

# NATIONAL FIGHT-BACK CONFERENCE DEC. 27-8 DRAWS SUPPORT

More than 25 organizations have given their support for the National Fight-Back Conference scheduled for Dec. 27-28, in Chicago. The purpose of the conference is to weld the various fight-back organizations into one common front to meet the deepening economic crisis head-on.

Some of the recent sponsors of the conference include Bob Zellner, Executive Director of the Southern Conference Educational Fund (SCEF); the James Jackson Defense Committee, including Mrs. Ethel Jackson and James Jackson; Mrs. Dorothy

Cutts, mother of Cheryl Todd, who stands accused of murder in Georgia for killing a man in self-defense against a rape attempt; Mrs. Nanny Washburn, veteran Atlanta activist; the Student Anti-Imperialist League in Tallahassee, Fla.; the West Englewood Fight Back Committee in Chicago; and the Denver-based La Casa del Barrio.

The conference will feature speakers who are involved in some of the leading struggles for jobs, housing, prisoners' rights and minority rights. Workshops are planned for exchanging experiences and to come up with the main points of a national program for the fight-back. The initiators of the con-

ference including the October League, have called for the various groups supporting this program to unite in one broad organization of workers and unemployed nationally.

Such an organization will be able to oppose the present offensive against the working and unemployed through militant actions and united effort. According to Charles Costigan, a leader of the October League's Trade Union Commission, "The new organization is viewed by many as a broad coalition uniting the various local groups and fight-back organizations who

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PEOPLE OF  
THE WORLD  
UNITE TO  
DEFEAT  
IMPERIALISM

# THE CALL

POLITICAL  
NEWSPAPER  
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OCTOBER  
LEAGUE

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A SOUTH-WIDE MARCH on October 11 demanded freedom for the "Fight-Back 10." The 10 activists, arrested for their militant actions at Georgia unemployment offices, have provided a spark to the Fight-Back movement across the South. (Call photo)

## WORLD PROTESTS FRANCO MURDERS

On September 27, the fascist executioners led Basque revolutionary Juan Paredes Manotas, 21, to a spot near Barcelona to receive his death sentence. As the Spanish firing squad raised their weapons, Paredes began singing "Basque Soldier," a patriotic hymn, and continued to sing out bravely and defiantly until the bullets took his life. Paredes died a martyr in the fight against fascism.

Four other revolutionaries were murdered that day for opposing the Franco regime in Spain. Angel Otaeque Echevarria, 33, another Basque revolutionary and member of the nationalist ETA ("Basque Nation and Liberty") along with Paredes, was shot to death in Burgos. Jose Luis Sanchez Bravo, 21, Ramon Garcia Saenz, 27, and Jose Baena Alonso, 25, were all taken to Hoyo de Manzanares outside of Madrid and put to death by a fascist firing squad. Alonso, Saenz, and Bravo were all members of the Revolutionary Patriotic Anti-Fascist Front (FRAP) and the Spanish Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist).

The five were executed for the alleged killings of several police and civil guards. Despite the complete lack of evidence and

the fact that confessions were forced only by the use of brutal and sustained torture (see letter from Alonso), the fascist government of Spain convicted the men following military trials in August and September. They were executed despite mass protests in Spain and around the world.

Refusing to be intimidated by the execution of the five revolutionaries, the people of Spain and the Basque provinces in the northern corner of that country rose up in mass resistance to the fascist regime. A general strike in the Basque provinces paralyzed the area for two days shortly after the executions took place. At the funeral of Paredes in Basque country, his mother courageously called on the assembled throngs not to let her son die in vain. "They killed my son without justice," she said. "I ask the Basque people to unite and continue to fight!" Fearing the wrath of the outraged people, police opened fire on a mass demonstration in Algorta, an industrial suburb of Bilbao, as the people shouted "Murderers! We shall avenge our dead!"

Militant outrage against the killings

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## 10 Million Unemployed Ask

# WHAT RECOVERY?

Through two years of steadily mounting crisis the president's men have been ballyhooing every little letup as the end of the storm. Now, with even worse disasters looming ahead, they are proclaiming that the "irreversible recovery" is at hand.

The factual evidence for this claim is of the flimsiest and most superficial kind. Against it stand the realities of the biggest bankruptcy in U.S. history, a record rate of inflation, the New York debacle, the federal budget monstrosity and the crisis on the world market—all factors that the administration would rather have the public ignore.

Let's examine the picture more closely.

The Ford administration hailed a 12 percent increase in September's Gross National Product (GNP) as a "great victory for the recovery." But this increase, even if sustained throughout the year, could only bring the GNP back to the levels of the 1960's—a full 20% behind the point that the Johnson administration officials once predicted it would have to reach in this decade to "stay healthy."

Not only is the GNP still at the level of deep recession, but the September growth itself is illusory. It was spurred partly by the start of the new model year in auto. But nobody predicts that this spurt can last long. Already Chrysler has closed two big-car factories and Ford has announced short work weeks at several others, projecting another year of depressed auto sales.

The basic industries such as auto, steel and construction are still hovering at 20% unemployment levels and continued to slump in September. Most of September's GNP rise was accounted for by increased light-industrial production to rebuild store inventories. Most economists do not buy the line that this is the start of a sustained

trend. They point to it as a temporary "technical" phenomenon. The high and rising rate of inflation raises serious doubts about how much of this output can ever be sold. Reviewing this trend, a conference of 500 economists meeting in Boca Raton, Florida, concluded that "at very best the recovery will be moderate and not necessarily sustained." In other words, watch out!

October, the month that Ford said would be the first "solid step" of recovery dawned with 8½% of all workers unemployed even after millions of young people returned to school after a summer of unemployment. More than a million and a half workers have been out of work over 27 weeks, swelling the ranks of the "hard-core" unemployed to the largest number in the recorded economic history of the U.S.

What is "recovery's" answer to this mass unemployment? Ford, Rockefeller and co. all agree—8½% unemployment "can't be helped" and will be with us "through the 1980's."

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**INSIDE—  
CALL TO BUILD A  
NEW PARTY ..P.12  
SECCION EN ESPAÑOL**

# THE PEOPLE IN STRUGGLE



## Communist Youth Get Organized

Chicago, Ill.—Representatives from many local chapters of the Communist Youth Organization (CYO) met here recently to plan a conference for the building of the CYO into a national organization. This conference will be held the weekend of Nov. 29-30.

Local CYO chapters have already started to take revolutionary leadership in young peoples' struggles around the country. On Oct. 12, for instance, members of Chicago's CYO joined with Black residents of the West Englewood community against a threatened attack by the American Nazi Party.

In Boston, the CYO has organized around the national campaign begun by the October League for "Jobs for Youth."

In Los Angeles, the CYO chapter has built support committees for the "Thirteen Against Deportations" at two campuses. The "Thirteen" are faced with charges stemming from their militant support of undocumented workers facing deportation (see page 11).

All revolutionary-minded youth are encouraged to attend the National Founding Conference for the CYO. For more information, contact the CYO, P.O. Box 5698, Chicago, Illinois 60680.

## 2,000 March on Mass. Statehouse

Boston, Mass.—Over 2,000 people angrily demonstrated Sept. 30 outside the Massachusetts State House demanding the restoration of all cutbacks in welfare and social services.

Members of the Boston Workers United to Fight Back (BWUFB) helped build the demonstration, and at one point, mobilized people to march into the State House building despite the opposition of police officials and some of the welfare leaders.

## Protest N.Y. School Cutbacks

New York—Youths, parents, and teachers here staged almost daily protests last month against overloaded classrooms and cutbacks in school programs.

More than 500 students demonstrated in front of the Board of Education headquarters in Brooklyn Oct. 9 demanding smaller classes. The youths shouted, "Hell no, we won't go!" and declared that walk-outs and boycotts would continue.

The week before, some 7,000 students around the city boycotted classes Oct. 3, nearly closing down some high schools. Willie Rivera, a junior high student at PS 56 in Lower Manhattan told *The Call* how the crisis was hitting his school. "Most of the classes are 40 students or more," he said. "Mine holds 43 and my twin brother Wilson's holds 46." He said the track team, softball, swimming and basketball and music have all been eliminated or cut back.

College students are also rising up against the devastating cutbacks in the city university system. Some 2,000 students rallied at Brooklyn College Oct. 16, blasting proposed tuition fees and further budget cuts. Wes Baron, the student government president, said, "Our answer is 'No!' to cuts. The money is there and we expect it."

New York City teachers are also in a fighting mood. On Oct. 14, some 200 Black teachers belonging to a number of Black educational groups staged a demonstration outside City Hall, demanding an end to the layoffs.

"Before the new contract, Blacks were 11% of the school personnel," a spokeswoman told *The Call*. "We are now only 5%—and the students are 70% minorities."

The spontaneous anger of the masses of people is beginning to boil over in crisis-ridden New York City. If the attitudes of the teachers and students towards worsening conditions in the schools are any indication, the Wall Street bankers have a growing fight-back on their hands.

## Southwide March in Atlanta

Atlanta, Ga.—Over 300 people marched under the leadership of the Atlanta Workers Committee to Fight Back Oct. 11, demanding an end to attacks on the workers' living standards and freedom for the "Fight-Back Ten."

The case of the Fight-Back Ten stems from an incident on April 23, when 13 members and supporters of the Atlanta Workers Committee to Fight Back were arrested and beaten by state troopers in a peaceful protest at State Labor Commissioner Sam Caldwell's office. Eventually, the charges against three of the defendants had to be dropped, but the prosecutor has stated that he will use the remaining case to "put some trouble makers behind bars for a few years."

At a preliminary hearing in the case, Judge Daniel Duke jailed one of the defendants and a co-chairperson of the Fight Back Committee, Ron Carter, because he demanded to know the charges against him. As Carter was being taken from the courtroom, he shouted, "This is the same treatment they gave Nat Turner. This is the way you have treated Black people for 100 years!" The judge then responded by saying, "You'll get the same treatment as Nat Turner if you don't straighten out." Nat Turner was hung in 1831 for leading a slave rebellion.

This incident caused such a furor among the spectators and even the newsmen present that the judge threatened to arrest anyone who reported what had just happened in a way the judge considered "not suitable." Furthermore, he banned all press coverage of the trial and ordered the lawyers and defendants not to speak about the case in public. By these actions, the judge has exposed to the people that the case is nothing but a blatant frame-up and fascist railroad.

Although the trial had been scheduled to start on Oct. 13, the judge postponed the trial until November when he heard that a mass march had been planned in support of the Fight-Back Ten the same day.

People from Techwood Homes, East Lake Meadows, Capitol Homes, Thomasville (all government projects), and the Perry Homes Defense Committee all participated in the march. In addition, workers from Atlantic Steel, the Mead Co., city workers, and members of the October League, Revolutionary Workers Congress, Revolutionary Workers League, the New Orleans Fight Back Committee, and the Student Anti-Imperialist League helped to build the mass action.

## 200 Oppose Dayan Visit

Knoxville, Tn.—Chanting "Palestine will win," over 200 demonstrators formed a strong picketline to "greet" former Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Dayan Oct. 1. Dayan had come to speak at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, one of his stops on a U.S. speaking tour.

"Our purpose in this demonstration is to show the American people that we are not against the Jews or any religion," said Nazih Abdul Rahman, a spokesman for the Organization of Arab Students which sponsored the protest along with the Knoxville Friends of Free Palestine.

"We are against the political movement of Zionism which has stolen Arab land from Arab peoples and forced Palestinians from their homeland," he continued.

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## Chinese Students Strike Boston Schools

Boston, Mass.—Ninety-eight percent of all Boston Chinese schoolchildren carried out a 2-day school boycott, called by the Boston Chinese Parents' Association, and won all of the boycott's demands concerning safety of the children and hiring policies under the Phase II desegregation plan.

The Boston Chinese Parents' Association was formed last July in the face of continuing attacks and harassment of the Chinese community from the racist segregationist movement.

A month prior to the opening of school, the Association presented a list of 9 demands to school officials, the Mayor's office, and to the Federal Court. The demands centered on protecting the interests of Chinese schoolchildren, and included safety precautions; the hiring of Chinese teachers, transitional aids, and bus escorts; and the hiring of bilingual staff in the Boston School Department to translate all notices and announcements, as well as serving as interpreters at public meetings.

After receiving only a partial response to its demands, the Boston Chinese Parents Association mobilized all parents and children in the community, including those not being bused, to boycott classes Sept. 9 and 10—the first two days of school. The entire community responded with an unprecedented show of solidarity: 98% of all Chinese students stayed home until the demands for safety and the hiring of Chinese personnel were won! In addition, all future announcements and notices from the school department will be sent with bilingual translations.

With this display of unity the Chinese community showed their support of desegregation as a means of abolishing unequal education and unequal access to educational services. They also showed that they will fight to insure that this desegregation must also protect the rights of Chinese minority children to bilingual education, safety, and the hiring of Chinese school personnel.

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# Louisville Anti-Racist Rally Hits School Segregation

On October 11, in a significant show of force, the people of Louisville staged a major anti-racist rally and march. Over 700 people participated in the indoor rally, their numbers growing to nearly a thousand as the demonstrators hit the streets in a march to the county courthouse.

Marching to the slogans of "Stop the Racist Violence," "Oppose Forced Segregation," and "Stop the KKK," the crowd voiced strong opposition to the anti-busing movement which has shaken Louisville for the past few months. Many Black and white workers participated in the demonstration, expressing their hatred of the labor bureaucrats and politicians who claim worker backing for their racist anti-busing stand.

As a white working woman said. . . "The violence you see on TV doesn't represent white working people; workers are being misled by these labor leaders who have never lifted a finger to fight layoffs."

The rally included a broad range of speakers—union members, parents, students, church figures, the Black Panther Party and others. Dave Simpson, a Board member of the Southern Conference Education Fund (SCEF), gave a keynote speech and acted as a coordinator for the rally and march. Both Simpson and Carol Titlow, speaking for the October League, pointed to the capitalist system as the basis for national oppression and racism. Black parents and students were forceful in voicing their opposition to the segregationist and racist nature of the anti-busing forces. Nationally known folk singers Pete Seeger and Rev. Kirkpatrick entertained the audience with songs of solidarity and struggle.

The coalition which sponsored the march is called "Progress in Education" (PIE) and includes a diverse body of church figures, liberals, community groups, and revolutionary organizations. The October League has played a significant role in the anti-segregation movement. Before PIE was formed the OL helped to stage 2 anti-Klan demonstrations, and a march of 300 people through the predominantly Black west-end of Louisville. These previous actions and the first coalition, known as "People United," were the basis on which the broader group was brought together.

## WORKERS REJECT BOYCOTT

While the anti-busing movement has pretended to represent all workers, the fact is the working class of Louisville has rejected the racist school boycott. School attendance is up over 95%. By and large workers have rejected the anti-busing leaders and the Klan as well.

Much of the anti-busing activity has been led by a group called Concerned Parents, with the support of city and state officials. The KKK and other fascist frontrunners have also been busy in leading the way in violent confrontations. Louisville labor bureaucrats have given loud support to the anti-busing movement. All in all, the "anti-busing movement" is a conglomeration of the most reactionary elements in the city.

Following President Ford's lead, city and state government officials have urged the anti-busing movement on. Kentucky Gov. Julian Carrol paid a personal visit to Concerned Parent leader Sue Conner, guaranteeing her his opposition to the de-segregation plan.

The police, dropping their supposed "neutral" stance, have decorated their cars and motorcycles with anti-busing stickers. During a major anti-busing demonstration, police broadcast over their official radios that the stickers could be picked up at city-owned gas stations which service their cars. That evening the major newspapers of Louisville carried a big picture of anti-busing leader Sue Conner hugging patrolmen.

In other incidents police have given careful protection to Klan demonstrations and racist motorcades driving through the Black community.

Most city newspapers have filled their pages with anti-busing news and letters. When Concerned Parents called their big mobilization, news channels, papers and police estimates put the crowd at 10,000. Yet the crowd, though covering a 4 lane street, only stretched 1½ blocks. National news coverage put the total close to 3,000. This type of coverage has set the tone in Louisville that "everybody opposes busing."

Concerned Parents have an open policy of "uniting with anyone who is against busing," including the KKK, which has used the busing issue to gain a small foothold in Louisville. Following two anti-Klan demonstrations, the KKK received help from the Air Pollution Control Board to sanction their rally. According to the APCB rules even trash cans can't be burnt in public. But when the Klan lit up a 30-foot cross and talked about nailing Black people to it, this was termed "recreation." The Klan's influence, however, has been largely isolated to the all-white suburbs, the backbone of the anti-busing movement. They have been roundly rejected by the city workers. Many workers recognize the Klan's history of union busting and are openly hostile to its intimidations and threats.

The alliance of Concerned Parents and the Ku Klux Klan has been accompanied by increasingly prevalent racist signs and slogans in the anti-busing movement, exposing their early "concern" for "quality education" as a facade for racism and segregation.

Concerned Parents and the anti-busing movement never were concerned about busing or quality education until Black children began coming into previously all-white



ANTI-SEGREGATION FORCES gather for Louisville march. (Call photo)

schools. Instead of a united class battle for better schools, (Kentucky ranks 49th nationally in education) the all-white anti-busing movement has clear segregationist motives.

Black students have had to face daily insults and threats in the suburban schools. While there has been some signs of solidarity, such as the suburban Fairdale High football team coming out and greeting Blacks on their first day of school, there have also been many racist assaults.

During a walk-out of white students at Ballard High, the school vice-principal told Black students to go outside and face the mass rally if they liked busing. The Black students went out and were attacked with rocks and firecrackers.

Discipline has been very harsh on Blacks, while white boycotters get off. At an inner-city school where suburban students walked out, the majority of city whites and Blacks stayed indoors. Yet they were locked up in classrooms and kept quiet, while the boycotters were welcomed back by the administration without discipline. Such treatment has given rise to a growing movement in the Black community with "Black Concerned Parents" and other groups being organized. These groups are demanding protection for students, fair and equal treatment at the schools, and for the busing plan to be run smoothly.

Despite the clearly reactionary thrust of the anti-busing movement, one so-called "revolutionary" group has decided to join in with the segregationists. The Revolutionary Union, or Revolutionary Communist Party as it is now called, circulated a petition with the title "Busing Plan Stinks." The RU says not one word about the racist character of the anti-busing movement. They make no mention of the Klan, nor the oppression of Black people and their historic fight for democratic rights. They even try to blame the crisis of overproduction on the busing plan, saying "It will force some working people to lose jobs."

To the RU, the movement for minority rights and school integration is an "attack on the people," conspired by the ruling class. The RU falls right in line with other racists in trying to cover the issue up as one of "quality education" rather than anti-segregation.

One of the most dangerous aspects of the anti-busing movement in Louisville is its support from the labor misleaders. Several locals, in particular the electrical workers

of IUE, craft unions of Pipefitters and Boilermakers, and one UAW local, endorsed and supported anti-busing demonstrations. The executive board of the IUE at General Electric openly joined with right-wing groups, such as Parents For Freedom, in calling for a general strike against busing. At G.E., Ford, and Harvester over 30% of the work force stayed home on the opening day of school, and 3 plants were actually closed for the day due to absenteeism. G.E. gave explicit support in not docking any of these workers for pay nor disciplining them in any manner. Yet when Black workers stayed home on Martin Luther King's birthday, they were hit by reprisals and loss of pay. Coca-Cola, on hearing about the proposed walk-out, closed their plant for the day in an open show of support.

## RACIST TRAITORS

The core of this union movement has been labor bureaucrats with a following of skilled workers from the predominantly white unions such as IUE, the Pipefitters and Boilermakers. These racist traitors to the working class are seeking to channel the anger and frustration of the rank and file against the economic crisis and the bosses, onto the busing plan and Black community. Louisville has felt the sharp effects of the capitalist economic crisis. Unemployment runs high, with fluctuating lay-offs and rising prices; yet these "militant" segregationists have not lifted a finger to oppose these attacks on the working class.

The October 11 march and rally continued to build a growing movement of people in Louisville in an alternative to the racist anti-busing movement. In order to do this successfully, groups like PIE must make painstaking efforts to oppose the influence of the reactionary labor leadership within the unions and the racist influences of the government and the KKK within the working class communities. It cannot serve as a voice for the liberal politicians and middle-class intellectuals only.

This growing movement is one that can unite the people in a common struggle not only against the KKK and the racist leaders of Concerned Parents, but against the ruling circles of this country who have openly backed and promoted racism and division through these groups. It is a movement that must challenge the whole system which has bred racism and national oppression as an institution. At present the struggle in Louisville has the potential to grow into just such a movement.

# NEGRO LIBERATION

by Harry Haywood



THE AUTHOR

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# SHANKER BAILS OUT BANKERS

New York—In a shocking display of class treachery, the leadership of the United Federation of Teachers (UFT) handed over \$150 million of their union members' pension fund Oct. 17 to the Wall Street bankers. By this action, the union bureaucrats forestalled New York's financial default, and gave the go-ahead to further capitalist attacks on the masses of workers and oppressed people in that city.

In their mad rush to bail out the Wall Street financiers, these labor aristocrats have exposed for all to see just where their real loyalties lie. They have dropped all their pretenses about acting in the "workers' interests," and have refused to fight against the latest round of budget cutbacks announced by Mayor Abe Beame on Wall Street's orders. These cutbacks are expected to result in the layoff of 20,000 additional city workers.

Since Jan. 1, the city has reduced its work force by 31,211—laying off 22,000 workers and leaving 9,000 jobs unfilled as workers retire or die. Mayor Beame also

cancelled cost-of-living increases and other wage benefits already negotiated by city workers' unions for the next three years.

Additional slashes in city services will fall heaviest on education and health care. The largest single cutback totals \$34.4 million from the Board of Education budget. This is in addition to \$230 million worth of cuts already taken from the schools.

Since Wall Street's austerity program began, some 10,000 teachers have been dismissed, classroom sizes have risen to an average of 50 students per class, school hours have been cut back and special school programs have been eliminated. Now the Wall Street financiers are demanding additional layoffs of an estimated 3000 teachers.

The city university will also suffer additional cuts. Open enrollment at the city university, a reform won by mass struggle in the 1960s, is being killed. Thousands of hospital workers—no one in authority seems to know exactly how many—have already been laid off and thousands more will be sent out onto the streets with the latest

slashes of \$15 million from city health services.

New city housing construction has been brought to a halt as has rehabilitation work on slum housing.

The municipal workers' union leaders have played a treacherous role in the crisis. "We have given cash, we have given jobs, we have given benefits and we are investing our own future in the future of this city," said a statement issued by the Municipal Labor Committee. This is true—the union leaders have in fact given just about everything the workers had won, including the valuable pension funds, to the banks. The only thing these labor aristocrats have not given, and cannot give, is leadership to the workers' struggle against capitalism.

An outstanding case is Albert Shanker, head of the teachers' union. First, Shanker traded off teachers' wage demands for the promise that the new contract negotiated in September would not bring an increase in classroom size. Teachers returned to work, however, only to find that in at least

half the city school districts classroom size averaged 50 students, far more than the contract allows. Now the city's Emergency Financial Control Board has overturned the teachers' contract, calling it "too expensive!"

Mass discontent prevails in the city. Although spontaneous and without revolutionary leadership, working class resistance to the attacks on living standards breaks out every day. In the past month, youth have become a leading force in this fight-back, as thousands of high school students have participated in boycotts and demonstrations against education cutbacks.

The spending cuts that slash away at the people's living standards, the layoffs, and the attempts to raise revenues through new taxes and high transportation fares are Wall Street's program for saving itself at the cost of ever greater poverty and hardship for the masses of people. But these moves will only deepen the crisis and strengthen the workers' resistance to it.

## ... NO RECOVERY IN SIGHT

cont. from p. 1

Well, say the administration's experts, if "recovery" on the unemployment front won't take place before 1980, at least consumers are buying more, retail sales are advancing and the overstocked warehouse inventories are decreasing.

This would be a pleasant resolution to the cancer of capitalist overproduction (the system producing too many goods at prices no one can afford). But it is just a dream. The directors of W.T. Grant, the nation's 17th largest retailer awoke from the dream in early October to a capitalist nightmare of becoming the largest concern in the country's history to go bankrupt, leaving a trail of more than a billion dollars in debt.

Was Grant's failure due to mismanagement, scandals or political intrigue? No doubt there was a healthy dose of these factors, but the real cause was much simpler. Rack after rack of clothes, floor after floor of appliances—and no one to buy. Not because there is any shortage of people who need clothes and refrigerators, but because there is no one who can afford to pay the current high prices for them.

Grant's was the first to collapse, because the bigger fish like Woolworth's are able to raise new money more easily from the banks. But when a company the size of Grant's collapses under the weight of inflation and overproduction, doom is clearly spelled for thousands of small businesses in the next period.

The biggest bankruptcy in U.S. history with several real estate companies and medium-sized banks sinking along with the Grant ship...Is this "recovery?"

### SHOES DON'T SELL

Well, the experts say, Grant's was an "isolated case." Elsewhere people are buying more and retail stores are doing better. But are they? A typical example is the shoe industry.

The big backlog in shoe store inventories was reduced over a 5 month period, as a genuine increase in shoe sales was recorded. But September, "back-to-school" month provided the acid test and it was disaster for shoe sales. While shoes the months prior had sold well at largely discounted prices, the new line's 30% increases over 1973 was too much even for customers who were planning to buy new shoes. They repaired the old one again, rather than buy new, and once again the shoe inventories are stacking up around the country.

The overall rate of inflation climbed to 4—THE CALL—NOVEMBER, 1975

President Ford says:	The unemployment rate is:
"We won't have high unemployment" August 28, 1974	5.4%
"Employment is still high" September 16, 1974	5.8
"We want to do something about unemployment" October 29, 1974	6.0
"Unemployment will not go to 7 percent" November 14, 1974	6.6
"Our country is not in an economic crisis" December 11, 1974	7.2
"By the late summer we ought to see a turnaround" January 21, 1975	8.2
"The rate of unemployment will gradually go down at the end of 1975" February 11, 1975	8.2
"The issue of jobs is the number one problem on our agenda" March 18, 1975	8.7
"My goal is jobs for all who want to work" April 23, 1975	8.9
"Our national goal is jobs for all" May 18, 1975	9.2

14% last summer, higher than it ever reached in the earlier period of the economic crisis. Is that "recovery?" No, it is a virtual guarantee of deeper economic paralysis ahead.

The Wall Street Journal's survey of economic trends for October comments that, "Today's continuing inflationary pressures are extraordinary particularly for the early stages of an economic expansion period." The article goes on to show that in previous "recovery" periods—on which predictions about the current one are based—inflation was virtually a non-existent factor.

While economic crises all share certain characteristics, each one has its own particularities. The current crisis is the most serious of six post-war crises. It has gripped the whole capitalist world as evidenced by the October Paris summit of European and American heads of state discussing the world-wide effects of the crisis. It comes amidst mounting pressures of an international trade war. Most of all, the current crisis is leading to an ever-sharpening contention for world power between the different imperialist interests, and especially between the U.S. and the USSR.

Developments like New York's financial crisis or the new round of "energy crisis" are a component part of this general crisis of imperialism. "Unheard of" phenomena are beginning to take place at a commonplace rate and a new "crisis" is breaking out with each passing week. The effects of the earlier period of this crisis are just beginning to catch up with companies like Grant's and cities like New York, sending shock waves through the financial circles even as government officials pronounce the diagnosis of "recovery."

This "recovery" then is nothing more than a fig-leaf painted over such facts of life as high unemployment, high inflation and city cutbacks in welfare, education and health services. While these attacks have hit working people across the board, they have most savagely and systematically hit at minorities whose economic condition even in the best of times has been at depression levels.

"Recovery" is a pep-talk designed to keep investors from making a run on the already over-extended banks when they hear such news items as the probability of New York's default sinking 75 banks who

have their assets tied up in that city's debt.

"Recovery" is an attempt to convince people to buy on credit, spending money they don't have because "things are getting better." At the same time it is being widely used as a lever against workers' wages demands which a number of union misleaders are now saying should be kept low in order not to "jeopardize recovery."

"Recovery" is also a campaign game. How could Ford expect to be re-elected if he told the truth about the economy? To support the illusion of "recovery" and thus win the election next year, Ford has become a champion of lower taxes, promising a \$26 billion tax cut. It should be remembered that last year's mere \$12 billion tax cut was actually offset by nearly \$39 billion in new energy taxes, most of which workers will be paying for the first time this winter.

### HALF TRILLION IN DEBT

Ford's latest proposal is that congress cut \$26 billion from the budget to make up for the tax cut. A compromise is in the works through which congress will trim some of the budget's "fat"—like food stamps, school lunches and other programs affecting elderly, poor, and minority people. A few billion more of the tax cut will be chalked up to the national debt, to be paid for in new taxes after Ford is re-elected. (The national debt has already become a half-trillion dollar monster which requires the average worker to pay \$500 a year in taxes just to maintain it).

It is no accident that a number of the top-drawing movie attractions today concern themselves with the Great Depression of the 1930's. This wave of cultural propaganda makes it seem as if unemployment and starvation are just a way of life to be accepted without struggle.

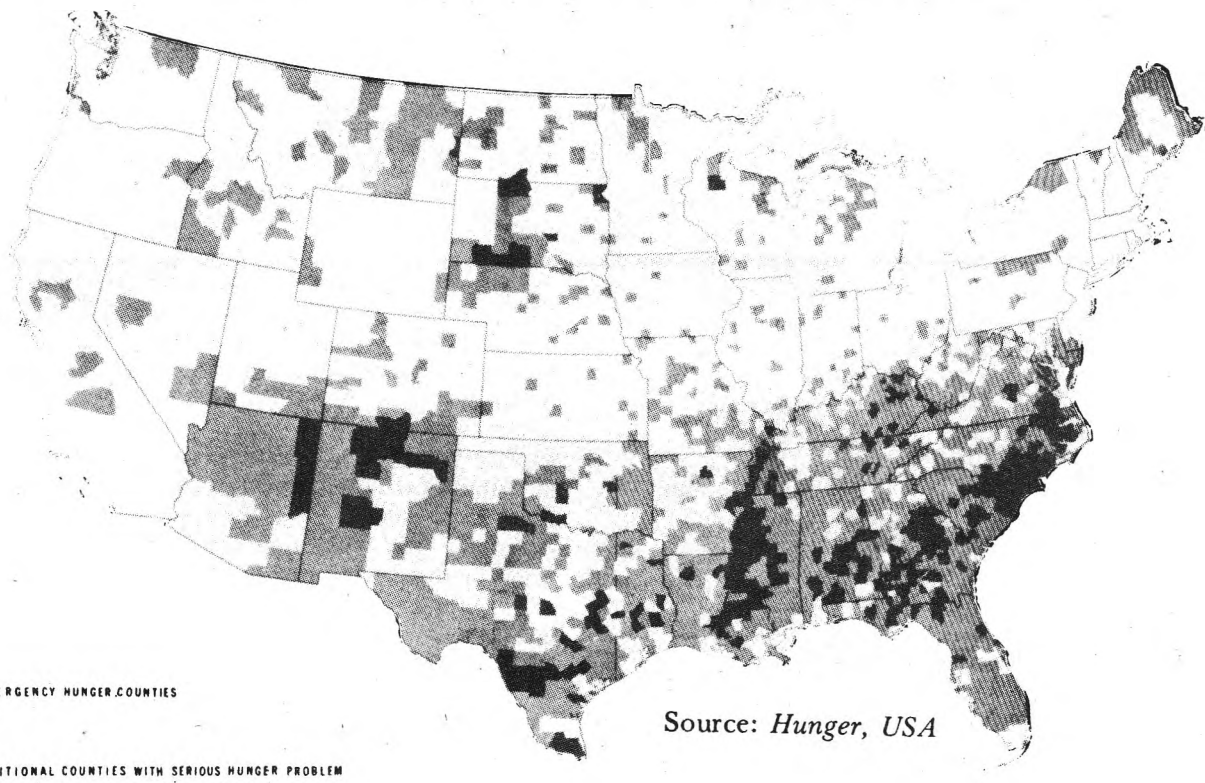
The working class struggle, especially the fightback movement which is now beginning to take on an organized, nationwide form, should not allow the politicians' talk of "recovery" to divert it from its tasks. The facts of everyday life such as unemployment, discrimination against women and brutal attacks against oppressed nationalities necessitate a continuing struggle. But even if this particular capitalist crisis were to show some real signs of letting up, even deeper crisis and war would still be on the horizon. For this reason the working class struggle always continues and develops, fighting for a revolution against this system and a socialist system to replace it.

# The Geographic Distribution of Hunger in the United States

Similar data for sub-divisions in Hawaii and Alaska was not available

## THE GEOGRAPHY OF HUNGER

### STARVATION IN THE BLACK BELT



"They get up hungry, go to bed hungry, and don't know anything else in between!"

That's how Mrs. Johnny Mae Williams, a Black unemployed sharecropper and mother of four, described her children when she was asked by a Congressional investigating team about the problem of hunger in Mississippi's fertile Delta country.

"You eat corn bread and beans every day of your life and it weakens you down," said an Alabama tenant farmer.

The fact is that the United States, which boasts of the highest agricultural productivity in the world, is the home of millions who can't get enough to eat. How many die each year from starvation or related medical ailments is hard to estimate. Recently, the government closed down a nutrition research project at the Atlanta Disease Center which had formerly gathered such statistics. But in the ghettos, barrios, and vast rural areas of the nation, hunger is an every day way of life, particularly for the oppressed nationalities.

#### HEALTHY LAND, STARVING PEOPLE

Not surprising is the fact that a greatly disproportionate number of people suffering from malnutrition and hunger can be found in the rural Black Belt areas of the Deep South (see map). This is the area where fertile land has produced healthy generations of cotton, tobacco and sugar cane and is still the country's largest concentration of Afro-Americans. It is also where a majority of what some call "Emergency Hunger Counties" exist.

Poverty, the type which exists in the Black Belt, shows up particularly at mealtime. A survey of 509 families in Washington and Sunflower Counties (Mississippi) at the end of the 60s showed that 60% of those examined received diets falling far below minimum requirements. Four out of every five children examined suffered from anemia. In a more recent survey by H.E.W., which examined 10 states including 5 "poor" states in the Deep South, again the figure of 58% lacking sufficient diets was found. This ten-state survey pointed out that Blacks, poor, and particularly pregnant women were the biggest "areas of concern." Other large pockets exist, especially in the Southwest and those areas inhabited primarily by Chicanos and Native Americans. Nationally, only 13% of the population is this undernourished.

With double-digit food inflation, unemployment, cutbacks in welfare programs and rising medical costs for the elderly, hunger has grown at an alarming rate along with the current economic crisis.

As another winter approaches, the prospect for any considerable improvement in the situation facing millions of sharecroppers, woodcutters, unorganized workers, and the rural unemployed in the Deep

South is highly unlikely. The situation is to the point that it would only take a small spark to set off a massive revolt—the kind witnessed during the Great Depression.

In Belzoni, Mississippi, Mrs. Gussie Shaw and her children shared a breakfast of bologna sandwiches—the squarest meal of the day. There is never any milk, fresh meat or fruit. The drinking water comes from a community faucet that drips slowly by the side of an alley, renamed "Lady Bird Avenue" during the middle 60's. "Of course the kids are hungry! Vernora, come here and show them." Angrily, she lifted the blouse of the skinny 5-year old girl and exposed, along with the frail chest, a stomach blotched with sores.

Last month, President Ford attempted to veto appropriations for the federally-funded school lunch program, which allows many poor children their only decent meal each day. Hearings are currently being held on Capitol Hill on a variety of bills aimed at either cutting or severely crippling the current food stamp program, including one by the liberal George McGovern. James Buckley's bill would significantly increase the amount of money needed to purchase the stamps and also contains other provisions that would cut many elderly people out altogether.

#### TINY "FRAUD" RATE

Despite the fact that the U.S. Department of Agriculture was recently forced to admit only a tiny .08% "fraud" rate in the program, Treasury Secretary Simon commented that the food stamp program is a "well-known haven for chiselers and rip-off artists." The capitalist press has done its part with "exposures" of so-called fraud among recipients who are supposedly able, according to Parade Magazine, to hold banquets on what they receive each month. Also last month, Georgia welfare activists exposed the fact that the foodstamp program would actually "cost less if stamps were given away free."

Every attempt is being made to devise official policy in Washington which implements the ruling class plan to shift the burden of the crisis onto the backs of the poor and laboring people of this country.

"Since time immemorial planters have taken care of the medical needs of their tenants," wrote a Jackson, Miss. newspaper columnist in response to charges that hunger and lack of medical care plagued sharecroppers there, a majority of whom are Black.

During the 30's teams of doctors and liberal writers exposed to the nation what communists and people in the Deep South had been saying for years—people were starving to death.

The disease "pellagra" was discovered, a deadly type of malnutrition produced by lack of any green vegetables in the diet.

Landlords, compelling tenant farmers to plant cotton right up to their doorsteps, denied them even a small plot of land for a home garden. Between 1914 and World War II, pellagra took the lives of over 80,000 Black and white southerners.

Despite the "New Deal," the "Great Society," the "War On Poverty," etc., today's "New South" is not very far removed from Old Dixie.

Mr. Issac Rogers used to work on a large plantation in the Southwest corner of Alabama's Black Belt. It once took over 300 Black tenant families to work the cotton fields! With mechanization, now only a few remain. Mr. Henley scratches up about \$40 a week loading timber when he's lucky and pays part of this to rent two cardboard walled rooms. He can't remember the last time his family ate meat. Rogers is entitled to buy foodstamps but must put out cash to do so. "I just don't have that kind of money, that kind of money is right hard to get."

#### LIBERAL BAND-AIDS

Liberals such as Kennedy, Humphrey and the CPUSA's Gus Hall, who all advocate greater government spending programs and "radical re-ordering for the nation's priorities" have known all along that such programs have done little more than put band-aids on what is a cancer. Their purpose in life is to give the capitalist system a more humanitarian face and convince people that the solution lies in electing more 'sympathetic' people to fill places in the government bureaucracy.

In the "New South," the contradictions in the very system which produces hunger are becoming more obvious each day. Rich plantation owners, like Sen. James Eastland of Mississippi (who has always opposed food programs), are paid millions by the federal government NOT to grow crops. In that same state, thousands of pulpwood cutters, sharecroppers, underpaid workers and unemployed are finding it harder and harder to eat. In many areas of this rich Black Belt area whole tracks of land have become overgrown with brush—because it is "not profitable" for the imperialists to farm them.

The idea that industry fleeing to the South and mechanization of cotton production would improve conditions of life for the people is a politician's fairy tale. Those thousands of sharecroppers and rural workers still left on the plantations are more exploited, rather than less. They produce far more but still live under semi-feudal conditions. Many thousands more are "rural unemployed" who are having to live on the lowest welfare allotments in the nation. Still others have been forced into extremely low-paying jobs in factories which have sprung up, without union protection.

Today, the same class of parasites still own and control the huge plantations—and it is still these large plantations which dominate backward southern agriculture. In fact, land in the South is being concentrated in the hands of fewer and fewer Wall Street bankers and big plantation owners at a quicker rate. In the last few years over 6 million acres of land have been lost by Black small farmers who have been squeezed out by this process.

So long as changes such as mechanization take place under the present conditions, they can only result in increased suffering for the people. The hope of land, freedom and political power, which was promised the newly emancipated Black slaves after the Civil War, vanished with the rise of modern imperialism. So long as imperialism exists it must, by necessity, oppress whole nations, such as the Afro-American people. Keeping those nations as backward as possible, in order to insure superprofits and low wages, is the lifeblood of the imperialist system. In the Deep South, the historic home of the Afro-American people, this has meant a bolstering of the semi-feudal plantation system, lynch-terror political rule over the Black population, and tremendous poverty for both the Black and white laboring masses.

The problem of hunger in the South and the rest of the country can be solved—but the answer lies in political revolution not in degrading programs under which the poor have to prove they're hungry. In a short period of twenty-five years, Socialist China has been able to feed and clothe its entire population. Land which was thought to be good only for growing rocks, now grows plentiful harvests of grain. There is no inflation or unemployment. But these changes would never have been possible without the armed overthrow of foreign imperialism, capitalism and the landlord class. Now it is the millions of working people who have become the masters of their destiny and run the country in their own best interest.

The changes which have occurred in the South are many. Industry has created a much larger, multi-national working class here and a massive fightback movement is growing. This movement is combining demands for jobs and adequate income with a frontal attack on the harsh national oppression of the Afro-American people. Unemployed organizations, caucuses in unions, hunger coalitions, welfare and tenant groups, and new labor organizations such as the Gulfcoast Pulpwood cutters Association (GPA) are growing roots everywhere. Unity between Black and white is being slowly cemented, in spite of recent Klan activity.

In the Deep South, people need food and are willing to fight for it.

## Dec. 4 Anti-Repression Day Linked to Fight-Back

The current fight-back movement that is spreading throughout the country is not simply aimed at the economic attacks on the working class. Along with the economic crisis has come a sharp increase in police murder and open terror aimed primarily at the most oppressed—the national minorities.

In response to this growing repression, the October League initiated Anti-Repression Day last year on Dec. 4, the anniversary of the death of Black Panther leader Fred Hampton. This December, Anti-Repression Day activities will again be held in a number of cities, linking the fight against repression with the overall fight-back of the people against the effects of the present crisis.

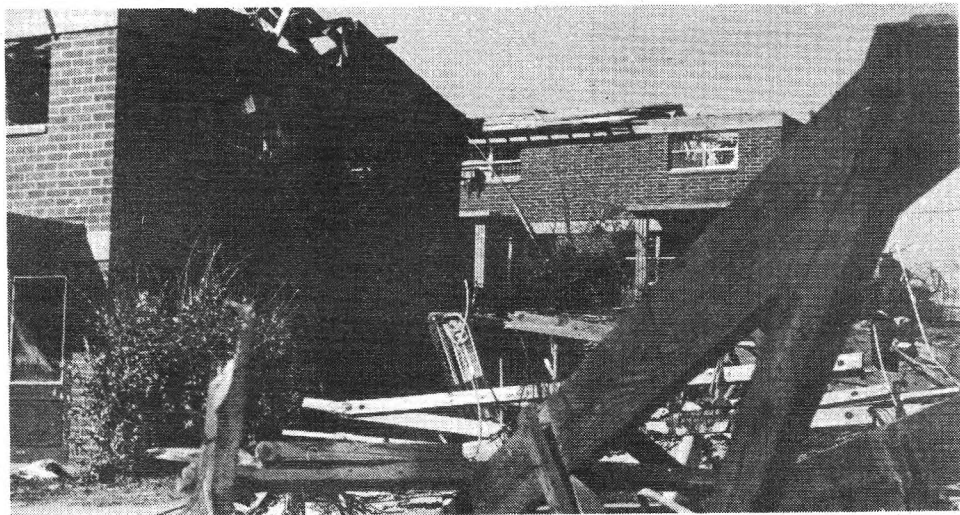
Among the most important cases of repression being focused on is the case of Cheryl Todd and Desi X Woods, two Black women from Georgia who are on trial for murder. Their crime? They defended themselves against a rape attempt by a white businessman.

Another case that has gained much attention among steelworkers in the Chicago and Indiana area is the case of James Jackson, a Black worker who was falsely convicted of the murder of a racist foreman in his steel mill.

Repression takes on many forms, whether it be the roundup of hundreds of thousands of Latino workers, or the case of Rubin "Hurricane" Carter and John Artis who are still in prison after eight long years for a crime they didn't commit.

Anti-Repression Day is not a time to mourn for the victims, but to build the resistance movement. It is a day to unite the struggles of the minorities and all workers against the ruling class system of "justice." This year the Anti-Repression Day activities will be closely linked to the Dec. 27-28 Fight Back Conference in Chicago. It will be a chance to build for that conference which will also feature the anti-repression struggle as an important part of its program.

**BUILD ANTI REPRESSION DAY! REMEMBER FRED HAMPTON!**



AUTHORITIES HAVE DONE LITTLE to rebuild Perry Homes since tornado struck.

## Perry Homes Mobilizes Against Evictions

Atlanta, Ga.—Perry Homes, a predominantly Black housing project which was victimized by the lack of government aid during last March's tornado, has now been hit by widespread evictions by the Atlanta Housing Authority.

The recent evictions are part of the wholesale attacks being directed against the working people and unemployed in this city in the face of the worsening economic crisis. Black people have been the hardest hit and in the forefront of the resistance.

Early last month, the AHA evicted Leannette Griggs, an active and dedicated member of the Perry Homes Defense Committee, without notification. Agents of the AHA knocked out a window to gain entrance to the Griggs household. After questioning by members of the Defense Committee, the manager of Perry Homes, Mr. Herrin, claimed that Griggs was a week late with her rent. Griggs later told *The Call* that if she had shot someone, thinking it was a burglar, she would be sitting in jail to this day.

A second victim of the Perry Homes evictions, Fannie Russell is a long time resident of the housing project who has been suffering from illness and is crippled with a pain in her hip. Russell was illegally thrown out of her house with damage being done to her belongings. Her food was destroyed and many items stolen from her. This eviction took place while she was out of her home.

Fannie Russell told *The Call*: "I went up there to pay my rent on the first of the month. I had \$138 and the manager refused to take it. I did not have all the rent at one time. I asked him if I could sign my transfer to another housing project but he said it would not do any good because they would not let me move in with this here rent that I owe. I went back again asking him the same thing and he kept telling me

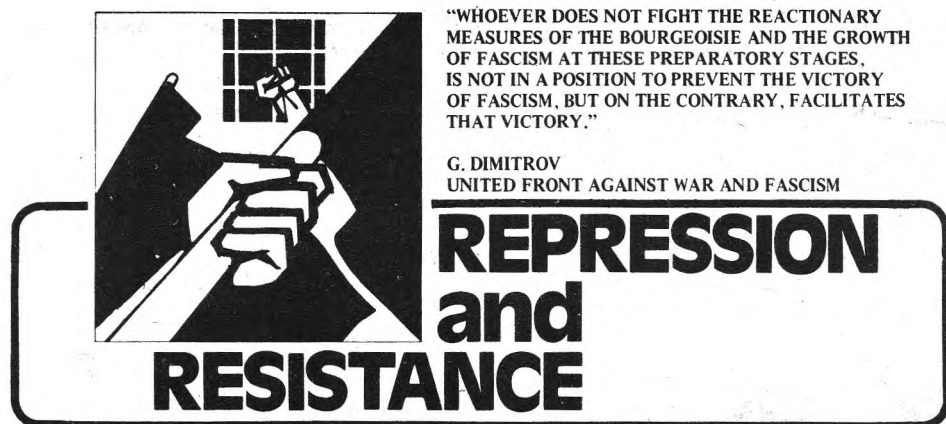
that he just wants me out of this apartment, that he didn't really want me in here."

The reason for the eviction is connected with Russell's request to transfer to Grady Homes which is closer to Grady Hospital. The hospital notified the AHA in writing that a transfer would benefit Russell. Nothing has been done on the case by the city, who considered her a thorn in its side.

Immediately upon hearing of the evictions, the Perry Homes Defense Committee called a mobilization. Within a half-hour, people were rallying to help. A meeting was held in front of each evicted apartment. Men, women and children formed a human line and within minutes moved the furniture in off the street. Round-the-clock security was placed around the apartments.

The next day a demonstration was held in downtown Atlanta in front of the office of Jack Glenn, head of the AHA. At City Hall an emergency meeting was held with housing officials, Police Commissioner Reggie Eaves and a flunky of Glenn's, Mr. Dixon. Another meeting was then called in the Perry Homes Community Center to have these representatives face the 300 people who jammed the Center. Mayor Jackson was requested but refused to show up. Eaves came in towards the meeting's end and remained in the rear of the room. While little came out of the meeting in the way of relief for these victims of racist oppression by the city, the community has grown more unified in its opposition to the anti-people policies of the government.

As conditions grow worse for the working and oppressed people of Atlanta and Perry Homes, the struggle for jobs and decent housing is on the rise. The people of Perry Homes are strengthening their unity and organization. The Perry Homes Defense Committee has shown that an injury to one is an injury to all. With this spirit and unity future victories are certain.



"WHOEVER DOES NOT FIGHT THE REACTIONARY MEASURES OF THE BOURGEOISIE AND THE GROWTH OF FASCISM AT THESE PREPARATORY STAGES, IS NOT IN A POSITION TO PREVENT THE VICTORY OF FASCISM, BUT ON THE CONTRARY, FACILITATES THAT VICTORY."

G. DIMITROV  
UNITED FRONT AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM

# REPRESSION and RESISTANCE

## MILLS AND THOMAS REFUSE TO SUBMIT

Cincinnati, Ohio—"Take a good look at these two men. They're unemployed, and have past criminal records. How could you even think they might be innocent?" These were the words of the prosecutor as the trial of Desumba Mills and Mwasi Thomas began.

The charge was aggravated bank robbery of the Provident Bank in O'Bryonville. The verdict was guilty. Guilty of being Black and guilty of fighting against police brutality and the oppression of Black people.

Desumba and Mwasi are activists who fight for justice. Recently they were involved in the campaign to ban police use of the deadly dum-dum bullet. They also fought for better prison conditions and started the paper *African World* while in Terra Haute Federal Prison serving time for a previous conviction.

As the government's shaky case was presented, they did their best to halt the growing support organized by the Desumba Mills-Mwasi Thomas Defense Committee, Workers United for Jobs and Justice, and the October League. But supporters responded to attempts to keep the case quiet with a press conference and by organizing people to attend the trial, leaflet in the communities and collect money at plant gates.

This case has touched a responsive nerve among poor and working people in Cincinnati, especially among minorities. It brings to mind their own suffering from police brutality and murder. Desumba and Mwasi wrote from prison, "There's nothing unique about our case. Black men have been screaming for years about being framed and railroaded. Their pleas have fallen on deaf ears in much the same manner as the boy who cried wolf. Believe us, the wolf is upon us all, but we refuse to submit to its terrorism."

## "LET HIM DIE, HE'S AN ARAB"

Chicago, Ill.—Two Arab teenagers were gunned down here recently by an off-duty policeman. According to eyewitnesses, the killing was a case of anti-Arab racism.

Nawaf Mahdi, 16, and Omar Ofana, 15, both school boys, were slain by Chicago cop Daniel Gaffney, who claims one of the boys fired at him after he ventured outside his home to investigate a gun firing incident. However Detroit attorney Abdeen Jabara who is investigating the case, said, "What we have uncovered so far seems like cold blooded murder."

Attorney Jabara said that the deaths of the school boys have left the Arab community in Chicago, which numbers around 50,000, in a state of terror. According to witnesses on the scene, Gaffney refused to allow a passer-by to aid one of the wounded boys. They charge that Gaffney told the potential aid, "Ah, let him die, he's an Arab."

Dr. Hassan Abdallah, the Midwest representative of the League of Arab States, which includes 19 oil-producing nations, concurred that the killing was part of an overall anti-Arab attack. Abdallah said that the two boys immigrated to the U.S. three years ago seeking peace and the "American dream" after being violently forced from their village by Israeli raiders using American weapons. He added that members of both of the boys' families died at the hands of Israeli Zionists.

## TAM BROS. STRUGGLE BUILDS IN BOSTON

Boston, Mass.—Boston's segregationist movement is increasing its racist attacks on all the city's national minorities. Like the Afro-Americans who have borne the main attacks from these fascists, the Chinese who live in the predominantly white Charlestown district have also faced constant threats and harassment. One such incident is the frame-up of the Tam brothers.

While returning home one night in May of this year, James and George Tam, aged 19 and 17, were brutally attacked by a gang of white youths. A general fight broke out in which one girl was fatally stabbed and both Tams were injured.

Within a half hour, the Chinese brothers were arrested. James was charged with murder, several counts of assault, and unlawful possession of a murder weapon. George was also hit with various assault charges. In spite of contradictory evidence against the brothers, James has been indicted for second-degree murder.

Since the incident, the racists and the police have accelerated their harassment of other Chinese in the Charlestown area. All the Chinese families in the Mishawam Apartments project have been forced to move in order to avoid the racist threats and open hostility of the police. The police openly sanction the segregationist movement, while these same cops are always quick to jump at the chance to harass minorities.

Since the Tam brothers' arrest, members of Boston's Chinese community representing 34 organizations have rallied to their defense. A defense committee is demanding a full investigation of the Charlestown incident. They also insist that "further police protection be provided for these families, as well as the Chinese students attending Charlestown schools, until the tension subsides."

## FREE DARWIN LANCE BROWN!

Detroit, Mich.—"There is no justice for the poor people, black or white—for the working class. It's going to hurt the working class until we unite." With these words Mrs. Wanda Davenport summed up 10 bitter years of struggle with the courts, the prison system and the police, trying to free her son, Darwin Brown. Darwin, then aged 19, was convicted in 1966 of first degree murder and sentenced to life.

The case began in 1965, when James Ferguson was murdered in an alley on Detroit's west side. The police received an anonymous call saying that Darwin was the murderer. But, as Detective Pare of the Detroit Police told Darwin's mother at the time: "We don't care who did it as long as we get someone. And Darwin is it."

The frame-up is clear. A key witness against Brown testified that the police had forced him to lie and that he and two others had killed Ferguson. The judge, however, refused to accept this testimony!

Mrs. Davenport told *The Call*: "Before 1965 I had always felt that the law was just. I didn't believe the law was made just for the rich. I have found the police to be liars and hypocrites. They're here to serve the rich and keep them happy."

The family has learned from their own experience they can't rely on the courts and have formed The Committee To Free Darwin Lance Brown.

# Call Committees Building for Weekly Newspaper



The October League has begun a campaign both within its own ranks and throughout the revolutionary movement to build a weekly communist newspaper. The communist press and the question of newspaper work are central to the working class struggle. In preparation for the organizational founding of a genuine communist party, the working class must have a regularly and frequently published newspaper which voices the demands of the masses and provides a center for communist leadership and organization.

But the communist press is far more than the physical papers and magazines it produces. A communist newspaper is an instrument of the class struggle not only in what it says but in the network and organization built around it, which are key in binding the party to the masses.

Through the last three years of publishing *The Call/El Clarin*, the October League has utilized its newspaper to organize in the factories and establish discussion groups among workers and community activists. The paper has become a focal point for developing the organization's political line and reaching unity with Marxist-Leninists across the country.

A building block of the organizational network around *The Call* is the system of *Call* committees, which presently exist in more than 20 cities. At this time we are trying to expand and improve the existing committees as well as forming new ones wherever there are people who read *The Call* and support its general line.

What are these committees? How do they fit into the network around *The Call*? These questions are often asked by comrades who are interested in participating in the OL's efforts to establish a revolutionary weekly. Two essential features of *The Call* committees are their revolutionary political line and their broad character.

1) Revolutionary Political Line—*The Call* committees should be active political bodies which gather news and summarize developments for publication in the paper. The thread tying together all the various facts, interviews, and exposures obtained by the committee should be a view of ex-

posing capitalism and promoting socialism. While paying close attention to every local development, *Call* committees should use these incidents to apply the general truths of Marxism-Leninism to the concrete conditions. In this way we also link the local struggles to the general struggle of the working class and oppressed nationalities.

*Call* committees are vehicles for taking the paper to the masses and bringing the struggles of the masses to the pages of the paper. *Call* committee members should go out to strikes, school struggles, battles against discrimination, etc. In every city there are dozens of these sparks flying daily, where *The Call's* presence could both deepen our news coverage and popularize the paper itself.

In addition to this type of work, the consistent investigation and study of national and world events inside the committees enables its members to better grasp the significance of every struggle. As a result, articles written for the paper from every committee regardless of size or location should reflect and deepen *The Call's* general line on the international situation, the economic crisis, etc.

2) Broad Character—In the early stages of the development of *The Call* and the OL, our committees were often composed exclusively of cadres of the organization. But this represents a primitive level of development which has been successfully overcome in most places. The backwardness of this type of organization was shown in practice by the rapid advances we made wherever sizable numbers of workers were brought into the activities of studying, writing, and

distributing *The Call*.

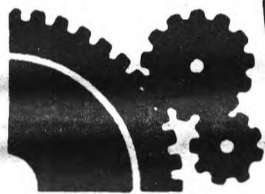
Members of *Call* committees need not be well-developed Marxist-Leninists. In fact the committees themselves, utilizing the newspaper as a "collective organizer" should be places where communists are trained, theoretical understanding is deepened and political struggle is carried out to unite the revolutionary forces.

Through the writing of articles, the study and criticism of the newspaper, and investigation and summary of news from a local to international scale, *Call* committees train workers in the skills of agitation and propaganda. In turn, the agitation and propaganda of *The Call*, because its writers are based in such committees, better reflect the enthusiasm, standpoint, and language of the working people.

A working class newspaper is one that puts forward the demands and aspirations of the great majority of people, and does so in a mass style, bringing the truths of Marxism to the people. As such, every reader should become a distributor, introducing the paper to new readers and studying its lessons with fellow workers. The workers, community activists, and revolutionary intellectuals who make up *The Call* committees promote the overall distribution of the paper as well as contributing to its content.

The numerous functions and activities carried out by these committees are important steps in binding the party to the masses. To build *The Call/El Clarin* into a revolutionary weekly, we will need the active participation of our readers and supporters in strengthening existing committees and establishing new ones.

We call on all our supporters to contact us concerning participation in *Call* committee work as a concrete way to push forward the establishment of a revolutionary weekly!



## Workers' Correspondence



### KITAYAMA BROS. ORGANIZING DRIVE

The workers' struggle at Kitayama Bros. Nursery in Union City, California, goes back many years in the history of this community. Fifteen years ago, Kitayama, then a poor Japanese, started a nursery that soon developed into one of the largest enterprises in the East Bay area.

Obviously the key to Kitayama's success was the location of his business. Located near a Mexican and Filipino community, the poor residents of this community became his main tool to become one of the richest and most powerful families in Alameda county.

While Kitayama's business expanded, his workers have been far from sharing his wealth. In fact they became poorer. Problems of workers include low salaries, extremely poor working conditions, long working days (at times 12 hours a day with no overtime pay), no health plan, indiscriminatory use of insecticide sprays and the clear exploitation of women.

Kitayama has been an expert exploiter of minorities. He became aware of our problems and used them for his financial betterment. A good example has been the use of undocumented workers.

He has been very instrumental in splitting the unity of workers. Several times, when workers have attempted to bring in a union, he has been responsible for dividing Mexican and Filipino workers to use one group against the other. His favorite technique is firing those people responsible for organizing the workers.

In fighting Kitayama, we know we are fighting more than just a rich boss. His close ties with top Republicans and the Reagan administration demonstrate his alliance to the politicians that have approved of and used all sorts of dirty maneuvers to preserve

oppression.

What has Kitayama done for the improvement of the community? Absolutely nothing! He has only used his influence in politics and position as mayor for his personal enrichment. While his nursery is one of the richest enterprises of the area, the community faces some of the worst conditions in the state.

The workers at Kitayama Bros. Nursery, the strike committee and their many supporters have become aware of the significance of their struggle. They are fighting to bring in the United Farm Workers Union but they know their fight is one of many fights across the nation and around the world to stop the exploitation of their lives.

A Kitayama Organizer

### 'WE MUST FINISH THE FIGHT'

Tampa Maid strikers are going into their sixth week and still strong, with determination to win.

A lot of people don't understand what we are here for. We are here because we are fighting for what is rightly ours.

We have had a few scabs quit Tampa Maid because of the working conditions and of course the pay which is lousy.

We picketers get a lot of criticism from the scabs every day, but criticism is not what we are fighting. We are fighting a company that belongs to George Watkins, a hard-nosed good-for-nothing rich man who wants it all for himself and nobody else. A man like that has to be and is a scab as far as I am concerned.

We all have to work together not like it is now, but harder than ever before if we are ever expecting to win. We have started a fight now we must finish it.

Thomas Fortner

### IMPERIALISM IN HONDURAS

On August 15th of this year, the government of Honduras announced the cancellation of all the contracts and concessions of foreign banana exporting companies. The chief of state of Honduras, Colonel Juan Melgar Castro, announced that he took such a measure because "the activities of the foreign companies are contrary to the national interests of Honduras."

Companies like United Brands Co. and Standard Fruit Co. have a long history of crimes against the Honduran people and against all Latin American peoples. Our compatriots know well the level of poverty and exploitation which exist as a result of the dirty maneuvers of these big U.S. companies. These same companies try to cover themselves by blaming the situation on "the laziness and ignorance of the Latin Americans." But all of us who have come here looking for work and a way to live, sooner or later realize that the truth is something else.

When Standard Fruit found out it couldn't exploit the Honduran people so openly, it dismantled its warehouses and transported all their equipment to Gulfport, Mississippi.

The reason for this change is simple. In Gulfport, the company will be able to pay lower docking fees and thus compensate for the loss they will take by not being able to continue exploiting the Honduran people. This example shows how these big companies always try to make the workers pay for the crisis that they themselves have created. Now that the people of the Third World are united and stronger in their struggle for independence, these companies react by trying to exploit even more the workers of their own country.

This is exactly what imperialism means. Now, because they can't exploit the Honduran people in the same way as before, in their eagerness to obtain profits, they increase the exploitation of the American people. The only way in which we, the workers of all counties, can put an end to this, is to struggle together against imperialism.

A Honduran worker in New Orleans

### LETTER FROM PEOPLE'S CHINA

*The writer of this letter was a member of a recent OL sponsored workers' trip to China. She is a member of the Boston Workers United to Fight Back and has been active in building the fightback in Boston for many months. It's a letter home to her two nieces.*

Dear Samantha and Andrea,

Sitting here in China thinking about the two of you, and how much I miss you both.

Seeing all the children playing and their big smiles remind me of you. The children try not to fight because they know it is not good. They all help one another with their socialist ideas.

Today we visited the Children's Palace. The Shanghai Children's Palace is a center for children under the age of sixteen to carry out their extra-curricular activities. About 2,000 children take part in various activities in the Palace every day. By guiding the children in participation in the three great revolutionary movements of class struggle, the struggle for production, and scientific experiment, the Palace enables the children to develop morally, intellectually and physically and become workers with both socialist consciousness and culture. This is more than the children in the U.S. could ever think of getting.

These kids don't pay a cent for what they learn.

You should see them dance, sing... they all take part in this band. Someday when you both get older, your mother or myself will explain this to you.

Over here there are no policemen with guns, people don't kill one another. They all try to love each other, just like they are all brothers and sisters. All the children call me Auntie and they call the men Uncle.

Someday I hope both of you will live under this kind of society. So your children and friends don't have to worry about being robbed, murdered, raped, etc., etc. and never again have a dirty war.

Love,  
Auntie D.

# ON THE LINE!

A SUMMARY OF WORKERS STRUGGLES FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY



## UFW HITS NEW LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

California—Contrary to reports in the bourgeois press, the new California Agricultural Labor Relations Board (ALRB) does not favor the United Farm Workers Union (UFW). In fact, the UFW is waging a major campaign to expose the collusion of the ALRB with the Teamsters Union and the growers who have resorted to fraud to swing the elections for the Teamsters.

On October 1, almost 900 farmworkers demonstrated in Sacramento at the offices of the general counsel of the ALRB, Walter Kintz. The UFW is demanding that Kintz resign or be fired. They charge that under Kintz' direction, the ALRB has shelved several hundred "unfair labor practices" complaints filed by the UFW against the Teamsters and the growers. No elections can be certified and no contract negotiations initiated until investigations have been completed. Under pressure, Kintz finally agreed to hire more investigators to look into the

UFW charges, but he has refused to resign.

The large number of "unfair labor practices" charges are the result of hundreds of violations carried out by the Teamsters Union and the growers who knew that fair elections would lead to certain victory for the UFW in virtually all the fields of California.

Politicians, big labor leaders and their echo, the revisionist Communist Party (CPUSA), have been urging workers to leave the task of implementing the new Farm Labor Law to them. In an article in their newspaper, *The Daily World*, the CP praised the AFL-CIO's delayed and half-hearted support for the UFW. As usual, these traitors advise relying on the "system."

The victories farm workers have won to date, however, have been the fruit of hard struggle and broad mobilization of workers and their supporters.

## 3,000 TEXAS OIL WORKERS WILDCAT

Port Arthur, Texas—One of the largest wildcat strikes of 1975 occurred from Oct. 3-5 at the Texaco Refinery here. Over 3,000 workers walked off their jobs in a strike that was at least 95% effective. Management spokesmen stated that the refinery was being operated only with supervisory personnel and that the operating capacity was seriously impaired. The strikers are members of OCAW Local 423.

Security guard harassment and brutality set off the strike. Plant guards, known to the workers as the "Texaco Rangers," had been told to stop a white truck driver on suspicion of smuggling oil in his lunchbox. The worker refused to be searched. When he tried to leave, 4 security guards jumped him and beat him unconscious.

The worker was jailed for disorderly conduct, and received no medical attention until the following day, despite a concussion and severe abrasions. He was given a five-day suspension and is still waiting for medical clearance to be able to return to work.

"This was the straw that broke the camel's back," said one of the strikers. The four demands of the wildcatters were: the suspended truck driver's suspension be lifted and back pay given; the four guards involved be dismissed; all security guards be disarmed; and that no disciplinary action be taken against the strikers.

The union leadership, however, negotiated an end to the strike without any of the demands being met. One of the strike leaders was quoted as saying that if the company attempted to take any action against the strikers, that they would go out again.

## WORKERS WALK AFTER BOMB THREAT

Detroit, Mich.—On September 27, the Ford Motor Company was warned that a bomb was about to go off in its Michigan Truck Plant. The Company decided to take the "risk" and keep the line moving. Word leaked out, and a line of workers walked off the job; they were not willing to take the "risk." The whole plant was shut down as a result.

Ford immediately fired 3 Afro-American workers (including 2 women) and disciplined 7 more for being "leaders." In response, over 50 workers of all nationalities marched to UAW Solidarity House to demand that the union bureaucrats back the workers against Ford. Union hacks ignored their demands to reinstate workers without penalties, claiming that "everyone was out of town." They recommended filing "a grievance."

Demonstrators outside, however, continued chanting: "Dare to struggle, dare to win; Walkin' out ain't no sin!"

## STRIKING CUTTERS MARCH IN MAINE

Bangor, Maine—A militant two-week strike by more than 4,000 woodcutters, led by the Maine Woodsmen's Association (MWA), demanded higher prices for wood and union recognition.

In response to arrests, 600 woodcutters demonstrated in front of the Maine State Capitol on October 15.

At a mass meeting on the 19th, the MWA voted to affiliate with the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America and also to end the strike for now.

# CAPITOL STRIKE ENTERS 4TH MONTH

Chicago, Ill.—"If it weren't for the cops, we might have won this strike 2 months ago," one striker shouted on the line. Three months on the picket line have taught some sharp lessons to Capitol Packaging Co. strikers, members of OCAW Local 7507.

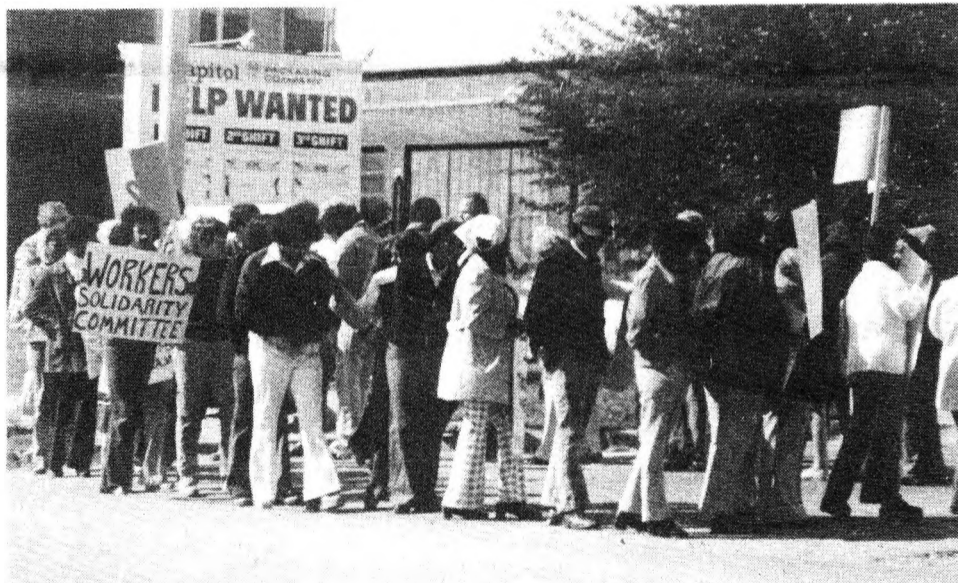
"That's no neutral force," another woman remarked as police shoved strikers aside to let the scabs in. Waving scab cars ahead, cops have consistently encouraged scabs to run down picketers. About 6 weeks ago a union VP was struck and killed by a scab who got nothing but a \$25 failure-to-yield traffic ticket. A number of other picketers have been side-swiped and hit by scabs' cars.

In recent weeks and under increasing pressure from the Company to break the workers' determination and end the strike, the Melrose Park police force has made greater use of the different weapons the "law" provides. They have tried to intimidate and discourage strikers by arresting leaders and picketers arbitrarily, waving blackjacks, and bringing in their police dogs. Police have also grabbed Latino workers off the lines hoping that threats of deportation would drive some of them back to work and thus disrupt the unity of whites, Blacks and Latinos.

When two Latinos were pulled in by the police the week of Oct. 20, the strikers responded immediately by organizing a picket for the following morning in front of the Melrose police station. They denounced police harassment of minority workers and their attempts to break the strike.

Long days of picketing and confrontation have exposed more than the role of the police and their ties to the company and the government. As one of the leading shop stewards pointed out: "It's more than a struggle. It's a fight against three enemies: the Capitol Packaging capitalists, the Melrose Police with their German shepherd dogs and our own 'faithful' union bureaucrats."

Within the union's own ranks, the officials—these bureaucrats—have shown



WORKERS SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE in Chicago has actively supported Capitol strike.

themselves to be outright traitors whose main interest has been to sell out the strike. At one point they even tried signing a contract with the company before any vote took place. But some shop stewards were present, and they threw the contract in the bureaucrats' faces, denouncing them to the whole rank and file. The next day's vote was a further condemnation of their treachery; workers rejected the contract 85 to 8. (Strike demands include a 25¢ increase retroactive for 6 months, but this "new" offer that the bureaucrats tried to railroad through called for 22.5¢ retroactive for only 3 months and only for those who returned to work.)

These highly-paid traitors have jumped to obey the company's demands to keep things "under control." They have continually tried to cool down the picket lines and call off planned demonstrations. When workers refused to buy their collaborationist garbage and as the strike increased in militancy, the officials deserted the strike and flew off for quieter times in sunny Florida for a union convention. One striker, however, vowed to raise so much hell that "they'll have to come running back."

The bureaucrats have also joined the company in trying to split the strikers from their supporters in the Chicago Workers

Solidarity Committee (WSC) and the October League (OL). The company threatened an injunction if these "outsiders" were not kept off the line and the bureaucrats encouraged it.

The bureaucrats have also used red-baiting. They denounced the WSC and OL as highly-paid "professional strikers" and "communist rabble-rousers." They have spread rumors that if the strikers get involved with either group, they'll "never get away." But the strikers have not bought these attacks. They continued to ask for WSC and OL help. One steward told *The Call*, "It's been beautiful. After you people came, people built up a lot of spirit and hope." Besides, another explained, "They call anyone who fights back a communist."

Building unity among the different nationalities as well as unity between men and women has been of key importance. This has been strengthened above all through the strong and leading role played by workers of all nationalities and many women workers. A majority in the plant, women have been among the most militant fighters, blocking scab cars and being arrested. When the steward in leadership was arrested on Oct. 17, several women took the lead and kept the picket line going. One male steward commented that be-

fore the strike, the women in the plant didn't seem to have much "will power" in fighting the company. But now, he said, "They're fighting harder than a lot of the men."

As collaboration among police, the company and the labor bureaucrats becomes clearer, so too does the need for building a strong, fighting union and also broader working class organization. Such organizations are necessary to link the many struggles across the country into one national fightback, strong enough to represent the interests of all working and oppressed peoples against the whole system of capitalist exploitation.

In this regard, the Workers' Solidarity Committee and the October League have both played an important role in the strike. While giving complete support to strike leadership, these supporters have brought home some of these lessons about working class unity and solidarity.

More and more working people are recognizing the importance of vanguard fighters and an organization that unites them. "If fighting this system is communism," one striker said emphatically, "then I want to be a communist!"

### From Capitol Striker

This letter was sent to *The Call* from a shop steward at Capitol.

To the Readers of *The Call*,

The Chicago Workers Solidarity Committee and the October League have been helping the Capitol Packaging strikers considerably in the struggle to win better working conditions and a better wage increase. They have also helped us to unite the Black, white and Spanish people closer together to fight back for their causes. We will win, even if the Melrose Park police keep bringing dogs on the people, pushing them and harassing them.

We need everyone's support. Letters of support and financial assistance can be to: Elzie Gordon, Union Steward of Local 7-507, OCAW, Capitol Packaging Group, 8111 S. Damen, Chicago, Ill. 60620.



# CLUW CALLS SECOND NATIONAL CONVENTION

On December 6th and 7th, the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) will hold its second annual convention in Detroit. Initiated over one and a half years ago by top women labor officials, CLUW has been an important organization through which the struggle to bring women into the growing rank-and-file movements in the trade unions has developed. It has also served as an arena for exposing the reactionary policies of the trade union leadership, men and women alike.

Similar to last year's convention, the Detroit meeting will reflect the sharp struggle between the attempts of the union bureaucrats to make CLUW a paper organization firmly under their control and the attempts of the rank-and-file women to build CLUW as a fighting, militant organization that stands up for the rights of women and minorities and takes a fighting stand against the effects of the current economic crisis.

## STRUGGLE IN LOCAL CHAPTERS

For the last year, this struggle has been reflected in the local CLUW chapters which were built following last year's convention. One example was the attempt by Olga Madar, CLUW national president, and former UAW vice-president, to suspend two of the most active CLUW chapters in the country—Boston and Atlanta. Staging a vicious red-baiting campaign against these chapters, Madar attempted to cover up her own betrayal of the very issues these chapters were fighting for! In the case of Boston, the local CLUW chapter there had staged a militant demonstration against the deportation of undocumented workers, mainly women. In Atlanta, CLUW had been in the forefront of the fight-back movement there, demanding "Jobs or Income," "Jobs Not War," and an end to discrimination in the unemployment system.

This struggle is bound to come to a head at the upcoming convention. The CLUW leadership, headed by Madar, is billing the convention as a "Constitutional Conven-

tion" that will ratify CLUW's constitution and establish a list of rules and regulations governing the activities of all CLUW chapters.

The bureaucrats' intention is to establish a complicated list of procedures and regulations that will effectively disarm CLUW from undertaking any activities without the express permission of the AFL-CIO leadership, and turn it into an organization that will act as a rubber-stamp for the AFL-CIO's reactionary policies.

## STRENGTHEN OUTREACH

Concretely, the rank-and-file in CLUW is demanding that non-union working women be allowed membership in CLUW to strengthen outreach among the millions of unorganized women workers, including the overwhelming majority of minority women workers. They are also demanding that the National Coordinating Committee (the national leading body of CLUW) be based primarily on chapter representation to allow for larger numbers of rank-and-file women from the chapters to participate in decision-making. This is in opposition to the bureaucrats' insistence that only women already organized in unions be allowed membership, and that the NCC be based solely on union representation, which they believe will tie it closer to the international union structure.

Besides questions of structure, the struggle against the bureaucrats in CLUW will also emerge, as it did last year, on their failure to link CLUW closely to the movements against national discrimination. In the last year several resolutions have been passed opposing the reactionary pro-segregationist movement and supporting the democratic

rights of minorities in the busing struggle in Boston and elsewhere, and opposing the deportations of undocumented workers. However, the CLUW leadership has not only ignored these resolutions, but has distorted them and condemned CLUW chapters which have attempted to put them into action.

Finally, the basic stand that CLUW is taking in response to the effects of the current economic crisis will be called into question on the convention floor. At the April 26th demonstration last spring in Washington, where thousands of rank-and-file workers expressed their dissatisfaction with the current union leadership's "solutions" to the crisis, Madar and Co. joined hands with Meany, Abel and Woodcock in condemning the rank-and-file movement and calling on the workers to "tighten their belts."

The CLUW rank-and-file has heard enough of these excuses. Increasing sentiment among the CLUW chapters is calling on the organization to take up a comprehensive program to counter the effects of the crisis, and particularly, the special ef-

fects on women. Besides a concerted drive for "Jobs Not War" and adequate unemployment compensation, there is also strong sentiment against slave labor programs for women on welfare, for free and adequate childcare, and a strong stand against segregation and deportations. There is also a strong movement of support for cases like the landmark GM Fremont case, where the workers are demanding special seniority rights for laid-off women and minority workers and raising the demand for a shorter workweek with no cut in pay.

It is no surprise that the bureaucrats are hoping to keep the discussion of the convention centered on the constitution and away from program. If a discussion of program comes onto the convention floor, their policies of inaction and sell-out will leave them more isolated than ever. There is no doubt that the hundreds of rank-and-file women who will be represented at the convention will take on the struggle with them as a strategic part of building CLUW as a militant, fighting organization of working women.

## ANOTHER KILLED AT SOUTHWORKS

Chicago, Ill.—There is a running joke among steel workers at the Southworks division of United States Steel. If you get hurt, no matter what the circumstances surrounding the accident, it has got to be your fault, never the company's.

Older workers in the mill talk of the time a worker from the crane repair crew was killed when he fell through a cat-walk, fifty feet above the mill floor. He had fallen through a section of the walk, so rusted it was incapable of supporting anything over a few pounds. U.S. Steel refused to accept any liability, claiming the worker simply wasn't looking where he was going.

A few months ago, Ray Olmos, a 22 year old Chicano worker in the ninety-six inch plate mill was killed. Ray had been working for three years at Southworks and has a number of relatives still working there. Ray died three days after a half-ton steel plate, used as a heat shield in front of a reheating furnace, slipped off the crane hook and fell, pinning him against burning hot rollers.

Witnesses testified that the cause of the accident was the fact that the crane hook was so old that a wide gap had developed enough for the supporting cables to slip out. U.S. Steel again refused to accept any

liability. Instead, one crane operator was given five days suspension pending dismissal, while another worker with thirty years seniority was given the choice of being fired or taking an early "voluntary" retirement.

In recent months accidents have been on the increase throughout the plant. One important cause of this is the increase in lay-offs and resulting speed-ups. Ray's death came at a time when thousands of workers at the Southworks plant were being laid off. Of the more than nine thousand people working at the plant in January, there are less than two thousand working today. The lay-offs anticipated the slow down in orders and production, but for a long period of time there was simply more work than there were workers to do it. The day Ray died he was working a double shift—sixteen continuous hours.

These days workers in the mill don't laugh when they tell the joke about getting hurt. Ray's death and the general increase in accidents have left a bitter taste in their mouths. But an important lesson was learned. In building the fightback, the demand for jobs is linked to the struggle for better working conditions. It's a life and death battle against the effects of the present economic crisis.



(Call Photo)

HIGH POINT OF CLUW activity was participation in Boston anti-segregation rally.

## WORKERS HIT URW DEPORTATION STAND

Boston, Mass. — Rank and file opposition to the United Rubber Workers' (URW) official stand on the deportation of foreign workers has been building across the country.

The URW's top leadership has focused recent attacks against the membership of Local 209 in Chelsea, Mass. URW president Pete Bommarito sent a letter in September to all members of the local, telling them that "illegal foreign workers" were the cause of unemployment in the U.S. and calling for their deportation.

Bommarito has also launched an attack against the Boston chapter of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) which had written Local 209 urging it to defend foreign-born workers and fight deportations. Bommarito's letter threatened to withdraw URW support from CLUW unless the chapter backed down.

Response to Bommarito was quick. Members of the October League at Local 209 (American Biltrite) distributed a leaflet exposing Bommarito's attacks of fel-

low workers. The leaflet went to several shops in the Boston area, and members of the Boston Workers United to Fight Back set up pickets outside plant gates to build the opposition to Bommarito's stand.

On October 14th a milestone victory was won in this struggle against deportations. URW members of 984 (Converse Rubber) voted down the position of Bommarito and the AFL-CIO, and instead supported the position taken by Boston's CLUW chapter — calling on unions to defend all workers regardless of nationality and to provide bail and legal assistance when needed to fight deportations.

The union bureaucrats of Local 984 tried to stop the members from taking this stand. They threatened that Bommarito would take action against the local personally. They used the age-old trick of "red-baiting" trying to tell Converse workers that the whole fight against deportations was an "October League communist conspiracy."

Workers at the union meeting responded by showing how it's the AFL-CIO and the

URW whose position on foreign-born workers divides and weakens the battle of all working people. A number of members spoke about the reasons why workers are forced to the U.S. from foreign countries and pointed out that foreign-born workers have always been in the forefront of American labor struggles.

The stand taken by Converse workers has inspired workers all over the Boston area to continue their struggle against deportations. The members of Local 209 have now written a petition opposing the URW stand. This petition will be circulated around the country. It calls for three things: (1) The URW must change its policy on foreign workers and defend them instead of attacking them. (2) The URW must endorse CLUW and stop threatening it. (3) The URW must reinstate Local 621, at Sloane in California.

The reference to Sloane, 3,000 miles away from Chelsea, is an example of workers linking up struggles against the same enemy. In Bommarito's letter, he blames

undocumented Mexican workers for the "failure" of the 2½-year-old strike at Sloane.

This neatly covers up the role of URW bureaucrats in holding the Sloane strike back. From the start, they tried as hard as they could to sabotage the mainly Latino strike. Initially, URW leadership failed to support the strike. Later, it supported the strike but resorted to red-baiting to split supporters from strikers. The bureaucrats refused to take up the Sloane boycott in a wholehearted way. Finally, they simply locked the union doors of Local 621 in August, withdrawing completely from the struggle.

Bommarito never lifted a finger to organize the "illegal" workers at Sloane; he just attacked them. And now he is threatening foreign workers in Chelsea.

URW's bankrupt leadership under Bommarito has taken a clear stand against working class unity. But their campaign against foreign workers and working women has only pitted them more sharply against the URW rank and file.

# CONFERENCE PUSHES SOVIET AIMS IN PUERTO RICO

The World Peace Council conference, supposedly held in "solidarity with Puerto Rico," concluded September 7 in Havana by actually providing the Soviet Union with a new stepping stone in its imperialist bid to penetrate Puerto Rico and the rest of Latin America.

Since 1965, when the Soviet Union won dominance for its revisionist line inside the World Peace Council (WPC), the Council's activities have served the sole purpose of bringing revolutionary struggles under the thumb of Soviet social-imperialism (socialist in words, but imperialist in deed).

The Puerto Rican independence struggle is a case in point. The Soviet Union is attempting to take control of this just struggle by portraying itself as the "best friend" of the Puerto Rican people and the "champion" of the struggle against U.S. imperialism. In doing this, they are seeking to cover-up social-imperialism's treacherous history of manipulating liberation movements for its own purposes, especially in Latin America where the revisionist betrayal in Chile is fresh in the minds of the masses. While claiming to support an "independent" Puerto Rico, the real aim of the Soviet Union is to replace the U.S. imperialists by bringing Puerto Rico into its own sphere of influence.

The Havana Conference was initiated by the World Peace Council precisely at a time when the revolutionary upsurge for independence is at its high point both in Puerto Rico and among supporters in the U.S. It is this revolutionary movement which the Soviet Union is trying its best to strangle into submission to Soviet domination. The USSR hopes to use Puerto Rico as a base for entering the rest of Latin America and thus contend more fiercely with U.S. imperialism.

## OPPOSED BY MARXIST-LENINISTS

For this reason, the Havana Conference was opposed by a number of U.S. Marxist-Leninists and revolutionary groups, including the October League, Congress of African Peoples and Puerto Rican Revolutionary Workers Organization as the main focus of Puerto Rican solidarity work here in the U.S.

Throughout the conference itself, the Soviet Union and other revisionist parties like the Communist Party USA, blocked open debate on political questions and silenced opposition to official Soviet views either on Puerto Rico or the whole present international situation. The real intentions of the Soviet Union could be seen by the Final Declaration, which was written in advance by a Drafting Commission controlled by the Soviet Delegation. It was then pushed through with no debate. Although the Declaration referred to the "oppression of Puerto Rico," its real purpose was to bring all the conference delegations into support for Soviet social-imperialism internationally and its fraudulent "detente" schemes.

For example, the Declaration characterizes the world situation as "the process of international detente." In keeping with Soviet efforts to disguise its own aggression and the increased danger of world war, the Declaration calls on the Third World countries and the liberation movements to rely on "socialist countries" like the Soviet Union to defeat U.S. imperialism. In Europe, where the contention between the U.S. and the USSR is rapidly intensifying, the Declaration points only to the "advance of the democratic forces."

The Declaration also seeks to drive a wedge between the Third World countries and gain dominance for Soviet views. On the question of Angola, for example, the Declaration openly interferes with the internal affairs of the Angolan movement, declaring one of the three liberation movements "revolutionary" while opposing the others.

Supporting only one particular organization among the three recognized by the Angolan people and the Organization of African Unity, the declaration calls the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola "the vanguard" of the struggle. This stand of endorsing only one liberation

organization and condemning only the U.S. for its role in Angola was rejected by the overwhelming majority of Third World countries at the U.N. recently. These countries oppose the outside meddling of "all big powers" and support the unity of the Angolan liberation movements.

Even on the question of Puerto Rico itself, the Declaration was used as a lever for Soviet penetration. Rather than citing any of the examples of revolutionary struggle in Puerto Rico—such as the recent strike waves, mass mobilizations for independence, etc.—the Declaration portrays Puerto Rico only as "victimized" by U.S. colonialism, and therefore unable to struggle on its own without "Soviet aid."

Carrying out the Soviet revisionist line in the U.S., the Communist Party (CPUSA) used the conference to gain a foothold for the first time in the Puerto Rican people's movement in this country and to launch an all-out attack on the genuine Marxist-Leninists. Before the conference activity began, the CPUSA had virtually no base in

the Puerto Rican Solidarity Committee. But in the course of "building" for the Havana event, the CPUSA emerged in the forefront, taking control of all the key organizing committees, manipulating finances, and assuring a full majority on the conference delegation itself for their revisionist line.

The CP worked with its opportunist supporters in the PRSC to make the Havana Conference the "main focus" of the PRSC's work, although this was opposed by a number of forces in the PRSC including the October League. The O.L. and others stressed that the PRSC's central work should be to build campaigns to support Puerto Rican independence and democratic rights for the Puerto Rican national minority in the U.S. They stressed the need for mass work and education among the people here, rather than focusing mainly on Soviet-backed, international conferences.

On the heels of the conference, the CP was forced to admit openly that its interests lie in supporting social-imperialism and not with the Puerto Rican struggle.

In Boston recently, the PRSC leadership, including representatives of the CP and the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP), expelled all those who had criticisms of the Soviet social-imperialists. They demanded that groups like the October League, the Boston Guardian Bureau and several individuals, not be allowed to openly raise the "question of social-imperialism." Taking a principled stand these forces refused to be silenced in the face of increasing contention between the two superpowers in Latin America. Now more than ever it is essential that people expose the true nature

of the Soviet Union and its increasingly aggressive role in the world. Even while driving out these revolutionary forces from the PRSC, the leadership was forced to admit that these very people had been the "hardest workers and fighters" for the committee.

The whole work of winning support for social-imperialism and "detente" through the Havana Conference could not have been carried out without the help of the revisionists' "allies on the left," like Guardian editor Irwin Silber—who claims to oppose social-imperialism in words, but actually supported the conference and apologized for its revisionist line. Silber hailed the conference as a great victory for the Puerto Rican struggle, charging the genuine Marxist-Leninists who opposed the conference with "chauvinism."

But who are the real chauvinists? They are those like Silber, who claim to be "supporting" the Puerto Rican people, but only lead them into the arms of another imperialist superpower. In contrast, the Marxist-Leninists fight for genuine independence for Puerto Rico— independence from both imperialist superpowers. They are the true internationalists.

The principled stand of the Boston Guardian Bureau shows that Silber's conciliatory line won't go unopposed, even in the Guardian's own ranks.

Throughout the world the peoples, nations and countries are uniting more closely to oppose both imperialist superpowers. All the international meetings and conferences in the world and all the declarations they can write will not save them from being exposed for what they are—the enemies of the world's people.

**PUERTO RICAN freedom fighters took up arms to oppose U.S. colonial domination of their country. Today these five patriots are the longest-held political prisoners in U.S. history. Clockwise from top: Andres Figueroa Cordero, Lo'ita Lebron, Rafael Cancel Miranda, Irving Flores, and Oscar Collazo.**



## INDEPENDENCE FIGHTERS STILL IN PRISON

October 30 marks the 25th anniversary of one of the most heroic uprisings in Puerto Rico's long fight for independence. On Oct. 30, 1950, in the town of Jayuya, the people rose up in arms under the leadership of the Nationalist Party against U.S. imperialism.

Although the rebellion was viciously crushed by the U.S. Air Force and the National Guard—200 massacred and over 2,000 imprisoned—it gave inspiration to all Puerto Rican patriots who longed to see the U.S. invaders driven from their homeland. Two of these patriots—Griselio Torresola and Oscar Collazo—retaliated for the U.S. government's ruthless suppression of the Puerto Rican independence movement by staging an armed attack on the temporary residence of then President Harry Truman, known as Blair House. Torresola was killed in the attack, and Collazo was seriously wounded and sentenced to death. But due to the massive international solidarity built in his behalf by the Oscar Collazo Defense Committee, his sentence was later reduced to life imprisonment.

Nearly four years later, the guns of independence again rang out—this time in the halls of the U.S. Congress. Four Nationalist freedom fighters—Lolita Lebron, Rafael Cancel Miranda, Irving Flores, and Andres Figueroa Cordero—invaded the Capitol Building with guns in hand to protest imperialist

plans to "legitimize" the colonization of Puerto Rico by declaring the island a Commonwealth of the U.S.

For their brave actions, the four freedom fighters were given maximum sentences ranging from 50 to 75 years. Along with Oscar Collazo, they are now the longest held political prisoners in U.S. history, 21 and 25 years in jail.

At the time of the attacks on Blair House and the U.S. Congress, the bourgeois press in this country decried the "violence" of these acts. But it is clear that along with the Nationalist Uprising of 1950 and all the other examples of rebellion and resistance, these actions were a heroic response to U.S. imperialist armed intervention dating back to the landing of U.S. troops in Puerto Rico in 1898. 77 years of U.S. occupation of the island has meant nothing but murder, starvation and enslavement for the Puerto Rican people. Throughout this period, the people of Puerto Rico have struggled for full independence, and their struggle is growing stronger every day.

The demand for the unconditional release of the 5 Nationalist prisoners still locked up in U.S. prisons is a part of this growing movement for independence.

**THE 5 NATIONALISTS MUST BE SET FREE!  
INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO!**

## FREE FREDERICO CINTRON!

On August 13, 1975 heavily-armed FBI agents and the Puerto Rican Criminal Investigation Force pulled Frederico Cintrón from his home and jailed him for an armed bank robbery. Cintrón is the founder and secretary-treasurer of the Puerto Rican Workers' Guild (El Gremio) and executive secretary of the 45,000 member United Workers Movement (MOU).

The Cintrón case is a blatant frame-up. Cintrón was singled out because of his leading role in organizing and fighting for the Puerto Rican workers' movement. In the past year alone he has been active in a unionizing drive among public sector workers and in the militant cement workers strike. During a Westinghouse strike last year, Cintrón was the main representative for the workers in all negotiations.

His arrest and frame-up come at a time of revolutionary upsurge among workers in Puerto Rico and great advances for the independence movement. In October, as the cement strike continued, Puerto Rico was shaken by a one-day general strike of public employees and an extended maritime workers' strike which paralyzed key port facilities.

The response of the U.S. and its colonial government to this explosive situation has been a series of arbitrary arrests and frame-ups, heavy police repression, increased surveillance and also conspicuous FBI intervention.

Broad sectors of the Puerto Rican people have pledged support to free Cintrón Fiallo. Labor unions, student groups and patriotic organizations have been building broad support committees in Puerto Rico and in the U.S. In a telegram to El Gremio and MOU dated Sept. 4, the October League demanded an immediate end to U.S. Government intervention in the internal affairs of the Puerto Rican Labor movement and the immediate release without charges of Cintrón Fiallo.

# La Raza Unida Holds Convention

Kern County, Calif.—“In unity there is strength” was the adopted theme of the third La Raza Unida Party (LRUP) California State Convention. The convention was held in Arvin, a farm community in Kern County, California on September 27-28.

The successful convention was attended by over 100 LRUP activists from the Delano, Shafter, Fresno, Arvin, City Terrace, Lamont, La Puente, San Fernando and Norwalk chapters. The convention delegates were able to build unity around several key points.

The basic program and principles for LRUP California adopted at the convention are: “1) La Raza Unida is an organization of Chicanos, Mexicanos and Latino peoples, dedicated to fight all forms of oppression against our people. 2) The organization should create political consciousness among our people. 3) The organization shall be a tool to organize our people into a strong and united political force. 4) The organization will support the just struggles of other oppressed peoples. 5) The organization views the women of ‘la raza’ as being triply oppressed as women, as oppressed national minorities and as members of the working class.”

In addition to point five of the program, the convention also adopted a program to strengthen the role of women in LRUP, written by women in the different chapters known as the “Federation of Women.” Part of the adopted preamble reads, “The Federation of Women of La Raza Unida California, does not view the men to be our enemy, but recognizes the system as the oppressor. Our struggle is a common struggle for true liberation of our people, alongside of the men. As long as our people are not liberated, the women cannot be liberated.”

Other important developments were a plan for united work with the United Farm Workers of America (UFW). Since the second UFW Constitutional Convention in August, where new strategy was passed

stressing the organization of undocumented farmworkers, greater unity has been possible.

A motion was also passed to strengthen the fight against deportations and in particular to defend the “Thirteen Against Deportations.” “The Thirteen,” arrested in L.A. while protesting the largest Immigration Service raid in history, are currently facing trial and massive legal costs. Delegates voted to raise funds in each LRUP chapter and to publicize the case.

Although a great victory was won at the convention, the restructuring of LRUP along democratic lines and the adoption of a new program was opposed by a number of forces. At the state convention they stressed electoral politics over mass struggle in the community. The construction of the Women’s Federation was continuously ridiculed and labeled “divisive” by the opportunists. When it became clear that their views were those of an isolated minority, they attempted to sabotage all democratic processes.

The outlook of these opportunist forces is that they are the “leaders” of the Chicano struggle and that the Chicano working and community people should blindly follow. In fact, these professionals and aspiring petty-bourgeois forces owe whatever shaky status they have to the militant rebellions of the Chicano people.

The state convention was a defeat for the revisionist CPUSA which has tried to build an alliance with these careerists and professionals in LRUP and have fostered narrow nationalism and anti-working class ideology.

Whether this positive direction taken by California LRUP is adopted at the national convention, scheduled in late November in East Chicago, remains to be seen. But the efforts by the delegates to the state convention represent a positive step forward in building a broad, democratic and militant organization and merging the national minority struggles with those of the whole working class.

against another. We are especially harassed by the police, are the particular targets of dope pushers, and have almost no legal rights. We can see that only by joining together, can we fight back against the crisis. We know that an important part of fighting back is arming ourselves with Marxist-Leninist theory so that we can build a new system based on the needs of working people and not on the profits of the ruling class. Also, because we are young we realize that we have nothing to lose by fighting back and everything to gain (jobs, education, and an end to discrimination); in other words, a chance for a decent future.

We base our activities in Boston with this in mind. We have given leadership in actions against segregation and against cutbacks in education and welfare. We’ve set up studies, organized cultural activities (movies, slide shows) and are presently working on the Jobs For Youth campaign.

Before I joined the CYO, I knew that this system was bad but I felt that it was impossible to change it. I didn’t know that people have always fought back against their oppressors and that many times they were successful, and I thought that the differences between peoples meant that we had nothing in common. Through study in the CYO, I’ve learned that in this system we are taught in schools which are set up by the rich ruling class, and they only want to teach that which enables them to rule unchallenged. Under capitalism, unity of the working class is discouraged because when we get together we find that we have at least one thing in common; we all work,



OPPOSITION TO DEPORTATIONS is theme of Los Angeles march. (Call photo).

## SUPPORT THE ‘13 AGAINST DEPORTATION’

Los Angeles, Calif.—The sixth of October began the trial of The Thirteen Against Deportations arrested last May for protesting the massive deportation round-up of 500 workers from Beltline, a garment factory in this city. They face charges of trespassing, disturbing the peace and resisting arrest. These charges carry a possible sentence of up to one year in prison or a \$500 fine for each person.

Although the prosecution is continuously drumming up new charges and stiffer sentences, they are also making every effort to bargain in the hopes of keeping the case quiet. The Thirteen refuse to accept the promises of reduced charges in exchange for a plea of “guilty.” One member of The Thirteen told *The Call*, “We pleaded ‘not guilty.’ We don’t feel that it was wrong to expose these fascist attacks on Mexican workers. The real criminals are the U.S. corporations in Mexico and the government agencies that exploit and then deport workers depending on their needs.”

As the proceedings began against The Thirteen, a demonstration of supporters of all nationalities gathered outside the criminal courts building denouncing the continuing deportation raids and demanding that

the charges against The Thirteen be dropped. Through the efforts of the Los Angeles Labor Unity Organization (LALUO) and the members of The Thirteen, support committees for their defense have been started in many communities and on several campuses. These committees are playing an important role in the defense of The Thirteen, through radio and TV publicity and raising funds, and in educating and organizing people to fight back.

Since the Beltline attack, many raids have been conducted in factories, schools, and churches. Before the raids in May, the INS had bragged of deporting at least 200 people every day from the Los Angeles area alone. Last year a total of 865,000 Mexicans were deported without any judicial proceedings whatsoever.

The goals of The Thirteen Against Deportations and LALUO are to use this trial to expose the fascist attacks on the Mexican people and to create a fight-back of all nationalities to end these raids and to defend The Thirteen. Donations and correspondence can be sent to: The Committee to Defend The Thirteen Against Deportations, 918 South McBride, L.A., California, 90022.

# Letters to The Call

## PROUD OF CYO

Dear Call,

I am a member of the Communist Youth Organization (CYO) in Boston and I’m writing this letter to tell other people what we are about and what I’ve learned in the CYO.

The CYO is a multi-national organization of young workers and students who believe that young people must train themselves to lead the struggle against imperialism. We take up the special problems of youth and support the struggles of others who are oppressed by this system.

As we see it, young people are being forced to take on the burden of a crisis brought about by the ruling class in this country. We are the last to be hired and if we get a job, are the first to be fired. To survive in times of economic depression and loss of world power, the U.S. calls for war, and young people are the ones who must fight it. As working class youth we are denied a quality education, and are the targets of racist policies which pit one a-

and our labor supports the rich who keep on getting richer while we work harder just to stay out of debt. I’ve learned that there is a better form of government (socialism) in which the working people rule and there is no rich ruling class. Through the unity of the workers, men and women, Black and white, young and old, it is possible to have that type of state, but we have got to fight for it. The study of Marxism-Leninism has taught me that it is good to be working class, not a shame (which is what they tell you in school), and that instead of rising out of the working class to become oppressors, we can work for the rise of the whole working class. I am proud to say that I am a young communist and a member of the CYO.

In solidarity,  
TS Boston, Mass.

## MORE ON CPUSA

Companeros,

Sorry to say that I am unable to contribute even one dollar to help you defer the costs of printing *El Clarin*. Especially when I realize the fantastic job that you are doing in keeping us informed of current political, social, economic and military events.

However, if in the future I find myself in a position to help you in any manner, rest assured that I will do all that I can.

At the present, all I can do is pass *El Clarin* around when I get through with it. Believe me, *El Clarin* really is informative. My only criticism is that you spend too

much space, not to mention time and effort, defending or clarifying your position to such counter-revolutionary units as the R.U. and the Guardian. These units will drown themselves eventually without our help and you should spend the space, time and effort exposing bigger fish such as the CPUSA and the current regime.

Thank you for *El Clarin*; the best of everything to all you companeros whose efforts produce such a newspaper.

¡Venceremos!  
C.N., San Quentin Prison, Calif.

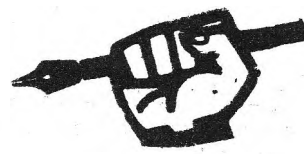
## NEW SUSTAINER

*The Call*: Enclosed is \$10--to begin payments on becoming a *Call* sustainer.

I’ll be moving so please wait to send literature to my new address. Thanks.

*The Call* gets better--many people are looking forward to its weekly issue.

Solidarity,  
D.S. Gainesville, Fla.



# MARXIST-LENINISTS UNITE

## 1) Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to call on the genuine Marxist-Leninist forces in the U.S. to unite and build a new communist party. Its conclusions represent the views of the October League which were adopted by our full national Congress in June. The main conclusions of this paper are that: 1) party building has become a *question of immediacy* and 2) the present period calls for the actual *organizational formation of the new party*. We hope that this paper will find its way to welcome hands throughout our movement and that it can serve as the basis for concrete discussion leading to Marxist-Leninist unity.

The past period, beginning in the late 60s has seen the rise and growth of the young communist movement and more recently, its growing ties to the mass movement of workers and oppressed people. From its very beginnings to the present time, this movement has viewed party building as central among its many tasks. The October League, for one, has been consistent and clear in its stand on party-building against those who tried (and still try) to liquidate this task from the "left" and the right, who have insisted on maintaining the backward state of the movement of the working class and the mass movement. In our May 1972 Unity Statement, the OL placed the task squarely before the movement:

"Recognizing the historic truth that if there is to be a revolution there must be a revolutionary party, the creation of a new communist party—one of the Leninist type—has become the principal task for all communists in the U.S. Given the total degeneration of the CPUSA, the developing struggles of the working class and its allies have been restricted to simply attempting to reform this rotten imperialist system. Under the leadership of a genuine communist party, the masses themselves can understand through their own experiences the necessity of smashing the existing order and to direct their struggles toward the final aim of socialism."

At that time, three years ago, our understanding was still superficial, but the urgency of our cause has been clearly brought home to us during this period of all-out decay and capitalist crisis. Millions of workers have been thrown out onto the streets to starve or somehow survive as best they can. With the increased efforts of the bourgeoisie to shift the burden of their crisis onto the backs of the masses, millions more have been forced into a life-or-death battle against the rule of the giant monopolies. The anti-imperialist united front is surging forward and the revolutionary situation around the world is growing brighter and brighter. This situation demonstrates more clearly the need for conscious leadership to give political direction to this spontaneous upsurge.

We are living in the era of imperialism and proletarian revolution, in a period characterized by the sharpening of all the basic contradictions in the world. The factors for both revolution and war are increasing. Comrade Chou En-lai said it is "one characterized by great disorder on earth." In this period, the old revisionist parties such as the CPUSA have not only shown themselves incapable of giving revolutionary leadership to the mass upsurge, but have proven to be out-and-out traitors to the working class and have gone over to the side of counter-revolution and social-fascism.

It was primarily in struggle against the forces of modern revisionism that the young communist movement was born. Modern revisionism, with its opportunist line of parliamentary struggle and following the road of least resistance, is now and will continue to be the main strategic enemy within the ranks of the working class movement. Usurping the name of the once-proud party of the U.S. proletariat, the CPUSA revisionists have turned from a party of revolution into a parrot for the fraud of imperialist "detente" throughout the world. While acting as the lap dog for the Soviet social-imperialists, they have also served as apologizers for the labor aristocracy and the liberal bourgeoisie here at home. There can be no reconciliation with the revisionists. They are not a "misled" group of "honest" opportunists, but a most vicious enemy of Marxism-Leninism and the working class. The CPUSA must be smashed, their influence isolated and their treachery exposed.

Modern revisionism is a consolidated trend, a counter-current in the history of Marxism, which has broken from the communist movement. It has an organizational form with revisionist parties in many countries and state power and a center in the Soviet Union. The struggle against this modern revisionist trend has produced new parties and pre-party organizations throughout the world, fighting for unity and clarity to provide the working class and oppressed peoples with the leadership it needs. In-

spired by the principled stand of the People's Republic of China and Albania against the Soviet revisionists and by the rapid advances of the world revolutionary struggle, our movement is gaining new strength and growing large.

Ours is a heroic cause. If we fail, the working class movement could be smashed under the heel of fascism and world war. But we will not fail. The efforts of the young communist movement in the U.S. will lead to the decisive overthrow of the dictatorship of monopoly capitalism and the victory of revolution and socialism.

## 2) Conditions Exist

The conditions for the birth of the new party are already present. The early period, marked by the rise of communist collectives, study circles and local groups has drawn to a close. A number of national communist pre-party organizations have replaced them, representing a general trend within the young communist movement. Through the struggle against revisionism, and in our work during this pre-party period, other opportunist trends have been consolidated, exposed and driven from the ranks of this young movement—aliens to Marxism-Leninism. This fight against Trotskyism, anarchism, syndicalism and ultra-"leftism" in general, has also strengthened the movement and set the ideological basis for the formation of the new party.

The significant ideological struggles during the past three years have developed the subjective conditions calling forth the need for a new party, more in line with the objective factors. This period has produced important victories in the ideological war against petty-bourgeois ultra-"leftism" which for a long time posed the main internal threat within the ranks of the young communist movement.

The OL developed in the struggle against petty-bourgeois "left" deviations from Marxism along with the fight against right opportunism or revisionism. In a series of articles ("Party Building in the U.S.") we traced the class character of this "left" deviation—a petty bourgeois reaction to revisionism, reflecting the outlook of newcomers to the working class movement. At that time we warned that if allowed to grow unchecked, this ultra-"leftist" trend would merge with modern revisionism (and its chauvinism and class collaborationism) and destroy our attempts to build a party. Until this struggle was consolidated, no party could be established. While this "left" deviation could be found in all of the young communist organizations, it gained leadership and consolidated itself most notably in two—the Communist League (now the so-called "Communist Labor Party") and the Revolutionary Union (now the so-called "Revolutionary Communist Party").

A relentless struggle against both CL and RU has crippled the enemy's efforts to destroy our movement from within (from the "left"). The sham "congress" of CL's ended in dismal failure. Isolated and exposed, the new so-called Communist Labor Party has been forced into a rapid retreat and has disappeared from view. Their anti-China line, echoing Moscow's call for "detente" and their attacks on the Third World could find little support here among the conscious sections of the revolutionary movement. Exposed as an anti-Marxist deviation within our ranks, the CLP has dropped its mask and has made their last appeal to the lowest level common denominator politics of reformism and economism.

Another example of the rightist essence of the ultra-"leftists" is the RU which has now changed their name to "RCP" as a last desperate act, reflecting only their isolation and weakened position. Their line, also masked with Marxist rhetoric, puts forth policies of chauvinism and opportunism that every Marxist-Leninist group must oppose. Social practice has been the crucible in which RU's opportunist line has been tested and exposed for what it is—revisionism in a left disguise. Its stand in opposition to the democratic rights of Black people in Boston and elsewhere and its divisive stand towards the Third World struggle in general have been exposed by the OL and others.

In response to the ideological blows dealt to the left opportunists, the rightist influences were bound to gain new strength. The negative influences of the RU and CL served as a sounding board for those who wish to attack Marxism-Leninism and the party from the right and re-emerge on the scene. Within certain sections of the movement we are hearing new appeals to legalism, electoral cretinism and narrow nationalism. A line of "centrism" in relation to the Soviet Union and the split in the international movement is being openly promoted by the so-called "independents" and circles especially around the Guardian newspaper. New theories of "American exceptionalism" are searching for welcome ears as are new efforts at conciliation and "united action" with the modern revisionists

on the national and international scene.

To summarize, then, both right and left opportunism must be fought relentlessly and broken with cleanly. While yesterday the "left" danger might have appeared strongest within our ranks, today the rightist influences are re-emerging on the scene. We must always be vigilant against all forms of opportunism and never block with one in unprincipled fashion to oppose the other. We must also strengthen our spirit of "going against the reactionary tide"—maintain a principled stand in the face of difficulty and always oppose taking the road of least resistance.

Most importantly, the ideological struggle against "left" and right opportunism has served to raise the theoretical level of our movement qualitatively. This has better prepared our forces for the task of vanguard of the working class. The pre-party period was characterized by the restating of the basic tenets of Marxism-Leninism and fundamental study. But the ideological leap over the last three years is one of the main reasons we can confidently call for the formation of the party against these pessimists who generalize their own political confusion and claim that our movement is "too backward" for such a step.

Our pessimists are discouraged at the difficulty of the ideological struggle. They are afraid of going against the revisionist tide and want to conciliate with the CPUSA in order to "increase our numbers." To them Marxism-Leninism is "sectarian" and they much prefer revisionism or nationalism with which they hope to "get-rich-quick" within the mass movement. They glorify the revisionists and the nationalists for their numbers while casting aside the millions of working people and the need to educate them in the science of Marxism-Leninism.

But the growth and development of the young communist movement among the workers and oppressed minorities throughout the country expose the lies of the pessimists who have never believed in the ability of a poor factory worker to learn Marxism.

## 3) The Fight-Back

The undeniable fact is the Marxist-Leninists are increasingly playing an influential role in the present fight-back against the crisis, mobilizing and influencing many class-conscious workers and oppressed minority fighters. Under communist leadership a significant number of workers have joined the various fight-back organizations and through them have been recruited to the communist movement and into its leadership.

While there is still much work to be done in deepening these ties, work which can of course best be carried out under the guidance of a party, the growth in this area of work exposes the anti-party forces as defeatists and anti-worker elements. The communist movement has also developed as a multi-national movement, a major advance over the primitive organizational forms of the 60s based almost entirely along national lines. While the "independents" and the narrow nationalists increasingly have united to oppose the party-building movement, they have in turn become more isolated from the mainstream of the revolutionary struggle. This organizational growth and increased ties to the masses is another indication of our ability to move into the stage of the organizational building of the party.

While there is still much room for improvement in this area of organizational work, it is a fact that the communist movement today cannot be called a "white" movement or one made up exclusively of intellectuals. Working class and minority cadres are playing a significant role in this movement in positions of leadership as well as among the rank-and-file. The formation of new independent M-L organizations based along national lines is objectively a step backwards at the present time and should be opposed. We stand in principle for multi-national organization of communists and reject the idea of a "separate stage" in which a new communist organization along national lines must be built.

Organizational growth and development can also be seen in the widespread publication of Marxist-Leninist literature. Agitational and propaganda material is being published in nearly a dozen M-L publications including newspapers and theoretical magazines. This mass dissemination of M-L literature has brought a communist analysis to thousands of class conscious workers and has made Marxism increasingly a material force in society. The conditions exist for raising this to a higher level with the publication of a Leninist-type paper that will appear under the auspices of the Party at least weekly. This is a real blow at the primitiveness of opportunists like the RU who try to drag the movement backwards into local circle work and local publications of the economist type.

All of these features of the young communist move-

# TO BUILD THE NEW PARTY

ment have come about only through sharp ideological struggle both internal and external to their organization. No organization has been immune to this struggle and while some organizations have been weakened and split, others have moved ahead rapidly and grown stronger. This is the main feature of the struggle within our movement, a test of its line, its unity and its democratic-centralism. Our progress has demonstrated that we have passed this test.

We put forward in this paper some basic principles of unity around which we call on all Marxist-Leninists to unite in the new party. We do this with a sense of urgency knowing full well that the generally favorable conditions under which we have been working will be short-lived and that a much more difficult period lies ahead. We must move towards unity with great speed and oppose the view of those academic revolutionaries who wish to endlessly redefine our differences and eternally draw even further lines of demarcation outside the organizational structure of the party. This view will lead to disaster. The main trends have already been demarcated. A clear-cut Marxist-Leninist trend has emerged in opposition to both right and left opportunist organizational trends.

## 4) Principles of Unity

The Marxist-Leninist trend has demarcated itself in theory and practice around some basic programmatic points which can serve as the basis for M-L unity at this time. These principles of unity must be general enough to unite the forces but particular enough to draw a line of separation from the opportunists. They must make a clear break ideologically from the modern revisionists and centrists as well as the ultra-"leftists" and neo-trotskyists. In particular they must outline our stand on:

### 1) The Dictatorship of the Proletariat as our Strategic Objective:

This objective is based upon the leading role of the working class within the anti-imperialist struggle, expressing its own ideology and organizational leadership through its party. The workers' dictatorship can only come about through the revolutionary armed struggle of the masses and the smashing of the bourgeois state machinery and not through the strategy advanced by the modern revisionists of electoral or other forms of legal struggle. Nor can it come about through the "urban guerilla" tactics of groups of intellectuals, like the "weathermen." The Dictatorship of the Proletariat is the transitional stage on the path to a classless or communist society which is our ultimate goal. This final goal must be accepted in deed, not just in words, through literature, slogans and organization of the new party.

### 2) Party Organization:

This requires a disciplined cadre organization of the advanced, most conscious, self-sacrificing revolutionaries based on Marxism-Leninism as our guiding line. From its beginning it must be made up of the finest representatives of the working class, reflecting the working class' multinational character. The party must base itself at the point of production, rather than in electoral districts as the parliamentary parties do. It must practice democratic-centralism, with one center and full democracy for all members. There must be unity of action and unity of will. The party "becomes strong by purging itself of opportunist elements," (Stalin) and is "incompatible with the existence of factions." Its style of work is characterized by the mass line ("from the masses to the masses") which means developing the closest of ties to the working and oppressed people. It means intervening in the spontaneous struggles of the people and taking the ideas of the people, concentrating them, and raising them to a higher level through the integration of Marxism-Leninism. Secret work must play the leading role with open, legal activities used to broaden our forces and influence.

### 3) The International Situation:

We live in the era of imperialism and proletarian revolution. The world today is characterized by great turmoil as the people of the whole world have risen up in a broad front against imperialism and its strivings for world domination. In particular the opposition is to the two imperialist superpowers, the U.S. and the Soviet Union, whose rivalry threatens the people of the whole world as they drive closer to war. These superpowers are the main enemies of the world's peoples and to defeat them a united front must be forged of all countries, nations and peoples that can be united against the two superpowers. An essential task of our movement is the exposing of the myth of "detente" being spread by imperialism. The revolutionary struggle of the people of the U.S. is part of this interna-

tional united front. It is our responsibility to overthrow U.S. imperialism in the course of the struggle against both superpowers.

We must also render full support to the peoples, nations and countries of the world who are rising up in opposition to imperialism. This is especially true of the Third World countries who today are the main motive force pushing world history forward.

We stand opposed to the international trend of revisionism, led by the CPSU. We link our communist unity with fraternal parties and organizations around the world and on our stand as part of the international communist and workers' movement. While maintaining our own independence, we carry on relations with other parties and organizations in other countries on the basis of bilateral relations, based on the equality of all parties, big or small.

### 4) The National Question:

Unity requires a proletarian-internationalist stand on the revolutionary significance of the national question in this era. This includes support for the right of self-determination of all oppressed nations who suffer under the yoke of imperialism and in particular the right to political secession for the Afro-American people in their historic homeland of the slave South. It also includes our support for Puerto Rican independence and full democratic rights for the Puerto Rican national minority in the U.S. and the Chicano national minority, Asian-American national minority and the Native American peoples. We also firmly support the full democratic rights of non-citizens and foreign-born nationals in the U.S. and stand opposed to all forms of white chauvinism and narrow nationalism.

The movement of the oppressed nationalities constitutes the main strategic ally of the U.S. working class.

### 5) United Front Against Imperialism:

We must build the united front as our vehicle for defeating imperialism and establishing the Dictatorship of the Proletariat. Here in the U.S. our strategic objectives are overthrowing the U.S. imperialist bourgeoisie and establishing a proletarian dictatorship in one stage. This must be done in the course of the struggle against both superpowers.

In the U.S. the united front includes all those that can be united under the leadership of the proletariat and its party to oppose the rule and the reactionary policies of the giant monopolies. The core of this united front is based on the alliance and merger of the proletariat with the national movements of the oppressed peoples struggling for liberation, self-determination and democratic rights. This is a revolutionary united front, as opposed to the "Anti-Monopoly Coalition" of the revisionists, which is led by the liberal bourgeoisie and based upon reformism and electoral struggle. Because of the modern revisionists' betrayal of the revolutionary movements internationally and the role of the CPUSA as an agent and collaborator of the imperialist superpowers, we call for a principled break with the revisionists in theory and practice and reject the line of "united action" with revisionism.

### 6) The Woman Question:

Party unity must be based on the proletarian approach to the struggle for the emancipation of women. The woman question is in essence a question of class struggle for the overthrow of imperialism. We call on the united struggle of the broad masses of men and women to bring about the revolutionary overthrow of imperialism which will create the conditions for the complete liberation of women. We must carry out the fight for democratic rights and oppose all forms of male chauvinism and feminism which serve only to disunite the working class. Special efforts must be made to carry out revolutionary work and communist training among women and youth.

### 7) The Labor Movement:

We take a revolutionary approach to the unions, which are the most basic and comprehensible form of workers' organization. To us the unions are weapons for the emancipation of the working class from capitalism. Our policy must be to work within the unions and organize the unorganized. Our main enemy within the labor movement is the labor aristocracy and revisionists who are in the leadership of nearly all the big unions. Our work is based upon a consistent struggle to isolate and expel these opportunists from leadership and replace them with revolutionary leadership. This requires consistent work to build up the communist factory nucleus and carry out independent revolutionary work among the workers. This education must direct itself against the chauvinist policies of the labor aristocracy and always raise the interests of the whole working class.

## 5) Communists Unite!

It is the position of the OL that Marxist-Leninists should unite around these principles, not as a final statement or full program of the party but as a minimal basis for unity at the present time. We offer them in the spirit of unity and while firm in our commitment to Marxism-Leninism and all its principles, we are also flexible in tactics and determined to achieve principled unity through discussion and debate. We call for all Marxist-Leninists to discuss this paper with us and to hold meetings where it can be debated and unity forged.

After this discussion we propose that the new party be established around a temporary leading body which can survey the organizational forces represented in the party, establish democratic centralism and prepare us for our first Party Congress, to be held within a year of our founding. A newspaper of the Leninist type should be established under the central leadership which would appoint the editorial board. This paper would serve as the party's central organ with a network of agents, propagandists and distributors in each city. The work around the paper would serve as the main way for the units (cells) to put forth our political line and program. The paper should serve as the nerve center of the party and until the first Congress act as the focal point for ideological struggle (based on practice) to determine how national and international events are analyzed and what theoretical works are published.

The main thrust of the mass work for the party must be to build a fighting, revolutionary response to the present capitalist offensive and crisis. Our party must be a party of mass struggle and not one of arm-chair intellectuals. To do this effectively, mass organizations of solidarity between workers and unemployed have to be built in each city, union, factory and community to fight for Jobs or Income Now. We must build a united front struggle against imperialist policies of war, fascism and national oppression with the working class in the lead.

As we accelerate our efforts to build a party, some will complain that we are "just like CLP and RU," who have put forth bankrupt schemes for building the party. Just what makes our program for party building different?

First of all, we work to build a party based upon Marxism-Leninism, not upon reformist or chauvinist lines of this opportunist trend, which are simply covered with Marxist rhetoric. Political line is the decisive factor in party building. The previous calls of these two groups to "build a new party" were based upon their own weakness and isolation both from the masses and the other genuine communist forces. This isn't the case here.

Our objection to these groups was never to their forming their parties and thereby consolidating themselves around their opportunist line. Our objection was to their efforts to drag the rest of the communist movement with them into their neo-Trotskyist swamp—where they will no doubt, happily reside along with their forerunners of Progressive Labor Party and the Provisional Organizing Committee. We ask only as Lenin did 75 years ago, "... let go of our hands, don't clutch at us and don't besmirch the grand word 'freedom,' for we too are 'free' to go where we please, free to fight not only against the marsh, but also against those who are turned towards the marsh!"

We have seen that marsh that the RU and CLP have marched into. It's a neo-Trotskyist marsh based upon wrecking and splitting—based upon attacking the glorious struggles of the peoples of the Third World and the great communist parties of the world and the revolutionary line of Marxism-Leninism. So far they have been unable to drag the working people into this marsh along with them; whether in Boston, Detroit or anywhere else they concentrate themselves.

Secondly, our style of work flies in the face of the sectarianism, wrecking and splitting of these so-called "parties." Their parties were simply built to strengthen the hegemony of these two opportunist groups. They were unprincipled efforts aimed at blocking and unprincipled alliances with all forms of opportunists. Our efforts are above-board and principled. They are based upon principled struggle and patient work. We reject get-rich-quick schemes of all types.

In conclusion, we call on communists to unite, to accelerate our efforts to form the party. Basing ourselves on Marxism-Leninism and the concrete conditions facing the working class today (which are the most favorable that can be expected), we must shift our emphasis to the actual organizational work of party construction.

**MARXIST-LENINISTS UNITE!**

**ON TO THE NEW COMMUNIST PARTY!**

# TAKING UP THE CALL



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

## U.N. Opening Advances Third World Struggle

The 30th General Assembly of the United Nations opened last month in New York, with sharp political discussion on a number of the most important questions in the world today. Leaders from Third World countries rose to the podium to denounce the international aggression of the imperialist superpowers, and hail the victories of liberation recently won in Africa and Asia.

Chinese representative Chiao Kuan-hua delivered a major address detailing China's position on all the questions before the U.N. (see p. 16) as representatives of numerous other countries made similar presentations.

Following a rousing welcome, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, the Cambodian head of state, assumed his country's seat in the U.N., five years after the U.S.-launched invasion which installed the Lon Nol puppet dictatorship there.

Speaking of the long struggle against Lon Nol and his U.S. backers, Sihanouk thanked the many countries which had provided support and solidarity to Cambodia in its hour of need. According to Time magazine, Sihanouk told assembled newsmen later that the Soviet Union had only come to Cambodia's aid in the "twenty-fifth hour" of her struggle. Perhaps it was this guilty conscience which kept Soviet U.N. delegate Malik absent from the long lines of world leaders waiting to greet Cambodian deputy prime minister Ieng Sary. It also kept the Soviet delegate in the room listening attentively as the majority of delegations walked out over a speech by

a puppet official of the Lon Nol clique.

Stressing the preciousness of Cambodia's newly-won liberation, Sihanouk stated that "Cambodia does not and will not permit any country to establish military bases on her territory or on her territorial waters. Today," said Sihanouk, "Cambodia free from the claws of imperialism is more than ever attached to a policy of non-alignment." He warned of the danger to world peace posed by imperialism, and voiced solidarity with liberation struggles the world over.

Later in the General Assembly debate, Idi Amin Dada, president of Uganda and current chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) also voiced support for the liberation of all nations suffering under imperialist and racist rule. He especially condemned the role of Zionism and apartheid in Africa and denounced the "intrigues of the big powers."

Frightened by the militant stand taken by Amin and other Third World leaders, Daniel Moynihan, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, launched a slanderous campaign against the whole Third World. Using the platform of the AFL-CIO convention in San Francisco last month, Moynihan called Amin a "racist murderer," and went on to say that all of Africa was "despotic and undemocratic." He portrayed U.S. imperialism and Israeli Zionism as the "champions of democracy."

Moynihan's remarks were answered by delegations from many countries which demanded that he retract his slanders against

Amin and the OAU. His defense of Zionism was answered by an overwhelming majority of countries who urged the U.N. to take a stand of opposition to all forms of racism, including Zionism. It was noted that Zionism is used by the Israeli state to deny the Palestinian people their rights and commit genocide against them. Even Moynihan's arm-twisting and threats could not keep close to 80 countries from endorsing this proposal.

Another important topic of the U.N. discussion was the question of Angola. The theme of unity and solidarity in the Third World was stressed as various speakers called for the liberation movements in Angola to get united, and for the superpowers to get out. Soviet attempts to provoke civil war in Angola for its own interests and profits were attacked by several countries.

## "WORLD WAR II PROVIDES LESSON"

Chinese foreign minister Chiao Kuan-hua held a banquet October 19 on the occasion of a visit by U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. In making a toast, Chiao Kuan-hua commented on U.S.-China relations and the overall development of the present international situation.

Said Chiao, "The stark reality is not that detente has developed to a new stage, but that the danger of a new world war is mounting. We do not believe there is any lasting peace... To base oneself on illusions, to mistake hopes or wishes for reality and act accordingly will only abet the ambitions of expansionism and lead to grave consequences. In this regard the history of the Second World War provides a useful lesson."

The foreign minister continued, "China and the United States have different social systems and there are essential differences between their policies. However, in the current turbulent world situation, our two sides have common points as well. This has been set forth clearly in the Shanghai communique."

Chiao Kuan-hua concluded by emphasizing the need for both sides to observe the Shanghai communique in practice in order to improve U.S.-China relations.

## LAOS INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATED

With ceremonies in cities throughout the country, the people of Laos celebrated the 30th year of independence from Japan. Trucks decked with flowers carried people through the streets of the capital, Vientiane, and large crowds gathered to hear speeches by leaders of the Patriotic Front and the government.

With the era of U.S. domination in Laos ended, the people of that country, under the leadership of the Patriotic Front, have engaged in a massive campaign to reconstruct their country along revolutionary lines.

Various ministries of the Provisional National Union Government have recently organized officials and workers to study revolutionary theory and raise the educational level of the people. According to the "Voice of the People" radio, the classes have "deepened their understanding and hatred against the economic aggression by imperialism and colonialism and the economic policy of the old regime."

The youth have played an active and leading role in the Volunteer Corps and have aroused the masses in 14 villages and waged struggle with them against enemy spies and gangsters who were active in restoring the old regime.

In the meantime, the Soviet Union has stepped up efforts to expand its sphere of influence into Laos through the use of "aid" and "advisors." It is estimated that 500 Soviet diplomats, pilots, engineers and technicians are stationed in Laos at the present time. Some of the Soviet pilots live in houses once occupied by pilots of Air America, the CIA airline.

The Soviet Union is trying desperately to expand its role in Southeast Asia to step into the shoes of the retreating U.S. imperialists. But as a Chinese representative in the capital of Vientiane remarked recently, "the Laotian people will never let the tiger in through the back door while kicking the wolf out the front gate."



People of Vientiane celebrate Laotian independence anniversary.

## SABOTAGE ANGOLAN INDEPENDENCE

To whom should Portugal hand over power in Angola? This is a key point of contention behind many of the conflicts in Lisbon.

The official policy of the sixth Lisbon government, headed by Azevedo, is that the transfer will be made only to a coalition of all three Angolan liberation movements, as provided in existing Angola-Portugal agreements signed earlier. But the policy of Portugal's revisionist Communist Party, backed by Soviet social-imperialism, is that Portugal should give preference to one of the movements at the expense of the other two.

"The intensification of the attacks on the sixth government may have as its principal objective the substitution of a government that would transfer power in favor of one of the movements in Angola," said a Portuguese diplomatic official, Manuel da Costa Bras, in late October. He said that the Lisbon media dominated by the revisionist Communist Party of Portugal has launched an "orchestrated campaign to persuade the public to agree to exclusive power in Angola for one of the three liberation movements."

Thus if the Portuguese revisionists came to power in Lisbon, Soviet social-imperialism would win not only the key to strategic Portugal but also the inside track on the fabulous wealth of Angola. What right does the Portuguese revisionist party have to call itself anti-colonialist? The same crass neo-colonialist greed stands behind its policy as behind the parties supported by U.S. imperialism. The neo-colonialist ambitions of the Portuguese revisionists are even more disgusting because they are dressed up in Marxist clothing.

A civil war is not "necessary" to the Angolan people; but it is necessary to the imperialist superpowers, especially to the USSR. This is the concealed meaning behind the international campaign of slander aimed at aggravating differences and wrecking moves toward unity among the Angolan liberation movements, all three of which enjoy popular support in Angola and have been recognized by the Organization of African Unity.

## PANAMANIAN VOW TO REGAIN CANAL

Under huge banners reading "It is our duty to recover the Canal Zone," 100,000 people rallied in Panama City, Panama on the 7th anniversary of the government of General Omar Torrijos. They demanded that the United States return the Panama Canal and the territory of the Canal Zone to the Panamanian people. Many representatives from the U.S. "Committee for Panama's Sovereignty Over the Canal Zone" also attended the meeting.

The 647-square-mile Canal Zone was signed over "in perpetuity" to the United States by the Panamanian government in 1903, only twelve days after a swift U.S.-backed revolt which severed Panama from Columbia.

Since that time, inspired by the growing unity and anti-imperialist consciousness of the Third World countries, the Panamanian people have increasingly raised their demand of sovereignty over the Canal. A speaker at the October 11 meeting told the crowd that his people are fighting a battle "to free Panama from economic dependence, backwardness and the yoke of the colonialists whose claws are still clutching on a piece of our territory."

Panama maintains that the new treaty should expire not later than the end of this century and that during this time, U.S. troops must pull out gradually and turn over the defense of the canal to Panama. The U.S., however, insists that U.S. troops currently stationed on 14 military bases in the Zone be allowed to remain permanently. In a news article, Panama's foreign minister Tack stated, "Our cause is a just one which lives up to the spirit of the era in which the peoples suffering under colonialism are rising into action to recover their natural resources, rebuild their personality and remold their destiny. This imbues us with the conviction that we can achieve our aims if we know how to maintain our national unity determinedly at all times."

General Torrijos has accused the U.S. of delaying the negotiations. He said that if the Canal Zone is not returned and the 14 bases are not dismantled in the near future, then Panama will have "no alternative but to take a long road for which it will pay a high price in blood."

## From the World Press

# NEW INDIA BULLETIN

The following comment is taken from an article entitled "The Real Nature of the 'State of Emergency' in India" which appeared in the first issue of New India Bulletin. This bulletin is published by IPANA (Indian People's Association in North America), Box 37, Westmount Post Office, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

In the process of building state capitalism Mrs. Gandhi has bartered the country to foreign imperialism. She has aided the Soviet Union in its contention against the United States for the control of the Indian subcontinent... In other words she has proven to be a reliable and trust-worthy ally of the Soviet Union. That is why no sooner had Mrs. Gandhi declared the state of emergency, the government of the Soviet Union extended its strongest support. The agents of the Soviet Union in India, the Communist Party of India (generally called the pro-Moscow Communist party) joined the rubber stamp team of Gandhi.

Mrs. Gandhi claims that her just policies were under attack from both right and left and hence she has taken the emergency measures to curb both of them at one stroke. Some people think that subordinating the interest of India to that of the Soviet Union is a 'leftist' move and to that of the USA is a 'rightist' move. Such characterisation is thoroughly erroneous. Both the Soviet Union and USA are keen to establish their own control over India and both will use whatever means they can to achieve their ends. Both are dangerous enemies of the people and have the capability of politically and militarily interfering in the affairs of another country. The Soviet Union has formalized the Indo-Soviet Friendship Treaty through which it can influence and interfere in the affairs of India. Both are eager to support the promotion of state capitalism albeit for differing reasons. It therefore follows that subordinating the interest of the country to either of these superpowers is a rightist move. This is right reaction. It is in this sense that the policies pursued by the government of India must be considered as steps towards consolidating right reaction.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

quickly spread around the world. Crowds surged through the streets of Paris shouting "Franco Assassin, Franco Assassin!" In Rome, thousands of anti-fascist demonstrators swept through the city denouncing the executions. In the Hague, Holland, the Spanish embassy was firebombed as were the embassies in Brussels, Belgium, and Ankara, Turkey. The embassy in Lisbon, Portugal was burnt to the ground by militant protesters expressing their solidarity with the revolutionary forces in Spain, despite the betrayal of the revisionist Communist Party of Portugal which condemned the demonstrations against fascism as "ultra-leftist." (see article this page).

Many capitalist and Third World governments around the world took a sharp stand against the barbarous executions. Fifteen European governments recalled their ambassadors from Spain. The Dutch government declared a day of "national demonstration" against the Franco regime. Mexi-

# FRANCO MURDERS DRAW PROTEST ...

co called on the United Nations to expel Spain from the U.N., and urged a worldwide boycott of the fascist Franco regime. There were also mass demonstrations held in London, Bonn, Athens, Copenhagen and other European cities.

These worldwide protests are evidence of the overwhelming hatred of the people

of the world for the Franco regime. The executions themselves represent the weakness and desperation of Spanish fascism in trying to stem the growing strength of the revolutionary anti-fascist forces in that country. Led by the FRAP, which includes revolutionary organizations of workers, peasants and intellectuals, the united front a-



MARTYRED FRAP MEMBERS, Sanchez-Bravo, Sanz and Baena.

## REVISIONISTS BETRAY SPANISH MARTYRS

A Paris demonstration against Franco and in solidarity with the five executed Spanish anti-fascists was violently attacked September 29th by "security marshals" of the French revisionist "Communist" Party.

The revisionist muscle squad tried to tear up the flag of FRAP, the Spanish resistance organization to which three of the five executed revolutionaries belonged, and to remove FRAP sympathizers from the front of the march.

The maneuver was unsuccessful. Hundreds of anti-fascists fought back against the revisionist assault, which followed a club-swinging attack by Paris police on an earlier rally.

Numerous public protests were lodged against the revisionist leadership by representatives of trade union and other political parties on the scene, including the Socialist Party, the Unified Socialist Party (PSU), the Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist) of France, and others. Several members of the revisionist "Communist" Party on the scene tore up their party membership cards in protest against the goon squad's brutality.

FRAP's Paris office issued an official declaration the next day denouncing the revisionist actions. "The place at the head of every mass demonstration against Franco fascism," the declaration reads in part, "belongs by right to the Spanish revolutionary organizations. In the present case this right belongs more particularly to FRAP since the executed were among its members, were defenders of its political

line and of its flag.

"The security marshals violently attacked the members and sympathizers of these organizations; they tried to tear up the flag for which our comrades died; they kicked our comrades who were on the ground...

"Such behavior," FRAP's declaration continues, "merits only one name: it is fascist behavior, so outrageous that it provoked protest even among the rank and file of the "Communist" Party. The Spanish people will remember this, and will know --

as our comrades knew on the occasion -- how to mete out to the revisionists the treatment they merit, the treatment reserved for social-fascists, for traitors to the revolutionary struggle...

"Several hundred French comrades courageously defended the revolutionary banner. To all of them, and to all Parisians who have shown their solidarity in similar ways, the FRAP communicates its thanks in the name of the people of Spain.

"Our people sees very clearly the difference between its friends and enemies. It will know how to act accordingly."

The following day, L'Humanité Rouge -- a daily newspaper that speaks for the Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist) of France -- published a letter of resignation

against fascism has dealt significant blows to the Franco government. The Basque nationalist ETA works closely with the FRAP, and both organizations share a common goal in the overthrow of fascism and the establishment of freedom for the Spanish and Basque peoples.

Within the FRAP, the Communist Party of Spain (Marxist-Leninist) has played a leading role ever since it was formed in opposition to the revisionist communist party which abandoned the revolutionary struggle of the masses in favor of "detente" with fascism.

The executions of the 5 martyrs were a great loss to the Spanish and Basque peoples. Loving freedom more than life itself, these revolutionary heroes will live forever in the hearts of their compatriots. As for the fascists, who think their firing squads can crush the spirit of resistance in Spain, their end is not far off. The people will never forget this barbarous and despicable act of murder, and will sooner or later repay these traitors in suitable fashion.

by a former member of the revisionist party. The young man characterized the party's marshals as "bestial goons" and recalled that similar attacks had taken place earlier.

He said that the revisionist leaders, before the execution of the five, had called them "filthy-ultra-leftists," but now that they were martyred, sought to cash in on the public outcry and to co-opt the movement.

"Comrades! Don't go into the wrong camp," the writer concluded. "I have understood where the real revolutionaries are. The false communists can be stopped. They will be stopped. Long live the revolution. Down with suffocation, down with the social-fascists of the revisionist CP!"

## October League's Message of Solidarity

To the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Spain (M-L)

Dear Comrades,

It was with profound emotion that we learned of the assassination of your comrades and the assassination and jailings of other revolutionary fighters and members of the FRAP by the fascist Franco regime.

At the same time, the heroic spirit of resistance displayed by the martyrs up until the moment of their death has been a great example to us. We were also greatly encouraged by the mass mobilizations of workers and progressive people across Spain and Europe to denounce the bloody deeds of Franco and his clique.

The communist movement in the United States has a long history of solidarity with the communist movement in Spain, and the friendship between the American and Spanish peoples is sealed in the blood of comrades who fought the fascists to-

gether in the 1930's. Today the working class of both our countries has been betrayed by modern revisionism, and as a result, new Marxist-Leninist communist parties are being built. In the United States, the October League sees its central task as the construction of such a party.

At this time, when your struggle is developing rapidly and the days of Franco fascists are clearly numbered, the Spanish revolutionary movement is living proof that the European people will not submit to "superpower detente"--which in reality only means increased rivalry and the danger of war between the two imperialist superpowers. The Spanish peoples are intensifying their struggle for freedom and socialism. Across Europe, countries are taking stands of opposition to superpower hegemony. Coupled with the historic victories of national liberation in Indochina and Africa and the rising tide of Third World struggles generally, these develop-

ments are greatly hindering the two superpowers in their battle for world domination. This is especially true in the Iberian peninsula which is a strategic area of superpower contention.

In a world characterized by rapidly developing factors for both revolution and war, the October League seeks to learn from the experiences of communists and revolutionaries the world over and to strengthen the international united front against the two superpowers.

LONG LIVE THE SPIRIT OF THE  
REVOLUTIONARY MARTYRS!!

LONG LIVE THE STRUGGLE OF  
THE SPANISH AND BASQUE PEOPLES !!

SUPERPOWERS OUT OF THE  
IBERIAN PENINSULA !!

Central Committee, October League (M-L)

# AN OPEN LETTER FROM SLAIN COMRADE

The following are excerpts from an open letter written by José Baena Alonso, one of the five revolutionaries assassinated by the Franco regime in September. The letter was written while Baena was in jail, and after he had been sentenced to death. It appeared in the French Marxist-Leninist newspaper Humanité Rouge on Sept. 30. We reprint it because it shows the heroic spirit of resistance which characterized these anti-fascist revolutionary fighters.

Comrades,

I am José Baena Alonso, 25 years old, steel worker, and member of the FRAP and of the Spanish Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist). Until May, 1975, I worked in the foundry at Fumansa (Vigo).

Last May 1, during a demonstration in the Tais quarter (Vigo), a civil guard shot to death Manuel Montenegro Simon, a worker at Fenosa, who was at work in the plant and who had left with his co-workers to watch the demonstration. The police arrived at my home on Sunday, May 4, at 7 in the morning. I fled to the mountains thanks to some neighbors who had warned me of their arrival. I did not want to cross

the border into Portugal, and on Monday the 5th, I entered Madrid, to continue the struggle against fascism, common enemy of all the peoples of Spain.

On July 22, I found myself in Borcelo Street with comrades Siera Marcos and Olasso Bilbao; after leaving them, I was just preparing to cross the street when 9 or 10 police threw themselves upon me, and having taken me by surprise, pointed a pistol at my temple, and wounded me, chained my wrists, and took me to the special service offices.

There they announced that I had participated in the murder of an armed policeman and that they were going to beat me until I admitted it.

As soon as I refused to confess, the beatings and tortures began. They threw me against the walls, from one side to the other of the room, beating me with clubs and their fists. I fell many times to the ground but they picked me up immediately in order to continue beating me. Once, they held me by the shoulders, took me by the neck, and rapidly beat my head against a steel table.

They submitted me to other tortures:

they forced me to kneel down and beat me with sticks on the soles of my feet, in such a way that, when I tried to walk on my feet, I felt they would split open. They also forced me to put my face to the wall and beat me for half an hour on the left side of the spinal column, with a "BIC" pen. At first, this was painful enough, but then it became impossible for me to make even the slightest movement. Unable to walk, nearly unable to move at all, due to the pain in my shoulders, unable to see from my left eye, and my face swollen from wounds, (I had been bleeding several times from the nose and once from the mouth), I signed "the confession" on the night of July 25.

Comrades, the government will not be content to just put our people in jail. Today, fascism, following the example of Hitler, is in the process of committing genocide against the Basque people. They are trying to silence in blood the just aspirations of the people, assassinating either right in the street, or in the "halls of justice," all those who pose resistance to their crimes.

Faced with this, the people have only one alternative: to struggle each time more

violently and widely.

Now fascism is trying anew to assassinate, thinking that after the arrests of hundreds of members of FRAP, the ETA, the UPG, etc., the people will be silent after our deaths. How little they know of our people!...those who have always had their Swiss bank accounts to depend on, and who have served their Yankee masters.

This month, they are going to "judge" five militants of the PCE (M-L). They are asking death sentences for us. We hope for no favors from the regime which has already made corpses of a million people, and which has continued these assassinations for nearly 40 years.

We have confidence in you and in our people, and we are sure that you will do everything possible to save us, and our families. In any case, if the last moment arrives--and fascism executes us--we will die proud of our membership in the PCE (M-L), and in FRAP, and of having made this contribution that Spain will become a People's Republic and Federation.

Greetings,

Your Comrade,

Jose H. Baena Alonso

The 30th Session of the U.N. General Assembly opened in New York last month with Chinese representative Chiao Kuan-hua giving a significant speech which summed up the key features of the world situation today.

The Chinese foreign minister pointed to the profound changes that have taken place in the international situation since the 29th General Assembly and called for vigilance on the part of the world's peoples against the threat of a new world war.

Said Chiao: "A serious capitalist economic crisis plagues most parts of the world. All the basic contradictions in the world are further sharpening. The trend of revolution by the people of the world is actively developing. The Asian, African and Latin American peoples have advanced valiantly and won a series of significant victories in their struggle against colonialism, imperialism and hegemonism. On the other hand, the contention between the two superpowers for world hegemony has become more and more intense. The whole world is in greater turbulence and unrest. Rhetoric about detente cannot cover up the stark reality. The danger of war is visibly growing."

#### INDOCHINESE VICTORIES

Chiao Kuan-hua recalled the great victories won by the three Indochinese peoples and pointed to them as part of the movement of Third World countries, which he said, "ushered in a new stage in the revolutionary cause of the people of the world..."

He added that, "The countries of the Second World have also heightened their struggle against superpower and particularly social-imperialist control, intervention, subversion and threat of force. The trend among the West European countries to get united against hegemonism has continued to grow."

In his speech, Chiao Kuan-hua directed his main fire at the growing contention between the two superpowers who are threatening a new world war with their drive for greater spheres of influence. He exposed the European Security Conference recently held in Helsinki as a "mockery." Europe, he said, "is strategically the focus" of superpower contention. The U.S. and Soviet Union, while chanting "peace and security," are arming themselves to the teeth in preparation for new aggression in that area of the world.

In Asia too, he noted, the Soviet Union was pushing its "Collective Security System" for the purpose of "filling the vacuum" left by the defeated U.S. But as Chiao Kuan-hua pointed out: "The Asian countries, which won their independence after protracted struggles, know well that in order to be masters of their own house they must never 'let the tiger in through the back door while repulsing the wolf through the front gate.' China's attitude towards this stuff of 'Asian Collective Se-

curity System' is clear-cut: first we are against it; second, we despise it."

The Chinese spokesman warned of the increased threat of war, pointing to Lenin's teaching that, "Imperialism means war." He said that "So long as imperialism and social-imperialism exist, war is inevitable... Since both superpowers are after world domination, the contradiction between them is irreconcilable; one either overpowers the other, or is overpowered. The so-called 'balance of power,' even if it exists, is only a transient and superficial one... With the superpowers contending so fiercely and expanding their armaments so madly, they are bound to go to war against each other some day. This is independent of man's will. The superpowers are the source of a new world war, and the danger of war comes mainly from the wildly ambitious social-imperialism."

Chiao added: "What characterizes the current world situation is decidedly not an irreversible process of detente but the approaching danger of a new world war." He warned people everywhere to "get prepared" and then concluded: "Whether war gives rise to revolution or revolution prevents war, in either case the international situation will develop in a direction favorable to the people. And the future of the



CHIAO KUAN-HUA, Chinese foreign minister (left) and Huang Hua, U.N. ambassador (right) during the United Nations General Assembly.

## Chiao Kuan-hua's Speech

# 'WAR DANGER GROWING' CHINA WARNS U.N.

world will be bright."

Chiao Kuan-hua then went on to state China's stand on the main questions facing the General Assembly of the U.N. at the present session. These include:

**\*The question of opposing colonialism—**China is opposed to the superpowers attempt to step into Africa on the heels of the defeat of the old-line colonialists. It opposes the meddling by the superpowers into the affairs of the Angolan liberation movements and their playing off of one liberation front against another. China gives aid to all three Angolan liberation organizations. Chiao Kuan-hua supported the call of the Organization of African Unity for reliance on the armed struggle in the liberation war while using the tactic of negotiations when possible.

**\*The Korean question—**China, Algeria and other countries have submitted a proposal which would dissolve the U.N. command in Korea along with a series of measures that would remove tension between north and south Korea and promote nor-

malization of the situation. China opposes the resolution submitted by the U.S., Japan and others which failed to mention withdrawal of foreign troops from Korea and attempts to create "two Koreas." China supports the call for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea which is being prevented by the fascist Pak Jung-Hi clique, supported by the U.S.

**\*The Middle East Question—**The Chinese representative stressed the need for Arab unity in the face of superpower attempts to sow discord. China opposes the present "no war, no peace" situation which presently characterizes the Middle East due to the meddling of the superpowers. Chiao reiterated China's firm support for the Arab and Palestinian peoples against Israeli aggression and superpower interference. He particularly warned against attempts by a superpower to divide the Arab and Palestinian peoples.

**\*On disarmament—**China opposes the fraudulent disarmament proposal of the Soviet Union which would ban nuclear weapon tests without dealing with the real questions of disarmament. China stands for the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons and not the so-called "limitation of strategic arms" which will have no real effect on the giant war preparations on the part of the superpowers. China demands that the superpowers agree that they will not be the first to use nuclear weapon, especially against any non-nuclear countries as a pre-condition to any disarmament agreement.

**\*On development—**China supports the demands of the Third World countries for the development of a new economic order. Stressing the need for Third World unity and dialogue with the Second World countries, China calls for a protracted struggle to "transform the old international order" and to oppose the "free market system of gaining profits at the expense of others..."

The Chinese foreign minister's speech was widely acclaimed and drew the overwhelming support of the representatives of the Third World countries.

## CHINA CELEBRATES 26TH BIRTHDAY

Celebrating the great advances for all mankind that have come out of 26 years of socialism, people throughout the world gathered to mark the anniversary of China's victorious revolution.

Celebrations were held all over the People's Republic of China, a country which has set for itself the goal of becoming a powerful socialist country before the end of the century. Throughout China hundreds of millions of people are engaging in a monumental movement to study the theory of the dictatorship of the proletariat—the theory of defending and building socialism on the road to a classless society. This movement is aimed at guaranteeing China against a restoration of capitalism, such as the one that took place in the formerly socialist Soviet Union.

Teng Hsiao-ping, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and Vice-Premier of the State Council, gave a reception in Peking's Great Hall of the People in the name of Premier Chou En-Lai, who is ill. Among the more than 4,000 guests were Norodom Sihanouk, the Cambodian Head of State, Phoumi Vongvichit, leader of the Pathet Lao in Laos, and representatives of friendly groups, parties, heads of state and liberation movements from throughout the world. In his speech Teng Hsiao-ping said, "Our great socialist motherland is now in an important period of historical development." He called on the whole Chinese people to con-

tinue their study of the theory of the dictatorship of the proletariat and to "promote stability and unity and boost the national economy."

In the 26 years since the victory of the revolution on October 1, 1949, China has made advances at an astounding rate. Rich harvests have been reaped for 13 years in a row and total grain output last year was 2.4 times that in 1949. Industry has also grown rapidly with steel output increasing 120 per cent and petroleum 600 per cent in the last 10 years. China has already successfully fulfilled three Five-Year Plans for the development of the national economy and will fulfill its Fourth Five Year Plan by the end of this year. These advances are all the result of China's planned socialist economy, free for 26 years from foreign domination.

#### NO INFLATION

China has no inflation and its currency, the Renminbi, is the most stable in the world. It is an economy that is planned and not subject to the crisis that is now plaguing the capitalist countries.

But as Teng Hsiao-ping pointed out at the National Day reception, all is not well in the world on this great day of celebration. "The current international situation," said Teng, "is characterized by great disorder...the two superpowers are contending with each other with ever greater intensity. The factors for both revolution and war are increasing."

An example of the problems caused by the superpowers has been the interference in China's internal affairs on the part of the U.S. government, who while singing praises of "friendship," has continued to expose its imperialist nature. Recently the government has allowed a so-called "Office of Tibet" to be set up in New York. This office represents the reactionary Dalai Lama regime which was run out of Tibet by the Tibetan people.

Tibet has historically been part of China but for centuries the people of the Tibetan nationality suffered great oppression. Under the rule of the Dalai Lama the serfs were slaughtered and tortured when they tried to rebel against the slave system. Finally after liberation 25 years ago, the Dalai Lama with the aid of the CIA and the Indian reactionaries staged a counter revolutionary armed rebellion in 1959. This was put down by the people and democratic reforms were won. In 1965 the Tibet autonomous region was established as a part of the People's Republic of China.

Today the Tibetan people are the masters of their own fate. Tibetan society has skipped several centuries in its development. However, the U.S. still has dreams of regaining Tibet. This is the reason for the establishment of the "Office of Tibet" and the sending of a so-called "Tibetan Song and Dance Ensemble" around the U.S. last month.

The Tibet autonomous region is char-

acteristic of the gains made by the 56 formerly oppressed national minorities in China during the past 26 years. All the nationalities were prominent during the October 1 celebrations. Teng Hsiao-ping also stated: "We are determined to liberate Taiwan and accomplish the great cause of reunifying our motherland."

#### MEETINGS ACROSS U.S.

Across the U.S. mass meetings were also held to commemorate the 26th anniversary of socialist China. In New York, 1,300 people met in Town Hall to view films and watch dramatic and musical presentations. In Boston, the U.S.-China Peoples Friendship Association sponsored a two-day celebration attended by 550 people. In San Francisco and Oakland, various programs including films and cultural performances were held, while in Los Angeles 900 people turned out to hear Sid Engst speak. Engst is an American who has lived in China since 1944 and works on a commune. In Baltimore, *The Call* sponsored a celebration.

In a solidarity message the October League hailed the 26th anniversary of China as "an example to oppressed people everywhere that the future lies with socialism and the future is bright." The message summed up the significance of Oct. 1 saying: "We celebrate every victory in the building of socialism in China as our own, as a victory for the worldwide cause of revolution, national independence and Marxism-Leninism."





"Under the military, political and social conditions in the United States and among our chief allies...the West, meaning NATO, could not win a conventional war in Europe...The best we can expect is that the Soviet invasion would result in the defeat of the NATO forces and the occupation of most of northwest Europe while NATO forces clung to a foothold in southwestern France and Britain."

This is the conclusion drawn by Drew Middleton in his recent book, "Can America Win the Next War." Middleton, the military affairs editor of the New York Times and a war correspondent for several decades, focuses his book on the contention between the U.S. and the USSR for control of Europe. His view is that despite numerous "hotspots" around the world, Europe is key to the strategy of both superpowers, and it is in Europe where the superpowers are concentrating their arms. He asserts further that the Soviet military and political machine has advanced its penetration of Europe rapidly, while U.S. capabilities to fight a major war have weakened.

The significance of Middleton's book

lies in its exposure of the myth of superpower "detente" through factual evidence indicating the escalating war preparations of both superpowers. It also represents the fact that while U.S. imperialist circles are still divided over military questions, there is growing consensus that the U.S. must be prepared to enter into a major war with the Soviet Union over Europe.

Middleton's concern at the danger of a new world war reflects the views of a significant section of U.S. imperialist leaders, who recognize the growing military supremacy of the Soviet social-imperialists. As a close crony of numerous Pentagon officials, and a man who has devoted his life to apologizing for imperialist aggression, Middleton's main concern is that the U.S. is about to suffer some serious setbacks at the hands of the USSR.

Middleton presents a dramatic picture of the sheer offensive firepower of the Soviet military machine, pointing out that its strength in Europe has expanded five times as rapidly as the U.S. since the 1950's.

"Consider first," he writes, "the brute facts about the army. 107 motorized rifle

divisions, fifty tank divisions, over seven airborne divisions, a total strength of 2,050,000. At full strength a tank division deploys 316 medium tanks and a motorized rifle division, 188."

Through chapter after chapter, Middleton demonstrates that the Soviet Union is far better equipped than the U.S., and is rapidly overcoming deficiencies in its military machine. For example, he points out that the U.S. Air Force, which was recently considered far superior to the USSR's, is losing ground quickly. The Russians are producing new aircraft at a surprising rate; five new fighters were developed while the United States was laboriously seeking a new successor to the Phantom."

Similarly, the U.S. Navy was always considered to be "king of the seas," but Middleton comments that, "Expansion of the Soviet navy to a point of real rivalry with the U.S. Navy is the most significant military development of the last decade."

Middleton presents the view that in addition to quantitative superiority, the Soviet Union has built a military machine gear-

ed completely in the direction of offense. In this light, he explains that the huge number of Soviet tanks recently positioned in East Germany, Poland, and Czechoslovakia, constitute the backbone of a force that would be useless if East Europe were attacked first. Their only purpose, says Middleton, is to be the front guard of a conventional land sweep across Europe, in the manner of Hitler's Blitzkrieg.

On the offensive capacity of the Soviet navy, Middleton refers the reader to Soviet Admiral Gorshkov, who says that the Soviet navy should "advance Soviet interests overseas in peacetime as well as wartime." Middleton himself observes that this pronouncement would not be out of character for a U.S. "imperialistic official," but that it seems "strangely out of keeping with the picture of a communist state wanting nothing beyond its frontiers."

But Middleton knows that meddling outside its own frontiers is nothing new for either superpower, and so he includes extensive mention of the sharp contention over Europe's most volatile places such as Yugoslavia and Portugal, which to him represent a trend of growing Soviet hegemony, and the potential "powderkegs" for war.

"Can America Win the Next War," is a fairly accurate work in assessing the relative strength of the two superpowers and revealing the Soviet position as the more aggressive of the two. It is the first of many more books to come, not to mention a general onslaught of propaganda arguing for a bigger military budget, a stronger NATO, a more "patriotic" attitude on the part of Americans towards their armed forces. This is what Middleton calls for to counter rising Soviet strength.

Middleton is scared of the rebellions in the ranks of soldiers in the U.S. armed forces and the refusal of the masses of people to support imperialist wars. He envies the Soviet armed forces, where he says there is "limited dissent" but where organized opposition is crushed by the fascist state. In counting fascist control as a plus for the USSR in a war with the U.S., Middleton argues that fascism may be a last resort of the U.S. ruling class to whip the American people into shape for war.

The value in reading the book is that each chapter is an exposure of the "detente" lie on a different subject—the stepped up nuclear contention, the naval contention, the land contention, etc.

The fact that this talk of war is becoming more open should remind us of the urgency in our work to build the united front against imperialism and unite with the people of the whole world to oppose the two superpowers.

## BOOK REVIEW

# COULD U.S. IMPERIALISM WIN WORLD WAR 3?

## National Conference Draws Support ...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

are willing to come together around the principles." Costigan said that the conference would choose a national steering committee, made up of leading activists from around the country and from various organizations.

Panels are tentatively planned to discuss a broad range of subjects from the busing question to the international situation. One of the main slogans of the fight-back organizations in various cities has been, "Jobs. Not War!" which has shown the link between the deepening depression at home and the threat of a new world war abroad between the superpowers. Discussions are also planned on work among women, youth and work in the unions.

The conference is being planned at a time when the mass media is filled with articles emanating from the White House about the so-called economic "recovery" now taking place. This propaganda about the "end of the crisis" is also being echoed by some groups and newspapers who are trying to pull the rug out from under the growing fight-back movement of the workers and unemployed.

In response to this, conference organizers have pointed out that: 1) the so-called "recovery" is nothing but a sign of the uneven rate of the worsening of the crisis and 2) that in any event, the word "recovery" now is still used to mean permanent unemployment for more than 11 million workers and the growing possibility of a new world war and increased oppression of women

and minorities.

The decay of the system is such that 8% unemployment is now being viewed as "normal" by the government experts. Despite all the talk of "detente" it has become obvious that new war preparations are going on at a feverish pace. The Fight-Back organizers point out that no one should be taken in by all this "recovery" talk which is only meant to pacify and disarm the working class in these most difficult times.

There is only one road out of the crisis and that is the road of mass struggle which unites the workers and unemployed and men and women of all nationalities. It is a struggle that is directed, not just at one company, city, or even one crisis—but at the whole system of exploitation and oppression which lies at the basis of the crisis.

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