initial request was denied. Deportation hearings began on August 15, 1974. The hearings are expected to last for some time. So far we have been able to get support from many organizations, individuals, and members of Congress. In the last three hearings, many supporters came to attend the hearings and form a picket line in front of the Federal building. In addition, we got very good news coverage in Los Angeles. We hope that many more people will support our fight.

Why do you think the U.S. government wants to deport you?

To aid the Saigon government repression. The U.S.

"IF WE HAVE TO GO HOME AT THIS TIME...WE WOULD FACE CERTAIN IMPRISONMENT AND TORTURE!"

The following is an interview with Vu Ngoc Con. He is one of seven Vietnamese students facing deportation by the U.S. government because of opposition to U.S. aggression against their country and to the fascist Thieu regime in Saigon. Hearings are being held at the Los Angeles Immigration Court, where demonstrations to stop the deportations are taking place.

tunity to know about the destruction in the countryside and villages caused by the U.S. bombers because the Saigon propaganda machine was very strong in the cities. So I did not take part in any activities. I went to school. A few friends I knew got involved in the movement and they participated in demonstrations, teach-ins, meetings to oppose the Saigon government. They got arrested and put in jail for a few months and some for a few years. My feeling about that was that the Saigon government was not a democratic government and was an aggressor. So then I came here. Here I learned more about the war because back home there was no news and books, books written about the war. I met American friends who are in the student movement so I came to realize that I had to do something to aid the struggle of the Vietnamese people. So I became involved in the anti-war movement.

In April, 1971, I attended a press conference at Fresno State College. At this press conference I tried to make known to the American people the nature of the Saigon government which is a repressive dictatorial government. I criticized Nixon's policy of "Vietnamization". After this press conference I spoke to classes at Fresno State College about the war in Vietnam and for a few church groups in Fresno. I attended various demonstrations organized against the war in Vietnam. In February 1972, I and ten other Vietnamese students occupied the Saigon consulate in New York. Our demands were an end to the war in Vietnam, resignation of President Thieu, and the cessation of political repression in south Vietnam. We were arrested and held

the extension of passports the students cannot legally stay in the U.S.

What did you do after you received the letter from the State Department?

After receiving this letter, I refused to go back to south Vietnam as requested in the letter because I was sure I would face certain imprisonment if I went back. I continued to engage in different anti-war activities. The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) in Los Angeles began to initiate deportation hearings at the beginning of this year against six other students and myself. These six students have opposed the Saigon government and have voiced the desire for an end to the war in Vietnam. Because of their activities they also face deportation. The seven of us are fighting the deportations on the basis of the Immigration and Nationality Act, Article 243H which states, "The Attorney General is authorized to withhold deportation of any alien within the United States to any country to which in his opinion the alien would be subject to persecution on account of race, religion, or political opinion," and under the Article No. 33 of the United Nations Convention on Refugees ratified by the U.S. Senate in 1968. Based on these laws, we submitted documents on political repression in South Vietnam to back our request for temporary political asylum. By temporary political asylum I mean that we do not wish to stay in this country permanently but only until the Paris Peace Agreement of January, 1973 is fully implemented.

After submitting ample evidence of political repression in

government has tried to deport us back to south Vietnam because our activities have embarrassed both the U.S. government and the Thieu regime.

What will happen to you if you are deported?

If we have to go home at this time, we are definitely convinced that we would be persecuted. Namely, we would face certain imprisonment and torture like 200,000 political prisoners already.

Is your family or the other students' families facing harassment back home?

Our families have been harassed by the Saigon police many times in the last few months. They have been asked by the police to report to the police headquarters in Saigon, about their sons and daughters in the U.S. This is one form of harassment of our families. By harassing our families back home, they hope that they can somehow stop our activities. But our position is very clear. It is very clear that as long as Thieu is in power and the Paris agreements are not implemented that we have to continue our activities to oppose the Thieu regime.

What can people do to help your struggle?

People can help by coming to the next round of hearings at the Federal Building in Los Angeles. They can also help by contributing funds and support to the Vietnamese Defense Fund, P.O. Box 3493, Fullerton, Calif. 92634. They can also help by writing letters expressing their concern to their congressmen and senators and to Attorney General William Saxbe.

Community Unites Against Racist Attack

"DEPORT A MILLION!" SAYS SAXBE

Los Angeles, Calif.—The Chicano and Mexican people of this city, who form the largest concentration of people of Mexican descent outside Mexico City, are once again preparing to fight off attacks on their democratic rights.

The steadily increasing number of deportation raids in the housing projects, restaurants and factories of the Mexican community by the L.A. Police Dept. and the U.S. Immigration Service (INS) have now been openly supported and encouraged in the highest levels of the government and in a recent racist statement by Attorney General Saxbe.

In the Oct. 31 edition of the L.A. Times, a banner headline screamed, "DEPORT A MILLION ALIENS--SAXBE" The story reported the open appeal to racism and chauvinism made by Saxbe before two county bar associations in Brownsville, Texas. In his speech, Saxbe, using the most inflammatory language, called the estimated four to seven million undocumented workers of foreign birth in this country, "a severe national crisis."

Blaming rising unemployment on immigrant workers, Saxbe called for expansion of the INS in order to deport "one million persons now holding jobs--and then find those who have burrowed more deeply into our society." He also called it essential that Congress pass the Rodino Bill--legislation which would make it a federal crime for employers to knowingly hire illegal aliens. The passage of this bill would make it open season for the police and government agents on anyone with brown skin and further encourage a new wave of racist terror against the Spanish-speaking community.

Although he claimed that "no prejudice of any kind exists" in his plan, Saxbe's statement was clearly aimed at Mexican nationals who he said made up 90 per cent of the 800,000 "illegals" apprehended last year. Citing statistics from the L.A.P.D., Saxbe called "illegal" immigrants, "a substantial factor in our growing crime rates." He also blamed rising welfare costs on the "illegals."

Saxbe's hysterical remarks are now being echoed by nearly all the representatives of big business, such as the San Fernando California Chamber of Commerce, which recently released a memorandum to its membership urging full cooperation with the INS in "weeding out the illegal alien." The memo recommends to employers that they "start cooperating with the Dept. of Immigration. Call them to help you work out a situation."

The raids in the community and the racist statements of government officials and business interests are being met with the growing unity and resistance by progressive forces within the Chicano and Mexican communities. In



MARCHERS IN LOS ANGELES protesting the deportations of foreign born workers and the murder and terror used by the immigration police. (Call Photo)

a press conference called on Nov. 7 by CASA (a national organization fighting for the democratic rights of immigrants) activists from the Chicano community, representatives from the labor movement along with other progressive individuals condemned Saxbe for his attempt to make foreign-born workers a scapegoat for the nation's economic problems. They pointed out that the government's sup-

port for forced deportations is not designed to get more jobs for the American people, but to simply take the heat off the real causes of unemployment and inflation--the profit drives of the big capitalists in this country.

They cited similarities between the current situation and the anti-immigrant hysteria which swept the country during the depression period of the 1930's as evidence that the government's renewed attack on the foreign-born workers stems directly from their own economic crisis. They compared the situation to Nazi Germany where the fascists blamed Germany's economic problems on the Jews. "Only rather than yellow stars, we will be set off by the color of our skin," said Javier Rodriguez, president of CASA. "What the American people need," he said, "Are more jobs, not less people."

It is clear that the economic cycle of capitalism has always determined the government's policies towards immigration and deportation. During the mid-1960's, the most recent period of relative economic "boom," there was a shortage of cheap labor. Deportations of "illegals" during this period was a small fraction of what it is now. Today, with the country suffering from a severe recession, the round-up of immigrants is in high gear.

Mexican immigrants have been forced to leave their own country because of the economic impoverishment of their homeland by the very same imperialists who now clamour for their deportation. For example, many Mexican farmworkers have been pushed off their land by the big U.S. growers whose large-scale, highly mechanized ranches in Mexico have displaced workers by the thousands. Unemployment in the Mexican countryside now ranges from 40 to 60 per cent.

Once here, the immigrant workers must work under the worst conditions and are subject to deportation at any time. Although they pay taxes and social security payments, they are not eligible for unemployment insurance, social security, welfare, or pensions. Going on strike, joining a union or complaining about mistreatment can lead to immediate arrest and deportation without a trial of any kind. For this reason, "La Migra," known for its brutality and collusion with employers, is feared and hated in the Chicano community.

The Chicano, Mexican and all foreign-born workers must be supported in their fight against these new attacks by William Saxbe and other representatives of the big monopoly corporations who have, according to the groups at the press conference, "declared open season on all Mexicans."

BLACK MINERS STRUGGLE TO BUILD UMW

"There were a lot of people working in the mines in 1946-47, and at that time the workforce in Eastern Kentucky was about 60 per cent Black. Now its maybe 10 per cent. When automation came, the Black miners were the first out the door. No Blacks were trained to run the machinery . . . There's one industry in the coal fields—mining. So when automation came, they forced the Black miner to migrate to find work."

—from an interview with a Black retired miner from Harlan County

The history of the Appalachian Mountain regions includes the little-known history of the struggle for the freedom and democratic rights of Afro-American people. The movement for the abolition of slavery was strong in the mountains: There were stops on the underground railroad and the area was open to settlement by freedmen. The state of West Virginia broke away from Virginia over the question of slavery and many men from the mountains of Kentucky and Tennessee fought on the side of the Union in the Civil War.

In the 1920's and 30's the Black population of Appalachia increased considerably as mine operators brought Black workers to the North hoping they would scab on the newly built unions. In response, some unions began to organize Black miners. The constitution of the UMW pledged to organize Black and white miners on an equal basis. The National Miners Union, a Communist-led union which organized in the mountains from 1927-32 made a principle of fighting for the special demands of Black miners against discrimination. It was the first American union to have integrated locals and to elect Black members to positions of responsibility.

In the early days of the UMW, the Southern coal fields where the majority of miners were Afro-Americans, provided a strong base for union organizing. Black miners played an important role in building the militant history of the UMW. But as the union's leadership became more corrupt and dictatorial, the commitment to fight for the rights of Black miners was ignored. The vast majority of Black miners were confined to the dirtiest, lowest-paying job loading coal. A Black miner from Harlan County told the following story:

"I was the first Black brakeman ever to couple at that mine. They let me brake but when my buddy was out, they wouldn't let me run the motor. All the other brakemen (white) were allowed to run the motor. When I went to the union meeting to complain, the local president told me the next time my buddy was out to tell the foreman that I wouldn't brake that day but I'd run the motor. When the foreman refused the whole mine was supposed to walk out with me. Well, I was forced to quit that day and the local president never did give the word for the men to walk out."

UMW FAILS TO FIGHT DISCRIMINATION

The UMW's failure to fight company discrimination weakened the union as a whole; and the failure of the rank and file to organize against the discriminatory policies of the union leadership in turn strengthened the sell-out bureaucracy of the union. By the time of the Boyle regime, the union's discrimination internally had paved the way for the coal operators to break the union.

When the UMW gave the coal industry the green light to automate the mines in the Late 40's, thousands of Black miners were thrown out of work and consequently forced to leave the coal fields and seek work in the industrial centers of Detroit and Chicago. In 1947, there were 669,000 men employed in the Kentucky mines. By 1967, the number had dropped to 279,000. The first victims of these massive lay-offs were the Black miners. When the coal industry got around to laying off white miners, the union, having lost many of its strongest fighters and, torn by corruption and bureaucracy, was in no position to fight for the jobs of any of its members. Boyle and his class-collaborating regime were in complete control of the union. Where the union wasn't broken it signed sweetheart contracts with the operators.

In 1973 after a long and bitter struggle, the rank and file movement for democracy ousted the Boyle regime. The new UMW pledged to take up the fight against discrimination. The union's campaign to stop the importation of slave-mined South African coal and the drive to organize the unorganized are important steps in that direction. The majority of Black miners today are unorganized, often forced to work in "dogholes," small one or two man scab mines. Since the reform movement, the union has begun to fight some discrimination grievances. If the UMW is to continue to stand up to the government and energy monopolies attempts to bust the union, the fight for the special demands of Black miners must become a major focus of the union's work.

The 120,000 striking UMW miners are striking a major blow for the rights and basic needs of working people everywhere. In their struggle, they deserve all the support necessary to win their victory.

In the present contract struggle, the United Mine Workers (UMW) members are fighting from a strong position against the power of the giant mine owners. Their strength stems from their recent victories in making the UMW among the most democratic unions in the country. Not content to let a few bargainers settle their future for them at the top, the rank-and-file has demanded and won the right to have the final say on any contract that is negotiated in their behalf.

As we go to press, the government is threatening to step in with force if necessary to break the strike. According to government spokesmen and press reports, the Taft-Hartly Act is being considered. On Nov. 24, Treasury Secretary William Simon and W.J. Usery, director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, entered into the negotiations to press for a quick settlement. This followed rejection of the first tentative agreement by miner's bargaining council.

Calling the tentative contract with the coal industry, "the best contract ever negotiated," UMW President Arnold Miller ended his initial bargaining session Nov 12, saying he was confident he could "sell it to the membership."

Industry spokesman Guy Farmer wasted no time in asserting, "It's an expensive agreement, no question about that," and planning new price increases to keep industry profits at a maximum. But despite the many gains in the new settlement, it is not adequate in the face of inflation. The miners know that they are not simply fighting for their needs today, but for the next three years—and not just for themselves, but for all workers facing unemployment and falling wages.

No sooner did Miller leave the table than the Bargaining Council wanted the new pact sent back for renegotiation. The Council must approve the contract under new UMW

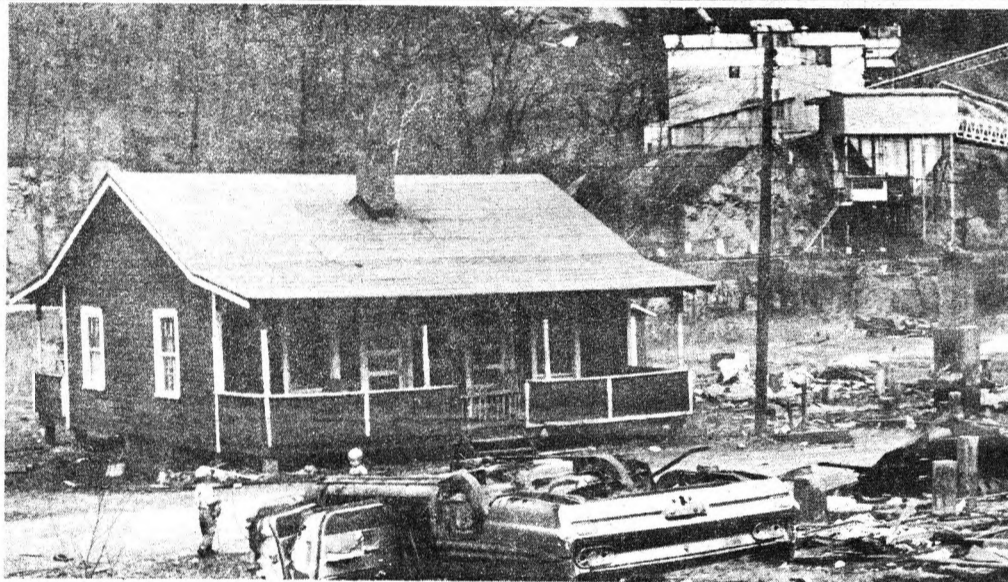


rules, before it can be sent to the rank and file for final ratification. While all the facts aren't yet known about the newly-negotiated agreement some of the apparent gains won include:

- * An increase in wages of 9 per cent in the first year and 3 per cent in each of the last two. According to a report in the Wall Street Journal, this will bring the base pay of miners up to \$57.28 per day after three years, counting the cost-of-living escalator clause.

- * The UMW Health and Retirement Fund will be increased substantially and retired miners who drew a pension of \$150 a month will now draw \$250 a month. Most rank-and-file miners believe that this is still too small a pension to live on.

- * The number of paid days off annually will increase from 20 to more than 30 with provision for five days



POLLUTED WATER—
The drinking water Duke Power Co. supplies to coal mining families was found to be "highly contaminated" by Health Dept. on Oct. 12, 1973. These conditions are the rule in the company owned towns in Appalachia.

TASK BEFORE UMW

ORGANIZING THE UNORGANIZED

Organize the unorganized. This call is one of the most important tasks of American labor today, yet few of the major labor organizations in the country have taken up the task. Fearing the influx of women, Blacks, Chicanos, and poor whites, most unions have to run from it.

The United Mine Workers of America (UMW) is one of the few unions seriously attempting to organize. Under the rank-and-file elected reform leadership, the pledge was made to "take up the long abandoned commitment to organize the unorganized. Every lump of coal mined will be union."

Eastern Kentucky has been the focus of the organizing drive because of the huge volume of non-union coal shipped from there daily. Though producing more coal than any other state, Kentucky is more than 55 per cent non-union.

Though the history of this area shows many courageous and prolonged battles for the right to organize, these struggles have too often been paralyzed by vacillation and sell-outs during the later period under UMW president John L. Lewis and under Tony Boyle. These sell-outs have caused bitterness and distrust of the union itself in Kentucky. A determination to rebuild the UMW into a fighting organization has to involve repudiating sell-outs and re-establishing confidence in the union.

The first target of the organizing campaign was Eastover's Brookside mine in Harlan County. Harlan, the scene of some of the bloodiest and most heroic class battles known in this country, is called "Bloody Harlan" because of the vicious nature of the coal companies.

Harlan miners responded to the new organizing drive with a militant and courageous strike lasting over 13 months and ending with a contract victory. The tactics of the coal operators ranged from causing personal hardship, to jail, beatings, armed terrorism against the people, and finally resulted in the brutal murder of a young Brookside

miner.

With the combined strength of the Brookside local, the Women's Club, and the UMW Booster club and support from people all over the country, the miners held their ground and the victory was won. In gaining the victory, however, the International compromised a basic principle of unity by agreeing to have the Eastover locals work through the national contract in return for a promise that the '74 contract would automatically be accepted by the company.

Reaction to the victory on the part of the coal operators and the government has been quick and predictable. A massive anti-union campaign has sprung up. The newspapers and radios have been flooded with vicious propaganda designed to discredit the union. This propaganda has been well-financed by coal-operator front groups such as KIN (Keep Informed Neighbor). Non-union operators in many areas have temporarily upped wages and benefits suddenly becoming the "friend and protector" of the miner. As insurance, in case this friendship policy doesn't work, many operators are busily hiring armed guards (thugs) to "protect" company property from the union. As one retired miner put it, "They have changed the name of the gun thugs to Security Guards. But to me any man that takes up arms against the laboring man is still nothing but a dirty gun thug."

In the face of these attacks, the miners have demanded that the organizing campaign be intensified. Requests for union cards and recognition for organizing drives are coming in faster than the union can handle. Counter organizations to KIN are being put together to put the union's case forward and mobilize the people in defense of the union. What is needed now is broad mass mobilizing and rallies to concretely demonstrate the determination of the people to organize and stand for themselves and their brothers and sisters.

STRIKE IN THE COAL FIELDS

sick leave instead of the old contract's provision for no sick leave. Many miners object to the fact that vacation time will be broken up into two parts instead of being back to back, and also object to days off before Christmas time, when most of the work is slow anyway.

* Safety standards, which have been one of the main complaints of the miners, have been upgraded. In the new contract, individual miners will be able to leave an unsafe mine at any time and the mine will be open to UMW safety inspectors. None of these guarantees were in the old pact. However, there is still some question about whether the company can order the miners back to work following their own inspection and an opinion from the owners that the mine is "safe". Another safety feature reported in the new contract is an extension of training time for a new miner. The trainee would have to spend a specified amount



BROOKSIDE WOMEN—jailed by Harlan County judge.

The sheriff said to me, "Mother, I would rather you brought me a hundred men than those women. Women are fierce!"

"I didn't bring them to you, sheriff," said I, "'twas the mining company's judge sent them to you for a present."

From the days when Mother Jones organized miners' wives to "clean up the scabs" in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, to the Harlan County, Kentucky Brookside Women's Club in 1974, women in the coal fields have not simply stood by and "supported their man" but have taken a militant and crucial part in the struggles of coal miners against the coal operators and their system of exploitation.

When miners were not permitted to assemble in public halls during a 1900 organizing drive, their wives formed an "army of women in kitchen aprons, with dishpans and mops," and traveled to neighboring coal camps to beat on their pans and cry "Join the union! Join the union!" And, they joined, "every last man of them."

Tactics used by Mother Jones to discourage scabs from crossing a picketline were repeated at Brookside, Kentucky this year, when women used wooden "switches" to keep scabs from crossing the picket line after injunctions limited the number of miners who could picket. Brookside women took their children to jail with them like the women of Greensburg did in 1915 when they told the judge "that miners' wives didn't keep nurse girls." Pictures of children peering out from behind jail bars in Harlan County did more to discredit Duke Power Company on a national basis than all of the research on their tremendous profits.

WOMEN BACKBONE OF FIGHTING SPIRIT

Women have not simply filled-in when the courts limited the number of men who could picket, but they have provided a fighting spirit and have been able to raise morale when it was low. This was particularly evident at the recent organizing drive at the Highsplint mine in Harlan County. The miners who had gone out on strike faced extreme violence on the picket line from armed gun thugs and a company machine gun located on company property. With this type of armed force, the scabs had been able to cross the picket line daily as the number of pickets slowly got smaller and the morale of the striking miners dwindled. Due to legal restrictions, the UMW organizers did not provide support and in fact one UMW spokesman actively discouraged possible supporters from joining the picket line saying it was "too dangerous."

Members of the Women's Club saw that the morale of the Highsplint men was getting low and that the strike might be lost. They talked to Highsplint miners and called a mass meeting to rally support. At the meeting it was agreed that the women would join the picket line and that the scabs would be stopped. The next morning when the women arrived at the picket line, they found the company was well prepared with more than the usual number of thugs who opened up with automatic weapon fire on the women and their supporters immediately. The picketers literally took a beating when the thugs attacked them with clubs, hoses, and pistols.

This defeat only made the women more determined to stop the scabs. They again called meetings to rally support and helped to make secret plans for an action the next day. This time when the scabs drove down the road, they were stopped well before they reached company property and the back-up of the machine gun! A line of thirty women wielding baseball bats and clubs backed up by rows of miners holding rifles and pistols ready to fire blocked the road. After a ten hour stand-off, the company thugs and scabs admitted defeat and turned around. The role of the women had been decisive in turning the tide once again.

of time in a nonhazardous job before becoming eligible for work with complicated equipment or high-voltage electrical machinery.

One of the demands of the rank and file that has not been fully met in the tentative pact deals with the right to strike. In a written demand to the negotiators, the miners said, "Coal miners overwhelmingly reject the idea that arbitration should be the sole method of settling our differences. . . . they know that against the array of rights and prerogatives of the employers, miners have only one meaningful right—the right to strike." (UMW Journal, Sept. 16-30, 1974)

The right to strike was wiped out under the leadership of Tony Boyle and previous regimes which controlled the union with gangster methods before the Miller election. Miners were not permitted to walk off the job, even when the most unsafe conditions were evident. Nearly 800 miners have died in mine accidents since 1969 and 3,000 die annually from black lung. The only guarantee the workers have in their own behalf is the right to strike an unsafe mine and to strike when their well-being is threatened, independent of whether or not the company thinks their well-being is being threatened. While demanding this right in the present contract, the union negotiators have not been militant enough and have compromised by putting forth the demand along with that of the "right of the company to lock out miners." This is a compromise that should never have been made. It is not the company owners whose safety and very lives are threatened daily down in the mines. Furthermore, with the previous grievance procedure, a grievance by a worker could take months or even years to resolve, without any allowable action on the workers' side. The right to strike belongs to the workers and must be defended. The mine owners, on the other hand, should have no right to lock out the striking workers.

Another factor preventing a quick settlement was the mysterious murder of Bargaining Council member Sam Littlefield during the Council's examination of the contract. Littlefield, from Bessemer, Ala., was apparently killed when he walked in on an alleged robbery attempt at his Washington hotel. The killing has aroused suspicions of foul play in some circles as Littlefield was reported to be among those who were pushing hardest for more gains in the new contract. The coal fields have been the grave of many militant unionists in the past, victims of the company gun thugs or goons of the Boyle machine.

The coal industry representatives are trying to stand firm and have so far refused to seriously reopen negotiations in hopes that the government will step in and force a settlement favorable to the industry. For example, when approached on the question of increasing the wage offering they agreed to up the base-pay offer from 9 per cent to a 10 per cent increase. But the catch was that they would only take the money for higher wages out of the cost-of-living increase leaving the total package exactly the same.

The threat of a Taft-Hartley injunction became greater as President Ford returned from the Soviet Union. As the Wall Street Journal reported on Nov. 25, "Upon President Ford's return from the Soviet Union, he is expected to have the coal strike high on his list for prompt review."

As soon as the miners walked off the job, the big power companies began a campaign in the press to blame the strikers for everything from the energy "crisis" to unemployment. The steel and auto bosses used the strike as an excuse to lay-off tens of thousands of workers, even though they have stored enough surplus coal for their coke ovens to last months without new shipments.

Far from "causing unemployment," the miners are in fact leading the struggle for jobs for the unemployed. One victory in the new agreement will be a provision that would add two helpers for operators of complicated machinery to most section crews. This would increase the size of those crews from 8 to 10. While improving safety for the workers of this equipment, the demand will also result in the immediate creation of about 8,000 jobs in the mines.

It is because the UMW strikers are putting the power monopolies up against the wall that they have a good chance to win a strong contract and build up their fighting capacity to defend their hard-won gains. In this sense they are pointing the way forward for all working people whose rights and living conditions are being trampled by the present economic crisis.

It is for this reason that they are coming under attack in the media and by the government. President Ford has more than once threatened the use of troops if the strike lasts much longer. Workers on every front must get behind the miners and tear through the lies that blame the economic crisis on "strikes."

A victory for the miners in this strike will be a major blow in the war that the giant corporations in league with the government are now waging against the working class.

SUPPORT THE STRIKING MINERS!

WOMEN ARE FIERCE

Aside from helping the men win strikes and organize the unions, women have linked up the struggle of miners with the struggles of other working class people. Women such as Grannie Hager were leaders in the roving picket movement in Eastern Kentucky during the 1960's, trying to close down mines that paid low wages and refused to contribute to the UMW Welfare and Retirement Fund. This movement which took up the needs of the Appalachian people for jobs, better schools and federal relief was formed like the Women's Club, independently of the union.

During the present struggle, the Brookside Women's Club raised \$1,000 to help striking restaurant workers in Harlan. Members of the Women's Club joined a demonstration at the Pikeville Methodist Hospital in support of striking hospital workers (and ended up in the Pike County jail), and some of the members have been involved recently in taking up the special demands of Black people in Harlan County.

In the songs they have written, women such as Florence Reece, Aunt Molly Jackson and Sarah Ogan Gunning, all of whom were involved in the 1930 coal miners' organizing drive in Eastern Kentucky, have clearly expressed the nature of the capitalist system in a form which has inspired working class and civil rights struggles over the years. "Which Side Are You On" written by Florence Reece about the struggle in Harlan in the 30's became famous when it was adapted by Black people in the civil rights struggle of the 1960's, and has become the song to lead the new UMW organizing drive in the 1970's. Sarah Ogen wrote her famous "I Hate the Capitalist System" after watching her baby die of starvation and her husband of TB:

*Well they call this the land of plenty,
And for them I guess it's true,
For the rich and mighty capitalist,
Not for workers like me and you.*

*Well what can we do about it
To these men of power and might?
Well I tell you, Mr. Capitalist,
We are going to fight, fight, fight.*

Women also have special problem that must be dealt with. In the mountains as everywhere else, they are only allowed into the lowest paying jobs, and have been excluded from heavy industry, especially the mines. For Appalachian women, where mining is the only industry and where many of their husbands cannot provide for the family due to injury, or even death, the demand for jobs in the mines has been extremely important.

Because of recent pressure around the country by the women's movement, and the struggle by women to make use of Title Seven of the Civil Rights Act, women have been coming into the mines. The response of the men in the main, has been very favorable. Many men have written to the UMW Journal backing up the women's right to a decent job.

The entrance of women into the mines, just as in other heavy industries, is bound to strengthen the unity between men and women workers, and push forward the struggle for equal rights. At this time there are less than 50 women out of a total of 120,000 miners. Although many more women are applying at the mines, and the major companies have plans to hire more women in the coming period, a recent Journal article pointed out that women had been in the mines for such a short time that real apparent forms of discrimination (like in promotions) hadn't turned up yet. This has emphasized the need to strengthen the UMW demands on the companies against discrimination and for equitable promotions.

Union men must help the women when being mistreated, either by the corporations or by other fellow union men. Women have been strong fighters for justice in the coal fields and they will be strong fighters for union rights in the coming years!

VICTORY FOR PALESTINE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

rather than talk to the Palestinians, and attempt to wipe out the Palestinian people rather than allow PLO to establish a state in the Mideast region. Speaking before the UN, the Zionists' representative, Yosef Tekoah said that PLO "has no place in international diplomacy. Israel shall see to it that they have no place." But his words appeared as empty threats in the face of Israel's near-total isolation at the General Assembly.

Desperate for support, Israel encouraged the Zionist movement in the U.S. to slander and physically attack the PLO delegation at the UN. At a rally attended by over 50,000 people in New York prior to Arafat's arrival, members of the so-called Jewish Defense League threatened to kill Arafat. Another speaker, Senator Henry Jackson urged the United States to invade Arab countries in order to "wipe out terror."

Fearing the revolutionary tide which the Palestinian struggle has ignited in the Middle East, Jackson and the other U.S. imperialists hope to protect and expand imperialism's interests using Israel as a prop.

Outside of New York, however, the Zionists did poorly in their bid to whip up hysteria about the PLO. In Tampa, Florida, a speech by former Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Dayan was picketed by 300 demonstrators who chanted, "Imperialism out of the Middle East," and "Jews yes, Zionism, no!" Arab Clubs from Florida cities as well as the October League, the Revolutionary Student Brigade, the African People's Socialist Party and others sponsored the rally and read messages of solidarity with Palestine.

In Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., Detroit, and New York, thousands of Arab-Americans and other supporters demonstrated their solidarity with PLO, and extended a warm welcome to Arafat. On the day of the UN speech, Zionist plans to turn out a large protest crowd were defeated as pro-PLO demonstrators far outnumbered the Zionists.

In Israel itself, tremendous internal chaos erupted with the devaluation of Israeli currency by 43 per cent and the widespread inflation which has driven all prices up an average 20 per cent. These measures were met with riots and workers' strikes, especially among the "Oriental Jews," who

along with the Palestinians fill Israel's worst housing projects, and work at the lowest paying jobs.

In the midst of this internal turmoil, Israel's Prime Minister, Yitzhak Rabin, took time out to tell Western newsmen that economic conditions have always been bad, but in the past, anti-Arab sentiment has kept Israel united. This statement, coupled with the calling up of thousands of Israeli reserves and deploying of large numbers of weapons at Arab-border bases indicated Israel's desire to provoke another war with the Arab countries.

The Zionists are presently preparing for another full-scale war in an attempt to re-coup their losses from their military defeat last October. At that time Arab unity was the key to victory and Arab unity now is stronger than ever, following the Rabat Arab Summit meeting. The Arab and Palestinian people, through unity and self-reliance will again be able to deal the Zionists another bitter defeat.

While negotiating at the diplomatic level, and arguing before the UN, the PLO is continuing armed attacks in the occupied lands, and demonstrating to the Zionists that the Palestinian resistance cannot be stopped. Palestinian and Arab unity is at its height and has gained widespread world-wide support as every just cause must.

The tide of history cannot be turned back. Zionism and imperialist aggression in the Middle East are doomed to meet their defeat, while the Palestinian people are sure to win!

FIGHTING FOR THEIR HOMELAND

P.L.O.

Born in Flames of Palestinian Struggle

Palestinians are one of the Arab peoples in the Middle East. Until recently the majority of people living in the land of Palestine were Arabs who belong to the Moslem religion. A minority were Jewish or Christian. In the late 1800's, though, the Zionist movement picked up Jewish followers in Europe, where there was a lot of discrimination against Jews. The Zionists claimed that they had a right to Palestine because some of their ancestors had lived in that region 2,000 years ago. They claimed that Jews were a "nation," even though all the Jews had in common was their religion. As Stalin explained, a real nation has a land, a common language, a culture of its own, and an economic life of its own.

During World War I, when the British occupied Palestine, they promised to give part of Palestine to the Zionists, in the Balfour Declaration of 1917. More Jews started immigrating to Palestine, and buying up land, with the cooperation of the British authorities. The British imposed heavy taxes on the Arab peasants, so that many of them were forced to sell their lands to live. By this time people in Palestine understood what the Zionists were aiming for, and began to organize themselves to fight for their independence. In 1936, during the Great Depression, the Palestinian people protested the British and Zionist expansion with a long general strike and rebellions. But the wealth and power of the British and Zionist movement was still greater than that of the Arabs, whose nations had suffered long and harsh occupations. More and more Palestinians became very poor, lost their land and possessions and even their lives, to the Zionist terrorism.

"ISRAEL WAS FOUNDED ON TERRORISM AGAINST THE ARAB INHABITANTS."

In 1949, the Zionists declared the state of "Israel" on most of Palestine's territory, leaving only the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Israel was founded on terrorism against the Arab inhabitants: the Zionist armies and gangs committed My Lai-type massacres and forced thousands of farmers to leave their land at gunpoint. One and a half million people became refugees. The West Bank and the Gaza Strip joined with the neighboring countries, Jordan and Egypt. Palestinians in those areas and within the refugee camps and even inside Israel itself continued to fight against Zionism.

After launching an aggressive war in 1956, Zionist Israel again in 1967 attacked its Arab neighbors—Egypt, Syria and Jordan—with heavy support from the U.S. This time the Zionists grabbed more Palestinian land—the West Bank and Gaza, the Sinai from Egypt, and the Golan Heights from Syria.

The Arab countries learned in this war that the Soviet "aid" they got was only a fake: The Soviets never taught the Arabs how to use all the complicated military equipment they sold them, nor how to repair it. When crucial arms shipments were needed, the USSR held back hoping to force the Arabs into total reliance on Soviet aid. They told Egypt's President Nasser not to worry about the Israelis, "they wouldn't dare attack." Finally Egypt expelled Soviet advisors in 1972. The U.S. had a hand in the sabotage, too. There were spies in the Egyptian army, paid by the U.S., who gave military secrets to the Israeli Zionists.



After the 1967 war the different Palestinian nationalist organizations joined forces and called their coalition the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO). The PLO groups have carried out armed struggle and educated and organized the Palestinian people against the Zionist occupation. The guerrilla fighters fought and won many battles with Israeli soldiers.

In October 1973, when Egypt, Syria and the PLO fought the Israeli aggressors, things were different. This time, relying on Arab unity rather than Soviet aid, the Arabs won. They took back part of the Golan Heights and Sinai. They used the oil embargo as a further weapon to demonstrate Arab unity, and isolate imperialism and Zionism.

The U.S. started sending even heavier military aid to Israel after October 1973, amounting to more than \$2.2 billion of American tax money for only one year! Ever since the war the Israeli Zionists have become more and more isolated, but the Arabs have gained more and more friends and supporters.

In October of this year, all the Arab countries united in support of the national rights of the Palestinians and recognized the PLO as the spokesman for the Palestinian people. At almost the same time the UN voted to invite the PLO to a discussion of Palestine not as a "refugee" problem but as a national problem. This proposal had the support of almost all of the countries in the UN (105 of them), but was bitterly opposed by the Zionists and the U.S. imperialists.

The American people must support the Palestinian struggle because it is a just struggle and because the U.S. ruling class hopes to use this problem as an excuse to start another war and further exploit and oppress people of this country. We can support the Palestinian Liberation Organization by holding demonstrations, raising money and exposing the lies of the Zionists. Most importantly, we can demand an end to U.S. support of Israeli aggression and help fight for the day when a free and democratic Palestine can exist. We must demand that the people of the Middle East be free to determine their own destiny, free from superpower threats, intimidation and war.

ATTACK BY SEA

Story of Guerrillas in Battle

From the Hsinhua News Agency

Beirut, Lebanon—"For the freedom of our fatherland and the cause of justice, we will fight till death" is the motto of the Palestinian guerrillas in their struggle for the liberation of their homeland. In the revolutionary spirit of choosing death rather than surrender, the Palestinian guerrillas, using the few to defeat the many, carry out their attacks on the Israeli aggressors inside the enemy occupied area with a daring and courage that have inspired countless songs and ballads. Last August, they inflicted heavy losses on the enemy with a surprise attack at sea, adding still another glorious page to their history.

On the morning of August 10, a detachment of the Palestinian guerrillas carrying rockets, machine-guns and grenades took to a waiting boat to carry out a mission in the enemy occupied area. Buffeted by the waves at sea, the small boat headed for Haifa under the screen of night.

Not far from Haifa, enemy's patrol boats suddenly loomed up ahead. Three enemy launches and one destroyer advanced on the guerrillas and ordered them to "surrender." After a quick consultation the Palestinian liberation fighters decided to stop their boat and let the enemy come closer.

Seeing the small boat come to a stand still, the enemy thought that the guerrillas were waiting to surrender. They hurried out on deck to look down and gloat at the ease with which they had made the capture. When the first enemy boat sailed in close, the guerrillas fired as one. A barrage of rockets, machine-gun bullets and grenades hit the enemy patrols.

ENEMY OPENS FIRE

Stupefied for a moment, the enemy began a counter-attack. Picking out the boat with a powerful searchlight, the enemy loosed its fire on the guerrillas, wounding most of them. The reserve fuel tank exploded, badly damaging the boat. Realizing that the boat was going to sink, they knew they should jump into the water as the only hope of preserving their strength, but under the glaring light and heavy fire their chances were very slim. One fighter kept his wits in the emergency. He started up the engine to make it look as though the boat was going to take off. When the enemy moved in to intercept the escape, the guerrillas jumped into the water and made a swim for it. When they were only a few metres away, their boat went up in a shattering explosion. Almost all the guerrillas lost their lives in the battle with the enemy and against the churned up sea. Only one wounded guerrilla escaped the enemy's fire. Weak from his injury, he floated for seven hours before making his exhausted way back to the base area. The courageous Palestinian fighters left behind them five enemy dead and one damaged boat.

On the same day, the guerrilla leaders sent out a search party to look for the men lost in the sea battle area. Only the body of Hassan Mahdy was recovered. The sacrifice of Hassan Mahdy and his comrades-in-arms is a symbol of the determination to persist, however tortuous the course of the Palestinian people's struggle, and that the raging flames of their revolution will never be stamped out by the Zionists or imperialists.

In November, the World Food Conference was convened in Rome. Delegates from countries all over the world came to discuss the questions of world hunger and the allocation of the world's food resources as well as to deal with the question of who is to blame for world hunger.

In the last year, three important international events have taken place. These gatherings--the Special UN Session on Raw Materials, the Conference on the Law of the Seas held in Caracas, and the World Population Conference in Bucharest--all pointed to the emergence of the Third World countries as a significant force in world events.

They showed as well that growing unity is developing between the Third World countries in opposition to the schemes of the superpowers to dominate the world and its resources.

At all of these conferences, representatives from Third World countries publicly exposed and condemned the U.S. and the Soviet Union, the two largest superpowers, for ruthlessly plundering weaker and less developed countries and using them for a dumping ground for expensive industrial goods while in turn shamelessly stealing valuable raw materials.

The past year has also seen important steps taken by the countries of the Third World to safeguard their own natural resources. Most outstanding has been the efforts of the oil-exporting nations and their organization OPEC, which has taken a militant stand towards protecting the underdeveloped nations against imperialism. The oil-producing countries have nationalized their oil industries as well as raising oil prices in accordance with the demands of the world market. In addition, they have used their oil as a political weapon in defense of the Palestinian and Arab peoples against Zionist and imperialist aggression in the Middle East. These facts stand as an example to the poor and downtrodden countries of the world--in unity there is strength--even against the most aggressive superpower attacks.

FOURTH GATHERING

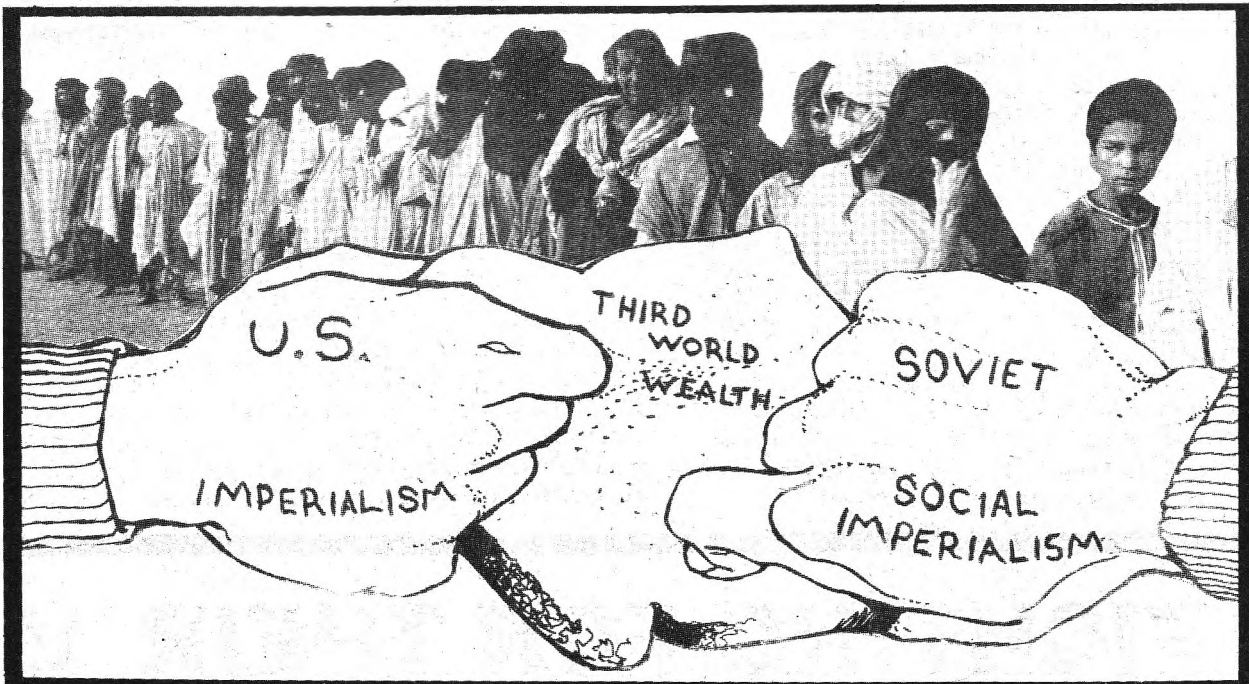
In November, a fourth international gathering was convened in Rome--the World Food Conference. It was here that delegates from all over the world came to try and solve the problem of world hunger and to place the blame for hunger where it rightfully belongs.

To read the major U.S. newspapers and magazines, one would have thought that hunger and starvation was a new discovery just made by U.S. imperialism. The facts of the matter are, however, that hunger and starvation have long been a way of life in all the countries of the capitalist world. The representatives for the superpower countries put forth several theories, some old and some new in an attempt to blame hunger on the smaller countries attending the Conference. Their "theories" helped to reveal the hypocrisy of their "concern" about world hunger.

A recent article in Time Magazine points to the "devastating impact of the quadrupling of the market price of petroleum" by the oil-producing nations. This, according to Time, has resulted in the inability of poor farmers to afford pesticides, herbicides, fertilizer, and other petroleum-related products needed to improve farming output. This may be a convenient argument for the U.S. imperialists, who are no longer able to control the world oil market, but it can never cover up the real causes for inflation which fall at the door of the imperialists themselves. The raising of prices on world oil has resulted only in the bolstering of the economies of the underdeveloped nations rather than damaging them as the imperialists claim.

The crocodile tears being shed by the U.S. imperialists are not over the plight of the poor countries of the Third World, but rather they are tears that long for the "good old days" when the U.S. businessmen could reap full profits from foreign oil, pay the lowest possible prices and run the world strictly according to their own needs. To blame the oil-producing countries for the rising prices on fertilizer, etc. . . is the worst type of hypocrisy. Petrochemical products, made in the industrialized countries, have risen

WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE MEETS: SUPERPOWERS CAUSE HUNGER IN THIRD WORLD



at a much higher rate and rose long before the price increases on oil.

It is the biggest superpowers who in fact, have allowed the prices of their goods to skyrocket to the point where many countries cannot afford them. The price of grain alone, has been driven up by the big powers from \$1.75 a bushel in 1960 to almost \$4.50 today. Making use of their monopolistic position on the international market, one of the superpowers, the U.S. raises grain prices to intimidate the smaller countries, while the other superpower, the Soviet Union, buys up grain for speculation tightening the international grain market and adding to the hunger and starvation in the Third World countries.

In addition, the Soviet-concocted theory of the "international division of labor" is used to plunder its neo-colonies in eastern Europe and the Third World. They push the idea that the Soviet Union should develop big industry and be self-sufficient, while other countries should have only auxiliary industry and production. Under the signboard of "disinterested aid" and "equal trade" the Soviet ruling class extracted more than 6 billion dollars worth of food-stuffs, cotton fibres and natural rubber out of the Third World in the years 1960-1971.

SUPERPOWER THEORIES

Another "theory" put forth by the superpowers on the question of hunger is that of "overpopulation." They claim that the cause of hunger is the "high birth rate of the Third World countries." The solution that flows from this absurd theory is the reduction of the populations in the poorer countries through forced birth control programs, forced sterilizations on a mass scale and other fascist measures, most of which are already in use.

But real life has proven that it is not population which is the main factor causing world hunger, but the plunder and oppression caused by imperialism. A case in point is the People's Republic of China. Throughout the 19th century, up until China's revolution in 1949, her people faced the dangers of hunger and starvation. Old China was a backward agricultural country known as a "land of famine." Until liberation, China was dominated by a handful of rich countries, who made great superprofits from the extraction of China's natural resources and from her "cheap" labor force. China's economy was not planned

for the benefit of the Chinese people, but rather for the benefit of the Japanese, French, British and U.S. imperialists, to name a few.

On the eve of the founding of the People's Republic of China, some imperialist prophets predicted that the sole way to rid China of her starvation was to reduce the growth of her population. Since China's revolution however, with the establishment of a society run by the working people and independent of imperialist domination, China's population has grown with a 60 per cent increase, from 500 million to 800 million. Has this led to an increase in hunger? No!

In the same period, China's food production has risen more than 100 per cent--from 110 million tons of grain to over 250 million tons. These bare facts fly in the face of the theory of "population as the cause of hunger."

Imperialism used the Rome Conference to try and make people believe that the people of the Third World are helpless children who cannot feed or take care of themselves, and must rely on the "charity" of the big powers for their sustenance. They portray the poor countries as "victims of bad weather," "bad climate," "bad management" and every thing else, to cover up their own interference in these countries internal affairs.

But in fact, the Third World countries are overall very rich in natural resources, and given the conditions of political and economic independence, are quite capable of relying on their own efforts to feed their peoples. Many Asian, African and Latin American countries once even had surplus food for export, but long-term domination and colonialism have reduced them to mere markets and sources of raw materials. The imperialist powers have forced many of the underdeveloped countries to have lopsided economies and have crippled their agriculture. This is the reason many of the Third World countries have not been able to support themselves.

DIVERSIFY ECONOMIES

Many of these countries have now begun to take steps to increase their food production, attaching great importance to diversifying their economies and expanding agricultural production. The main thing they are stressing is self-reliance and freedom from imperialist plunder. It was put very well by Prime Minister Linden Forbes Burnham of Guyana who pointed out, "A country that is dependent on other countries for its food is not economically free."

While laying stress on self-reliance, the Third World countries assist one another in food production. The West Africa Rice Development Assoc. formed by 16 West African countries for achieving self-sufficiency is one example of this type of cooperation. The member states of the Caribbean community have met more than once to study measures for food self-sufficiency in their region.

With regard to the problems of world hunger, the main targets must be the two superpowers and their continued attempts to plunder and control the world economy. But people, especially in this country, must oppose the chauvinistic slogans being put forward by President Ford and his Sec. of Agriculture Earl Butz who says, "We should worry about ourselves and let the rest of the world be damned." This new "isolationism" is simply a disguised attempt to use food as a lever against the oil producing countries to force down their prices and get them to fall into line.

In addition, the political use of the so-called "Food for Peace" program must also be exposed. The benevolent "Food for Peace" money has been allocated to such "peaceful causes" as feeding the armed mercenaries fighting for the fascist Thieu regime in south Vietnam.

The World Food Conference has called for the establishment of "a new international economic order" free from imperialist domination. This is an important step forward for the Third World countries as well as for people everywhere in a world where hunger still exists.

YASSER ARAFAT SPEAKS AT U.N. (excerpts)

The highest tension is in our part of the world. There Zionism clings tenaciously to occupied Arab territory. New military preparations are being made feverishly. These anticipate another, fifth war of aggression launched against us.

The racist entity (of Israel) founded on the imperialist-colonialist concept, turned itself into a base for imperialism and into an arsenal of weapons, this enabled it to assume its role of subjugating the Arab people and of committing aggression against them, in order to satisfy its ambition for further expansion on Palestinian and other Arab lands. In addition to the many instances of aggression committed by this entity against the Arab states, it has launched two large-scale wars in 1956 and 1967, thus endangering world peace and security. . . .

If the immigration of Jews to Palestine had had as its objective the goal of enabling them to live side by side with us, enjoying the same rights and assuming the same duties, we would have opened our doors to them, as far as our homeland's capacity for absorption permitted. Such was the case with the thousands of Armenians and Caucasians who still live among us in equality as brethren and citizens. But, that the goal of this immigration should be to usurp our homeland, disperse our people, and turn us into second-class citizens--this is what no one can conceivably demand that we acquiesce in or submit to. Therefore, since its inception, our revolution was not motivated by racial or religious factors. Its target was never the Jew, as a person, but racist Zionism and undisguised aggression. In this sense, ours is also a revolution for the Jew, as a human being, as well. We are struggling so that Jews, Christians and Muslims may live in equality, enjoying the same rights and assuming the same duties, free from racial or religious discrimination.

When our people lost faith in the international community which persisted in ignoring their rights and when it became obvious that the Palestinians would not recuperate one inch of Palestine through exclusively political means our people had no choice but to resort to armed struggle. . . .

The Palestine Liberation Organization has earned its legitimacy because of the sacrifice inherent in its pioneering role and also because of its dedicated leadership of the struggle. It has also been granted this legitimacy by the Palestinian masses, which in harmony with it have chosen it to lead the struggle according to its directives.

FILIPINO PEOPLE WILL SWEEP AWAY ALL TRAITORS



SININGBAYAN 73

In an act of unparalleled treachery and betrayal, the revisionist party in the Philippines, the so-called, "PKP" (Partido Komunista Philipinas) has thrown itself at the feet of President Ferdinand Marcos in exchange for official legality.

The betrayal was just a culmination of decades of opportunism, which by 1968 had transformed the PKP into a party of parliamentarianism, even though it at one time led the armed struggle of the HUKS against the invasion of the Japanese fascists.

The betrayal of the revisionist leadership (the Lava group) led to the re-establishment of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) in 1968, under revolutionary leadership. Since that time, the CPP has reorganized the former revolutionary units of the HUKS into the New People's Army and has been carrying out revolutionary struggle along with the armed movement of the Muslim population, fighting for democratic rights and against imperialism.

On October 11, at a formal meeting between revisionist leader, Felicisimo Macapagal and others with President Marcos, the traitors formally turned in all their arms and swore allegiance to the Marcos government. Regarding the new Marcos Constitution, which established martial law in September 1972, robbing the people of any democratic freedoms, the Lava gang claimed that it represented a "positive step forward" and was "worthy of support." In its policy document published earlier in the year, the revisionists praised the Marcos government, especially for its "open door" policy towards the Soviet Union, which has long had designs on replacing U.S. imperialism as the masters of the Philippines.

The Washington Post quoted Macapagal as saying, "Your excellency (Marcos), you have called for national unity and we are here today in response to your call." In return for the promise of possible "legalization" the "PKP" has agreed to formally rewrite its constitution, renouncing armed struggle and barring "foreigners" from membership.

The rapidly changing world situation, which has seen the Marcos government establish diplomatic and trade relations with the People's Republic of China and begin to take cer-

tain measures independent of U.S. imperialism, can never mean abandonment of the revolutionary struggle of the people of the Philippines, nor reliance on the Marcos regime. In fact it is largely due to the heroic armed struggle of the Filipino people under the leadership of the Communist Party and the New People's Army, that such changes have been brought about in Marcos' foreign policy.

CONDEMN ARMED STRUGGLE

The Lava revisionists have openly condemned the armed struggle of the NPA and the Muslim Filipinos, calling them "bandits." Their chief apologists in the U.S. like the revisionist traitor, William J. Pomeroy, are openly siding with the imperialists against the revolutionary struggle in exchange for the right to sit in parliament. In the October 25 issue of the Daily World, mouthpiece for the CPUSA revisionists, Pomeroy says, "A much-publicized and vastly exaggerated Filipino Maoist group and its so-called 'New People's Army' have sought to give the impression that the only path for the Filipino people in struggling for rights and gains lies in the armed revolutionary struggle to overthrow the Marcos government." Pomeroy adds that the revisionists have "refused to adopt extremist positions.

DISARM THE MASSES

In opposition to such "extremism," Pomeroy and the "PKP" gang are peddling, with the aid of Marcos, their line of "peaceful transition to socialism" to the people of the Philippines in order to disarm the masses and leave them completely at the mercy of imperialism.

A statement released by the Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP) in the U.S. made the following point: "Although the Marcos dictatorship has played up such 'surrenders' as a sign of the collapse of all remaining resistance and as a display of his popular support, the so-called "PKP" has long ago been denounced by the revolutionary

movement in the Philippines. . . These remnants of the old Communist Party number about two or three hundred and are to be distinguished from the genuine Communist Party of the Philippines which was rectified and re-established December 26, 1968.

"Thus," says KDP, "the surrender of the Lava group or so-called 'PKP' has come as no surprise and has made no dent whatsoever on the growing popular resistance movement."

NEW PEOPLE'S ARMY

The re-established Communist Party and the New People's Army have stressed that the armed struggle, while not the only form of struggle as Pomeroy claims, is at the heart of the united front struggle. The Party chairman, Amado Guerrero in his book, Philippine Society and Revolution, writes, "Through the national united front, the Party extends widely its political influence and gains the widest support of the masses and other progressive classes and strata. At the base of this broad undertaking are the efforts of the proletariat to build up its independent strength through armed struggle supported mainly by the peasantry. The real united front for the people's democratic revolution is one for waging armed struggle."

Guerrero adds, "There is the old poisonous idea still being circulated by the counter-revolutionary revisionists that the united front is mainly for parliamentary struggle." It is this line that has led to the terrible set-backs in Chile and lies at the basis for the revisionist betrayal of October 11 in the Philippines.

But this betrayal will not go unnoticed by the Filipino and Muslim-Filipino people. They are recognizing daily that these traitors who pose as "communists" must be swept away in the course of carrying out the revolutionary struggle against imperialism.

**LONG LIVE THE HEROIC REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE OF THE FILIPINO PEOPLE!
DOWN WITH IMPERIALISM AND REVISIONISM!**

WHAT WAS THE REAL REASON FOR THE POLISH VISIT?

Early in October when the threat of a coal strike was growing, Washington D.C. got a visit from Edward Gierek, the head of the "Communist" Party of Poland.

Gierek was here to talk business with President Ford and with the Chamber of Commerce. A big expansion of foreign trade is in the works and Gierek came to sew it up.

Is there a connection between Gierek's visit and a coal miners strike in the U.S.? Not much was made public about the deals that Gierek completed. But Poland happens to be a big exporter of coal, and so it's worth recalling a bit of very recent history.

In January and February of this year, the coal miners in England, Scotland and Wales went out on strike. It was a tough strike, and with help from the railway workers and other class brothers and sisters, the miners had coal shut down tight. If the politicians wanted any coal, they would have had to dig it themselves.

In this situation who should come along and carry coal to England? None other than the government of Poland led by this same Edward Gierek. A scab shipload of coal from Poland arrived at an English port at the height of the strike aboard a Polish freighter.

DOCK WORKERS ALERTED

The English dock workers were alerted and refused to touch the load. The scab coal from Poland never left the ship. Thanks to the English dock workers, the coal dug up by the mine workers of Poland was not used against their fellow workers in England, Scotland and Wales.

There's nothing wrong with having trade between the U.S. and Poland or most any other country. So if Poland wants to sell hams, ships and golf carts and in exchange buy airplanes, sorghum and machinery, there's no problem. But if Poland is going to sell coal during a coal strike, then there's a problem. And the Polish government has shown in the past it's just anti-labor enough to do this.

If the Polish coal miners had the final say in it, a problem like this could never come up in the first place. This is because the Polish miners—and workers in Poland generally—have a long history of international solidarity and political awareness. It is not in their character to knowingly scab on



Striking British workers. Victims of Polish revisionist scabs.

a strike anywhere.

But the Polish miners don't run the Polish government. Mr. Gierek would claim that they do, because when the workers run the government that's socialism, and Gierek claims Poland is a socialist country. But this is false. Poland in reality is no more a socialist country than is, say, the U.S. More than 80 per cent of the farm land is privately owned. Industry, despite being nationalized, is run on strictly profit lines, and the executives and directors—including the so-called "Communist" party leaders—treat it just like their private property. It isn't socialism; it's state capitalism with the socialist label stuck on for show.

Poland, in fact, isn't run by or for Poles at all, much less the working class. One sign of this is the fact that there are about 30,000 Soviet troops stationed on Polish soil. The Polish economy is very closely hooked up with the USSR's economy. The Poles can make very few independent decisions regarding their economy. It is a fairly safe bet that everything Gierek said and did in Washington was cleared ahead of time with the government of the USSR in Moscow.

Thus the Polish workers are in a difficult spot. They are pressed down not only by their own government, but also the social-imperialist government of the USSR. This is a situation that makes the Polish workers quite dissatisfied—and Gierek knows it very well.

Four years ago the dock workers in Gdansk, one of the main Polish sea coast cities, walked off their jobs and held a protest march against this fake "socialist" government of theirs. Singing the world-wide hymn of the workers, the "Internationale," the Gdansk workers marched on the party headquarters and demanded that a rise in the price of food, just decreed by the government, be overturned.

CLUBS AND BULLETS

What was the "socialist" government's reply? It was clubs and bullets. The Gdansk workers were beaten up and shot at. But this aroused the people in towns all over Poland to action. There was a week of pitched battles in streets and factory districts between workers and the police.

A total of 45 people were killed and 1,600 injured (according to the official government count) before it was all over.

This revolt spelled the end of the old party leader, Vladislav Gomulka. He was retired "for health reasons." Edward Gierek, then a relatively unknown bureaucrat, was brought in as his replacement. Gierek made some concessions—threw a few crumbs to calm things down. But he has turned out basically no different. That's why this August, not long before Gierek's visit to the U.S., the dock workers in Gdansk staged a week of slowdowns on the job. It was a reminder to Gierek, and a warning. Poland's capitalist economy is not doing so well. Neither is that of the USSR. This is why a set of big new deals with the U.S. is important enough for Gierek to come, in person, to Washington. He even offered the U.S. companies the chance to make private investments on Polish soil, further proof that he is neither a socialist nor communist nor a Polish patriot, but rather only an errand boy for Soviet social-imperialism.

There is a real communist party in Poland. But it is still small, and it has to operate underground. It is opposed both to the out-and-out capitalism of the U.S. and to the covered-up capitalism with the socialist label of the USSR. It stands for Poland's genuine national independence. One day this party will lead the Polish revolution and come to power. It will then be a pleasure for the workers to welcome the Polish government's representative to these shores.

TAKING UP THE CALL



"COUNTRIES WANT INDEPENDENCE, NATIONS WANT LIBERATION, PEOPLE WANT REVOLUTION."

TWENTY YEARS OF VICTORIES FOR ALGERIAN PEOPLE

In November, the Algerian people celebrated the twentieth anniversary of the armed struggle against French colonialism. A long and bitter war of national liberation, begun in 1954, finally resulted in Algeria's independence from France in 1961. Houari Boumediene, now Algeria's president, summed up this fighting history when he said, "Only through armed struggle can the despoiled right be restored. There is no other way out."

Throughout the 1950's Algerians fought bravely against French colonialism which made one of its last stands in Algeria after suffering defeats in Indochina, West Africa, and other parts of North Africa. The French committed inhuman acts of torture, massacre and barbarism, but the National Liberation Front responded by mobilizing peasants and workers, men and women, into a strong common front for victory. The war was fought in virtually every town and village as the prairie fire of resistance swept the country.

Since winning independence, Algeria has fought hard to protect it in both the economic and political sense. Its leaders have been in the forefront of the call for world-wide anti-imperialist struggle, and the establishment of a new economic order based on the unity of the third world countries. The Algerian people have given firm support to the struggles of the Palestinians, the Indochinese, and the African peoples in the movements for liberation.

Domestically, Algeria has carried out extensive land reform, nationalized many of the biggest industries and banks, expanded educational facilities a hundred-fold, and made important strides in the development of industry.

Most recently, the Algerian government announced a bold new plan to plant 6 billion trees on the northern edge of the Sahara desert to stop its expansion northward. Commenting on this program, President Boumediene has pointed out that by relying on the masses of people to organize and carry out this work, Algeria will be capable of defeating even such a formidable barrier as the Sahara desert.

LATIN AMERICAN FIGHTERS KILLED BY AUTHORITIES

In recent months, two revolutionary leaders have been killed by government authorities in Latin America. Miguel Enriquez, General Secretary of the Revolutionary Left Movement of Chile (MIR) was shot down in a gun battle with police on Oct. 5. Carmen Castillo, seven months pregnant, was wounded in the battle. Enriquez' death came shortly after MIR's declaration that it was preparing to launch a counter-offensive against the fascist military junta, along with other popular resistance forces.

In a statement following the death, Enriquez' brother, Edgardo, stated that the last year of bloody dictatorship in Chile has been "a year of repression and extensive torture, a year of layoffs and jailings, a year of superexploitation, hunger, and misery. (But) it has also been a year of important lessons for the working class and the revolutionaries."

Only three weeks before Enriquez was gunned down, Mexican guerilla leader Lucio Cabañes died in a battle with Mexican troops in the countryside where his Party for Poor People's Justice had been organizing armed attacks on government bases. Although Mexican officials have reported the death of Cabañes several times before, it appears to be confirmed this time. Thousands of Mexican peasants mourned and participated in demonstrations on learning the news.

MASS PROTEST GREETES FORD IN JAPAN, S. KOREA

President Ford's trip to Asia was met with widespread militant protests against U.S. policies. In Japan, 3-1/2 million workers went on strike the day after Ford arrived, and up to 100,000 people demonstrated in the streets of Tokyo against U.S. aggression and nuclear policies in the Pacific. In south Korea, small demonstrations were held despite police suppression, denouncing U.S. backing to the puppet regime of Pak Jung Hi. A few moderate leaders of the democratic movements which oppose Pak were allowed to meet with U.S. officials to voice their opposition to U.S. military presence in south Korea.

On the last leg of his trip, Ford met with Soviet leader Brezhnev. Even at the moment the two men were promising to reduce nuclear arms, sources in both Washington and Moscow were disclosing reports of newly-proposed MIRV missiles.



Norwegians demonstrate against Soviet expansionism and the occupation of Czechoslovakia. Demonstrators carry both the red flag and the national flag of Norway.

NORWEGIAN COMMUNISTS FIGHT SOCIAL-IMPERIALISM

The Worker's Communist Party of Norway (Marxist-Leninist) unanimously passed a resolution calling for "struggle against social-imperialism" at its national Congress in early November. The resolution pointed out, "The new rulers of the Kremlin have instituted a fascist dictatorship. In the Soviet Union today, the working class and other laboring people have been completely deprived of all basic rights... The people's resistance has been suppressed by force and strikes against capitalist exploitation are met with batons and bullets... The oppression and exploitation of the national minorities is similar to that in the Tsarist era. To define it correctly, the regime is a fascist dictatorship of the bourgeoisie."

Detailing the international character of Soviet social-imperialism, the resolution adds that both superpowers "have military bases in many lands and fleets in many oceans of the world. Everywhere they interfere in the internal affairs of other countries and contend with each other for the re-division of spheres of influence and world hegemony."

A particular danger to Norway is posed by Soviet social-imperialism and expansionism. The resolution discusses Soviet threats to Norwegian sovereignty on such questions as fishing rights, division of the continental shelf, and control of the Svalbard Islands.

Two weeks after the Congress, over 1,000 Norwegians rallied in Oslo to protest the call of Soviet destroyers in the harbor. Carrying signs which read, "Oppose the imperialist Superpowers—USSR and USA," the demonstrators sang the Communist Internationale upon arrival at the port. A Nov. 15 article in "Klassekampen," the newspaper of the Communist Worker's Party (m-l), explained the demonstration, proving that the Soviet army and navy were no longer in the hands of the people as they had been in 1945 when the USSR had led the liberation of some parts of Norway from fascist control. Today, said the article, the Soviet military forces are run by the ruling class of the Soviet Union and used for their own purposes in exploitation and contention for world control.

FROM THE WORLD PRESS... COMMUNIST PARTY OF BRAZIL CRITICIZES "FOCO THEORY"

"People's War in Brazil," an article by the Communist Party of Brazil recently appeared in a Spanish translation in Nueva Hora, newspaper of the Revolutionary Communist Party of Argentina. The article sums up the history of armed struggle against imperialism and its allies in Brazil. It begins by exposing the revisionist theory of relying on an alliance between the liberal bourgeoisie and the progressive sections of the military as a strategy for making revolution. The article shows that it was precisely this type of revisionist thinking which allowed the April, 1964 military coup to take place.

But the article goes on to criticize the theory of the "foco" which became very popular after the exposure of revisionism in 1964. The article says, "After April, 1964 the idea began to spread that the method of armed struggle for the Brazilian people would be based on the 'foco' theory. This theory doesn't take into account the objective situation, the strength of different classes, or the political process, and as such it is an idealist conception.

"According to the 'foco' theories, the guerilla fighter, starting from a central point in isolated regions, recruits fighters from the cities, with no view towards winning the masses to the side of the struggle . . . Through heroic acts, carried out by small groups, those who follow the foco theory hope to lead a revolution to victory. The revolutionary party of the proletariat is not necessary here. The guerilla himself is the party."

The article goes on to cite many examples of failure of the "foco" method in Peru, Argentina, Bolivia and in Brazil itself. (Cardim in Rio Grande Do Sul, the ex-soldiers in Sierra de Caprao). The article points out that these were failures in spite of the self-sacrificing heroism of their leaders.

Deepening the criticism of "foquismo," the article adds, "The guerilla based in the 'foco' is remote from the people and dedicates himself almost exclusively to armed actions. Advocates of 'foquismo' do not understand that revolutionary struggle involves political work with the masses, not just military operations. Likewise they don't see that a revolution is the work of the people of each country, based on the objective conditions and that there can be no "Continental Revolution" or export of revolution, without the people in each country waging their own struggle.

The article further points out that "in order to carry out the permanent mobilization of the people, the movement cannot be cut off from a political organization. This organization must be at the service of the proletariat and the worker-peasant alliance, around which the other progressive forces will gather. This organization is the Communist Party."

The article concludes by emphasizing that Communist military work must be linked to overall political work.

BAUXITE-PRODUCERS REACH NEW UNITY

The International Bauxite Association (IBA), held the second meeting of its Council of Ministers in Guyana last month. The association was formed last March when a number of Bauxite producing countries decided to join together in a common fight against attempts by the imperialist aluminum companies to plunder their resources and control the world market.

The IBA members produce over 75% of the world's bauxite, yet as Guyana Prime Minister Forbes Burnham pointed out in his opening address, his country has seen only 3% of the profits over 57 years of foreign control of the resources. This is because multi-national corporations such as Reynolds Aluminum of the U.S., have dictated their own terms to the bauxite-producers, and according to Burnham, "have even reached the position to claim certain extraterritorial rights and raise themselves above the domestic law."

Since last March, a number of the bauxite-producers have taken firm steps against the imperialist corporations. In Guyana, the government has imposed a heavy tax on bauxite exports, declaring its intent to nationalize the Reynolds interests next month. Meanwhile, Surinam has decided to cancel plans to "jointly" develop bauxite production with the U.S. corporations, choosing instead to work with other members of the IBA and rely on their own people.

In both Surinam and Guyana, the government has mobilized the masses of workers, especially the bauxite workers themselves, to assist in the defense of national resources. Big demonstrations took place in Guyana just prior to the IBA meeting, where the Guyanese people marched on the Reynolds plant to demonstrate that they would not be intimidated in their efforts at nationalization.

Other members of the IBA besides Surinam and Guyana include Jamaica, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Yugoslavia, Australia, and newly admitted, Ghana, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic.

STRIKE WAVE IN SCOTLAND CHALLENGES "LABOR PEACE"

A wave of strikes has broken out across Scotland, challenging the attempts of Britain's parliament to keep workers from striking. Over 60,000 Scottish workers were engaged in more than two dozen strikes in mid-November. The strike of 6,000 truck drivers won a big wage settlement as well as new fringe benefits, but rank and file drivers didn't let the militancy of the strike die out. They took flying picket squads to small firms trying to hold out on the settlement, and forced many of these to sign. The strike also spread to England, where 5,000 more drivers struck, over 36,000 Scottish teachers were on rotating strike, rejecting the government's "social contract" (which says that there should be labor peace), and demanding cost-of-living increases to match the rate of inflation.

ON THE CULTURAL FRONT

What is fascism and how do we fight it? These are questions that are being asked more and more as the capitalist crisis deepens and the ruling class begins to rely more on open terror to keep things going.

A current film, *The Odessa File*, explores this question from the standpoint of liberal capitalists who often like to pose as "anti-fascists" but in reality are simply covering-up and prettifying fascism. The film, produced by John Woolf and directed by Ronald Neame, is taken from the Frederick Forsyth novel of the same name.

It begins with the discovery of a diary, left behind by a dead, former inmate at Riga Concentration Camp during the war. The diary is read with intense interest by a young newsman (Jon Voight) who is horrified by the grueling tale of death and torture of millions of Jews. Through the diary he comes to learn that there is a secret organization of former members of the Nazi SS called ODESSA existing in Germany. Working closely with the Israeli CIA (more fascists posing as anti-fascists), he infiltrates the Odessa in search of the former SS colonel who is a wanted war criminal (Maximilian Schell) for his crimes at Riga. It turns out later that he had also killed the father of the newsman who himself was a Nazi and so on and so forth.

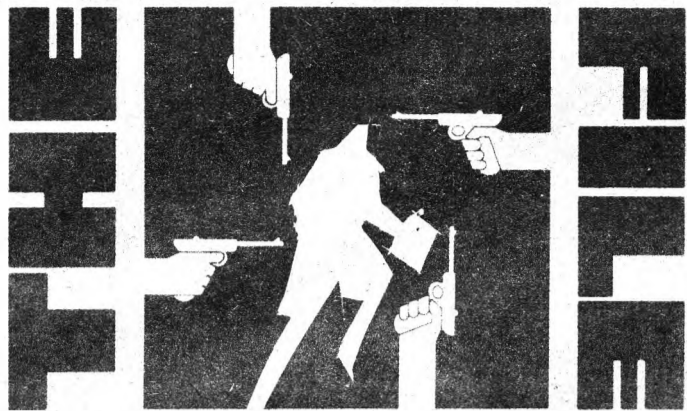
WELL ENTRENCHED IN RULING CLASS

Through his adventure, Voight comes upon mass meetings of the old Nazis giving speeches and reminiscing about the past. They all are confident that they will make a come-back "when Germany needs them" He also discovers that these Nazis are all well entrenched within the corporate ruling class of modern-day Germany and include some of the biggest financiers and industrialists. All this is very fine and is a reflection of the facts. As the great anti-fascist and communist, Georgi Dimitrov said, "Fascism is the open terrorist rule of the most reactionary, chauvinist and imperialist sections of finance capital." In other words, fascism is not just the danger that comes from a group of deranged maniacs who are blood-thirsty, etc. . . It is the by-product of the system of monopoly capitalism grown rotten and in crisis.

The main theme of the *Odessa File*, however, is summed up in the last paragraph of the old man's diary, when he says, "There are no bad people, only bad individuals. The whole film tries to spread this lie that the fascists are simply "bad individuals." Despite the obvious position of the Nazi leaders within the ranks of the monopolists, there is not a hint that fascism has anything whatsoever to do with capitalism itself.

Furthermore, there is the glorification in the film of the Israeli Zionists. They are pictured once again as a poor little country of former concentration camp victims under attack from the Arabs, shown here as working in collusion with the Odessa. Nothing could be further from the truth. The facts are well-known today: the puppet state of Israel was established and Zionism was first developed as a mass ideology in Europe only with the closest collaboration with the German fascists. Zionism was used, and is used in Europe as a means of undermining the class

ODESSA



struggle in those countries. It was seen by the Hitlerites as part of the "final solution" to the Jewish Question and seen by the imperialists in general as a way to gain a foothold in the oil-rich Middle East.

The Zionists today closely align themselves with the forces of fascism and reaction everywhere in the world. This confusion spread in the *Odessa File* is another example of covering up the fascist danger today.

This film is just another mediocre attempt to show the fascists as "bad men." Even at the end of the film, when the Nazi colonel is cornered in his giant castle, Voight, instead of using his gun on him, engages him in political debate, as if to win him over.

Fascism is a danger everywhere capitalism exists today. It is brought about by the capitalists growing weak and unable to rule in the old "democratic" ways. It is directed primarily at the working class and can be victorious only when the working class is caught unprepared, without any revolutionary leadership and disarmed. It is not just a German phenomenon but is universal.

It is accompanied by a cultural assault against the people, which tries to weaken their resistance and soften them up. This cultural assault doesn't just take the form of hard-line pro-fascist and "law and order" films (of which there is a whole rash presently.) It more often takes the form of "liberal" and even "anti-fascist" films like the *Odessa File*.

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SOVIET FILM PRAISES NIXON AS "PEACEMAKER"

In line with their world strategy of "detente", the Soviet social-imperialists have been filling the air with cultural pollution, in an effort to fool the Soviet people.

The latest piece of such pollution is a two-hour documentary film entitled "The Difficult Roads to Peace" which glorifies the present clique ruling the Soviet Union as "peacemakers" despite their frantic efforts to expand their military might and their spheres of influence around the world.

Another feature of "The Difficult Roads to Peace" is its glorification of former President Nixon and the U.S. ruling class. But it is revisionist chieftain Leonid Brezhnev who is the star of the movie. He is shown negotiating with Western leaders like George Pompidou of France, West German Chancellor Willy Brandt and Nixon in an "heroic" effort to bring world peace.

The film covers over the Marxist-Leninist teachings that imperialism is the cause of war. As the great leader of the Russian people, V. I. Lenin wrote, "Only after we have overthrown, finally vanquished and expropriated the bourgeoisie of the whole world. . . will wars become impossible." The "new" Soviet culture preaches to the people only about the horrors of war and spreads pacifism. The people are taught that it is no longer necessary to wage the revolutionary struggle against imperialism and that "class struggle is dying out."

NO MENTION OF HEROISM

The new Soviet film endlessly reminds the people about the horrors of WW II and limits itself to descriptions of the millions of deaths caused by the war against fascism. No mention is made of the heroism of the Soviet people who took up arms and waged war rather than live under Nazi slavery. The conclusions are obvious: 1) peace is more important than revolution, and 2) peace can be brought to the world even with imperialism through the "detente" negotiations by a few great men, eg. Brezhnev, Nixon, etc. . . representing the "great powers."

The movie of course, places great weight on the importance of strengthening U.S.-Soviet collaboration. Much is made of the "positive" role of Nixon. The head of the Soviet Union's U.S.A. Institute, Georgy Arbatov, is interviewed in the film about the U.S. desire for "detente," saying that the U.S. aspiration for peace stemmed from its worsening relations with Western Europe and Japan as well as from internal problems.

Painting the U.S. imperialists as "reasonable men" Arbatov claims, "But it is necessary to do justice to President Nixon and the government of the United States. They were able to see the problems and insert some corrections in their policy. He (Mr. Nixon) showed an interest in things that were changing in the world."

The truth of the matter is of course, that neither U.S. imperialism nor Soviet social-imperialism has changed their character because it is impossible for them to do so. They are both madly building up their war capabilities in the dangerous arms race in order to prepare for war with each other, while at the same time yelling to the skies about "detente" and a "generation of peace."

Their expansionism and hegemonism is a characteristic feature of imperialism and films like "The Difficult Road" are simply for the pacification of the Soviet people.

This latest film states, "The program of peace demands that this weapon (nuclear bombs) of mass destruction be made unlawful—this barbarous and blind weapon, which doesn't know the difference between an acting army and peaceful population, between soldiers and children." But while hearing all this sentimentalism about nuclear disarmament, people should ask themselves: Why won't the Two Superpowers hold a world conference on nuclear disarmament along with the non-nuclear powers? Why won't they pledge, as the People's Republic of China has done, never to be the first to use nuclear weapons? And finally, why do they continue to spend billions in massive expansion of nuclear weapons, along with the U.S. imperialists, while at the same time talking about each other's "reasonableness!"

All the propaganda films in the world will not be able to fool the Soviet people for long. Nixon and Ford and their kind are the greatest war-mongers the world has ever known. They haven't "shown an interest in things that are changing the world" but continue everywhere to play a reactionary role and try and stop the wheel of history. Brezhnev is no "peacemaker" and continues his expansionism in the Indian Ocean, in the dismemberment of Pakistan, in his occupation of Czechoslovakia and elsewhere, contending with the U.S. for world domination. This "peacemaker" also has a million troops massed on the Chinese border with nuclear missiles pointed at Peking.

In other words, "The Difficult Roads to Peace" is a cover-up of imperialism and social-imperialism. There is only one road to peace and that lies in the destruction of all imperialism.



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