

HEROINE RETURNS TO PUERTO RICO

Thousands Greet Lolita Lebron

Shouts of "Independence for Puerto Rico!" and "Free the Five Nationalists!" echoed loudly as thousands of Puerto Ricans rallied last week to greet Lolita Lebron, a heroine of the liberation struggle.

On March 2, Lolita Lebron returned to her island homeland for the first time in 23 years. She was granted a temporary furlough from prison to attend the funeral of her daughter Gladys Mendez. Although U.S. authorities tried to prevent news of her arrival from leaking out, it did get out. Almost immediately, thousands of flag-waving and shouting independentistas gathered at the airport to give Lolita Lebron a heroine's welcome.

By the next day, when the funeral took place, there were thousands more. Even the Puerto Rican senate passed a motion greeting this patriotic fighter.

Her presence in Puerto Rico fired the already strong independence sentiments among the people, and her strength and dedication as a fighter for the cause of her nation's freedom stood as a living example before the thousands who came out to meet her.

Lolita Lebron has been in a U.S. federal penitentiary since 1954, when she was arrested for leading an attack on the U.S. Congress. On March 5, 1954, Lolita Lebron, Rafael Cancel Miranda, Irving Flores and Andres Figueroa Cordero, all members of the Nationalist Party, rushed into the capitol building in Washington, D.C. and fired shots, wounding five Congressmen. They were there to demand independence for Puerto Rico and a halt to the U.S. imperialists' scheme to make the island a "commonwealth" in an effort to

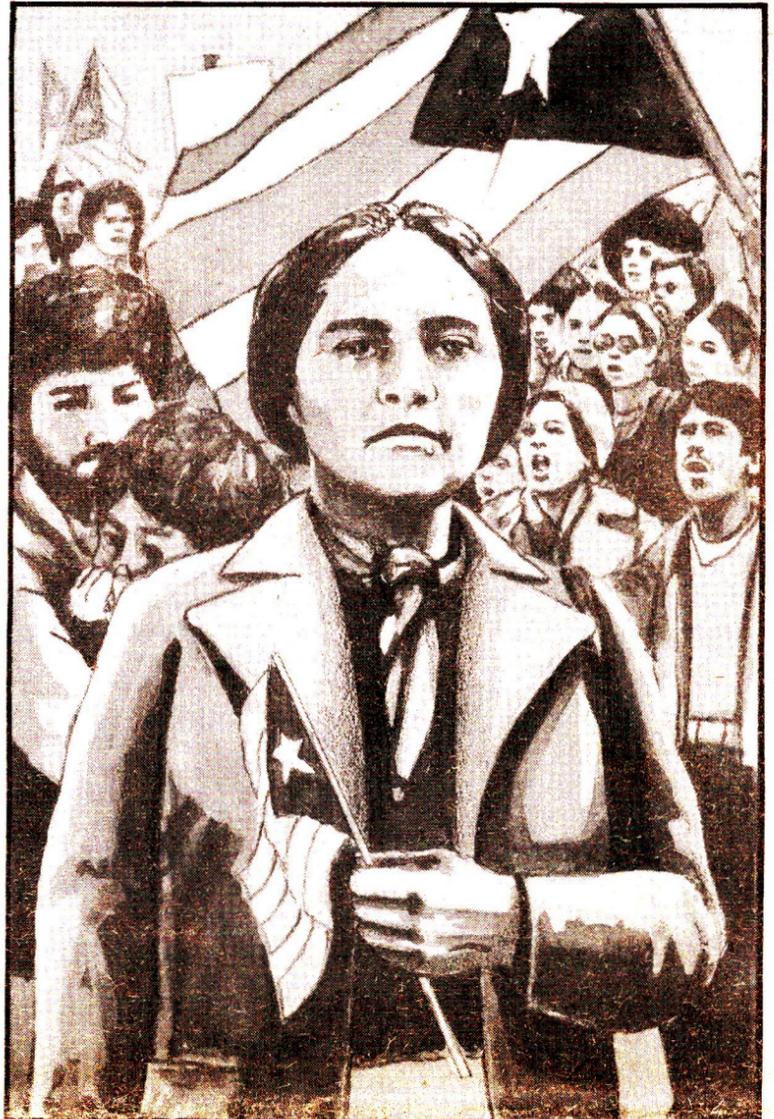
disguise colonialist rule.

The attack came four years after another one in October 1950 by two other Nationalists, Griselio Torresola and Oscar Collazo. Infuriated by the brutal suppression of a Nationalist uprising in Puerto Rico which led to the murder of hundreds and arrest of thousands of independence fighters, the two staged an armed attack on the temporary residence of then-President Harry Truman.

Torresola was killed and Collazo arrested. He, along with the other four, are still in U.S. jails. They are the longest held political prisoners in this country.

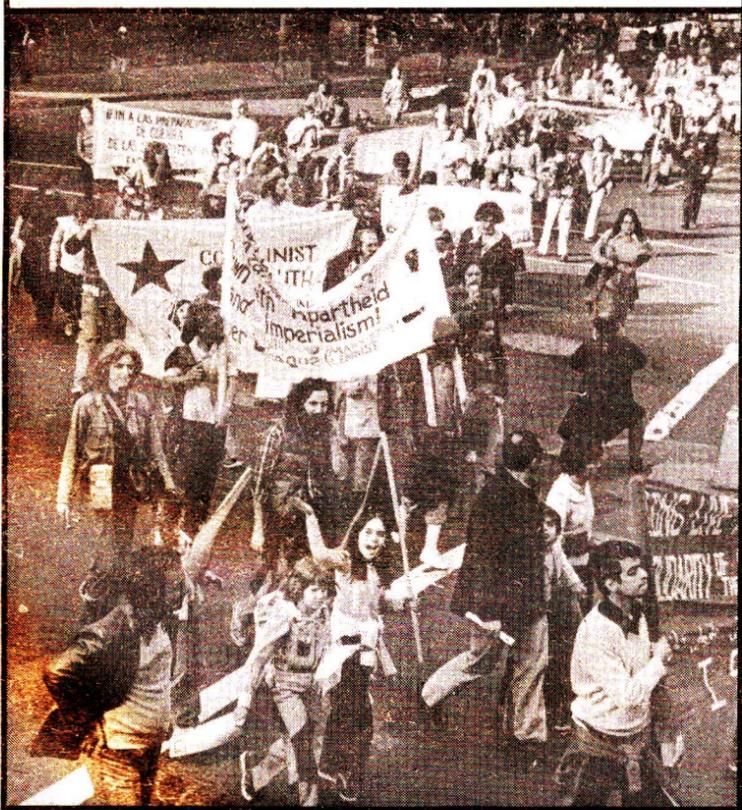
All five independence fighters have been subjected to continuous harassment in prison. Their literature and letters are

(PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 11)



B. BROWN CALL '77

WOMEN'S DAY - P.3



(Call Photo)

CALL FOR SPORTS BOYCOTT OF SOUTH AFRICAN TEAMS

Despite the decision of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to extend its sports boycott of the racist South African regime, the top policy makers of the U.S. sports federations have vowed to continue to hold activities with the white supremacists. In response, the October League and other groups are calling for a protest demonstration against the visiting sports teams from South Africa.

The decisions by the U.S. sports czars who head up the United States Tennis Association (USTA), the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) and the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) serve to expose the empty statements on the part of the U.S. government in favor of Black majority rule.

In a statement made March 1, W.E. (Slew) Hester Jr., president of the USTA, promised that the U.S. would not withdraw from the Davis Cup match against South Africa, to be held April 15 through 17 in Newport Beach, California. Various organizations are preparing to demonstrate against the match in support of the struggle against South African apartheid.

"We will definitely play South Africa," Hester said. He claimed that the USTA doesn't "mix politics" with its sports policies. Violating the boycott of the OAU and building support for the white minority regime are just as "political" as the boycott itself.

Another example of the U.S. sports federation's phony political stand was seen in the practice

of the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU). Olan Cassell, executive director of the Union, joined the attack on the South Africa sports boycott. He claimed that it would threaten the first world track and field championships scheduled for September in West Germany.

Cassell said that the AAU had been negotiating to hold an international outdoor track and field meet "for the benefit of African athletes" on May 14 in College Park, Maryland. He then went on to use this fundraising meet to threaten the African countries. Cassell's "non-political" approach is to place a requirement on the African countries that they must lift the

(PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 11)

UNEMPLOYED BENEFITS CUT MARCH 31

The fight for "Jobs or Income Now!" has gained new urgency with the scheduled March 31 expiration of 65-week unemployment benefits. Payments will be limited to 39 weeks in the future, meaning that over one million working-class families will face increased hardship and even starvation.

Is this what Carter meant by his promise to lower the unemployment figure by 1.5% in 1977?

Instead of creating jobs, Carter is cutting people off the unemployment rolls so they won't be added into the statistics.

The expiration of benefits is coming at the same time that unemployment jumped 7.5%, up 0.2% from January. Capitalism's apologists are still putting forward the "winter" crisis as the reason for unemployment. But the weather only intensified the already existing capitalist crisis.

The cutoff of the extra 26 weeks of benefits will hit minorities, women and youth particularly hard. They face the most difficulties finding jobs and also make up the majority of workers who have exhausted benefits and are no longer officially "unemployed." The largest increase in the February unemployment figures was for Black and other minorities — from 12.5% to 13.1%.

The unemployment cutbacks come at a time when the U.S. and the USSR are stepping up war preparations, and talk of a new military draft is spreading in Washington. The expiration of benefits will create a situation of starvation for even more people, enabling the imperialists to force them into the army more easily.

It is also important to note (PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 11)

'Roots' sparks
debate p.10

Opportunists praise
liberal view.

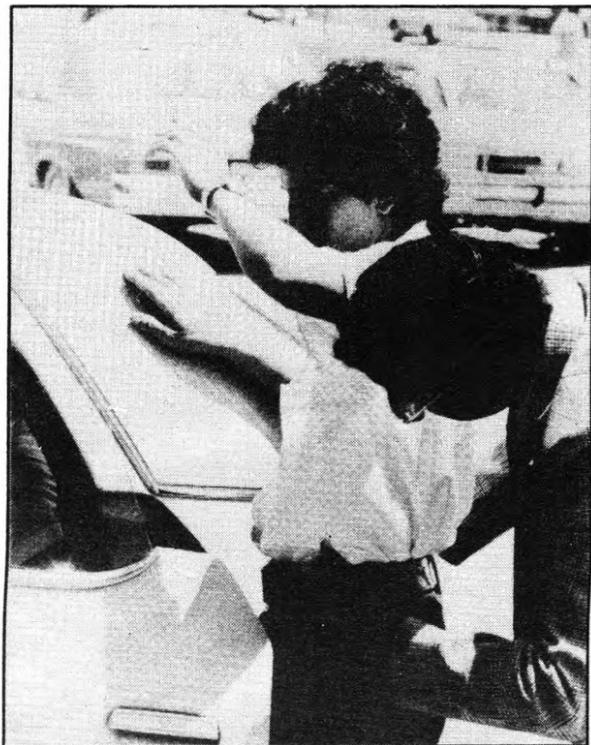
ATM on Chicano
struggle p. 8

Petty-bourgeois line
ignores fight for
socialism.

SECCION EN
ESPAÑOL



EDITORIALS



CARTER'S ID PLAN will mean stepped-up attacks against immigrants, especially deportation raids like this one outside a Texas restaurant.

CARTER'S FASCIST ID PROPOSAL

President Carter's proposal for a special ID card for all workers is an attack on the rights of the entire working class.

Under the pretext of creating jobs by preventing illegal immigrants from working, the Carter administration has announced a fascist proposal for a national system of ID cards called "counter-proof cards."

With such a computerized system, the imperialists will be able to keep track of all workers, not just foreign-born or illegal immigrants. In addition to promoting massive deportations, this kind of fascist surveillance could be used to locate, blacklist or harass any militant worker.

The announcement was made February 21 by Carter's labor secretary Ray Marshall, who insisted that "unless we deal with this crucial problem (illegal immigrants), everything we do about our

unemployment problem could be swamped by the influx of illegal workers." He added that a special cabinet-level committee has already been set up to implement the Carter proposals.

The role of labor secretary Marshall in this anti-alien ID campaign is one more exposure of the new liberal administration. Marshall, supposedly a champion of workers' rights, has been a long-time advocate of fascist deportations of Mexican workers and stepped-up border controls in his home state of Texas.

The imperialists and their lackeys have tried repeatedly to divert the anger of workers away from the capitalist system by pointing the finger at foreign-born workers. But their fascist attacks on illegal immigrants are attacks on all working and oppressed people. The ID card plan is a clear example.

It is in the interests of workers of all nationalities to oppose fascist deportations and this attempt to impose a national ID system.

RESPONSE TO RCP'S ACCUSATIONS

The Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP) has accused the October League of "ducking and hiding from a debate" with them on the subject of the international situation. This and other wild accusations are contained in the March issue of their newspaper Revolution.

What are the facts of the matter?

Last November, we clearly stated in *The Call* that we wanted to debate with the RCP in the interests of fighting for a Marxist-Leninist line on the international situation and building unity among the Marxist-Leninists.

The RCP made contact with us after the idea of the debate was suggested in *The Call* and some initial discussions were held. For a moment, we hoped that the RCP leaders might break with their sectarianism and hatred of genuine Marxist-Leninists long enough to develop unity around the purposes and principles of such a debate.

In the midst of these discussions, the RCP staged its Conference on the International Situation in New York. At this conference, the RCP formed a bloc with a whole array of revisionists, centrists and Trotskyites. The political thrust of

this bloc was to conciliate with Soviet social-imperialism, prettify imperialism and revisionism and attack China, the Marxist-Leninist movement internationally and the October League.

Not only was the political line of this conference utterly bankrupt, but RCP frantically tried to back it up with the tactics of organizing cheering squads, silencing speakers from the floor and physically attacking at least three people who opposed their line.

Having witnessed this display, we felt that an open public debate with the RCP at this time would only become a haven for opportunists and provocateurs.

To add to these reservations we had about the debate, the RCP tried to structure the ground rules to facilitate the promotion of their opportunist line. They demanded that we agree "not to mention China or the struggle against the 'gang of four.'" They were hoping to cover up their revisionist opposition to China, the Chinese Communist Party and its new chairman Hua Kuo-feng.

What kind of "principled ideological struggle" can take place where communists are forbidden to even mention the danger of capitalist restoration in socialist China posed by the 'gang,' the significance of Chairman Mao's concept of the three worlds, or the Chinese Communist Party's line on the two superpowers and the Soviet Union as the main source of war?

Taking all these factors into consideration, the OL proposed a different format for the debate. We suggested leadership-to-leadership discussions to try to struggle out differences, coupled with an exchange of polemics around different points on the international situation to be published in each other's press. This way people all over the country could read and study the discussion free from the theatrics of a meeting like the RCP conference in New York.

But the RCP refused this reasonable proposal. Now they are peddling the lie that the "OL refuses to debate." In fact, it is the RCP which refuses to carry out a debate in a way that helps to develop clarity and unity, insisting instead on a debate based on demagoguery and provocateur tactics to promote their opportunist line and attack Marxism-Leninism.

PAC TOUR POSTPONED

Speaking engagements in the U.S. tour of the Azanian Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) scheduled for March have been postponed until April. The tour, which is being sponsored by the October League, will resume in early April and continue through May.

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To The Call:

I worked at Dovers for eight years. The women are all oppressed. We're mostly Black women there. We work with cold water all the time. That's why we always have to keep heavy sweaters on or else we'd catch pneumonia.

Since I worked there, I've known five women who've had miscarriages because of the hard and heavy work. One woman lost her baby after six months, right in the factory. I lost my baby just last month. The doctor said it was because I had to stand 10 hours a day with such bad conditions. My meatcutters union contract says they don't cover any "illness related to pregnancy." This is an example of the kind of oppression women face under this capitalist system.

I read an article in *The Call* called "CP's Road to Equality" that talks about the revisionists and what they want to do about maternity leaves. They want us to rely on the courts. We need to fight for women's rights. The Communist Party USA is against us.

You go to the courts or the White House and ask for women's rights and they'll tell you it's already in the books. Laws are not going to help us as long as the capitalists are in power. Fighting will help us. Getting men and women, white and Black together to do away with this system, we can make a revolution that will build communism. Once we have socialism, everyone will be equal.

A Baltimore reader

Letters



The Call, P.O. 5597, Chicago, Ill. 60680

(Translated from Spanish—)

Dear *Clarín*,

The UAW took a real step backward with the recent contract. Now we're forced to work more overtime. Instead of a shorter work week like our "leaders" promised at first, we've seen the week stretched out to 58 hours, with an inhuman job overload. This is one of the burdens which our "leaders" negotiated for us.

Another is the working conditions for new hires. They don't get the chance to get seniority. They're laid off and rehired at the whim of the bosses so that they can never get full pay nor obtain any of the other benefits regular workers get.

The contract also slid back on SUB payments (unemployment benefits). Those with just a little seniority don't have the right to get much or even any unemployment pay—and they're the ones who need it most. To be eligible for full SUB payments, you need at least 10 years seniority. But workers with 10 years seniority aren't the ones

who are laid off!

It's hard to fight against the company, and even harder to fight both the company and our "leaders." There's a strong general sentiment against them. What's lacking is unity among the rank-and-file workers. I hope that my fellow workers remember this when the next elections come up, and that we put these "Judases" to work on the assembly line so that they find out what it's like to work 61 seconds every minute.

R.O.,
Chicago Ford worker

Comrades,

Being relatively new to your *Call*, I send my gratitude to the people who print *The Call*, the people's voice. *The Call's* expansion to 16 pages is another step towards the inevitability of revolution. Forward!

Your reprints of Lenin's *State and Revolution* were enlightening. My direction has been altered by your people's voice, and I have a determination and will to fight back, to get off my knees and stand up to face the monster that is the leach of humankind—capitalism and all its running dogs. Viva revolution! Unity! Struggle!

In struggle,
B.C., Somers Prison, Conn.

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GREAT ADVANCE FOR WOMEN'S STRUGGLE

THOUSANDS RALLY TO CELEBRATE WOMEN'S DAY

In celebration of International Women's Day (IWD) March 8, 2,000 men and women of many nationalities marched in force in four regional demonstrations. They were led by the October League and other Marxist-Leninist organizations.

The largest action was held in New York where the crowd swelled to 1,000 as the marchers passed through the Puerto Rican community of the Lower East Side on their way to the United Nations Building. Led by a sound truck with bright red flags flying everywhere, the march stopped at different times to organize brief rallies among the supporters gathered on the sidewalks.

Signs of the intense preparation activity done by a pre-march work team were all along the route. IWD and Azania posters were plastered everywhere. For two weeks leading up to the march, the work team went door-to-door in the large housing projects explaining the slogans and the importance of the fight for women's equality as part of the revolutionary struggle against imperialism.

Especially in the Puerto Rican community, the demand for independence for Puerto Rico was enthusiastically welcomed. The demonstration was characterized by its high level of unity, militancy and strong internationalism.

The chant "Victory to the PAC" rang out as the representative of the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC), Elizabeth Sibeko, rose to speak to the crowd. She

spoke of the struggle raging in Azania "against the settler regime and the confusion brought on by the revisionists who try to divide the fighting people of Azania."

"We are fighting an armed struggle," she concluded, "and we are fighting side by side with our men."

Eileen Klehr, Vice-Chairman of the October League, led the chants, "Support for the third world people's struggles!" and "Down with the two superpowers!" before giving her speech. "We raise the slogan 'Full equality for women!' to overthrow all oppression and exploitation," she said. "Women's fight for liberation is a part of the struggle of the working class and the oppressed nationalities to overthrow the capitalist system. The struggle of women requires genuine revolutionary leadership, and it must lead us against the agents of imperialism that have tried to mislead us."

"The formation of the new communist party," Klehr stressed, "will be a great victory for the women's struggle. It signals the inevitable downfall of the imperialists and their agents."

Daisy Crawford, worker and union organizer at Cannon Mills, North Carolina, described the role working women, par-

ticularly minority women, are playing in the class struggle. She sharply denounced the labor bureaucrats and the revisionists of the Communist Party (USA) who have done nothing but sabotage the people's struggles.

Anti-imperialist solidarity messages were given by the Iranian Students Association U.S. and the Organisation Revolutionnaire 18 Mai, a revolutionary Haitian organization.

The demonstration was a great success and a great advance over last year's. This was a fact the state noticed as well. The police shut off the sound system early on at the rally and then attempted to stop it entirely. But despite their threats to move against the marchers, the police were forced to retreat.

In San Francisco, 500 people rallied in Dolores Park, in the largely Latino community called the Mission District. The multinational gathering, mainly working-class heard speeches from a Black woman auto worker from GM Fremont, a Mexicana woman from the Davis Pleating factory in Los Angeles, and the October League. Solidarity messages were given by the Iranian Students Association of Northern California and the Ethiopian Students Union of North America. Many people from the community were mobilized to join the march and rally through house meetings and door-to-door canvassing by the local



IWD DEMONSTRATION in Chicago marched through a Southside working-class community. (Call Photo)

planning committee.

In Chicago, 225 people marched in the shadow of the steel mills in freezing weather. Hundreds of *Calls* were sold during the march through this working-class community on Chicago's South Side.

At an indoor rally, Mary Smith from the National Fight Back Organization, a Chicana

worker from Capitol Packaging Company, and an October League representative gave speeches.

Another 225 people marched in Atlanta. Despite pouring rain, the crowd voted to march. There was a Lolita Lebron contingent from West Virginia, and participants from the People for Justice for Prisoners, the Ethiopian Students Union, Eritrean Students Association of North America, and the Communist Youth Organization.

Speakers included Ike Long, the father of frame-up victim Ronnie Long, the October League, the Eritrean Students Association, the Communist Youth Organization and John Marshall from the Tampa Fight Back Organization.

This year's demonstrations represent a great victory in the struggle to build a revolutionary movement for women's equality, firmly linked to the fight against imperialism and all oppression. The multi-national character of the marches and rallies and their strong internationalist stand stood out clearly. In addition, all events were translated into Spanish.

The large numbers of workers and minorities who participated in and helped build these demonstrations testify to the fact that our new party is being forged in the heat of struggle and will be made up of strong working-class fighters of all nationalities. It will be firmly dedicated to the fight for the liberation of women and all oppressed people.

NATIVE AMERICANS STRUGGLE FOR LAND FROM MAINE TO CALIFORNIA

The struggle of Native American people to recover their stolen lands has taken big strides forward in recent years. From California to Maine, there has been a growing number of land struggles—from lawsuits to armed land seizures. These have constituted an important front in the fight against the capitalist system's oppression of Native Americans.

In Maine, the Passamaquoddy and Penobscot Indians are demanding the return of lands stolen from them 183 years ago. After ignoring a 1972 suit filed by the Indians, the government has recently entered the case to force a settlement and guarantee government control of any lands distributed as a result of the case.

The original suit called for the return of 12.5 million acres valued at \$25 billion, as well as \$300 million in back rent and damages. On February 27, the U.S. government stated that it would

also sue the state of Maine "on behalf" of the Indians unless an out-of-court settlement is reached by June 1. The government has watered down the claim to four million acres, excluding the most valuable section, the coastal region.

Today, most of the Indian lands are illegally owned by large timber and paper companies. These monopolies have made billions of dollars in profits from years of exploitation of the lands, resources and people of the region. Without land, the Native American people have been reduced to extreme poverty, denied any rights or political power, and forced to go to the cities in search of non-existent jobs.

Local and government officials have flooded the bourgeois press with anti-Indian propaganda and lies, trying to create divisions between the Indian and non-Indian people of Maine.

But the Passamaquoddy and Penobscot have made it clear that their target is not non-Indian people or small property owners, but large monopolies such as International Paper Company, which control the lives of all workers in Maine.

The suit filed by the Maine Indians is only one of seven suits pending in the New England area which deal with Indian land and violations of the Non-Intercourse Act of 1790. Other law suits now pending involve claims by the Wampanoag, Narraganset, Schaghticoke, Oneida and other New England tribes.

In their struggle for land, Native Americans in many places have recognized that while law suits can be useful, the legal system and the courts cannot be relied upon. Even where the courts have granted legal title to the Indians, real control usually remains in the hands of the capitalists. Using a handful of collaborators among the Indian people as well as police from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to crush opposition, giant energy and mining monopolies reap huge profits by exploiting the resources on Indian lands. Throughout the Southwest, Exxon and various mineral companies are the real beneficiaries of the resource-rich land nominally held by Indians.

Recognizing these facts, Indian people in many places have waged militant occupations and even armed struggle to gain real control of their lands. Many of these have been inspired by the heroic uprising at Wounded Knee.

Protest Dartmouth policies

Students at Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, picketed a meeting of the school's trustees last week. They demanded the admission of more women to the institution and that women applicants be admitted on an equal basis with men.

The Committee for Equal Admission, which was responsible for organizing the demonstration, exposed the blatant discrimination characterizing Dartmouth's admissions policies. Out of 4,000 students, only 1,000 are women. Like many other colleges and universities, Dartmouth uses a quota system in limiting the number of women students admitted.

The struggle at Dartmouth is a part of the growing fightback among students. Young people throughout the country, especially working-class, minority and women students, are demanding open admissions and an end to massive nationwide cutbacks in education.



SUBSCRIBE NOW

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— \$6 for six months
— \$2 for 10 week trial offer

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CAPITALISTS' WELFARE SYSTEM ANOTHER BURDEN ON THE POOR

Micaela Cantu, dependent on welfare to support her family, is typical of the millions of welfare recipients in the United States.

Last spring, Mrs. Cantu's husband was forced to enter a nursing home with muscular dystrophy. With nine children to care for and her husband unable to work, Mrs. Cantu, a resident of Texas, had no choice but to go on welfare.

Her monthly allotment of \$245 enables her to put a roof over her family's heads and food in their stomachs—but just barely. One hundred dollars of her welfare check goes to buy food stamps. Her three-room house has no furnace and insufficient beds, forcing some of the children to sleep on the floor. Last fall, Mrs. Cantu skipped a utility payment in order to buy school shoes for the kids—plastic shower thongs.

"Welfare" is an institution of the capitalist state which directly controls the lives of an estimated 16 million Americans—mainly women and children. Like Mrs. Cantu, they are forced to live at the mercy of this vast bureaucratic machine. They are deliberately kept on the edge of starvation, constantly subject to harassment and humiliation, and blamed for their own misery as well as for the general crisis-ridden state of the economy.

For all their complaints about "welfare fraud" and soaring costs, the capitalists need the welfare system to maintain their rule. Welfare supports a large part of the reserve army of unemployed, which is an inevitable product of the capitalist system. The capitalists keep this minimal support at a level high enough to hold back mass uprisings of the

people and low enough to force the unemployed back to work whenever necessary at the lowest possible wages.

In addition, the capitalists use welfare recipients as scapegoats, blaming them for problems caused by the system itself, like high taxes and government bankruptcy.

From 1965 to 1976, the number of recipients of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) grew from less than 6 million to 11.3 million. This increase resulted in a 440% rise in cash payments to \$8.5 billion per year.

These rapidly growing numbers of welfare recipients and rising welfare costs are the product of the capitalist economic crisis. They are the inevitable result of soaring unemployment and growing impoverishment, especially among minorities and women, and of the general breakdown of the family under capitalism.

According to the government's own statistics, 25.9 million Americans fell below the "official" poverty level of \$5,500 for an urban family of four in 1976. In 1976 the Urban League reported that the number of families falling below this level rose from 9% to 10% among whites and from 30% to 31% among



WELFARE LINES in Milwaukee grow, but benefits are being cut back. (Call Photo)

Blacks. In addition, they reported that about one-third of all Black children under 18 lived in households where the head was unemployed.

Figures show that less than half of the country's poor get financial aid from the government. In Texas, where Mrs. Cantu lives, the Welfare Dept. estimates that out of one million poor children, 75% receive no state aid at all.

The federal government itself admits that only about half those eligible for food stamps are actually receiving them, and that one dollar out of every four of the welfare budget goes to support the huge administrative bureaucracy.

TRUTH ABOUT WELFARE

Mrs. Cantu's story illustrates the truth about life in the welfare trap. The average monthly allotment per person in 1976 ranged from \$14.41 in Mississippi to \$90.51 in Minnesota. A 1974 survey found that 56% of welfare recipients interviewed could not provide a nutritional diet for their families. It also found that 86% of the families ran out of food entirely before their next check arrived.

In addition to the constant fight to survive, welfare recipients must comply with an endless number of often conflicting rules and regulations.

For example, many welfare departments require recipients to seek employment or be cut off the program, but usually they deduct their wages, no matter how small, from the welfare check. Because of extra expenses such as childcare and carfare that a working person must incur, this often results in a net loss of income.

Another example of the wel-

fare run-around is housing costs. Recipients are allowed only a fixed amount for rent, but they are seldom provided with moving expenses if the landlord raises the rent above this allotment. The result is either eviction or paying the rent increases with money budgeted for food or clothing.

These are only a few examples of how capitalism perpetuates poverty and keeps millions chained to the welfare cycle. This has been shown more clearly during the current crisis, when the capitalists have done everything possible to cut the rolls even further.

San Francisco last year cut the number of general assistance recipients from 9,000 to 4,200. In Massachusetts 18,000 persons were thrown off welfare, and Ohio hopes to cut AFDC payment levels by 12%. Nevada has legalized prostitution, laying the basis for forcing welfare mothers to take "available jobs" as prostitutes.

NEW REQUIREMENTS

In addition, new eligibility requirements—like the "father-finder" program—are aimed at throwing thousands more into the streets for non-compliance.

The whole welfare system encourages fathers to "desert" their families. In 22 states, families with a father living in the home are automatically ineligible for welfare. In the other states, they most likely receive less benefits with an unemployed father present than if he is "absent." In New York state, a similar "parent-locator" program threatens to cut about 11,000 children off from benefits.

But all these ruling class attacks on the millions of people who must depend on welfare for

Welfare benefits: The big differences between the states

These are the largest amounts that a family of four could receive under the AFDC program for basic needs in July 1975:

State	Monthly benefit
Hawaii	\$497
Oregon	413
Connecticut	403
Wisconsin	403
Alaska	400
New York	400
Michigan	399
Massachusetts	394
Washington	370
Vermont	367
Minnesota	365
Iowa	356
Kansas	353
California	349
Pennsylvania	349
North Dakota	347
Idaho	344
New Hampshire	344
New Jersey	335
South Dakota	329
Rhode Island	319
Illinois	317
Virginia	311
Utah	306
Delaware	297
Colorado	264
Oklahoma	264
Indiana	250
Wyoming	250
West Virginia	249
Nebraska	245
Maryland	242
Kentucky	235
Ohio	234
Nevada	230
Montana	229
Maine	219
New Mexico	206
North Carolina	200
Arizona	197
District of Columbia	170
Florida	170
Louisiana	158
Georgia	153
Missouri	150
Virgin Islands	146
Arkansas	140
Texas	140
Alabama	135
Tennessee	132
South Carolina	117
Mississippi	60
Puerto Rico	53



More deaths, injuries in coal mine flood

Wives and families of coal miners stood vigil last week, waiting while emergency teams sought to rescue trapped victims of a mine disaster near Tower City, Pennsylvania. At least four miners died and three were seriously injured when thousands of gallons of water broke through the wall of the Kocher Coal Company mine March 1.

Five miners are still missing, and one, Ronald Adley, was left trapped behind 50 feet of coal for close to a week. The drilling machine needed to rescue him had to be flown in from Utah.

This kind of catastrophic flooding happens all the time in the Susquehanna River Valley, because of water accumulation in the many abandoned mines which cross the area. Despite the clear danger and inadequate safety or rescue devices, miners are forced to descend every day into these death pits. This Kocher Coal mine has about 30 safety violations recorded against it. In addition, the company has kept a union out to make it easier to exploit the miners and drive them—often to their deaths—to get their profits.

This mine disaster came just one year after the disaster at the Scotia mine in Kentucky, where explosions on March 9 and 11, 1976, killed 23 miners and 3 government inspectors.

Gov't report predicts rebellions

A report by a government committee on crime appointed by Jimmy Carter gives us a glimpse of what lies behind Carter's liberal rhetoric. The advisory group called on the government to prepare for "guerrilla warfare" and future urban riots in the U.S. by beefing up police forces and preparing to take away basic constitutional freedoms. It represents another new sign of a growing fascist menace in this country.

The report on "Disorder and Terrorism" was presented to Attorney General Griffin Bell by Governor Brendan T. Byrne of New Jersey, chairman of the National Advisory Committee on Criminal Justice Standards and Goals.

Former Washington, D.C., police chief Jerry Wilson, who led in writing the report, said: "The mood of the country at this time is good. This country has been blessed by a relatively low level of terrorism. There

their survival have not succeeded in keeping them from fighting back.

The welfare rights movement which grew up in the 1960s showed the determination of welfare mothers to fight for a decent life for their children as a right, not as a handout. In many cities, the National Fight Back Organization has organized against welfare cutbacks as one aspect of their fight for "Jobs or Income Now!" against the capitalist system.

Growing numbers of unemployed and employed alike are coming to see that capitalism is to blame for unemployment and poverty and for the welfare system as well. The movement to provide an adequate income for all and to end abuses of the welfare system is growing stronger with the knowledge that this can only be realized by ending the system itself.

has certainly been a diminishment of the disorders of five or ten years ago."

However, the report put forward a picture of "urban rebellions" by Blacks and other minorities and rising terrorism in the next decade. It suggested that protests that might lead to "violence" be banned and that freedom of speech be restricted to "keep the peace."

AT BAL HARBOUR MEET AFL-CIO LEADERS MAP DEAD-END STRATEGY

The top AFL-CIO misleaders gathered at their annual executive board meeting last week in Bal Harbour, Florida, to ratify a list of legislative goals which typifies their reformist solutions for labor and provides a clear picture of what American trade unionism is today.

Between golf and deep-sea fishing, labor's chief aristocrats made their pitch to the U.S. workers to put their faith in Congress and their dues into a fund to pay professional lobbyists. The bureaucrats' aim in these times of rising strikes and spontaneous struggles is to pull the rug out from under the rank-and-file movement and divert the workers' battles out of the plants and union halls into reliance on Congress and the liberal Jimmy Carter.

LIST OF REFORMS

The AFL-CIO's varied list of reforms includes: passing the common situs picketing bill, reform of the National Labor Relations Act, repeal of section 14b of the Taft-Hartley Act, a \$30 billion government job program, an increase in the minimum wage to three dollars an hour, as well as a number of other bills.

Many of these measures will never see the light of day. The ones which the AFL-CIO is most determined to get passed are aimed at securing better conditions for their loyal base of support within the federation—the craft unions and skilled trades, made up of mainly white, male workers.

The common situs bill, for example, is a top priority of the AFL-CIO chiefs. This bill would enable any building trades union to close down an entire construction site over a dispute. Given the history of scabbing within the construction trades, the craft unions need such a measure to strengthen their hand.

CONSTRUCTION CRISIS

Construction workers, despite their generally high pay and benefits, have been victims of the crisis cutbacks and decline in housing construction. They have also been hit by increasing competition from non-union labor. A large percentage of this unorganized labor force, concentrated in the South and Southwest, is made up of minority workers, due to the racist exclusion policies of the building trades themselves.

The AFL-CIO misleaders cater to the craft unions who have always been their strongest backers and support the chauvinist and elitist membership guidelines. As a result, they have chosen to "solve" the problems in the construction industry by pushing the common situs bill, while continuing to trample minority rights and ignore the task of organizing the non-union labor.

The bankrupt character of AFL-CIO's "strategy for labor"—both its dead-end reformist approach as well as its concern for a small strata of workers—can be seen in all the other proposed legislative measures.

The reform of the National Labor Relations Act provides a good example. According to George Meany, the AFL's pro-



MINORITY CONSTRUCTION workers demonstrated last year for jobs and exposed racist policies of AFL craft unions. (Call Photo)

posed changes in the law would make union organizing easier—an urgent question given the fact that more than 75% of the work force remains non-unionized.

Meany's proposal, however, amounts to nothing more than adding a few arbitrators to the NLRB to "speed up" decision making. Clearly this won't change the basic fact that the board is made up of arbitrators handpicked by the capitalists who rule in favor of business over 90% of the time.

REPEAL TAFT-HARTLEY

The AFL-CIO's demand to repeal section 14b of the Taft-Hartley Act is another empty gesture to the millions of unorganized workers. Section 14b allows individual states to pass "right-to-work" laws making closed union shops illegal. (Most "right-to-work" states are in the South and Southwest.)

Year after year, under pressure from the rank and file, the AFL-CIO urges that the Taft-Hartley Act be modified. But it was the AFL and CIO leadership back in 1947 that allowed this reactionary labor law to be enacted in the first place and little has changed today. Pleading with the capitalists to repeal this anti-worker measure is not likely to get any new results this year.

MINIMUM WAGE REFORM

The AFL-CIO package also includes a desperately needed increase in the minimum wage to three dollars an hour. Unfortunately inflation and the soaring cost-of-living have already made three dollars an hour a near starvation wage. Besides this, the bureaucrats side step the crucial question of coverage and enforcement of the minimum wage law. Even today's minimum wage of \$2.30 an hour is rarely enforced for millions of minority workers, women, youth and immigrants.

To finance their whole reformist package, the AFL-CIO announced at the convention that they will tax their membership, raising almost a million dollars for lobbyists. Not a word was said, however, about allocating money for organizing drives, strikes or any other mass action.

Absent also from their convention demagoguery was any reference to some of the most burning demands workers have raised over the past year: jobs or in-

come now, the right to strike, short work week with no cut in pay, maternity benefits, an end to forced overtime, speed up and discrimination against minorities, women and youth.

The convention events offered yet another glaring example of the AFL-CIO's collaborationist approach. While Meany was urging workers to rely on Congress and the Democratic Party to better their lives, Jimmy Carter was busy planning a wage freeze. Although Meany was quick to make a pretense of opposing Carter's suggested wage freeze, his opposition is a sham, as he has shown in practice. He opposed Nixon's wage controls in 1973, only to end up cooperating with them.

Carter's new labor secretary, Ray Marshall, clearly expressed the common interests between

labor and government in his address before the convention. "The things holding us together," he stated, "are more important than the things holding us apart."

The open class collaboration practiced by the AFL-CIO misleaders like Meany, I.W. Abel in steel and Albert Shanker of the teachers' union, has led to the rapid development of rank-and-file opposition in the last period.

To take attention away from their scab misdeeds, like Abel's sellout of the right to strike, or Shanker's use of union funds to bail New York out of debt, the AFL-CIO bureaucrats are heaping praise on the congressional package. They need to deliver some of the promised reforms to bolster their image as effective trade unionists.

MISLEADERS OPPOSED

These old guard misleaders are not just being opposed by the rank and file. There is a new line of more liberal reformists, social-democrats and often younger challengers who represent a growing trend within the labor bureaucracy.

In the face of rising rank-and-file rebellion, the capitalists have been promoting these liberals as a real alternative for the workers to the AFL-CIO old guard. Ed Sadlowski in steel is the most typical, but there are others already in AFL-CIO leadership. The recent election victory of William Winpisinger in the Machinist Union, for example, was hailed as a gain for the liberal wing of the bureaucracy.

Social-Democrat Jerry Wurf, head of AFSCME, is already on

the executive board and is being promoted as a liberal alternative to Shanker among the public employees. The probable addition of the UAW to the ranks of the AFL-CIO over the next period will also bring its new liberal leader Doug Fraser onto the executive board.

APPEAL TO MILITANTS

These liberals are being used by the capitalists to appeal to the most militant and rebellious workers, keeping them off the path of revolution and closely tied to the system. Aside from the rhetoric, however, Sadlowski, Wurf and Fraser are scarcely distinguishable from Meany, Abel and Shanker. The liberals have all come out in support of the legislative package, and all of them preach reliance on the Democratic Party.

All the trade union bureaucrats push one or another reformist program with the same purpose in mind: to limit the struggles of the working class to an economic tug of war with the bosses. This is what trade unionism stands for—minor reforms which keep the capitalist system of exploitation and wage slavery intact.

The Bal Harbour legislative package is a good example of the dead-end street of trade unionism. Even if all the reforms demanded by the AFL-CIO were passed, the working class would still be exploited and oppressed. Only revolution, not congressional legislation, can bring an end to this system and the enslavement of the working class.



(Call Photo)

WORKERS STRIKE ALLIS-CHALMERS

Milwaukee, Wisc.—After long months of stalling and closed-door discussions between United Auto Workers (UAW) bureaucrats and Allis-Chalmers (A-C), 3,400 workers went out on strike at noon March 3 at the main West Allis plant. Another 1,000 workers shut down the La Porte, Indiana, plant, and 50 went out in Gadsden, Alabama.

The old contract expired last November, but the UAW local 248 misleaders delayed a strike

vote for four months. In January, over 1,300 workers crowded into a union meeting to press their demand for strike action. They voted unanimously to shut down A-C.

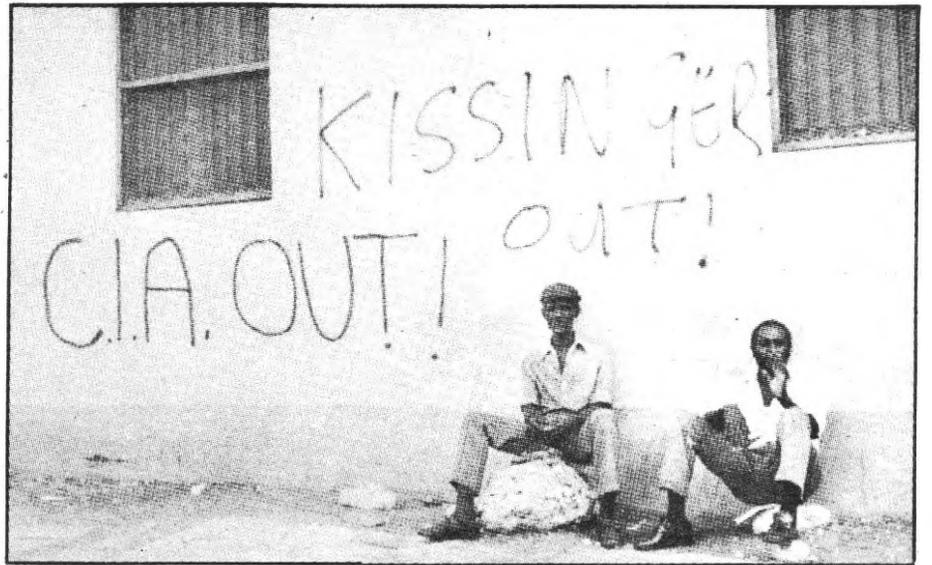
The Trouble-Shooter Caucus, whose banner is pictured above, has played a leading role in exposing the sellout tactics of the UAW bureaucrats and their role as apologists for the company's attacks on the workers. Speed up, discrimination and massive layoffs have hit the

A-C workers hard, but union misleaders have done more to defend A-C than to defend the workers.

Contract demands include job security, pay raises, improved fringe benefits, pensions and job posting. Workers have also pressed for the right to strike, especially over health and safety, an end to discrimination against minorities and women and a short work week with no cut in pay.



CUBAN "AID" in this construction project is part of increasing Soviet-Cuban presence.



OPPOSITION TO U.S. intervention and imperialist meddling grows stronger in Jamaica.

JAMAICA FIGHTS TO PROTECT INDEPENDENCE

SUPERPOWER RIVALRY IN CARIBBEAN

Jamaica, the world's largest producer of bauxite, is taking a number of important steps forward towards safeguarding its economic and political independence. But at the same time, it is caught between the wild expansionist drives of the two superpowers.

Jamaica has carried out a long struggle to break the bonds of British colonialism and U.S. imperialism. But now the other superpower, the Soviet Union, is frantically trying to slip in Jamaica's back door and become the new overlord.

Located in the Caribbean, an important world waterway, Jamaica is just 90 miles south of Cuba. It has a population of 2 million, 95% of African descent. With the decline of Britain after World War II, the U.S. moved in and today has become Jamaica's largest investor with over \$1 billion in the economy.

U.S. transnational corporations like Alcan, Alcoa, Reynolds, Kaiser and ITT have large investments from which they reap superprofits to the tune of more than \$40 million a year from Jamaican bauxite. Even though the U.S. has large quantities of unmined bauxite, it is more profitable to exploit the cheap labor of Jamaican

workers, keeping them in poverty.

The vast majority of people, both rural and urban, live in deep poverty. Unemployment has soared above 30%. In Kingston, the capital city of Jamaica, many people live in shacks made out of wood and corrugated metal.

Recent years have witnessed a growth in the national independence movement. Jamaica's reggae music has often expressed the people's desire to be free, independent, united and at war with their oppressors. A significant part of this movement has been reflected in increasing numbers of strikes and "go-slows" among teachers and bauxite, transportation and chemical workers. Recently there has been a wave of peasant land seizures.

A Marxist-Leninist movement is also developing out of these mass struggles. This fighting spirit of the people has greatly advanced Jamaica's active role in the anti-imperialist movement of the third world countries. Prime Minister Michael Manley has been a strong advocate of third world unity and cooperation.

Increasingly large sectors of U.S.-

owned industries are being nationalized. Jamaica has acquired a majority interest in four U.S.-owned bauxite companies in the last five years, including the huge Kaiser complex just last month. In addition, Jamaica has sought to restrict the commodities imported from foreign imperialists in an effort to develop its own economy and get out of imperialist-imposed debt.

The U.S. has stepped up its interference and meddling in the country, trying to cause havoc and force Jamaica into a position of greater dependence on the big U.S. interests which have controlled the island for the last generation.

For example, the U.S. refused a \$2.5 million food loan to Jamaica after Prime Minister Manley spoke out in favor of a new world economic order. Some of the bauxite companies have used the threat of massive layoffs and shutdowns to avoid nationalization.

CIA DESTABILIZATION PLOTS

On top of all this, the CIA has been accused of several "destabilization" plots against the Manley government, including the funneling of large amounts of money into the campaign of Manley's opposition in the election last year. Philip Agee, a former 12-year CIA veteran of similar destabilization programs, identified 11 CIA agents operating in Jamaica during his visit there recently.

Taking advantage of Jamaica's growing opposition to U.S. imperialism, the Soviet Union has been promoting its interests through its agent in the Caribbean, Cuba. Funded by the Soviet Union, Cuba has been dangling the bait of "aid" in ever-greater proportions as a solution to Jamaica's economic ills.

Through Cuba, the Soviet Union has been pressuring Jamaica to join the social-imperialist-sponsored COMECON organization, a group of countries that provide raw materials and markets for

the Soviet Union.

In addition, the Cuban embassy has become the biggest foreign office in Jamaica. An estimated two-thirds of those who work in the embassy are agents of Cuba's secret service, the DGI. Cuban DGI agents are also under contract to train Jamaican police and other special forces. Through the Cuban embassy, arrangements have been worked out to upgrade Jamaican-Soviet relations and open a Soviet embassy in Kingston, possibly in the next two months.

SOVIET ATTENTION ON JAMAICA

The Soviet Union is devoting so much attention to Jamaica because it recognizes an opportunity to ride the tide of opposition to U.S. imperialism. The social-imperialists hope to bring themselves into a position where they can exploit Jamaica's bauxite, sugar, and other products and gain another foothold in the Caribbean to better carry on the rivalry with the U.S.

But the Jamaican people are not about to become slaves to another superpower. Despite the intrigues of both superpowers, Jamaica has made steady progress in safeguarding its independence.

Since 1972, Jamaica has been instrumental in setting up the International Bauxite Association (IBA), an organization of raw material-producing countries; CARICOM, a group of Caribbean countries devoted to mutual economic cooperation; NAMUCAR, a shipping company jointly owned by several Latin American and Caribbean countries; and the Caribbean Development Bank which helps to finance agricultural and industrial projects in the region.

The formation and growth of all these organizations have helped to develop the unity of the Caribbean and Latin American countries while standing in direct opposition to the hegemonist interests of the superpowers.

35,000 protest German nuclear power facility

Some 35,000 people demonstrated in Brokdorf, West Germany, February 19 to protest the construction of a nuclear power facility owned by the AKW-combine.

According to Rote Fahne, newspaper of the Communist Party of Germany (KPD), the demonstrators defied a government ban on protests at nuclear-power sites. They were met by a huge police mobilization including the use of helicopters, tanks, dogs, firehoses, gas guns and thousands of MEK's—the German equivalent of SWAT teams.

The demonstrators, most of whom were workers, raised demands against nuclear reactor construction in Brokdorf or anywhere else in Germany. They pointed out that the reactors are being built by German and foreign imperialists without any planning for the health and safety of the people in the area. Thousands of farmers are being driven off their land in order to carry out the construction, and the environment is being ruined.

Rote Fahne also reported that many people raised slogans against the Schmidt regime's atomic policy. They called for an energy supply which is independent of both the U.S. and the USSR to be developed through cooperation with the third world countries.

The February 19 action also denounced the police brutality which had occurred at a similar demonstration in November 1976. Several hundred people were injured in that demonstration when police unleashed dogs and tear gas a-

gainst the marchers. Among the seriously injured were several Marxist-Leninist militants.

In addition to the demonstration at the Brokdorf site, simultaneous protests took place in Hanover and other cities.

The movement against the capitalist method of constructing nuclear reactors is spreading across several European countries, including France, Belgium and Luxemburg, where similar conditions prevail.

Linea Roja Organization backs Tyler struggle



(Translated from the Spanish—)

Dear Comrades:

We have learned with deep indignation of the decision made by the Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana confirming the racist conviction of brother Gary Tyler.

On this occasion, we would like to express once again our firm support for the struggle being waged by the People's Defense Coalition, the Fightback Committees, and the Gary Tyler Defense Committees demanding his immediate freedom. We reaffirm our total commitment to solidarity with this just cause.

The Gary Tyler defense is an important part of our struggle against U.S. imperialism. It is a key link in forging and strengthening the friendship and

militant solidarity between our people and the people of the U.S., especially with the Afro-American people, who are victims of the fiercest oppression and exploitation.

We fully support the mass movement in defense of Gary Tyler and salute the high spirit and fighting determination of his supporters, expressed so eloquently in the words of brother Kalamuya Salaam, president of the People's Defense Coalition.

We express our deep admiration of brother Gary Tyler for his unbreakable fighting spirit and his great confidence in the people. We commit ourselves to teaching and learning from his example in the struggle against the oppressors.

We are convinced that, guided by the

correct orientation, "militant mass action is the best line of defense." In uniting all who can be united and counting on active international solidarity, the struggle for the freedom of Gary Tyler will be victorious.

Freedom for Gary Tyler!
Self-determination for the Afro-American People!
Freedom for Mario Echenique, Margarita Baez and the 12 Brazilian Anti-fascist Fighters!

Political Committee of the National Leadership,
Linea Roja Movimiento Revolucionario 14 de Junio
Dominican Republic

'DETENTE' FIGHT GROWS IN RULING CIRCLES

The debate within the inner circles of the ruling class over "detente" has reached its hottest point since last year's election. One section of the ruling class is increasingly promoting the sham of "detente" while another section has begun to oppose it more forcefully. All the while, growing superpower contention and especially the aggressive drive of the Soviet Union demonstrate concretely that "detente" is an illusion.

The current debate is focused in large measure on the question of arms limitations. It is symbolized by Senate arguments over Jimmy Carter's nomination of Paul Warnke as chief of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and top negotiator with the USSR in the next round of Strategic Arms Limitations Talks (SALT).

The fight in the ruling class is not over the question of whether or not to arm. Rather, it is centered on questions of how rapidly to arm, what type of arms to employ, where to put them, and in general, how to contend with growing Soviet aggression.

Carter nominated Warnke as a sign to the USSR that he intends to pursue the "detente" policies initiated by Ford and Kissinger. Warnke, one of the main theoreticians of "detente," bases his views on the assumption that "The Soviet Union is

not seeking superiority over the U.S., but parity." At various points over the last three years he has advocated the demobilization of NATO and the canceling of at least 13 proposed weapons systems. He has also called for unilateral U.S. disarmament as a way of "pressuring" the USSR to do the same.

Like others in Carter's inner circle, Warnke comes out of the ruling class "think tank" known as the Trilateral Commission, which has played a major role in shaping the ideology of "detente." Backed by huge donations from the Rockefeller family, these ideologues have spent years elaborating what amounts to a theory of appeasement. These imperialists argue that the best way to contend with the Soviet social-imperialists is to make ever-greater concessions to them in the hopes that this will stop their aggressive drive.

The view of this wing of the ruling class was clearly put forward just last week, when Secretary of State Vance, one of Warnke's old Trilateral buddies, said that "detente does exist" and that the "USSR has a deep and abiding interest" in peace.

DIFFERENT VIEW OF 'DETENTE'

Another powerful section of the imperialists differs with this view of "detente." It has come out strongly in opposition to Warnke's nomination. Senator Henry Jackson, for example, attacked the nomination, calling the weapons systems Warnke had opposed "crucial to maintaining U.S. capabilities" against the Soviet Union.

Jackson, as well as other senators including Nunn, Bartlett and Helms, all argued that "detente" has been beneficial mainly to the USSR. They put forward the view that the U.S. should develop its military capabilities more rapidly. To pursue their own imperialist aims, this wing of the ruling class favors a show of military toughness against the USSR.

In the midst of the Senate hearings, both the Soviet news agency TASS and the revisionist CPUSA's newspaper, the Daily World, rushed to Warnke's defense. In banner headlines, the Daily World proclaimed that Warnke is a great



USSR STORES its tanks centrally in East Germany to prepare for superpower war.

man of peace, stating, "Warnke Tells Senate Arms Cutback Urgent," and "Anti-Warnke Gangup Attacks Arms Limit." TASS meanwhile accused the "reactionary military-industrial complex" of opposing Warnke.

The social-imperialists and revisionists are lavishing praise on Warnke because like the Carter administration as a whole, he represents the political trend of appeasement inside the U.S. The Soviet Union is in fact seeking military superiority over the U.S. as the initial step leading ultimately to a new war to redivide world control. If prominent figures among the U.S. imperialists like Carter and Warnke can help conceal the USSR's aggressive drive, it is all the better for the social-imperialists.

The budget Carter submitted to Congress for the coming year further reflected the ruling class debate over "detente." For example, Carter pared down the Ford administration's suggested arms budget by about three billion dollars. This also amounted to a gesture of appeasement towards the Soviet Union whose arms supply is already escalating more rapidly than the U.S.

But even with the three billion dollar cuts, Carter is proposing the largest defense budget in history (about \$112 billion). This shows that the section of the

imperialists Carter speaks for, like all the others, cannot survive without constantly expanding its armaments and war preparations.

Both sections of the ruling class and both superpowers are concerned with nothing but the advancement of their own imperialist aims for world domination. Despite all the talk about "arms limitations" and the fanfare surrounding the SALT talks, the superpowers are incapable of bringing the arms race to an end.

Since the SALT talks began, the number of strategic weapons in the hands of both superpowers has not been reduced one bit, but in fact has nearly doubled. The Soviet Union has developed its missiles, bombers and submarines at the greatest pace.

Where will all these frantic war preparations end? They can only end in the outbreak of a new imperialist war. Such a war is being hastened by those like Carter and Warnke who are actually encouraging Soviet aggressiveness by appeasing it. The more they spread the myth of "detente," negotiating arms treaties and arms deals favorable to the Soviet Union, the greater Soviet military superiority becomes. The frantic military expansion of the two superpowers can only explode into another world war.



USSR OUTSTRIPS the U.S. in money poured into arms production.

This newsletter from Bonn, West Germany, is reprinted from Peking Review, February 25. It contains a report by journalists for China's Hsinhua News Agency who recently visited Munich.

Nearly 39 years have passed since the notorious "Munich agreement" was signed, yet the dark clouds of the Munich trend have appeared again in the skies over Western Europe. Widespread talk about it expresses the worry over a possible recurrence of that historical tragedy. It was at this time of public uneasiness in Western Europe that we went to the city of Munich for a visit.

On the Isar River north of the Alps, Munich is the capital of Bavaria, West Germany's largest state, and the country's second biggest city with a population of 1.3 million. It also is the political, economic, cultural and communication center of the southern part of the country.

We visited the historical site of the Dachau Concentration Camp. Located in Dachau, a small town some 20 kilometers northwest of Munich, this camp was the first one Hitler set up after taking power. According to incomplete statistics, in the years from 1933 to 1945, this camp jailed over 200,000 "criminals" and "prisoners of war" from more than 20 European countries. Most of them were tortured to death, tens of thousands killed in gas chambers or

NEWSLETTER FROM BONN MUNICH LESSON MUST NOT BE FORGOTTEN

became victims of Hitler's bacteriological warfare experiments.

With a young native worker, Werner, who volunteered as our guide, we made the rounds of the site of the camp. It was fortified by wide trenches, high walls and an electric wire fence, and watch towers with machine guns still in position. On display inside are instruments of torture of every description, photos showing atrocities against the victims, and many other exhibits bearing evidence to the crimes of the fascists. Everything here arouses abhorrence of the fascist reign of terror and imperialist war of aggression. With tears in his eyes, Werner told us: "Some of my older relatives were also tortured and murdered here. I have been here many times, but each time I cannot withhold my tears. The history of the past must not repeat itself, never!"

We also visited the Munich beer house where Hitler often harangued about "peace" and war, the villa where British Prime Minister Neville Cham-

berlain stayed when he tried to beg Hitler for peace, and the site of the conference at which the agreement bearing the name of Munich was signed.

Hitler's ambition to conquer all Europe and dominate the whole world became known in the early 30s. But Chamberlain and French Prime Minister Edouard Daladier represented the forces of appeasement and sought to bring about a temporary peace in the West by turning the peril of the German fascist aggression eastward. They signed in September 1938 with Hitler and Mussolini the Munich agreement which sold out Czechoslovakia under the guise of "peace" and "detente."

When Chamberlain returned to London, he gleefully told the welcoming crowd: "It is peace for our time" and "Now I recommend you to go home and sleep quietly in your beds." Hardly had his voice faded away before Hitler attacked and took over all Czechoslovakia. In 1940, he blitzed Western Europe and started his all-out offensive. This

historical lesson showed that the peace and security of Europe could not be brought about by making concessions to satisfy the insatiable desires of aggressors at the expense of other countries. On the contrary, this could only expose the weakness of the West European countries and thereby encourage Hitler to accelerate launching a war of aggression.

Nearly 39 years have elapsed, yet dark clouds are again gathering over Europe. Armed to the teeth, the two superpowers are facing each other with huge forces on the European continent. The Soviet Union, in particular, taking over the mantle of Hitler, sings of "peace" and "detente" while frenziedly expanding its armaments in preparation for war and intensifying its infiltration and expansion in Western Europe. The Soviet offensive has opened the eyes of many West European people to the stark reality. It has been noted that the Munich trend of thinking, which still haunts Europe and the United States like a spectre today, is extremely dangerous.

The historical lesson of Munich must not be forgotten. A friend from press circles working in Munich said well: "If there is anything to be learnt from the Munich of the 30s, the most important, in my opinion, is that one must be able to see through aggressors and not be deluded by their fine words, nor frightened by their armed threats."

ATM PEDDLES REFORMISM ON CHICANO QUESTION

PROGRAM GIVES UP THE LEADERSHIP OF WORKING CLASS

The August Twenty-Ninth Movement (ATM) took a step deeper into the swamp of opportunism with the publication of their document on the Chicano national question, *Fan the Flames*.

The heart of ATM's position is a petty-bourgeois nationalist line, backed up by the idealist notion that the Chicano people are not an oppressed national minority in the U.S. Rather, says ATM, "Chicanos constitute an oppressed nation within the boundaries of the U.S.," with a distinct development, separate from both the Anglo-American and the Mexican nations.

In their attempt to "prove" this idealist concept, ATM completely distorts the most basic principles of Marxism on the national question. They put forward a thoroughly unscientific analysis of nations and national development, denying the revolutionary character of the national minority movements. They liquidate the role of the working class in the Chicano national movement and also the need to overthrow imperialism as the only road to liberation for the Chicano people.

OPPORTUNIST CONFUSION

One example is ATM's opportunist confusion of the concepts of "nation" and "territory." They refer to the "Chicano nation" not as the people, but as the territory of the Southwest. From this, they make a false distinction between a nation and a national minority, denying the common national development of the Mexican and Chicano people.

A graphic example of this false separation is ATM's attack on the October League's line on the Chicano question. The OL, says ATM, should "explain why the Chicano people are *not* a nation."

This is nothing but an opportunist trick, an appeal to nationalism. The OL's stand on the Chicano question is a scientific Marxist-Leninist stand. It views the

Chicano people as *part* of the Mexican nation which developed over the course of hundreds of years.

Following the scientific analysis of national development as it was formulated by J.V. Stalin, the OL's "Resolution on the Chicano National Question," showed how the Mexican nation developed with the rise of capitalism, as a "historically constituted, stable commu-



CHICANOS OPPOSE IMPERIALIST Vietnam war in East L.A. moratorium in 1971. ATM liquidates revolutionary character of this struggle.

nity of people." The nation was formed on the basis of a common territory (which included northern Mexico, now the Southwest U.S.), as well as common language, economic life and psychological make-up.

In the mid-1800s, when the rise of

capitalism and the development of the Mexican nation had already been under way for hundreds of years, the northern part of Mexico was forcibly annexed by the United States.

As a result, the Mexican people living in what became the Southwest U.S. became a national minority, known as Mexican-Americans or Chicanos. They were living outside their native country,

dispersed among an alien Anglo-American majority. Since that time, and especially in the last 60 years, millions more Mexicans have crossed the border to make their home in the U.S. as members of the U.S. working class and the Chicano people.

As "proof" of the separate development of the Chicano and Mexican people as two distinct nations, ATM says that 1) "the Mexican nation is the result of three revolutions (and) Chicanos in the Southwest were not a part of those revolutions"; 2) that Chicanos and the Mexican people suffered from different forms of oppression; and 3) that "the Chicano masses are much further removed from feudalism than the rural Mexican population."

But these "explanations" only drive the nails deeper into ATM's ideological coffin. The development of the Mexican nation was not marked simply by the date of a particular bourgeois revolution. Rather, the Mexican people developed as a nation throughout the whole period of rising capitalism.

DIFFERENT OPPRESSION

As for the "different forms" of oppression in Mexico and the U.S. and the comparative "distance" from feudalism—ATM is describing the conditions of all oppressed national minorities. Is ATM claiming that Filipino-Americans and Chinese-Americans formed separate nations in this country because they suffered different forms of oppression here than they suffered in their homelands?

Of course, Chicanos have special characteristics and a distinct history of oppression within the borders of the U.S. But this does not wipe out their hundreds of years of common development as part of the Mexican nation.

In fact, ATM makes no attempt to define who the Chicano people are and exactly when and how their national development took place. At one point they claim that "the Chicano people were forged in the struggle against national oppression following the conquest and annexation of the Southwest by U.S. capitalism" (in other words sometime

REVIEW OF 'PIONEERS'

A FILM 'GANG OF 4' COULDN'T SUPPRESS

Pioneers, a feature film from the People's Republic of China, is now being shown in the U.S. This color film about the Taching oil workers has been part of the current struggle in China against the reactionary "gang of four," whose attempt to seize power and restore capitalism in that country was smashed last fall. The attempts of the "gang" to suppress the film *Pioneers* reveals their reactionary line.

Pioneers was produced by the Changchun Film Studio in northeast China. It is based on a true story about the heroic efforts of the Taching workers to open up the nation's first big oilfield.

The film combines revolutionary realism with revolutionary romanticism to depict how the oil workers defied the imperialists and Soviet revisionists, building China's oil industry on the basis of self-reliance and hard work. The main theme is the sharp struggle between the oil workers, led by the Party, and the

capitalist roaders, who wanted to yield to the Soviet pressures and destroy China's national oil production.

The story begins in 1949 on the eve of liberation. Although rich in natural resources, China was always kept backward by foreign imperialism and the reactionary Kuomintang rulers, such as Chiang Kai-shek. The foreign technical experts spread the myth that China was "poor in oil" and lacked major oil deposits. China was forced to import oil at high prices from U.S. companies.

After liberation, the U.S. blockaded China and cut off the oil supply. China's attempt to develop its own oil was sabotaged by capitalist-roaders such as Liu Shao-chi in the '60s, during a period of serious natural disasters.

When China wouldn't follow the line of the Khrushchev revisionists in the USSR, the revisionists tore up contracts, recalled experts and demanded debt payments.

It is against this background that *Pioneers* takes place. The main hero, Chao Ting-shan, displays the fine qualities of the working class. He is modeled on Taching's famous hero, Wang Ching-hsi, the "Iron Man."

Another of the film's heroes is Hua Cheng, the leading communist in the oilfields. His influence on Chou Ting-

shan exemplifies the leadership shown by the Party in the workers' struggle. Together they lead the workers against the revisionist line of the Party's deputy commissar, Feng Chao, a capitalist-roader who sneaked into the leadership of the Party. A follower of Liu Shao-chi, Feng promotes the line of reliance on foreign oil and claims that it is impossible for China to develop oil production without foreign "aid."

The workers make use of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought and take up the study of Chairman Mao's great works "On Practice" and "On Contradiction." Faced with hardships and difficulties, the workers ask themselves, "Which is the main obstruction in building the oilfield?" They face many problems, such as the forces of nature, the shortage of equipment, a lack of food and housing, backwardness among the workers, peasants and intellectuals.

After studying and struggling against Feng's revisionist line, they conclude that the main struggle must be directed at the capitalist-roaders and against revisionism. Class struggle is the key link that must be grasped.

Pioneers is a very good film that was received very warmly by the many people who have seen it in this country, just as it was by the Chinese workers and peasants. Made by film-makers who closely integrated themselves with the masses, it has a revolutionary political content combined with a high artistic level.

Why then did the "gang of four" attack

it so viciously? For a long time, Chiang Ching and the "gang" had exclusive control over broad areas of China's art and literary work. Chiang Ching reviewed *Pioneers* in 1975 and claimed it had "serious errors." She suppressed it, stopping all foreign distribution and prohibiting any reviews or broadcasts about the film. The film soon dropped from view.

The "gang" listed ten accusations against the film and claimed that "the language used by the principle characters is stereotyped" because the film "quotes from Chairman Mao's statements and words from the 'Internationale.'" But while attacking the film, the "gang" was also attacking Chairman Mao's general line on art and literature, as well as Premier Chou En-lai, whom they especially hated.

It was Premier Chou who called on the nation to study "On Practice" and "On Contradiction." He had always stood firmly on the side of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line of "grasping revolution, promoting production" and integrating the city and the countryside and workers and peasants in the development of oil production.

Premier Chou opposed the way the "gang" promoted anarchy and one-sided opposition of politics against production. It was in promoting a correct line on this question that Chairman Mao himself put forth the slogan in 1964: "In industry, learn from Taching."

When Chairman Mao saw *Pioneers* in July 1975, he issued a directive saying:



RED ARMY representative encourages Taching pioneer to "carry on revolution."

QUESTION CLASS

during the last 128 years). At another point, they claim that Chicanos have a "history of development dating back over 200 years."

Let's suppose for a moment that the distinct national development ATM writes about had really taken place among the people of the northern territories of Mexico. Would this mean that those immigrants who flooded into the U.S. after 1910—the vast majority of the present Chicano population—magically changed their nationality from Mexican to Chicano when they crossed the border? Of course not. Yet this "magic" is exactly what ATM puts forward, because they make no mention at all of a Mexican-American national minority.

By means of their idealist notion of a "Chicano nation," ATM promotes petty-bourgeois nationalism. ATM's program for Chicano liberation focuses exclusively on the struggle for land reform in the Southwest. What they call the "three basic demands of the Chicano movement" to "end this vicious system" consists of: 1) "expropriation of the land and natural resources" of the Southwest; 2) "state unity of the Southwest"; and 3) the "right of political secession" for the Chicano nation.

IGNORES WORKERS' STRUGGLES

This "program for Chicano liberation" completely ignores the struggle of the Chicano workers for socialism, attacks the strategic alliance between the Chicanos and workers of all nationalities, and incorrectly puts forward the view that Chicano liberation can be attained under capitalism.

It is true that the struggle for land is a component part of the Chicano people's struggle. Marxist-Leninists must lead the fight to return stolen lands and end monopoly ownership as part of the fight for full democratic rights, regional autonomy and socialism.

However, the leading force in the Chicano liberation movement today is the working class, which makes up all but a tiny percentage of the Chicano people. The demand of the Chicano workers is not simply the expropriation of the land, but the smashing of the whole capitalist system. ATM's petty-bourgeois reformist theory abandons the struggle of the working class and liquidates the need for unified struggle between Chicano, Black, white and workers of other nationalities, which is the key to victory.

This abandonment of the Chicano workers is also reflected in ATM's separation of the struggle of Chicanos in the Southwest from the struggle of Chicanos living outside the region. Although they do not take a stand on the exact boundaries, the area they call the "core" of the Southwest is a rural area with no industrial centers. They specifically exclude Los Angeles, the largest urban concentration of Mexican nationality workers outside Mexico City.

TWO PROGRAMS OF STRUGGLE

In any case, they put forward completely distinct programs for the struggle inside and outside the Southwest, limiting the struggle outside to the fight for "democratic rights," with no mention of regional autonomy or socialism.

The demand for regional autonomy for Chicanos in the Southwest and other areas of concentration is, in fact, the only demand which recognizes the national rights of the Chicano people and which can unite the Chicano national minority wherever they reside within the U.S. As a demand for political power, it reflects the democratic aspirations of Chicanos of all classes and strata, workers and peasants alike. It is the duty of Marxist-Leninists to uphold this demand, which can only be guaranteed under the dictatorship of the proletariat.

LIQUIDATES ROLE OF PARTY

Finally, ATM liquidates the role of a Marxist-Leninist party in leading the Chicano people's struggle to victory, glorifying and tailing the spontaneous mass movement. While abstractly calling for a "Chicano revolt" in the Southwest, ATM offers no communist leadership. Instead they say, "We cannot predict exactly

what direction the Chicano struggle will take in the future—whether for independence, for federation or as part of a direct struggle for proletarian state power. In any case, we are duty-bound to support and to lead that movement.

But Lenin refuted this backward line long ago when he pointed out: "In practice, the proletariat can retain its independence only by subordinating its struggle for all democratic demands, not excluding the demand for a republic, to its revolutionary struggle for the overthrow of the bourgeoisie." ("The Socialist Rev-

olution and the Right of Nations to Self-Determination," in *Collected Works* Vol. 22, p. 149.)

Bent on getting rich quick by tailing the spontaneous petty-bourgeois movement against national oppression, ATM is putting forward a program that can never lead to the overthrow of the bourgeoisie nor to Chicano liberation. Like numerous other examples of their anti-party maneuvering, ATM's "Chicano position" can only split the Chicano movement from its strongest allies and lead it to defeat.



Statement of unity by the Communist Unity League of Vermont

The following statement of political unity with the Organizing Committee for a Marxist-Leninist Party (OC) was recently submitted. It contains the Communist Unity League's views on some of the main questions facing our movement.

We are a Marxist-Leninist organization operating in the Vermont area. The theoretical basis for our work is Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought. The basis for our unity with the Organizing Committee is an agreement with the eight principles of unity and a commitment to implement them in our work. We welcome the formation of the party as a great step forward in consolidating the forces for revolution nationally and world-wide.

We first came together because we felt the need for revolution. For a period, our work was not guided by the study of Marxism - Leninism - Mao Tsetung Thought, but by our reactions to the conditions that surrounded us. An example of this was our involvement in electoral politics. We found ourselves in the company of "radicals" and reformists of various types. We found it impossible to unite with these people because they didn't believe in working with the masses. Under these conditions we withdrew our involvement.

It was then that we began to seriously study Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought and use it to guide our practice. By studying revisionism in its historical roles, we have been able to analyze our past experiences and understand the necessity of defeating revisionism world-wide. Revisionism is the main ideological danger confronting the revolutionary movement today.

The victory of the revolution means the overthrow of the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie and the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat. In order to achieve this, we must have a Marxist-Leninist party of the working class that is clear on the objectives and the problems facing us in this historical period.

Internationally, the two imperialist superpowers, under the cover of "detente," are cranking up their war machines to fight for world domination. One of the main tasks of communists in this period is to expose the myth of "detente" and oppose a new imperialist war.

The masses do not stand to gain from fighting for their "own" imperialists. Instead, we must be prepared to turn the imperialist war into an uprising against imperialism. In this aim, we unite with the third world liberation struggles and recognize that the Soviet Union is the

more aggressive and dangerous of the two superpowers because it poses as the ally of third world nations in order to replace U.S. imperialism with Soviet social-imperialism. The task of preparing the masses for war can best be accomplished under the direction of the party.

We support the right of Afro-Americans to self-determination up to and including secession in the Black Belt South. We support full democratic rights for all oppressed national minorities.

The oppressed nationalities and the U.S. working class have a common enemy—the U.S. imperialist bourgeoisie. We must build a united front in order to overthrow the capitalist class.

In the U.S. and other capitalist countries, bourgeois feminism incorrectly formulates the woman question and liquidates unity with the working class and minorities in the class struggle, putting individualist and careerist interests in the fore.

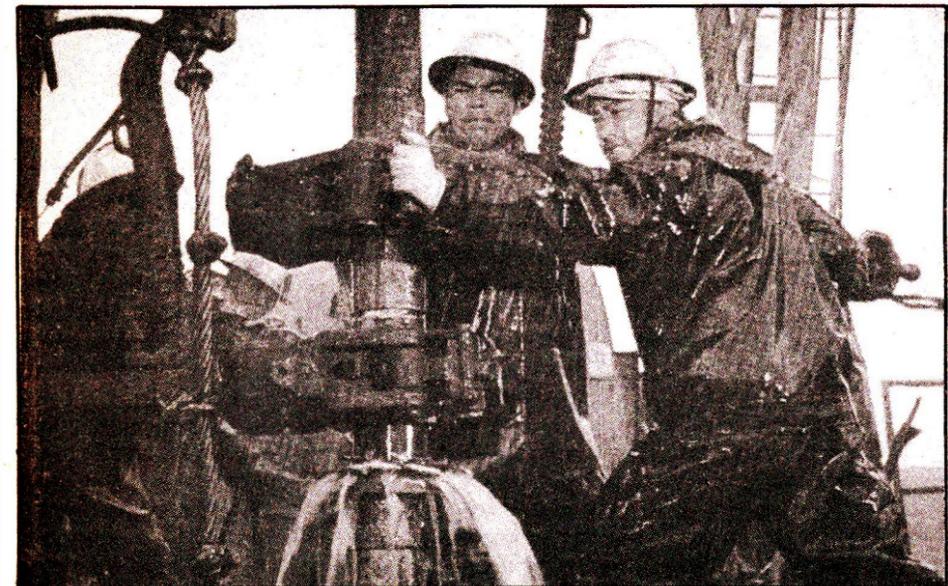
Women's oppression is a result of class society and an economic weapon in the hands of capitalists and imperialists. Women's emancipation cannot be won by following the reformist lead of bourgeois feminists but can only be won by taking up the class struggle. Women must be trained in revolutionary skills and advanced to positions of leadership and responsibility in the party and in mass organizations. Particular efforts should be made to organize women workers.

The working class is the only revolutionary class in U.S. society. Our party must base itself in the working class, particularly among the industrial workers, who are the most highly concentrated and socialized in production.

Trade unions are now under the control of the capitalists. Under the misleadership of union bureaucrats, trade unions are used by the capitalists to channel the class struggle into demands for petty reforms while preserving capitalism. Union bureaucrats must be kicked out and the unions must be won to the leadership of the party so that the rank and file can be an organized force fighting for socialism.

"The proletariat has no other weapon in the struggle for power except organization."

**BUILD THE PARTY!
MARXIST-LENINISTS, UNITE!**



"PIONEERS" shows battle to develop oilfields despite difficulties and sabotage by capitalist-roaders. (Photos from Chinese Literature)

"There is no big error in this film. Suggest that it be approved for distribution. Don't nitpick. And to list as many as ten accusations against it is going too far. It hampers the adjustment of the Party's current policy on literature and art."

Chairman Mao firmly opposed the sectarian stand of Chiang Ching and the "gang," who wished to smash the film because it had some minor weaknesses. In this way, the "gang" trampled the criteria which the Party had set in distinguishing "fragrant flowers" from "poisonous weeds" in art and literature.

Despite Chairman Mao's call to distribute *Pioneers*, the "gang of four" continued to suppress it. But they met resistance from the revolutionary film-makers, who showed it anyway. An army literary journal published the entire script against the orders of the "gang."

At a mass meeting of 10,000 oil work-

ers held recently in Peking, the First Deputy Secretary of the Party, Chen Lieh-min, said: "The 'gang of four' tried to negate Taching by disapproving the film *Pioneers*. He added, "That our country was able to speedily build the large modern Taching oilfield self-reliantly is because Taching workers have conscientiously studied Chairman Mao's works 'On Contradiction' and 'On Practice' . . . The 'gang of four,' however, spearheaded their attack first of all at this fundamental experience of Taching."

All the schemes and efforts by Chiang Ching and her gang couldn't keep this fine film from the Chinese people. The struggle around the film has now paved the way for greater development of socialist literature and art in China, as well as for greater victories in the revolutionary cause of building socialism.

OPPORTUNISTS UNCRITICAL OF 'ROOTS'

While Alex Haley's *Roots* sheds some light on the terrible oppression suffered by Black people under slavery, it basically portrays history from the standpoint of a bourgeois liberal—mad as hell about slavery and oppression of hundreds of years ago, but with hardly an ounce of struggle against oppression today.

It is no wonder then that the social-chauvinists and revisionists who prance around disguised as "Marxists" are falling all over themselves with one-sided praise of *Roots*. These phony revolutionaries have launched one attack after another against the genuine movement and revolutionary culture of the masses in the fight for Black liberation. Opposing the right of the Afro-American people to self-determination with all their might, they have now taken Haley as their new hero of non-struggle.

As expected, the clearest case in point is the revisionist Communist Party USA, which claims that *Roots* is a "milestone on the road to freedom" and that it "brought basic realities of slavery home to millions in this country..."

Of course, to the liberal and revisionist spokesmen of the capitalist system, "basic realities" don't include the revolutionary struggle of the masses in their millions. It was this struggle which smashed the slave system and will ultimately do the same to capitalism—the system which stood behind slavery in the last century and which stands behind the naked exploitation and oppression of Black people and all workers today.

VIEW OF EMANCIPATION

Haley's view is that emancipation was handed to the slaves on a silver platter by the "great men" in history, such as Lincoln. This view is appealing to the revisionists. They have historically fawned over the likes of Kennedy and McGovern while attacking SNCC, the Black Panther Party (in its revolutionary period), Malcolm X and the revolutionary Black workers' movement of the 1960s.

Haley's interpretation of slavery concentrates on the psychology of slave-owners and ship captains. He blurs over the fundamental character of the economic system and the role played by slave labor. This way of presenting the subject is also appealing to the "humanism" and idealism of the revisionists.

Even more disgusting is the phony praise for *Roots* coming from the social-chauvinists of the Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP). In the February issue of their paper, the New York-New Jersey Worker, the RCP claims "the power of *Roots* comes from its being historical truth." Throughout their review, there is not one word of criticism nor is there any analysis of the capitalists' use of the series.

In *Revolution*, their paper aimed at intellectuals, the RCP makes a few superficial criticisms of Haley's errors, but again makes no mention of the liberal ideology that lies behind them and which has historically been one of the strongest supports of capitalist oppression.

The power of liberalism can be seen today in the effect that Carter's administration is having in diverting workers and sections of the intelligentsia away from the struggle against racial discrimination, just as Kennedy's ideological influence paralyzed many during the early '60s.

Carter has opened the floodgates for the liberal opinion-makers to paint the illusion of a "unified nation," free from those things that "divided us" during the Nixon-Ford days.

The extent to which the RCP chau-

vinists have been influenced by the liberal ideologues can be seen in their futile attempt to explain why the biggest monopolies in this country financed the showing of *Roots* on TV. "Clearly ABC TV's motivation in producing the series was not to focus public attention on the abuses of slavery, but to line their pockets and make a coup in the Nielson ratings," explains the *Revolution* article.

According to the RCP, the bourgeoisie had no political interests in showing *Roots*, but financial considerations. RCP's economism can explain the world only in economic terms whether they are agitating within the workers' movement or analyzing the actions of the capitalists.

The facts show, however, that *Roots* is not some isolated money-making extravaganza, but rather part of a whole cultural wave of liberalism aimed at derailing the revolutionary struggle.

The RCP must amend their state-

pletely bound up with the economic and social system under which we live. They rejected Haley's line of liberalism and cultural freedom.

Our demand isn't that Haley write from a Marxist stand. But we do demand this of the RCP: which claims to be Marxist. Their inability to draw a clear line of demarcation between themselves and Haley (especially in the propaganda they direct at workers) shows their rapid drift rightward more clearly than ever.

RCP mocks *The Call's* analysis of *Roots*, saying: "OL's whole approach in reviewing *Roots* substitutes dead dogma for living Marxist-Leninist analysis." RCP goes on to claim that, by trying to answer the question, "Which class does it serve?" the October League is "standing the world on its head."

They conclude: "Apparently the October League believes that it should direct its 'main blow' at those who, while having a bourgeois world outlook, expose aspects of the oppression of the

not the politics of a few so-called statesmen."

To the RCP, the fundamental question in evaluating the positive and negative aspects of *Roots* is not which class it serves, but rather: "Does *Roots* instill in people a burning hatred for the system of slavery?"

It is to his credit that Haley exposes many of the outrages of the slave system. His documentation of the crimes of that system is precisely why millions of people, Black and white, sat glued to their sets every night for a week, deeply sympathizing with the plight of Kunta Kinte and his family. Today, none of the apologists for capitalism could survive with a pro-slavery stand.

But there are different ways of attacking the slave system. Presentations are being put forward in the schools and textbooks which, while paying lip service to abolition, use this opposition to slavery to defend capitalism. Such presentations try to portray the lives of Black people today as having nothing in common with the oppression of 150 years ago.

This is why the lessons of the anti-slavery struggle are so important to the working class. It is crucial to understand that, while the abolition of slavery was a great victory, the betrayal of Reconstruction in the 1870s condemned Black people to a future nearly as bad as chattel slavery. It left the basic system of national and class oppression intact, and the Afro-American people remain an oppressed nation to this day.

While exposing some of the myths perpetuated in the schools and the media about slavery, Haley defends and supports some of the most important of these myths. His negation of the hundreds of slave rebellions, portraying Nat Turner as someone looked upon as "crazy" by the masses of slaves, the whitewash of the role of Black fighters during the Civil War, and the view of emancipation being handed down from above are but a few of the pro-capitalist myths in *Roots*.

RCP TRIES TO JUSTIFY STAND

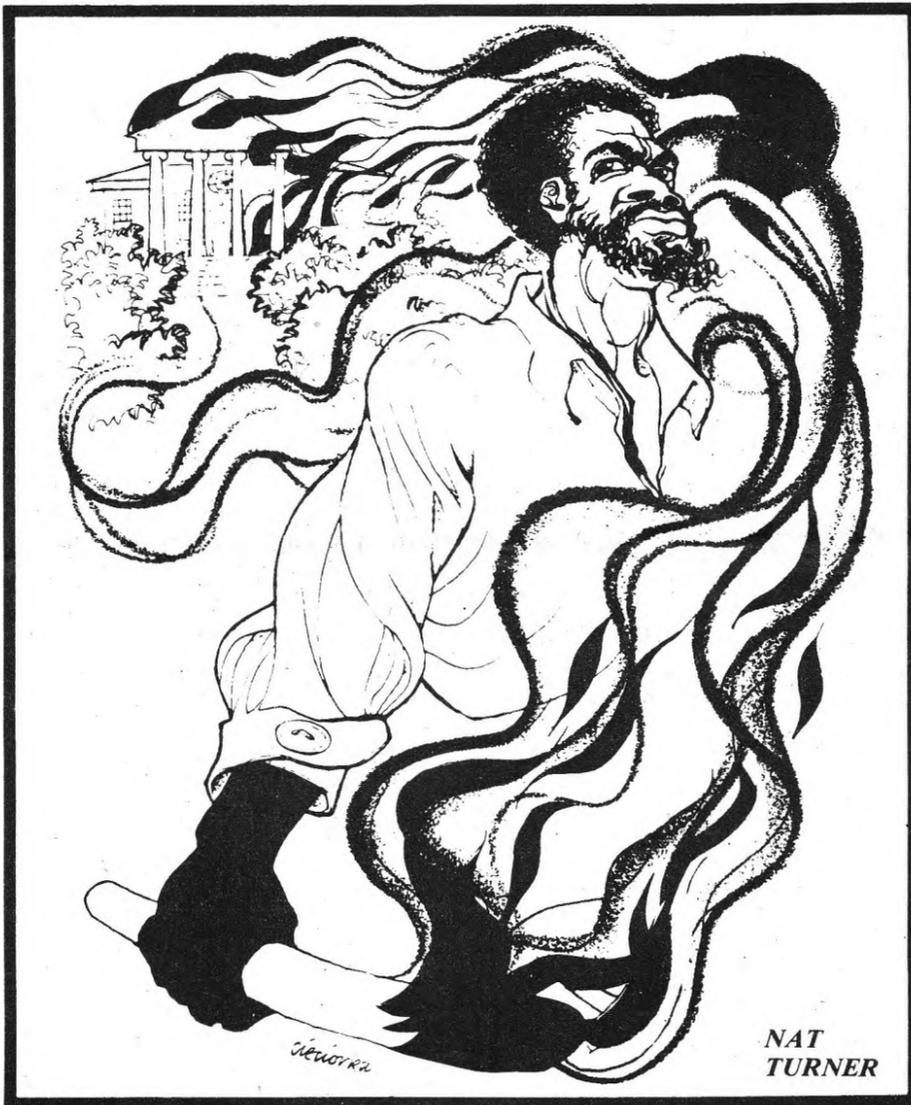
RCP has the nerve to justify their stand of unqualified praise for *Roots* by quoting Lenin on the national question: "The bourgeois nationalism of any oppressed nation has a general democratic content that is directed against oppression, and it is this content that we unconditionally support."

Those who recall *Revolution's* headlines attacking "Black nationalism" as the "main danger" in our movement, or their chauvinist calls to "Smash the Boston Busing Plan," or even the attack in the February issue against the concept of the Black united front, may become furious at the RCP's demagogic use of the quotation from Lenin.

RCP's whole history of liquidating the national question has made them notorious enemies of the Black liberation movement. Even though they now quote Lenin's defense of the nationalism of an oppressed people, they have in no way given up their earlier chauvinist attacks on revolutionary nationalism. RCP is only praising bourgeois cultural nationalism, which preaches non-struggle and accommodation with imperialism instead of genuine revolutionary nationalism.

In doing this, the RCP picked the quotes it needed in an opportunist fashion. Lenin, on the very same page, says: "But insofar as the bourgeoisie of the oppressed nation stands for its own bourgeois nationalism, we stand against." (Lenin, "The Right of Nations to Self-Determination," *Collected*

(PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 11)



ment by saying: "Still, the fact that the series appeared on television at all shows that the film, by itself, does not lead to revolutionary conclusions—or it would have been killed, profits or no." Very good, RCP. But, tell us please, if *Roots* does not lead to "revolutionary conclusions," then what conclusions does it lead to?

By posing this question, we are by no means demanding that Haley take a Marxist-Leninist view of history, although the RCP accuses us of this. Haley is limited by his class background and lengthy education in the learning houses of the ruling class. However, the Black liberation struggle has produced dozens of historians and spokesmen who, although not Marxists, took an approach of class struggle, or at least kept themselves from promoting as many of the liberal pacifist myths as Haley does.

Revolutionary nationalists such as Dubois (before he became a Marxist), Malcolm X (whose life Haley helped chronicle) and scores of progressive scholars and bourgeois intellectuals have shown that Black oppression was com-

people and strike a chord of anger and hatred for this oppression in the hearts of the masses."

Here, while directly backing Haley's non-struggle view of history, the RCP indirectly puts forward their defense of reformism and revisionism. They do this through their now-customary attack on OL's policy of directing the main blow against those within the people's struggle who promote conciliation with the bourgeoisie.

After all, in describing those with a "bourgeois world outlook" who "expose aspects of the oppression of the people," the RCP is not only describing Haley. They are also describing all the liberal, revisionist and reformist trade union leaders who make these exposures only for the purpose of covering up the system behind the oppression.

What is the terrible "dogma" the RCP is attacking? How can we judge a cultural work without using the criterion of "what class does it serve?"

Mao Tsetung pointed out, "... when we say that literature and art are subordinate to politics, we mean class politics, the politics of the masses,



REPRESSION and RESISTANCE

Inez Garcia acquitted

In a case that has focused national attention on a woman's right to defend herself against rape, Inez Garcia was acquitted of second-degree murder March 5 in Salinas, California.

The charges stem from a 1974 incident in which Garcia shot and killed a man who had helped rape her. She was charged with murder and convicted in her first trial.

Because of broad support for her freedom, Garcia was granted a new trial in December 1975. In the second trial, the defense exposed the prosecution's racist attempt to claim that Garcia, a minority woman, was not "really" raped and therefore did not have the right of self-defense.

Robert Arnold demo

The Committee to Free Robert Arnold has called for a South-wide demonstration in Cleveland, Tennessee, on March 14, the opening day of Arnold's second trial.

Arnold, a young Black man from Louisville, Kentucky, has already served five years of a life sentence he received after being falsely convicted of murder by an all-white jury.

The demonstration has been endorsed by the Southern Conference Education Fund (SCEF), the October League and other groups. They will raise two main demands: "Free Robert Arnold!" and "Self-determination for the Afro-American Nation!"

The Committee to Free Robert Arnold has concentrated its efforts on building mass support for Arnold, linking his case to that of other political prisoners like Gary Tyler. It was this mass support for Arnold's freedom throughout the South which forced the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals in January to order a new trial. To date, several mass rallies have been held and thousands of signatures have been collected on petitions.

In a statement to *The Call* February 6, Robert Arnold pointed out that his fight is part of the general struggle against oppression. "I read *The Call* every week," he said, "and it makes me feel a part of a bigger struggle that I believe in. We must all unite, not only to free me, but to free all Black and oppressed peoples."

200 demand "Free Curtis"

Washington, D.C. — Over 200 people demonstrated their outrage here February 19 at the racist murder of Curtis Hoston by U.S. marshalls while in court last October. Although two grand jury investigations admitted that Hoston's death was homicide, they have refused to indict the marshalls responsible.

The rally, which was endorsed by the Hoston family, the D.C. Unite to Fight Back, the October League, the Ronnie Long Defense Committee, the Committee to End Grand Jury Abuse, and others, exposed the so-called "justice system" as the enemy of all poor and working people, especially minorities.

Following the demonstration, Mrs. Hoston, Curtis' mother, told *The Call*, "We will continue to expose the system that murdered Curtis, and we will bring out the truth to the people."

'ROOTS' . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Works, Vol. 20, p. 412).

Lenin's teachings on the national question expose the RCP and cannot be used to defend their chauvinist outlook. This is why the RCP has so often distorted Lenin and said that his teachings are no longer applicable. For example, they have claimed that the Black national question has entered a "new stage" where it is no longer a component part of the anti-imperialist struggle. They have also attacked the demand for the right of self-determination as "not being central to the struggle for Black people's rights."

In promoting this chauvinist view, the RCP has chosen to ignore yet another statement of Lenin, which can be found on the very same page they quote from. There, Lenin clearly criticized those who failed "to ad-

vance and advocate the slogan of the right to secession" for playing "into the hands... of the bourgeoisie..." RCP's support for bourgeois nationalism is combined with opposition to raising the right of self-determination in practice within the workers' movement.

RCP reveals once again nothing but opportunism and chauvinism on the national question. Their support for the non-struggle nationalism of Haley is just the flip side of their attacks on revolutionary nationalism as the "main danger." It is a reflection of their drift rightward into the arms of revisionism and the CPUSA, with whom they share common ground on the question of *Roots*.

RCP's stand on the struggle of Black people is in essence the same as that of the revisionist Communist Party and in opposition to Marxism-Leninism.

LOLITA LEBRON . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

censored, and they are denied most visitors. The prisons only allow those to visit who knew them prior to arrest—a quarter of a century ago! In many cases, family members have also been harassed and interrogated. One prisoner, Figueroa Cordero, has had two serious cancer operations and is close to death, but is forced to remain in jail.

The U.S. government has tried, however, to make bargains with individual prisoners, promising one or all freedom if they will "ask for a pardon" and not engage in political activities once released.

All five have refused. Lolita Lebron answered the "offer," saying, "It is the U.S. that should ask for a pardon from my country for keeping it in chains as a colony." They have also refused to accept the freedom of one without the freedom of the others.

The permission for Lolita Lebron to go to her daughter's funeral came directly from the White House. Just like Carter's slick statement supporting "Puerto Rican self-determination" earlier this year, his gesture is aimed at deceiving the Puerto Rican people into believing the U.S. president is their "friend."

The struggle to free the five Nationalists is one very important part of the struggle in the U.S. to build solidarity and support for the Puerto Rican independence and workers' movements. But, as support has grown, the U.S. government has stepped up its repressive attacks, not only in Puerto Rico, but in the United States as well.

FBI and police harassment and Grand Jury investigations have increased in recent months in Chicago and New York. This harassment is aimed especially at the Puerto Rican communities and independence supporters. One Chicago Grand Jury to investigate the Puerto Rican inde-

pendence movement has been in session for over a year. Subpoenas have been handed out in large numbers, including some to members of the Committee to Free the Five Nationalists.

But the people have refused to talk. For example, the fifty FBI investigators who were sent into the Humboldt Park Puerto Rican community in northwest Chicago had doors slammed in their faces constantly. They had "never seen anything like it," admitted one investigator at a hearing.

In commemoration of the Nationalists' struggle, a demonstration has been planned for March 12 at noon in front of Alderson Prison in West Virginia where Lolita Lebron has been jailed. The protest, sponsored by the October League and the Southern Conference Education Fund, will demand "Free the Five Nationalists," "Independence for Puerto Rico," and "Down with Both Superpowers."

SPORTS BOYCOTT . . .

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boycott or the meet will be dropped.

Cassell acknowledged that if the U.S. teams competed against South Africa, track and field athletes such as star runners Filbert Bayi of Tanzania and Kenya's Mike Boit could be kept from competing in this country.

The impact of the U.S. decision to hold competitions with South Africa will also be felt on the future Olympic Games. The national Olympic committees will be meeting April 27 in the Ivory Coast and the OAU boycott will be central to those dis-

cussions.

The U.S. participated in the 1976 games in opposition to the boycott by the majority of the African countries. During and after the games, New Zealand's rugby team made a tour of South Africa and drew the anger of all the African countries participating in the OAU. OAU countries now won't participate in any events in which New Zealand participates.

The fact that the 1980 Olympics are scheduled to be held in Moscow sheds some light on the role of the Soviet Union. The Soviet social-imperialists like to pat themselves on the back about

their "fraternal aid" to the African liberation movements, but they freely competed in the Olympics despite the African boycott. They have remained conspicuously silent in the course of the present struggle, just as they did during the Olympics.

Wherever the interests of the Soviet ruling clique are concerned, their "support" for the third world is readily dropped.

Like the U.S. imperialists, they are hoping to make great financial and political gains out of the 1980 Olympics. They aren't about to jeopardize these gains by supporting the African boycott.

UNEMPLOYMENT . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that 1977 is a year of contract struggles involving five million workers in key industries. With a larger army of unemployed outside the shop walls, the capitalists hope to pit unemployed against employed to weaken the working class. In doing this, they are getting a helping hand from their top agents in the labor movement.

The response of the trade union bureaucrats has been to ignore unemployment cuts altogether. The recent AFL-CIO "strategy planning" session in Bal Harbour, Florida, did not even mention the cuts. A top Illinois state AFL-CIO official said in a telephone interview, "What has this to do with unions?"

The trade union bureaucrats are doing everything possible to halt the workers' fight for jobs and unemployment benefits. They have, in particular, spread the view that employed workers should not "rock the boat" by striking because there are so many million unemployed ready to take their place.

The labor lieutenants are trying to focus attention on a "public works bill" as the answer to unemployment. But for all the Carter administration's legislative proposals, no new jobs are being created, while millions

more workers are being thrown into the streets.

The revisionist Communist Party USA is also promoting the myth that the Carter administration is a friend of the unemployed. On February 24, the *Daily World* even lied for Carter, claiming that he proposes "the extension of jobless benefits, currently limited to 52 weeks, to ease the plight of millions of workers." Carter and the capitalist class behind him are throwing people out to starve. Yet these revisionists say that Carter is merely "stingy" about jobs.

In response to unemployment cutbacks and the other effects of the capitalist crisis, the National Fight Back Organization (NFBO) is focusing its unemployment work in March around these demands: "Reinstitute Extended Benefits!" "Unlimited Employment Benefits for All Unemployed!" "Jobs or Income Now—Make the Bosses Pay!"

The fight against the cutbacks will be closely linked with other struggles at unemployment offices, such as struggles for faster checks, improved service, bilingual forms, posting of job openings, childcare for women looking for work, and an end to military recruiting in the offices.

A statement from the NFBO exposed the system that lies behind these latest attacks on the

working class: "Under the Ford administration, we were promised that 'recovery is around the corner.' It never came. Then Carter promised us 'full employment,' but all that has happened is more people have been laid off, while unemployment benefits are cut back.

"The fact is that massive unemployment is a basic feature of capitalism, and it is being used by the chieftains of big business to divide the working class, drive down conditions for all, and help lay the groundwork for a new imperialist war.

"These conditions demand that the fightback be intensified. We must take up more militant action against these particular cutbacks and the whole system which is responsible for them."

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