

'HURRICANE' CARTER RAILROADED AGAIN

"I have no faith in the criminal justice system," said Rubin "Hurricane" Carter after a New Jersey court re-convicted him and co-defendant John Artis on murder charges last month.

After serving nine years in prison as a result of a racist frame-up, the two Black men finally won a retrial this year. But once again, they have been railroaded through the courts as part-and-parcel of capitalism's intensified attacks on the Black liberation struggle.

Carter and Artis were first charged with the murder of three whites in a Paterson, New Jersey bar in June 1966. Although evidence later confirmed that they were nowhere near the bar at the time of the murder, the state went to great lengths to construct its frame-up.

Carter was then a contender for the middleweight boxing crown. As a prominent public figure, his open support for the Black rebellions sweeping Watts, Harlem, and several New Jersey cities had enraged the politicians and big business interests. They were dead set on putting "Hurricane" Carter away where his militant voice could no longer be heard.

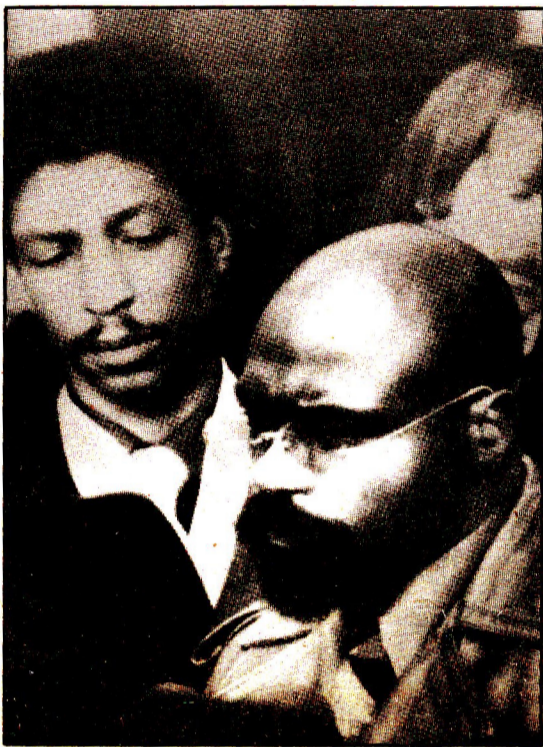
The authorities succeeded for a time in putting Carter and Artis behind bars. But when the main witnesses for the prosecution re-

canted their statements and exposed the state's frame-up, tremendous mass support was generated for the defendants' demand to have a new trial.

Between 1974 and 1976, a number of demonstrations were called to support the demand for a new trial. Well-known figures in the sports world like Muhammad Ali actively campaigned for their demands, and singer Bob Dylan publicized the racist nature of the frame-up in a song that told the details of the case.

Finally, the mass pressure succeeded in winning a new trial.

Once the new trial was set, however, the defense committee was dismantled. The leaders of the defense movement placed their faith on the capitalist courts, believing that victory was "certain" since the witnesses had recanted. As a result, mass activity around



CARTER AND ARTIS wait for the verdict of capitalist injustice.

the case came to a virtual standstill.

Recognizing that the organized movement in defense of Carter and Artis had subsided, the authorities took the opportunity to engineer a new frame-up. When the retrial opened on October 6, Alfred

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RANK AND FILE OF AFSCME have participated in many militant actions like the one above and opposed the sellout leadership of Jerry Wurf. (Call photo)

Red-baiting frenzy hits Atlanta

Atlanta's ruling business circles have launched a frenzied red-baiting campaign designed to crush rank-and-file activity in the unions and drive communists out of the workers' movement.

Special targets of these attacks have been the October League and the rank-and-file movement in AFSCME Local 1644, the city workers' union.

Pat Murphy, AFSCME execu-

tive board member and communist rank-and-file leader, has been brought up on charges by local union officials in an attempt to expel him from the union. Specifically, Murphy is charged with distributing an October League leaflet that "called the union leaders 'misleaders'" and stated that "international president Jerry Wurf has been bought off" by the bosses.

Murphy was also charged with calling on "Grady Memorial Hospital workers to join the working class and minorities all over the country to . . . fight repression and the capitalist system that causes it," as well as urging workers to join the movement for a new communist party.

Commenting on the charges

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NEW YEAR'S EDITORIAL

ON TO NEW VICTORIES IN 1977!

New Year's Day 1977 is marked by a situation in the world that is excellent for the working-class movement and all the forces for socialism, anti-imperialism and revolution. The past year saw these forces make giant strides forward on a road marked by complicated twists and turns.

Internationally, the factors for both war and revolution continued to increase throughout 1976. All of the basic contradictions in the world continued to sharpen. The two superpowers, the U.S. and the Soviet Union, revealed themselves even more clearly to be the main enemies of the world's people.

Superpower contention over spheres of influence and the frenzied arms buildup are among the factors driving the world closer to war. All the imperialist chatter about "detente" cannot cover up this growing reality. U.S. imperialism has in no way changed its reactionary, aggressive character.

In the last year alone, the U.S. sponsored the bloody coup in Thailand; continued to prop up the racist regimes in southern Africa; armed the Israeli Zionists; tried to subvert the struggle of the Puerto Rican people for independence and the Panamanian people for control of the Canal; and frantically stepped up war preparations in Europe.

But the other superpower, the Soviet Union, has shown itself to be the most dangerous force internationally, as well as the main source of a new world war. The dangerous character of Soviet social-imperialism stems especially from the fact that it carries out its fascist and aggressive assaults on the people by posing as a "natural ally" of the anti-imperialist forces under the mantle of "socialism." As a latecomer to the imperialist feast, the USSR is even more aggressive than the U.S.

Faced with this growing contention and the threat of war, the peoples, nations and countries of the world have drawn even more closely together in the past year to resist the two superpowers. The people of the third world countries in particular have heightened their unity and political consciousness. The third world is today the main force combating imperialism and the superpowers.

With the armed struggles of the masses in the forefront, the third world movement has also seen many countries and governments take positive steps to defend their sovereignty and natural resources and to speak out against imperialism.

Throughout the world, 1976 saw a powerful upsurge in the movement of the working class. As the capitalist economic crisis reached new depths, strike waves swept Europe, the U.S. and all capitalist countries. In the heat of this growing class struggle, the communist movement developed rapidly, constantly fighting modern revisionism, which is still the main danger within the

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CALL '77

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'76 provided important
lessons for year ahead.

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Report on struggle
against "gang of four."

SECCION
EN
ESPANOL

ON TO NEW VICTORIES IN 1977! . . .

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working-class movement internationally. The past year saw many new parties get on their feet and deepen their ties with the masses. These parties, armed with the great banner of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought, are preparing themselves for leadership in the coming wave of proletarian revolutions.

But the working class cannot develop its struggle except through the most difficult trials and hardships. The year 1976 was one of sadness as well as joy. The loss of our great communist leader and teacher, Comrade Mao Tsetung, the greatest Marxist-Leninist of our time, has filled the people with deep grief. This loss, combined with the death of Chou En-lai, Chu Teh, and other leaders of the Communist Party of China has placed great tasks before the people of China and the whole world in carrying on the legacy of Chairman Mao.

BRIGHT BANNER OF SOCIALISM

Despite these losses to the world communist movement, the bright banner of socialism is still waving proudly in China, Albania and the other socialist countries, pointing the way to the future for those who still live under the exploitation and oppression of capitalism.

In China, the Party, under its new Chairman Hua Kuo-feng, smashed the attempts by the "gang of four" to seize power and restore capitalism. The whole Party and the 800 million Chinese people are uniting even more closely than ever before to defend their country and the socialist system from internal and external attacks and to defend the legacy of Chairman Mao. In this cause they are supported by the working class internationally.

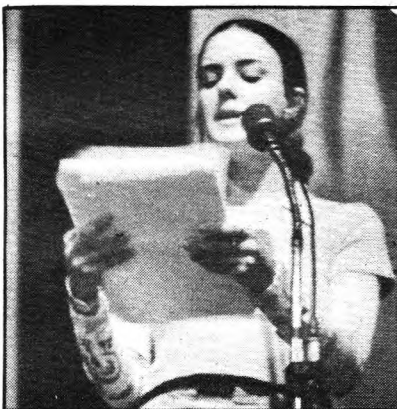
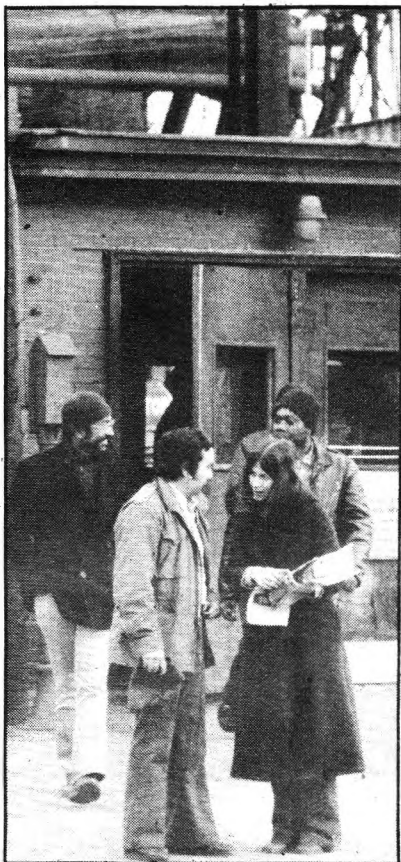
In the U.S. too, the struggle of the working class made great advances in 1976 and the new year looks bright. The year which the U.S. ruling class hailed as the Bicentennial celebration of capitalism saw that system grow even more rotten with decay and crisis. As the rain washed the red, white and blue paint from the billboards and the blare of the election campaign subsided, millions found themselves still faced with massive unemployment, falling wages, speedup and brutal racial discrimination.

STRIKE WAVE GROWS

In the midst of this "celebration" of exploitation, millions of workers responded with the largest strike wave in years. From the Ford auto assembly plants in Detroit to the coal mines of West Virginia, the growing strike movement targeted not only the bosses, but the traitors in the leadership of the unions as well.

As the ruling class launched new attacks on the living standards and rights of the people, a powerful fight-back movement grew in resistance. The demand to free young Gary Tyler, who faces the electric chair on a racist frame-up in Louisiana, grew to massive proportions and attracted widespread international support. Demonstrations at unemployment offices heard thousands of workers and unemployed shout their demands of "Jobs or Income Now!"

The growing trend of communist unity



WITH THE LOSS OF CHAIRMAN MAO TSETUNG, communists and revolutionaries redoubled their efforts in fighting imperialism from the ghettos of South Africa to the streets of the U.S.

made its greatest gains yet in the U.S. over the last year. Although the new Marxist-Leninist party was not formed in 1976, as many had hoped, the conditions for its founding in 1977 were firmly laid. Most importantly, communist groups, including the October League, united together into the Organizing Committee for a Marxist-Leninist Party (OC). The OC has grown larger and politically more unified in recent months and has now laid the plans for the first Party Congress to be held within a few months.

The actual convening of the Party Congress in 1977 will mark the translation of the high level of Marxist-Leninist unity, which has developed through years of anti-revisionist struggle, into a correspondingly high level of organization. The vanguard political party of the working class will be dedicated to the overthrow of imperialism, the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat, and ultimately, the realization of communism, a classless society.

For more than two decades since the degeneration of the CPUSA, there has been no party to uphold these high ideals or lead the working class in struggle. While the task of uniting the Marxist-Leninists and winning the advanced workers will go on long after the first Congress, the organizational building of the party is the most crucial step at this point.

Currently the OC is engaged in the drafting of a party program which will be issued early this year. This program will build the firmest foundations for party unity and will clearly distinguish the new party from the revisionist CPUSA and other opportunist groupings.

The program will make a concrete application of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought to the conditions of the U.S. revolution. The process leading up to its adoption will be one of deep-going study, ideological struggle and mass discussion to ensure its correctness.

YEAR OF VICTORY

Carrying out a resolute struggle against revisionism and constantly deepening mass ties, the Marxist-Leninist forces can look back on the last year as one of victory. In the heat of many important class battles, an unprecedented number of advanced workers were won to communism and the party-building efforts.

Organizational advances such as the publication of the weekly *Call* and the strengthening of communist factory nuclei have also created favorable conditions for setting the party on its feet once it is built and increasing its influence among the masses.

Along with the advances of the genuine communists in 1976 came the increased exposures of the revisionists, the anti-party

opposition blocs and the centrists. They have all revealed themselves to be bankrupt opportunist trends in the service of capitalism. Class conscious workers and revolutionaries are seeing through their own experience that this swamp of opportunism offers no real revolutionary leadership.

From conciliating with the revisionists and with the Soviet Union, to prostrating themselves before the liberals and the labor bureaucrats, the opportunists of the Revolutionary Communist Party, Workers' Viewpoint, the "Revolutionary Wing" and the Guardian all now find common ground in their attacks on the party-building forces and the October League at home and against China and the Marxist-Leninist movement internationally.

Rather than weakening the communist movement, the fight against opportunism has helped to steel it in struggle. The new party will be born in the process of fighting revisionism and purging its ranks of all but the staunchest class fighters.

As the new year dawns, we look into a bright future in 1977 and are filled with confidence. The enemy forces are growing weaker. They are wracked by divisions and find it tougher going every day. The working class and revolutionary forces on the other hand are increasing their unity, developing their leadership and increasing their fighting capacity.

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'ECONOMIC RECOVERY' NEVER CAME IN 1976

Like all the world's capitalist countries, the U.S. experienced a year of ever-worsening economic crisis.

After a slight upturn in production from the 1974-75 crisis, which was the worst since the 1930s, the capitalist propaganda machine began turning out news of an "economic recovery." But looking back on 1976, we can see that this much-heralded recovery never came about. The rosy talk was a trick played on the working people to cover up the fact that they are still being made to shoulder the burden of the crisis.

RENEWED STAGNATION

Following the production upturn during the first quarter of last year, a new period of stagnation set in. The growth rate of the U.S. gross national product slowed down by more than half of what it was during the first quarter. This downward trend continued into the third quarter. It is expected that fourth quarter statistics will continue to show this trend.

Most heavily hit has been the construction industry. As of early October last year, construction of new houses was running about 28% below January 1973 figures. Crude steel output in September was the lowest since February. Business Week magazine points out that for the fourth quarter in 1976 steel output will sharply decline and that "fourth-quarter shipments will be the lowest" for that year. Already, thousands of steel workers in the Chicago-Gary area have been laid off.

These figures spell worse times ahead for U.S. capitalism, although some capitalist-minded economists

would like to predict otherwise. Some have looked in desperation at figures which show a rise in business loans as a sign of an upswing for this year. But the Jan. 1 issue of Forbes magazine pointed out: "Many faces will turn red this winter. Not just because of the cold weather, but because of highly inaccurate forecasts."

Forbes added that "there is reason to be concerned about the trend of business loans," even though the number of loans increased. They point out that "the increases have taken place for all the wrong reasons." Rather than being used to expand new manufacturing, these loans are primarily for speculation in the money market and in commodities such as oil. These types of loans provide no foundation for an economic upswing and, as that business magazine admits, "The consequence is that loans reported by banks will be shrinking rapidly."

INCREASED LAYOFFS

Attempting to shift the burden of this growing crisis onto the workers, the capitalists have increased layoffs during the past year to a massive 8.1% in November. The number of official jobless workers increased from 6.8 million to 7.8 million. Black youth were particularly hard hit with rates as high as 50%-75% in some cities.

This growing unemployment, job insecurity and declining ability of millions of workers to purchase their basic necessities have led to growing rebelliousness and an upsurge in the workers' strike movement. The workers' fightback struggle began to get on its feet in 1976 with hundreds of demonstra-

tions at unemployment and welfare offices demanding "Jobs or Income Now." The formation of the National Fight Back Organization was a significant development in pushing this struggle forward.

The U.S. monopoly capitalists also tried desperately to shove the burden of the deepening crisis onto the other capitalist countries. But sharpening inter-capitalist rivalry combined with the growing economic and political struggle of the third world countries made that very difficult. In the first ten months of this year, U.S. foreign trade was in deficit every month except May. The total deficit of this period amounted to \$4.1 billion and is expected to reach \$5.5 billion by the end of the year.

DEMAND FOREIGN OIL

Declining production and rising consumption of oil created a heavier demand for foreign oil. Figures show that more than 40% of the oil consumed in this country during the first 10 months of 1976 was imported. Despite heavy pressure from the imperialists, the oil-producing countries moderately increased the price of their oil in order to protect themselves and to keep the third world from paying the price of the crisis.

All of these trends and statistics are further indications of the deepening of the general crisis of world capitalism. Shrinking markets, military and political defeats throughout the world, rivalry between the superpowers and sharpening contradictions at home all intensified the trouble for the giant capitalists, whose day is rapidly drawing to an end.



LEONARD PELTIER was extradited in chains from a Canadian prison last month.

EXTRADITED FROM CANADA PELTIER FACES LEGAL LYNCHING

The Canadian government extradited American Indian Movement (AIM) activist Leonard Peltier to the U.S. on Dec. 17. This move came at the request of the U.S. government, which hopes to either murder or jail Peltier, as they have done to hundreds of other Native American fighters.

Peltier faces murder charges in Rapid City, South Dakota, arising from the deaths of two FBI agents during an armed government assault on the Pine Ridge Reservation in June 1975.

Ever since the 1973 uprising and occupation of Wounded Knee in Pine Ridge, the FBI, Bureau of Indian Affairs police, and SWAT teams have imposed a reign of terror on the reservation. It was during the 1975 FBI attack that the two agents were killed when many Pine Ridge residents rose up in arms to defend themselves.

Peltier fled to Canada a year ago, after learning of the FBI's

plan to frame him along with three other AIM activists for the "murder" of the two FBI agents.

Of the other three co-defendants, Dino Butler and Robert Robideaux were acquitted, and charges against Jimmy Eagle dropped. Mass support was key to winning their acquittals.

Back in the U.S., Peltier not only faces legal lynching by the courts, but also the threat of death from FBI and BIA agents.

Peltier is only one of the many Native Americans jailed in recent years in an attempt by the U.S. government to crush the growing struggles of Native American people. But in the U.S. and internationally, broad support has been built for Peltier as a symbol of the heroic struggle of Native Americans against increased harassment and fascist attacks by all arms of the U.S. government.

Community hits slumlords, Fire Dept.

FIRE SWEEPS CHICAGO BARRIO

Chicago, Ill.—A roaring fire turned a Chicano family's Christmas Eve party into an inferno which left 12 people dead, 10 of them children. The incident occurred in Pilsen, Chicago's largest Chicano barrio.

Practically every day, the news of another fire stuns the poor and working people. Since the Christmas Eve tragedy, 19 more people have died by fire in this city. All of the victims have been Chicano, Black or Puerto Rican.

The Chicano and Mexicano victims in the Christmas Eve fire lived in deteriorated buildings with bad wiring, poor heating and few fire escapes. These factors are major causes of the hundreds of fires and deaths that take place each year.

In addition, slumlords stand to make huge profits from insurance claims if their buildings are "accidentally" destroyed by fire. This has led to a rash of fires in 1976, leaving over 50 dead from confirmed cases of arson alone.

Immediately after the Christmas Eve fire, hundreds of Pilsen residents turned out for the mass funeral. They sharply condemned the racism and oppression of Chicano people that contributed to the high death toll.

One woman exposed the lies of the capitalist newspapers which claimed that the people died "because they didn't speak English."

"We are not dumb," she said. "We are a proud people, and we speak Spanish. There should have been Spanish-speaking firemen that night."

Later, at a Pilsen community meeting attended by 200 people, the lack of Latino firemen was condemned. Residents pointed out that although there are an estimated 700,000 Spanish-speaking people in Chicago, there are only 7 Spanish-speaking firemen—and none of them are in Pilsen.

People at the meeting also pointed to the racist lack of concern of Fire Dept. officials who arrived late on the scene and refused to search the burning building in spite of pleas of the people and screams of the trapped children.

Cortes Miranda, who lost her five-year-old son in the fire, shouted at a Fire Dept. official at the meeting: "How come when I was pleading with you to save my children's lives, you did not respond? Nothing can be done now for the children, but justice must be met!"

The Pilsen residents at the meeting then demanded an investigation into the cause of the fire, the setting-up of a fire-prevention program in Pilsen, and the immediate hiring of more Spanish-speaking firemen. They also planned a demonstration at City Hall to present their demands.

While these demands are an im-

portant step forward, action must be taken to hit at the powerful slumlords who reap such huge profits from the fire-traps they rent to the working people of Chicago.

The Christmas Eve fire in Pilsen is a tragic example of how national oppression under capitalism literally means death for the people.

DEMAGOGY ON PUERTO RICO

What's behind Ford and Carter's sudden statements about Puerto Rico? What prodded Ford, in his New Year's message, to propose statehood for Puerto Rico and talk about the "common bonds of friendship, tradition, dignity and individual freedom" between the U.S. and Puerto Rico?

Not to be outdone, Carter presented himself as a champion of self-determination, claiming to be for "whatever the Puerto Rican people want."

This "humanitarian" masquerade by the imperialists is a demagogic and desperate attempt to assure continued U.S. control over Puerto Rico.

In the past year, the Puerto Rican people have raised louder than ever before the general cry for independence. The independence

movement has mobilized many thousands of patriots in demonstrations under its banners.

In addition, international support has grown tremendously. Both the Non-Aligned Nations and the UN Decolonization Committee pledged firm support last year for Puerto Rican self-determination and national sovereignty, condemning U.S. colonial rule.

Ford and Carter have thrust their plans for Puerto Rico into the spotlight to divert mounting criticism and opposition to U.S. rule. They fear this powerful independence upsurge and the increased meddling by the Soviet Union in the Caribbean, especially in Puerto Rico.

The Puerto Rican people have rejected statehood in referendums. In demonstrations as well as armed

uprisings, they have shown their willingness to fight for genuine independence. The struggle against the U.S. superpower and the Compact of Permanent Union, along with the battle to free the Five Nationalists, have all weakened U.S. imperialism's hold over the island.

The people of Puerto Rico cannot easily be taken in by Ford or Carter's demagoguery, because they know all too well what U.S. rule in Puerto Rico has meant. For the people, imperialism has brought towering unemployment and poverty, while it has brought millions of dollars in superprofits to the giant U.S. corporations.

Statehood, as well as commonwealth schemes, are nothing but a cover for continued exploitation. Independence for Puerto Rico is the just demand of the people.

RANK AND FILE FIRM IN MEAT STRIKE

EIGHTH WEEK ON STRIKE

Los Angeles, Calif.—Workers have entered the eighth week of their strike against the meat companies, which are attempting to destroy their union and reduce wages and living standards. Rank-and-file workers are standing firm in the face of court-ordered injunctions, police protection of scabs, and inaction and betrayal by the trade union misleaders.

In addition to contract demands for wage increases and an end to speedup and forced overtime, workers are now raising other demands to strengthen their strike and counter the sellout maneuvers of the top bureaucrats of locals 274 and 563 of the Amalgamated Meatcutters Union.

Workers are demanding a mass meeting to prepare strong action to stop scabs and shut down the plants. Many of the scabs are foremen, who belong to the union. The workers are insisting they be expelled from the union immediately.

"To win this strike," a worker at Farmer John Meat Company told *The Call*, "we cannot let the

owners' injunction stop our mass picketing. Rodriguez (Local 563 president) wants us all to go away for Christmas," he explained. "But we know that the only thing that will win this strike is getting everybody down on the picket lines to show our strength and determination." The injunction came down Dec. 23.

Contracts in the L.A. meat industry expired around Oct. 1. By November, some of the major companies and employer associations had signed contracts with the two largest meatcutter locals, No. 274 and No. 563, for a \$1.45-an-hour increase over three years and an expansion of benefits. Although these contracts did not keep pace with inflation, they represented the industry-wide standard for meat workers.

But 16 smaller companies of the Vernon Meat Dealers' Association (VMDA), along with Farmer John and other meat companies unionized by Local 563, refused to accept these terms. Instead, they offered wage packages more than 55¢-an-hour below the industry

standard.

These attempts to force through sub-standard contracts in some of the companies are the beginning of a long-term owner strategy to bust the union.

The Southwest has been the target of their attacks. A majority of the workers in the meat industry in this area are minorities—Chicano, Mexicano and Black. As a result of the national oppression in the Southwest, the capitalists have driven down wage levels and blocked unionization of many millions of workers by promoting divisions along national lines.

In addition, the meat companies are currently expanding into nearby Arizona, a right-to-work state, where it will be extremely difficult to build a strong union organization. Wage rates in Arizona are 30%-50% lower than prevailing national union averages.

The meat companies have also tried to pit men against women workers, segregating them by department, and excluding women from the skilled, higher-paying jobs.

STRONG CLASS FIGHTERS

But the battles against discrimination and national oppression have brought forward strong class fighters. Not only in this strike, but over the past few years, Chicano and Mexicano workers have played a leading role in the fight for union democracy, for equality of languages, translation of contracts and union meetings.

To oppose these struggles, the capitalists in the meat industry have relied on the trade union bureaucrats to represent their interests. In the last three months, the misleaders of 274 and 563 voluntarily agreed to divide these two large locals into dozens of smaller bargaining units, stripping the workers of a major weapon of struggle—an industry-wide strike.

The bureaucrats then negotiated separate agreements with

some companies, allowing them to continue production while workers in the same local went out on strike. The struck companies just transferred production over to these scab plants.

Now the bureaucrats are preparing to push a sweetheart contract through, spreading pessimism among the workers and dismantling rank-and-file picket lines. They capitulated to the company-instigated restraining order on the number of pickets and called off all picketing over Christmas, in spite of workers' opposition.

They have also increased red-baiting attacks as the participation and influence of communists grow among the strikers. Hundreds of copies of *The Call* have been distributed over the past month. Two

weeks ago, a *Call* seller was assaulted by a company goon and then threatened with arrest by the police. A union official goaded on the police, saying, "We don't want these communists around either."

But workers have welcomed *The Call* and leaflets put out by the League for Marxist-Leninist Unity and the October League. They are learning through their own experience that it is the bureaucrats who oppose the strike.

As 1977 begins, the strike continues with the workers resolved to fight on to win a decent contract. Relying on rank-and-file unity and mass action, they can defeat the bureaucrats' attempts to subvert the struggle and the bosses' attempts to bust their union.

ON THE LINE



Dragnet raid at Davis

Los Angeles, Calif.—A massive deportation raid on January 4, mounted by this city's police force and the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), rounded up close to 200 workers at Davis Pleating Company. Only days before, the INS seized three workers in the plant's parking lot.

The second of these fascist attacks took place at 7:45 in the morning, after the workers were all inside. L.A. police and INS officials set up squads at every door and then launched a dragnet raid. Workers jumped from second-story windows in a frantic effort to escape. But half of the work force, most of which is Mexican, was seized and deported.

This carefully-plotted attack is the response of the company and government to many months of sharp struggle to protect the rights of foreign-born workers in the plant. An important victory was won in November of last year when the company was forced to rehire two workers, one of whom was a shop steward. They had been fired in August for building the struggle against fascist deportations.

Both the firing and the raids have taken place with the close collaboration of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU) misleadership, Local 482. The union bureaucrats openly supported the firings and have promoted the myth that foreign-born workers are the cause of high unemployment.

When informed of this vicious INS raid, union officials said that they would do nothing to protect the arrested workers. Instead, they blamed rank-and-file activists in the shop and communists from the October League for "calling attention" to the foreign-born workers by waging struggle to defend their rights.

Workers at Davis, the OL and other forces are planning actions to protest the raid, calling for an end to the fascist deportations.

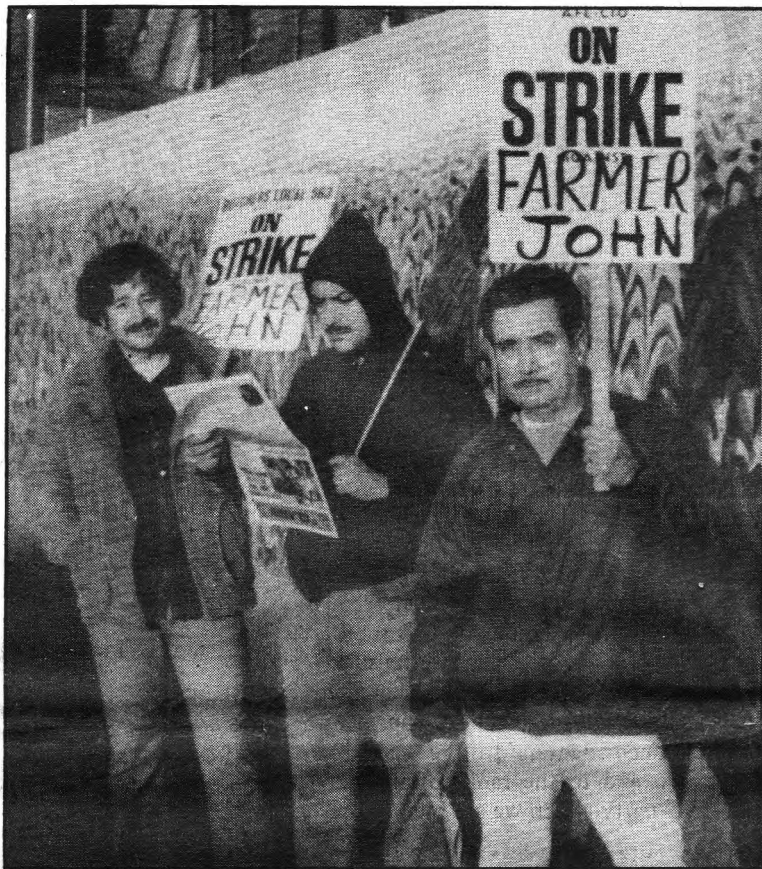
No justice for pressmen

Washington, D.C.—"No matter what the outcome of this trial," stated Everett Forsman, president of Local 6 of the striking Washington Post pressmen, "it will not have been justice."

In a Dec. 10 press statement, the Defense Committee denounced a recent move by the court to dismiss the jury panel in the trial of 15 Washington Post pressmen. The pressmen were indicted on trumped-up charges stemming from the initial walk-out over a year ago in this long battle for union rights.

Implying that supporters of the pressmen had "tampered" with jury selection, the judge and the capitalist media, headed by Katherine Graham of the Post, sought to delay the trial further to gain time to strengthen their case. Through their campaign of lies and slanders against the Post strikers, they have, according to a recent survey, convinced a large part of D.C.'s population that the 15 pressmen are guilty. But support has continued to grow among workers in D.C. and around the nation.

"Despite injunctions, grand jury subpoenas, blacklists, media distortions and indictments," the press statement went on, "the Washington Post Corporation has been unable to break the resolve of the pressmen. The Local 6 Defense Committee will persevere until the 15 pressmen are vindicated, and the conspiracy of the Washington Post to maximize profits through union-busting is fully exposed."



MEATCUTTERS are standing firm against both the bosses and the bureaucrats in L.A. strike. (Call photo)

BRIDGEPORT STRIKE MAKES REACTIONARIES TREMBLE

Bridgeport, Conn.—An attempt to cheat two Puerto Rican workers out of extra piece-work pay at a tiny sweatshop in this city has sparked a struggle that brought down repression from the state government, local police and the Labor Relations Board.

In mid-November, the manager of the Connecticut Pencil Company denied pay for extra work to two Puerto Ricans, claiming they already "earned too much." The other workers in this non-union shop stopped their machines and set up a picket line made up of a dozen or so Puerto Rican and white workers.

Why did such a small protest provoke Governor Grasso to order a probe, call out the police and arrest and harass supporters?

The answer is that the support for this strike threatened to set into motion a broader rebellion among the brutally oppressed Puerto Rican and working-class population in this depressed factory town.

The national oppression faced by Puerto Ricans in Bridgeport has sparked angry protests many times in the past. Concentrated mainly in run-down neighborhoods

on the East Side, Puerto Ricans are preyed upon by a vicious police force, which has murdered youth and terrorized residents.

These neighborhoods are also being burned out by greedy landlords to collect insurance, and big businessmen are investing in the East Side to bankrupt and wipe out small Puerto Rican community businesses.

HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT

One of the most intolerable forms of oppression is seen in the high unemployment, over 60% among Puerto Rican youth and 40% among adults. As a result of widespread joblessness, Puerto Rican workers are forced into the worst jobs, such as sweatshops like Connecticut Pencil, working up to 60 hours a week and being cheated out of their pay.

Support for the strike spread through the community. Some 70 supporters, including members of the Bridgeport Workers Organization (M-L) (BWO), joined the dozen strikers on the line. The BWO leafleted the Puerto Rican community and sold *The Call* door-to-door, rallying further support for the strikers, and raising

the demand of full democratic rights for all Puerto Ricans and independence for the island.

The militance of these few workers and the support from communists and other workers and students made the strike a target of government attacks. Gov. Ella Grasso ordered a probe into claims that a member of the Human Rights Commission had picketed with the workers.

She sent out police, who arrested one supporter for disorderly conduct and also filmed strikers and supporters. The media has been used to spread the lie that the strike is "just a Puerto Rican thing," covering up the multi-national make-up of workers and supporters.

The state's concern with this small but significant protest reflects their interest in maintaining the oppression of Puerto Rican people and the divisions between workers of different nationalities. But the unity built through this strike in support of the Puerto Rican people's struggle is a blow to their capitalist "divide and rule" tactics.

1976 in the labor movement

A YEAR OF ACTIVITY AND GROWING CONSCIOUSNESS

The year 1976 was marked by a sharp upturn in the activity and consciousness of the workers' movement. The year saw many long and militant strikes, including more than 3,000 in the first half of the year alone. These spontaneous struggles were battlegrounds for developing greater political consciousness among the workers and for demonstrating who their friends and enemies really are.

Fierce rank-and-file opposition against the trade union bureaucrats was fueled in the course of one struggle after another, from the nationwide truckers' and rubber workers' strikes to the miners' wildcat, the auto walkouts and the current meatcutters' battle in Los Angeles. The reformist and revisionist misleaders wielded their huge bureaucratic resources time and again in the bosses' interests, fighting to reconcile the workers' anger and just demands with the continued rule of the giant capitalists.

The bureaucrats' treachery, as well as court decisions and police attacks, gave a greater political character to many of the demands raised in the spontaneous struggles.

MINERS WILDCAT

Miners wildcatted against government interference, defending the right to strike. Workers in the garment and rubber industries, among others, closed ranks against fascist deportation raids, fighting for the democratic rights of foreign-born workers. In union locals across the country, struggles against discrimination and racist court rulings were linked to the fight to free Gary Tyler and to support self-determination for the Afro-American people.

The scope of the spontaneous movement in 1976 and the growing militance and consciousness of the workers underlined the need to build revolutionary leadership for the trade unions and to train a core of advanced fighters to lead the struggles ahead. This year calls for ever greater efforts to educate, organize and win many more advanced fighters to the cause of communism and to the ranks of the new communist party which we are building.

UAW INITIATES CAMPAIGN

The labor campaign initiated by the October League for the period ahead has been organized to accomplish some of these difficult and essential tasks. The campaign raises three main slogans around which to carry out revolutionary education, provide tactical leadership in the present period, and point the road ahead for revolutionizing the unions: **Boycott the elections! Drive out the bureaucrats! Build class struggle unions!**

These main slogans focus the campaign on the struggles unfolding in three of the largest industrial unions in the U.S.—the United Auto Workers (UAW), the United Steel Workers (USW), and the United Mine Workers (UMW)—where there are upcoming union elections. Not only has the rank-and-file struggle been sharp in these unions, but it has set off a heated power struggle among different factions of the bureaucracy. Each of these factions is trying to channel the rank-and-file movement off its developing revolutionary course.



1199 HOSPITAL STRIKE saw thousands of workers fight Wall Street's cuts in the N.Y. budget, but reformist and revisionist union leaders sold out the battle (Call photo)

In these elections, the capitalists make use of the phony communists of the revisionist CPUSA and militant-sounding reformists to appeal to the increasingly more radicalized workers in order to keep them on the path of reformism.

The boycott of the elections in these major unions is a tactic aimed at exposing the bureaucrats of all stripes and especially the liberal brand of "insurgents" and "dissidents." Agitation and propaganda in the campaign must show that the rank and file has no alternative among the candidates for union office. All preach one or another form of reformism and class collaboration—Ed Sadlowski as well as Lloyd McBride in steel; Arnold Miller and Henry Patrick as well as Lee Roy Patterson in the UMW, and all of Woodcock's inner-circle cronies like Douglas Fraser and Irving Bluestone in auto.

The boycott corresponds to the growing consciousness of many workers who have seen from their own experience that support for any of these reformist misleaders is a dead-end street. More and more workers, for the first time in decades, are actively seeking out revolutionary ideas and organization. The campaign is aimed at these workers especially, to rally them to fight for revolutionary leadership in the unions and to train them as agitators, propagandists and organizers for the new party.

RAISE POLITICAL LEVEL

At the same time, the campaign provides a means of organizing and raising the political level of the thousands of spontaneous protests which have shaken every major city and industry over the past year. Capitalism's deep economic crisis has created intolerable work conditions, poverty and unemployment for the masses of people. It was these conditions which unleashed a storm of economic struggle in 1976—more than 38.1 million strike days from January to October alone.

The labor campaign will deepen and broaden these struggles, raising demands for jobs or income for all and an end to layoffs, speedup, and forced overtime. It will rally workers to fight for a shorter work week with no cut in pay, for an end to discrimination against minority and women workers, to defend the right to strike, and to organize the unorganized.

Even these most immediate and basic demands cannot be guaranteed under capitalism and will never be won by relying on the capitalists' good graces nor on their agents in the labor movement. This important lesson was at the very heart of the main labor struggles over the past year.

The 1976 strike wave itself and resulting economic gains raised the question of the role and importance of strikes. The reformist and revisionist labor lieutenants apologized for the strikes and fought to end them as swiftly as possible.

The sellouts in the 1199 New York hospital strike and the auto strike were two glaring examples. After imposing scab settlements, the bureaucrats in both strikes claimed that strikes are an unnecessary labor tool and that labor-management talks can yield as much or

more by safeguarding production and profits.

Chief misleaders like I.W. Abel in the USW, Arnold Miller in the UMW, and Albert Shanker, head of the teachers' federation, attacked in public statements the right of workers to strike. Some of the year's most significant battles were in opposition to these capitalist agents, such as the 120,000-strong miners wildcat last summer and the growing movement among steel workers to smash Abel's no-strike agreement.

The four-month rubber workers' strike and 38-day battle of 1,000 Chicago nurses demonstrated the importance of the strike weapon in winning concessions from the capitalists. In these struggles, rank-and-file workers built unity, took initiative and held the line until the bosses caved in. Rubber workers won substantial wage and cost-of-living increases, and the nurses won union rights and most of their economic demands.

Another important advance in the labor movement came in the battle to organize the unorganized, especially in the Black Belt South and the Southwest, where national oppression has been used to divide the work force, keep out unions and drive down living standards for all workers. Building multi-national unity was a decisive factor in determining the success or failure of these workers' struggles.

Black and white workers—with women playing a leading role—in Monroe, La., cracked GM's "southern strategy" and voted in the UAW at their headlamp parts plant. Mainly Chicano and Native American miners achieved a great victory in the Southwest, winning union representation at New Mexico's Sundance Mine after a long and bitter struggle.

BUREAUCRATS' BETRAYAL

But in many other union drives such as the textile workers' battle at Cannon Mills in North Carolina, the union bureaucrats continued their historic policy of refusing to organize the unorganized. At Cannon Mills, the ACTWU turned its back on the organizing drive, despite enthusiastic support for it from the rank and file.

Minorities and women, the least unionized and most brutally exploited, have stepped forward in union drives and many other struggles as leading class fighters. The role of the Filipina nurses at Cook County Hospital in Chicago was just one example.

The work of communists over the past year has shown the importance of carrying out consistent revolutionary education to break the hold of reformism and the labor misleaders over the majority of workers.

The strike struggle at Capitol Packaging in Chicago, which ended last January, was an example of communist work and a model for struggles which developed throughout the year. *The Call* as well as leaflets and on-the-line agitation were used to popularize a Marxist-Leninist analysis and to expose the reformist bureaucrats and the array of opportunist forces which tried to sabotage the struggle. At the same time, propaganda work with the advanced workers at Capitol was decisive in strengthening their leadership in the strike and winning



MINERS WILDCAT strike was one of the key labor battles of 1976 as 120,000 union members challenged the Miller leadership.

sympathizers and also recruits to the communist movement.

Last year saw communists dig deeper and firmer roots in the working class. They used the weekly *Call* to initiate factory networks, recruited workers to build communist cells in plants, and played a leading role in many struggles around the country, as *The Call* has reported in every issue.

The growing influence of communism was also recognized by the misleaders and the imperialists, who visibly stepped up their red-baiting attacks and goon actions aimed at driving a wedge between the masses of workers and the leading activists and communist fighters.

The frenzy of anti-communism stirred up at the September UMW convention and the expulsion of a *Call* reporter from the hall, demonstrated the bureaucrats' fear and ruthlessness towards all rank-and-file activists and revolutionaries.

A leading voice in the anti-communist tirade has been the revisionist CPUSA. These scabs supported Arnold Miller's red-baiting at the UMW convention and have stepped up their attacks on the October League in many other unions.

The emergence of the revisionist party as a more prominent force in the labor movement was another significant development of 1976. True to their role as a fifth column for the interests of the Soviet Union, the CP has increased its propaganda for "detente" and trade with the USSR as its program for the U.S. workers' movement.

REVISIONISTS GAIN POSITIONS

The revisionists have tightened their alliance with the liberal and social-democratic union leaders like Ed Sadlowski as a way of gaining positions of influence for themselves. Riding Sadlowski's coattails, several revisionists were elected to positions of leadership in the USW. In unions where the CP already has a strong influence, they left their mark of treachery on important strike battles. In both the 1199 hospital strike and the San Francisco city workers' strike, the revisionists paved the way for sellouts by preaching reliance on liberal politicians.

More than anything else, the struggles of 1976 showed that the fight against capitalism's exploitation and misery cannot be conducted without waging a determined struggle against capitalism's agents right inside the workers' movement. The labor campaign which the October League has initiated for 1977 is designed to draw thousands more workers into this fight against both the bosses and the bureaucrats.

VIETNAM ENTERS NEW STAGE OF REVOLUTION

"With the great victory of our patriotic war against U.S. aggression, our entire party, entire people and entire army have fulfilled the historic task of national liberation and reunification of the country. . ."

On this theme, Le Duan, the First Secretary of the Vietnamese Workers Party, opened the Party's Fourth Congress in Hanoi last month. His report, given on behalf of the Party's Central Committee, summed up the achievements since the Third Congress in 1960 and put forward

the general line for Vietnam's socialist revolution in its new stage.

The Congress, attended by over 1,000 delegates, was convened after widespread discussion and debate throughout the party in both the north and south. To symbolize the reunification of Vietnam which took place earlier this year, the first train to run the full distance from north to south made its trip on the opening day of the Congress, December 14.

Le Duan's report stressed the need to consolidate the dictatorship of the proletariat in Vietnam and bring the working class into full play as masters of their society. The report also explained the orientation of the five-year economic plan covering 1976-1980, emphasizing the need to overcome the backwardness left as a result of the last 30 years of war and neo-colonialism.

In addition, the name of the party was officially changed to the "Communist Par-

ty of Vietnam" and a new Central Committee was elected, with Le Duan as General Secretary. The post of Party Chairman, which had been held by the late Ho Chi Minh, was left vacant to honor his memory and the great contributions he made in leading the Vietnamese people through half a century of struggle.

The Congress closed on December 20, with Truong Chinh, a member of the Party's Political Bureau, presiding over the final session. Delegates pledged their determination to carry through the tasks set by the Fourth Congress in the course of strengthening socialist Vietnam and making a greater contribution to the struggle of all the world's people for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism.

The friendship and revolutionary solidarity between Vietnam and China was reaffirmed by a message from the Communist Party of China. The message underlined the

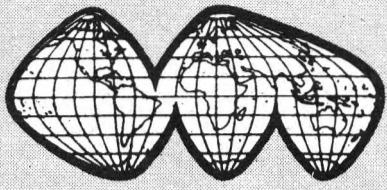
great advances made since the last Congress, and in particular, the powerful victory achieved by the Vietnamese people in their war against U.S. aggression. "We wholeheartedly wish the Vietnamese people new and greater achievements in the cause of building a prosperous and strong socialist country in the future," said the message.

The Chinese message also called for strengthening the solidarity between the two parties which was developed and nurtured by the great leaders of the two peoples, Mao Tsetung and Ho Chi Minh. In a separate message, China's new Chairman, Hua Kuo-feng, saluted Le Duan on his election as General Secretary of the Party.

Timed to coincide with the Vietnamese Party Congress, the bourgeois press in the U.S. unleashed a flood of attacks against the Vietnamese revolution. The press gave big play to a slanderous letter written by Daniel Ellsberg, Joan Baez, the Berrigan brothers and other liberal pacifists who were active during the anti-war movement in the 1960s. The letter protested "repression" and "violations of human rights" in Vietnam, charging that the "liberators of Vietnam" were "imposing a new oppression."

The letter exposed the true face of these liberals whose opposition to the war in the 1960s was merely an attempt to "reform" U.S. imperialism, not to change the basic fabric of oppression and aggression. Now that the war is over, these liberals have turned up in the front ranks of the U.S. slander campaign against socialist Vietnam.

But no amount of imperialist slander can destroy the great achievements of the Vietnamese people in liberating their country, reunifying it, and setting it soundly on its socialist course. These accomplishments were warmly hailed by the delegates to the Fourth Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam and are firmly supported by workers and oppressed people all over the world.



...in brief...

THAILAND: Celebrating the 34th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of Thailand, the Party Central Committee issued a statement December 1 which summed up both the situation since the bloody U.S.-backed coup of October 6 and the outlook for the year ahead.

The statement indicated that armed struggle was being carried out under the Party's leadership in extensive areas of the countryside. A broad united front is also rapidly developing for independence and democracy and against the fascist dictatorship.

Thailand's communists, drawing lessons from the October 6 coup, said, "Independence, democracy, justice and the interests and happiness of the people can be gained only by the overthrow of the rule of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism and cannot be achieved by peaceful means."

The statement also gave the Party's basic position on the main questions facing Thailand and affirmed its opposition to the Soviet Union as well as U.S. imperialism.

ARMED STRUGGLE IN NAMIBIA: The United Nations General Assembly approved a resolution on December 20 endorsing armed struggle to secure independence for Namibia (Southwest Africa) from South Africa's racist rule.

Although the U.S. and some other capitalist countries opposed the resolution, it was passed with overwhelming support, 107 to 6. The resolution called on all countries to give support and aid to the liberation struggle under the leadership of SWAPO (Southwest African People's Organization).

U.S. SAILORS IN NEW ZEALAND: In October, the nuclear carrier USS Long Beach landed at Auckland, New Zealand, during a tour of the southern Pacific. The ship, which is armed with nuclear missiles, was greeted with several days of militant protests, including many work stoppages.

Demonstrators at the port of Auckland raised the slogans, "Halt Superpower War Preparations," "Down with U.S. and Soviet Imperialism," and "Superpower Ships Out of Our Waters."

About thirty American sailors from the Long Beach joined the demonstrations, according to the New Zealand People's Voice. The demonstrators made use of massive loud-speaker broadcasts to the ship from hidden amplifiers at the harbor, as well as mass flashing of morse-code slogans to the ship at night.

Marine military police from the Long Beach joined by local police forcibly dragged protesting sailors away from the demonstrators. New Zealanders are now preparing a similar greeting for the USS Enterprise.



LE DUAN, re-elected as General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam, celebrates triumph of national liberation with front-line fighters against U.S. aggression.

BEHIND THE BUKOVSKY-CORVALAN PRISONER TRADE

The ruling circles in the U.S., the Soviet Union and Chile collaborated last month in a much-publicized exchange of political prisoners. The deal freed Soviet "dissident" Vladimir Bukovsky and Chilean revisionist leader Luis Corvalan from prison cells in their respective countries and flew them to Switzerland.

Each party involved in the exchange thought they could use it to demonstrate their commitment to "freedom" and "humanitarianism." But an examination of the whole affair shows the reactionary nature of all the protagonists.

SELF-EXPOSURE BY USSR

The most dramatic self-exposure was provided by Brezhnev and the Soviet social-imperialists. In equating the cases of Bukovsky and Corvalan, the Soviet revisionists were actually admitting that their brand of fascist repression is comparable to that of the Chilean junta.

In the past, the Soviet Union has always refused to admit that they hold political prisoners, claiming that such people are really "mental cases." In fact, Bukovsky became an object of repression because of his writings portraying the large-scale political use of Soviet mental hospitals. An estimated one million people are in Soviet "mental hospitals" for their opposition to the new tsars' regime.

Brezhnev was anxious to make the prisoner trade for several reasons. First, it solved the problem of Bukovsky whose case has attracted broad international support even from some of the European revisionist parties. Also, by freeing Bukovsky, a petty-bourgeois element, Brezhnev hopes to draw

attention away from the daily terror committed against Soviet revolutionaries, workers and oppressed minority peoples.

But Brezhnev's main interest centered on Corvalan. It was the Soviet Union and Corvalan's revisionist Communist Party of Chile that preached the treacherous line of "peaceful transition to socialism" in Chile. This line disarmed the people and was directly responsible for the success of the U.S.-backed coup d'etat against the Allende government.

In the years of bloody terror since the coup, many people have come to understand the criminal role played in Chile by the revisionist party and its Soviet masters. To cover up this history, Brezhnev has often shed crocodile tears for the people of Chile, making the issue of Corvalan's freedom a central campaign of all the revisionist parties around the world.

BREZHNEV STRENGTHENS POSE

In obtaining Corvalan's freedom, Brezhnev is trying to strengthen his pose as a "friend" of the Chilean people and demonstrate his influence internationally. Immediately after Corvalan's release, Brezhnev entertained him in Moscow, accompanied by tremendous fanfare in the revisionist press.

Far from rejecting the disastrous line of "peaceful transition," Corvalan and the rest of the Chilean revisionists have issued a new appeal for "dialogue" and "mutual understanding" with some of the main pro-fascist forces in Chile. They have also maintained their strident opposition to armed struggle and continued their attacks on the genuine Marxist-Leninists. It is clear that

Brezhnev is still using Corvalan and the Chilean party to trumpet "peaceful transition" in the hopes of disarming the world's people.

As for the U.S. imperialists and the Chilean fascists, they also hope to benefit from the prisoner trade. They are trying to take the steam out of the international movement which has developed in opposition to their crimes.

As soon as Corvalan was released, the U.S. succeeded in pushing a \$60 million loan to Chile through the World Bank. The loan had previously been blocked by several countries opposing Chile's repressive policies.

MAIN MEDIATOR IN TRADE

The U.S. was the main mediator in putting together the Bukovsky-Corvalan trade. The New York Times, Chicago Tribune, Washington Post and other major newspapers all hailed the "humanitarian efforts" of the U.S. government in arranging the deal.

Like the Soviet and Chilean fascists, the U.S. is also trying to cover up the real extent of political repression and imprisonment at home with token gestures of "humanitarianism" abroad. But the capitalist system which has imprisoned Gary Tyler and countless other political prisoners in the U.S. does not have a "humanitarian" thread in its basic fabric. It is committed to repression of the working class every bit as much as Brezhnev and Pinochet.

It was the common hatred for the working class and the cause of socialism that brought the U.S., the USSR and Chile together to negotiate the Bukovsky-Corvalan trade.

Growing unity against U.S. and USSR

LATIN AMERICA REBUFFS SUPERPOWER SCHEMES

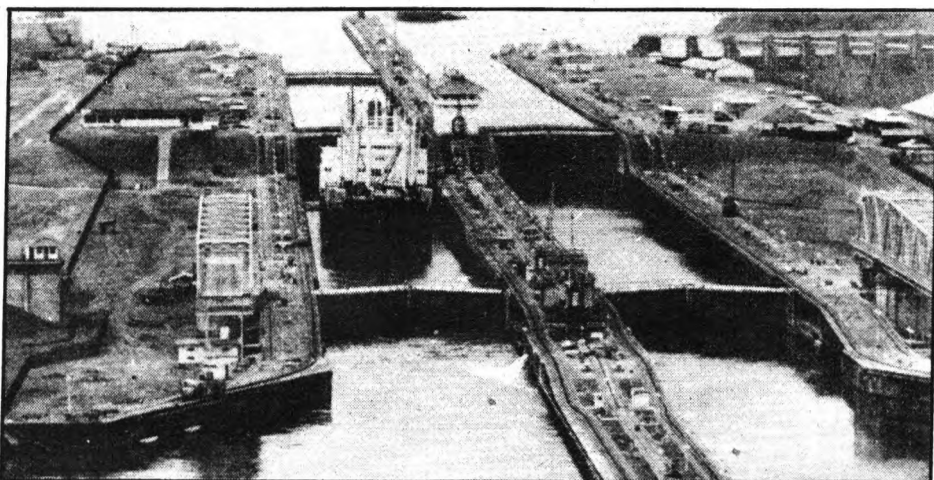
By The Call's correspondent in El Salvador

From the Rio Grande to the Straits of Magellan, the Latin American continent has become the target of fast-growing contention between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

The deadly superpower rivalry for new conquests of markets, land, natural riches, and cheap labor in Latin America has not gone unchecked. On all issues where superpower contention is sharp, Latin Amer-

ican governments and peoples are taking steps to firmly oppose both superpowers and safeguard their sovereignty.

With all of Latin America standing up, the struggle of the Panamanian people for recovery of the Canal Zone has become a symbol of struggle for complete independence and liberation.



PANAMA CANAL, controlled by U.S. imperialism, has become a symbol of the Latin American struggle for freedom from both superpowers.

ican governments and peoples are taking steps to firmly oppose both superpowers and safeguard their sovereignty.

In this struggle, Soviet social-imperialism, posing as the "natural ally" of third world peoples, is more dangerous than U.S. imperialism. Under the cover of "socialism" in words, and taking advantage of the low credibility of the U.S. government, the Soviet Union is pursuing a far more aggressive policy on the continent than its rival.

While the gunboat diplomacy of the U.S. has aroused the anger of the Latin American peoples for over a century, the Soviet Union is now embarked on the same course of military expansion, surrounding the continent with bases on all sides.

CUBA A MILITARY BASE

In the north, the USSR is transforming Cuba into a full-scale military base. Repair bases for air, naval and tank forces have just been completed and put in operation on a "joint" venture basis. Construction of military ports, expressways and railways have been expedited and assistance given for production of various light conventional weapons.

At the same time, the USSR has secured a stronghold in Angola, exposing the Latin American countries of the east coast to the threat of military expansion from the Atlantic.

In the south, the Soviets have established a seventh Antarctic station on Ross Island and planned five more not far from the southernmost tip of Latin America. So-called "oceanographic ships," equipped

with highly sophisticated espionage laboratories, regularly cruise the South Atlantic.

While Soviet aggressive plans are rapidly increasing, the U.S. is frantically trying to cling to what was once considered its "backyard." The U.S. imperialists are pressing hard to develop SATO (South Atlantic Treaty Organization) with Latin American countries to protect U.S. interests in the area. Military plans and maneuvers between the U.S. and some Latin

American countries have been staged as a show of force recently.

These military designs of the superpowers are coupled with continuing efforts at political and economic penetration.

With all of Latin America standing up, the struggle of the Panamanian people for recovery of the Canal Zone has become a symbol of struggle for complete independence and liberation.

DEMAND SOVEREIGNTY

In the face of continued U.S. military occupation of the Canal Zone and Soviet attempts to promote "internationalization" of the Canal, the Panamanian people and all Latin American peoples are militantly demanding total sovereignty over the Canal for Panama. President Gen. Omar Torrijos said last October, "Never has a Latin American cause united so many as ours." The Panamanian people have continuously demonstrated by the thousands for complete sovereignty over their territory and against the U.S. colonial enclave which borders the Canal.

U.S. President-elect Carter—who has said the U.S. will not give up operational and military control over the Canal "in the foreseeable future"—is not likely to change Ford's policy of refusing to meet any of Panama's demands.

In 1976 alone, U.S. efforts to maintain its hold over the Canal included an abortive bosses' lock-out (January), a Zonal employees' strike (March), an aborted plot to kidnap the Spanish ambassador (April), an air attack by U.S. planes on a Panamanian National Guard unit (July),

and several days of student riots (September)—all attempts to undermine the Torrijos government and stall Canal Zone Treaty negotiations.

Both superpowers see the Canal Zone as key to military control over the continent because it is the only waterway of its kind in the hemisphere, strategically located between North and South America. For its part, the USSR hopes to snatch the Canal for itself once the Panamanian people have thrown out the U.S. imperialists. Using Cuba as a go-between, it is trying to gain a foothold in the country.

The "model" of social-imperialist intervention in Angola holds many lessons for the Latin American people. They cannot forget that the Soviet Union recruited its mercenaries in Latin America. Taking advantage of the people's struggle against U.S. imperialism, the USSR invaded Angola with Cuban troops and eventually seized power through a puppet government.

TSARS EXPAND EMPIRE

In the same way, the new tsars are seeking to expand their empire into Panama, Belize and other Latin American countries. Everywhere they threaten, plot, infiltrate and seek to create splits and divisions, both internally—in universities, trade unions, peasant and teacher organizations, secondary schools, armed forces, government posts, opposition parties—and also externally, on an international scale.

Last October, for example, the USSR tried to drive a wedge between Peru and Chile. The two countries are currently negotiating the creation of a territorial strip to be used by Bolivia as a passage-way to the coast. Such an agreement would represent a step forward in trade relations and unity between Latin American countries. In the imperialist tradition of "divide and conquer," the Soviet Union spread rumors that Peru and Chile were on the verge of war, creating a tense climate as negotiations got underway.

The Soviet social-imperialists use economic and military "aid," with strings tied, to penetrate and eventually control third world countries. Cuba stands as proof that colonization is the real goal of Soviet "aid."

In a speech last September, Prime Minister Fidel Castro clearly indicated the country's present crisis and its dependence on social-imperialism. He called on the Cuban working class to "make more sacrifices," announced increased rationing of consumer goods such as coffee and synthetic cloth, and declared that the country "must produce for exportation."

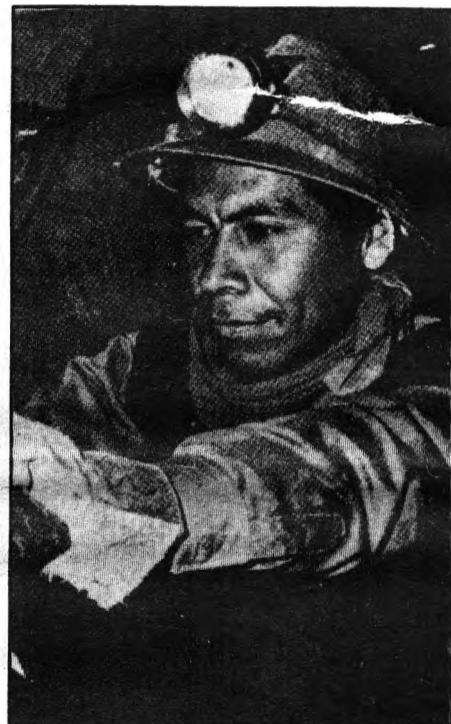
In answer to the colonialist appetite of both superpowers, Latin American countries are creating their own economic organizations and blocs. The Latin American Economic System (SELA), for instance, founded in October 1975, excludes the United States and constitutes a positive

step towards regional economic solidarity. Last month, Latin American coffee-producing nations inaugurated an Information Center in El Salvador to bypass the London-New York manipulation of coffee market statistics.

Following the drop in world sugar prices from \$.70 to \$.08 a pound in less than a year, Latin American sugar exporting nations recently met in Santo Domingo to decide on a minimum price, arrive at a common strategy, and safeguard their export-dependent economies.

In the same way, many Latin American nations have adopted measures to defend their sovereignty over the 200-nautical-mile "economic zone." Both the U.S. and the Soviet Union are gnashing their teeth over the loss of their "right" to freely plunder third world marine resources. In August, at the most recent meeting of the UN Sea Conference in Geneva, both superpowers denounced what they termed "extremist control" of the conference by third world nations.

The rising trend of Latin American unity and independence is diametrically opposed to superpower interests in the



BOLIVIAN miners spark struggle against imperialism and the repressive regime.

area. This year, the continent scored new victories against imperialism and hegemonism.

In addition, the revolutionary struggles inside each Latin American country have developed powerfully over the last year. In Bolivia for instance, the 55,000 members of the Federation of Bolivian Miners played a militant role in opposition to the fascist dictatorship and its imperialist backers with a two-month strike last year. In Mexico and Honduras, hundreds of thousands of peasants have seized lands previously owned by U.S. agribusiness and local capitalists.

In Colombia, masses of students demonstrated in support of a 24-hour general strike of 180,000 teachers last March 31. The next day, the students assaulted stores and government-owned offices to protest the police murder of several students during the clashes.

Meanwhile in Chile, Argentina, Uruguay and other countries where the masses suffer fascist repression, police terror could not succeed in wiping out many instances of sharp class struggle. Throughout the continent, new Marxist-Leninist parties have developed to lead the working-class struggle and to oppose the treachery of modern revisionism.

Latin American countries and peoples will continue to unite and persist in their struggle to throw out the imperialist tiger, expel the social-imperialist wolf clawing at the back door and advance the worldwide struggle to bring an end to imperialism's rule.



COLOMBIAN WORKERS AND PEASANTS have unleashed a storm of anti-imperialist struggle over the last year, including the above demonstration led by the Marxist-Leninist League of Colombia. (Nueva Democracia)

Hua Kuo-feng sums up China's struggle against 'gang of four'

Hua Kuo-feng, Chairman of the Communist Party of China, delivered a major address summing up the struggle against the "gang of four" at last month's National Conference on Learning from Tachai in Agriculture. He also put forward the Party's policy for how this struggle should be carried out in 1977.

A previously unpublished article by Chairman Mao entitled "On the Ten Major Relationships" (1956) was also made public at the Tachai Conference and used as a basic text studied by all the delegates. It was released in the Chinese press on the occasion of Chairman Mao's birthday (December 26) and is of great importance in understanding the struggle against the "gang." (Both this article and Chairman Hua's speech will be reprinted in future issues of *The Call*.)

Chairman Hua began his speech by pointing out the grave danger which the "gang's" plot to seize party and state power presented to China after Chairman Mao's death: "Should their scheme have succeeded," he said, "that would have led to a great retrogression and split in our Party and country and touched off a major civil war."

"They would have directly capitulated

to imperialism and social-imperialism, relying on the aggressor's bayonet to prop up their puppet throne, and there would have been both internal strife and foreign aggression. At that time, we were faced with the very immediate danger of capitalist restoration, a danger of our Party turning revisionist and our country changing its political color."

But Chairman Hua pointed out that the broad masses in China immediately grasped the significance of the "gang's" counter-revolutionary activity and rose up under the leadership of the Central Committee to smash them."

He emphasized that even in Shanghai, where the "gang" had built up the most influence for themselves, the masses' hate and indignation for them "burst out with the speed and momentum of a volcanic eruption."

Detailing the crimes of the "gang," Chairman Hua showed that they withheld and distorted Chairman Mao's directives; attacked leading Party cadres and were particularly bent on overthrowing the late Premier Chou En-lai; constantly attacked the People's Liberation Army; violated Chairman Mao's directives on giving mistaken cadres a chance to change; incited bourgeois



CHEN YUNG-KUEI, talks with members of the production brigade (*China Pictorial*).

factionalism, even trying to instigate civil war; tried to split the unity of China's nationalities; conspired with the most decadent and counter-revolutionary vandals and thieves to disrupt the country's stability; turned a blind eye to the people's sufferings, such as during the Tangshan earthquake; tried to undermine Chairman Mao's line on foreign policy and carried out illicit relations with foreign powers; sabotaged all socialist economic and cultural undertakings, and thoroughly tried to smash China's socialist economy.

With all these crimes on the record, Chairman Hua concluded that despite all the "gang's" attempts to parade themselves as "leftists," "they are ultra-rightists, out-and-out capitalist-roaders." He also showed that Chang Chun-chiao, Chiang Ching and Yao Wen-yuan all had ties to Chiang Kai-shek and other reactionaries as far back as the 1930s.

In looking forward to the new year, Chairman Hua called for continuing to take class struggle as the key link in four main ways.

First, he urged a deepening of the mass movement to expose and criticize the "gang." Secondly, he called for heightened party-building efforts to strengthen the unity of the Party and its centralized leadership and to oppose the "corrosion" which the "gang" had brought to the Party by recruiting and promoting members on an incorrect basis. In 1977, he said, new con-

gresses and elections would be held at local levels.

Thirdly, Hua Kuo-feng called for deepening the mass movements to learn from Tachai in agriculture and from Taching in industry. He sternly denounced the "gang's" bankrupt attack on every effort to promote production, pointing out that "revolution means liberating the productive forces." A conference on Taching, similar to the current one on Tachai, will be called in 1977, said Chairman Hua.

Finally, Hua Kuo-feng called for more conscientious study of the works of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and Mao Tsetung and announced that the long awaited fifth volume of Chairman Mao's *Selected Works* will be printed in the first half of 1977.

"1977 will be a year in which we shall smash the 'gang of four' completely and go towards greater order, a year of unified struggle and triumphant advance," he said in summary. He also took special note of the support given to China's victories by Marxist-Leninist parties and organizations internationally.

The fact that this highly significant speech of Chairman Hua was given at the Tachai Conference was also important. The struggle over the correct road for China's agriculture and her 700 million peasants has been a major arena of struggle with the "gang." The "gang," led by Chiang Ching,

(PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 10)



TACHAI BRIGADE members going to work in the fields. In the center is Kuo Feng-lien, branch secretary of the Communist Party (*China Pictorial*).

James Veneris, a U.S. soldier who became a prisoner of war during the Korean War, decided not to return to the U.S. after he was released, but made his home in socialist China instead. For the last six months, Veneris has been on a tour of the U.S., the first visit to this country he has made since the early '50s.

The Oct. 4 issue of *The Call* carried an interview with Veneris in which he discussed his experiences in Korea and China over the last twenty-five years. The interview below, conducted several months after the first one, contains more of Veneris' reflections on the situation in China, the U.S. and the world.

The struggle against the "gang of four" broke out after Chairman Mao's death and while you were touring the U.S. How did you feel when you first heard about it?

I was happy because it was a continuation of struggle, and the only way things develop is through struggle. The struggle against the "gang of four" represents a continuation of the Cultural Revolution, a continuation of the struggle under the dictatorship of the proletariat, a continuation of the struggle against the old ideology of individualism, where the old private property conception comes out.

China recognized that the Soviet Union had changed from a socialist to a social-imperialist country long ago. The Soviet Union even tried to enslave China but could not succeed. Can you comment on this?

Chairman Mao and the Chinese Communist Party started to see that the leaders in the Soviet party had changed colors and were going against Marxism. The old exploiting classes took power again, along with new bourgeois elements. The Chinese comrades detected this development very early

and gradually began repudiating this stuff and stood firm along with Albania.

One thing the new Soviet social-imperialists wanted to do to China was take over the Chinese army, navy and air force bases. China just flatly refused. The social-imperialists did not rest with this.

In 1958 China had the Great Leap Forward. This was a period when quantitative change transformed into qualitative change, when there were big mass movements going on. To some extent this helped save China, with the Chinese people building new bridges, hospitals, railways and factories and raising steel production very quickly.

However, nature was very cruel to China at that time. In 1959 I remember they had floods all over China. Even the Yellow River got very high and they had to mobilize all the people to control it. The floods hurt production, especially the grain production, so the Chinese had to tighten their belts. In 1960 there was the drought, and the ground parched up and cracked, affecting production throughout the whole nation.

In 1960 or '61 we also had pestilence. Life was very tight and, in fact, some people's legs swelled up due to the lack of

INTERVIEW WITH JAMES V

'Build party armed with

food. The bone was so soft you could put your thumb into it. But the people rallied together around the Communist Party and tried to fight it off.

When a man falls down a well, you pull the man out. Right? Not the social-imperialists. Just at the time when all this was happening, Khrushchev and his gang decided it was a very good time to attack China. So they threw a boulder down into the well. They took all their experts out of China and took all their blueprints.

China or any socialist country has a planned economy for the whole nation which you can't visualize by looking at just one factory. There were many factories that were waiting for certain instruments or machinery before they could be put into operation. The Soviet revisionists refused to give them that stuff and made the economy even more lopsided. More people got sick and some even died.

When the Chinese people wanted to overcome all this, what did Khrushchev do again? Back at the time of the Korean War in the early '50s, when the Chinese volunteers and Korean people fought very bravely against the American imperialists, the Soviet Union had given some aid. It was their obligation to aid other socialist countries that were the object of aggression. Of

course, the millions and millions of Chinese and Korean people who sacrificed their lives were aiding the Soviet Union by keeping the American imperialists from going into China and maybe enlarging the war against the Soviet Union. There was mutual class feeling.

Nearly a decade later, when China was trying to pull itself out of its difficulties, Khrushchev gets the idea that he wants billions of dollars in eggs, meat, milk, sugar, grain, apples, medicine—the best of what China had—as return payment for Soviet aid.

China finally overcame it all, proving that the only way you can build your economy is through self-reliance, which means relying on your party and relying on the masses of the people, who are the source of wisdom.

I remember back in 1959 or '60 when the revisionists were denouncing China and Albania at a so-called communist party meeting in Hungary, Khrushchev very clearly stated to an American reporter: "I'll have them buckle to my knees. They will kneel. I will apply economic pressure and make them buckle!"

That's one thing that strikes me very vividly. It will be imprinted in my mind for the rest of my life because it exposed not

CYO CONVENTION SUCCESSFUL AND SPIRITED

Chicago—Below-freezing temperatures could not chill the revolutionary spirit and enthusiasm of the more than 200 young people who gathered in Chicago last week for the Second National Convention of the Communist Youth Organization (CYO).

These delegates, coming from every area of the country, were largely from the ranks of young workers and oppressed minority youth. They summed up their work over the last year, laid plans for 1977 and elected a core of leadership for the CYO National Steering Committee.

The convention received international greetings from young activists from Mexico, from the Communist Youth Federation of Germany, and from the Canadian Communist League (M-L) (CCL).

The CCL representative received a standing ovation when she presented the CYO with a gift and said: "Comrades, we are brothers and sisters in the struggle against imperialism and social-imperialism, in the struggle for the victory of socialism. We have much to share and learn from each other. We must continue to strengthen our fraternal ties."

Fraternal messages of solidarity were also delivered by several of the organizations within the Organizing Committee for a Marxist-Leninist Party, including the October League. OL Chairman Michael Klonsky called for the "closest and warmest fraternal relations" between the CYO and the new communist party that will be founded in the next few months.

He said: "To the party, the youth organization of communists is a mighty reserve and training school for young communists to fill the ranks of the party and become successors in the great communist tradition of our class."

Greetings were also expressed from the People's Defense Committee of New Orleans; the Ronnie Long Defense Committee, Concord, N.C.; the People United for Justice for Prisoners, Dallas, Texas, and the National Fight Back Organization.

Mary Smith, representing the NFBO, traced her struggle of more than 50 years from the plantations of the Black Belt South to the urban ghetto of Chicago. In conclusion, she said: "Black people can only win their liberation through socialism and self-determination," and called on the youth to energetically take up this struggle.

A message from political prisoner Gary Tyler was also given by a representative from the Desire Housing Projects in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The message said: "We have to open peoples' eyes, starting off with the youth. When the elders see what the youth are into, they will take up the struggle. I hope the CYO will keep up the struggle, making more people aware of what's happening. People will really be at a loss if they don't know how the system functions. Our only means of making people aware is by explaining things to them deeply. We are depending on changing things for the future.

We can't depend on our parents. We've got to make our own decisions—our own future."

Roy Smith, who was re-elected CYO National Chairman, made the main speech, summing up the advances of the organization over the past year and drawing the lessons of those experiences. Smith stressed the need for the CYO to develop a fighting program to guide its work. He also called on CYO members to link the struggle against U.S. imperialism with the international movement against both superpowers and particularly in solidarity with the struggle of the third world.

Smith also stated the CYO's stand in support of the Communist Party of China in its struggle against the counter-revolutionary "gang of four," saying, "The CYO will not be a 'sometime' friend of China, but will be its stalwart ally."

The CYO adopted the first half of its national program, the latter half to be studied and adopted later in the year. The sections so far adopted declare the CYO to be "a mass organization of advanced youth dedicated to making socialist revolution." It states: "We are part of the world-wide communist movement. The CYO is a school of communism which trains youth in the science of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought. Our task is to lead and organize the youth and students to participate in the struggle of the working class to overthrow imperialism and establish socialism."

The program strongly denounced the re-



CANADIAN COMMUNIST LEAGUE representative gives solidarity speech. (Call photo)

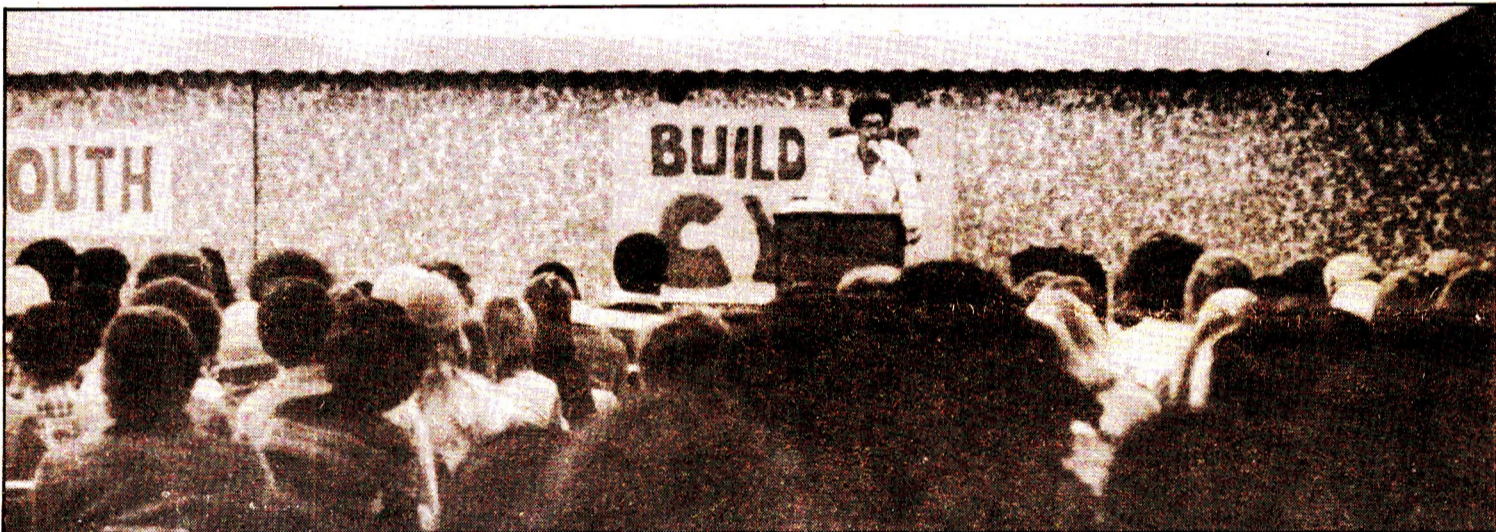
visionists of the Communist Party USA and their youth organization, the Young Workers Liberation League, saying: "Under the guise of Marxism-Leninism, these agents of imperialism preach the peaceful road to socialism and, in fact, practice fascism."

Workshops were held on a broad number of topics ranging from revolutionary culture and women's emancipation to the international situation and the national question. A cultural night and New Year's Eve Party were also held.

Along with Roy Smith, Vice-Chairperson Marja Wessels was also re-elected. A National Steering Committee was elected with members from every area of the country. The body also welcomed the news that the CYO will begin to publish a regular newsletter.

As the convention drew to a close, rank-and-file members from every city came to the microphone and spoke of the important advances they had made, promising to redouble their efforts in the coming year. Representatives from a city which hadn't yet formed their CYO chapter said: "This convention has answered so many of our questions about how and why to build the CYO. Now we feel confident we can go home and rally many others around our organization."

Roy Smith summed it up by saying: "We have come a long way this first year. But this next year, the backbone leadership of the CYO will be strengthened and new leaders trained. Many youth are eager for socialism, and we must build a strong CYO to organize them."



CYO CHAIRMAN Roy Smith summed up the work of the organization over the last year in his opening speech. (Call photo)

VENERIS AFTER U.S. TOUR

Mao Tsetung Thought'

only theoretically but in concrete actions what the social-imperialists did. We overcame it but only because all the people were working together and we had a real party leading.

How do you view the present international situation and the relationship between the two superpowers, the U.S. and the USSR?

One part of a contradiction always plays the leading role and the other part the secondary role. When you look at the two superpowers, are you going to say they are even-steven? That they are in equilibrium and will always be in equilibrium? "We'll have detente, and they'll have five guns and we'll have five guns," and that's all? That's a bunch of malarky. There is always one part playing the leading role, and between the two superpowers today the leading role is being played by social-imperialist Russia. Why? Because you have the uneven economic development of imperialist powers.

When the imperialists go all over the world for more markets, the only way their conflicts can be resolved is through war. The same thing happened during World War II.

Today there is a very great danger that there will be a third world war, and it will

be fought between social-imperialists and American imperialists. In reality both are imperialist. They call Russia "social-imperialist" because it was a socialist country that changed into an imperialist country. Sooner or later the two will have to fight.

A war can be averted if you can arouse the people, let them know what's going on and explain these things dialectically on the basis of Marxism, form a broad united front and try to stop them. However, the mass organizations throughout the world may not reach this stage, and then there will be a war. If there is a war, the masses will suffer so much that they won't sanction it, and will destroy the two superpowers one way or another anyway.

You've been touring the U.S. for several months now. What observations do you have about your trip?

After having been here in America for four months, one thing comes to mind, and that's the very low level of study of Marxism-Leninism, and especially Chairman Mao's Thought. Many people I have met do not know what dialectical materialism is. It's not that I'm smarter than anybody else, but I get the general idea from all the questions people have asked me that the basic



JAMES VENERIS

thing lacking in America is the study of Marxism and Chairman Mao's Thought.

I think back to the USA 26 years ago when I used to go to work in the factory in the morning. There's the cop, black hat, club, bullets and a gun, and he looks at you, stares at you and looks at you like slaves. He's just watching to club someone and find something wrong. Then you got to grab that goddamn time card, and you got to punch it in, and if you're late five minutes, they dock you one hour and you lose money. That machine you work at is a suppressing machine. It's the

weapon they use to suppress you.

In China when I go to work, there are no armed guards there and no time clock. They took that thing in 1954 and put it in a museum. It's still there to educate the people. Because, you know, you feel it's your own nation, and the factory belongs to the whole country and belongs to you. It's part of you, too.

Why should I come late to work in China? You feel it's your own nation, your own people, your own country. Every person is responsible individually. But in the U.S., it's not that way. That's why you've got to study Marxism and Chairman Mao's Thought. In the future, I am sure the American working class will also take these punch clocks and put them in a museum.

What do you think is the most urgent task facing the American people?

This is my own personal idea of what is the most urgent task facing the American proletariat, the American people: the building of a genuine Communist Party armed with Marxism-Leninism and Mao Tsetung Thought. And what for? It's for the American proletariat to fulfill its historic mission to get rid of American imperialism and all exploitation of mankind. A socialist party couldn't do that. A revisionist party couldn't do that. A social-democratic party couldn't do that. Trotsky renegades can't do that. It will have to be a party armed with Mao Tsetung Thought and nothing else.

HUA KUO-FENG . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

had viciously attacked the model Tachai commune as well as Hua Kuo-feng's speech given in 1975 at the first Conference on Learning from Tachai in Agriculture.

Chairman Mao issued his famous call to "learn from Tachai" in 1964 after studying the developments within that particular production brigade. At Tachai, a barren wasteland was turned into a green valley with the peasants relying on their own hands and Marxism-Leninism as their only tools.

Chen Yung-kuei, the former leader of the Tachai production brigade who is now a member of the Party Central Committee and Vice-Premier of the State Council, gave a speech to the Conference summing up the struggle against the "gang" in the realm of agriculture.

Chen pointed out the need to greatly expand agricultural production and achieve the goal of modernizing China by the year 2000. This goal was set by Chou

En-lai in his report to the 10th Party Congress, although the "gang" opposed it.

The goal of modernizing China directly flowed from Chairman Mao's thesis in his 1956 article on the "Ten Great Relationships" that the country should "mobilize all positive factors to build China into a powerful socialist country."

Chen said that "The rate of agricultural development has fallen much behind the requirements of the country's socialist revolution and construction."

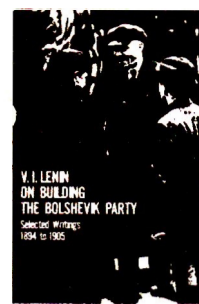
To remedy this situation, he said, it is necessary to use the struggle against the "gang" as the motive force in fulfilling the tasks set by the Party Central Committee—to build more than one-third of the counties into Tachai-type counties by 1980 and to realize in the main the mechanization of farming throughout the country by the same year.

The conference also heard speeches by Party cadres from various agricultural regions. Delegates from the Tachai brigade itself told how Chiang Ching

lorded it over the masses when she visited the commune last year. Chiang Ching set herself up in luxurious quarters, refused to join the peasants in productive labor, and charged that Tachai was "politically backward."

A delegate from Shantung province said that "For years, our cadres and the masses sensed something wrong in what the 'gang of four' did. . . We knew if we fought against them, they would make many false charges against us and attack us. But it's against our Party spirit to sit back. . . After weighing this in our minds, we decided to fight."

The experience of the Chinese masses has already demonstrated that the attempt by the "gang of four" to wreck the socialist economy and sow confusion among the people, like the attempts of capitalist-roaders before them, cannot succeed. The downfall of Wang, Chang, Chiang, and Yao—thanks to the decisive leadership of the Party and its Chairman Hua Kuo-feng—has made the millions of Chinese peasants even more enthusiastic and determined to take up their historic task of building socialism in their country.



Liberator Press publishes new Lenin anthology

Liberator Press has just published a new book entitled *V.I. Lenin: On Building the Bolshevik Party (Selected Writings 1894-1905)*.

The thirty-eight selections contained in this volume were written during the period when the Russian communists were struggling to build their party. In waging sharp struggles against the opportunism of the Economists and Mensheviks within the Russian movement, Lenin developed his views on the new type of vanguard party necessary to lead the working class.

Lenin's exposure and thoroughgoing critiques of the anti-party forces in Russia serve as a guide in our battle to build the party in the U.S.

Liberator Press has included in this collection many essays and articles that have previously been available only in Lenin's *Collected Works*, such as: "A Retrograde Trend in Russian Social-Democracy," "On Strikes," "A Talk With Defenders of Economism," "To the Party," and "New Tasks and New Forces."

V.I. Lenin: On Building the Bolshevik Party is an important contribution to the library of Marxist-Leninist literature and a valuable party-building tool.

Copies of this 390-page work are available for \$3.95 (plus 25 cents for postage) from Liberator Press, Box 7128, Chicago, Ill. 60680.

RED-BAITING . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

against him, Murphy told *The Call*, "Red-baiting has always been used to divide workers and prevent the spread of revolutionary ideas. The charges against me show how fearful the bureaucrats are of the growing rank-and-file movement

in the local. They're losing control and really feel they're on shaky ground."

Local 1644 bureaucrats are working closely with Atlanta city officials and their capitalist masters to crush the year-long struggle of city workers for a \$500 wage increase and the growing political

struggle against the sellout union leadership.

By charging Murphy with "trying to destroy the union," the bureaucrats hope to eliminate one of the most active leaders in the upsurge in Local 1644 that over the last year has witnessed occupations of city hall, mass demonstrations and one-day work stoppages.

The union, which includes a large number of Black workers, also took a militant stand in support of Gary Tyler's freedom. Murphy, who is white, and other rank-and-file workers both Black and white, have fought for multi-national unity in the union and upheld the demand of Afro-American self-determination. This is particularly significant in the heart of the Black Belt where the capitalists have always used the chauvinist union leadership to keep the Black and white workers divided.

The labor bureaucrats want to put a stop to the struggle to turn the unions into a fighting force for the overthrow of capitalism. Murphy's activity in educating his fellow workers to the class-collaborationist nature of the labor leaders has shaken up both the union bureaucracy and Atlanta's ruling elite, who rely on their misleaders in the labor movement to preach "class peace."

The Georgia Business and Industry Association (GBIA) recently sent out a warning to its 1,000 member companies to be on the watch for communists and "subversive elements." According to an article in the Atlanta Constitution, headlined "Red Sabotage Feared by Business Group," the GBIA is warning against the growing influence of communists in the Atlanta workers' movement.

The article quoted FBI spokesmen as saying that their agency

was "actively investigating the October League." It pointed out that the October League has been a target of FBI activity since the communist-led 10-week wildcat at the Mead Corp. in 1972.

The red-baiting crusade in Atlanta is a result of the fact that workers are increasingly turning away from the sellout bureaucrats like Jerry Wurf and looking for genuine revolutionary leadership. Wurf himself stands behind the attacks on rank-and-file fighters in Local 1644 and other locals around the country. His efforts to expel the union's most militant fighters demonstrate his treacherous misleadership, disguised with a lot of liberal rhetoric which he has used to fool the membership for years.

Murphy's hearing is expected to be in late January. It will be a concrete battle in the war to win revolutionary leadership for the unions.

New Issue of Class Struggle



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CARTER RAILROADED . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Bello, the prosecution's key witness, who had earlier recanted, suddenly changed his story. He took the stand again and stuck by his 1967 testimony which "identified" Carter and Artis as being at the scene of the crime. Distorting Carter's statements about the Black liberation struggle, the prosecution presented its view of the motive for the killings as "racial revenge."

The jury bought this newly-orchestrated frame-up as the six-week trial concluded. The victory that had once appeared so "certain" became a ruthless attack and defeat.

Carter himself summed up the main lesson of this struggle when he said that the people's faith cannot be placed in the courts. The reason the courts were so anxious to put him away in the first place was his outspoken support for Black liberation. The oppression of the Afro-American people, so systematically woven into the fabric of U.S. capitalism, is clearly responsible for the frame-up.

Even though the re-conviction of Carter and Artis is a bitter setback, a correct summation of its political lessons will serve to advance the fight for freedom of

other political prisoners and the Afro-American people's fight for self-determination.

In the fight for Gary Tyler's freedom, for example, the question of whether to rely on the courts or the masses has been at issue. Whether or not to link Tyler's fight to the entire struggle of the Afro-American people has also been debated. The Tyler movement has so far succeeded in basing itself on the correct orientation of militant mass action and drawing a close political link between Tyler's case

and the fight for Afro-American self-determination. Recent developments in the defense of Carter and Artis confirm the need to maintain this orientation.

The re-conviction of Carter and Artis will undoubtedly be met with renewed protests and mass anger. This sentiment of outrage must be directed against capitalism and the system of national oppression which is responsible for the frame-up of Carter, Artis, Tyler and countless others.

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