



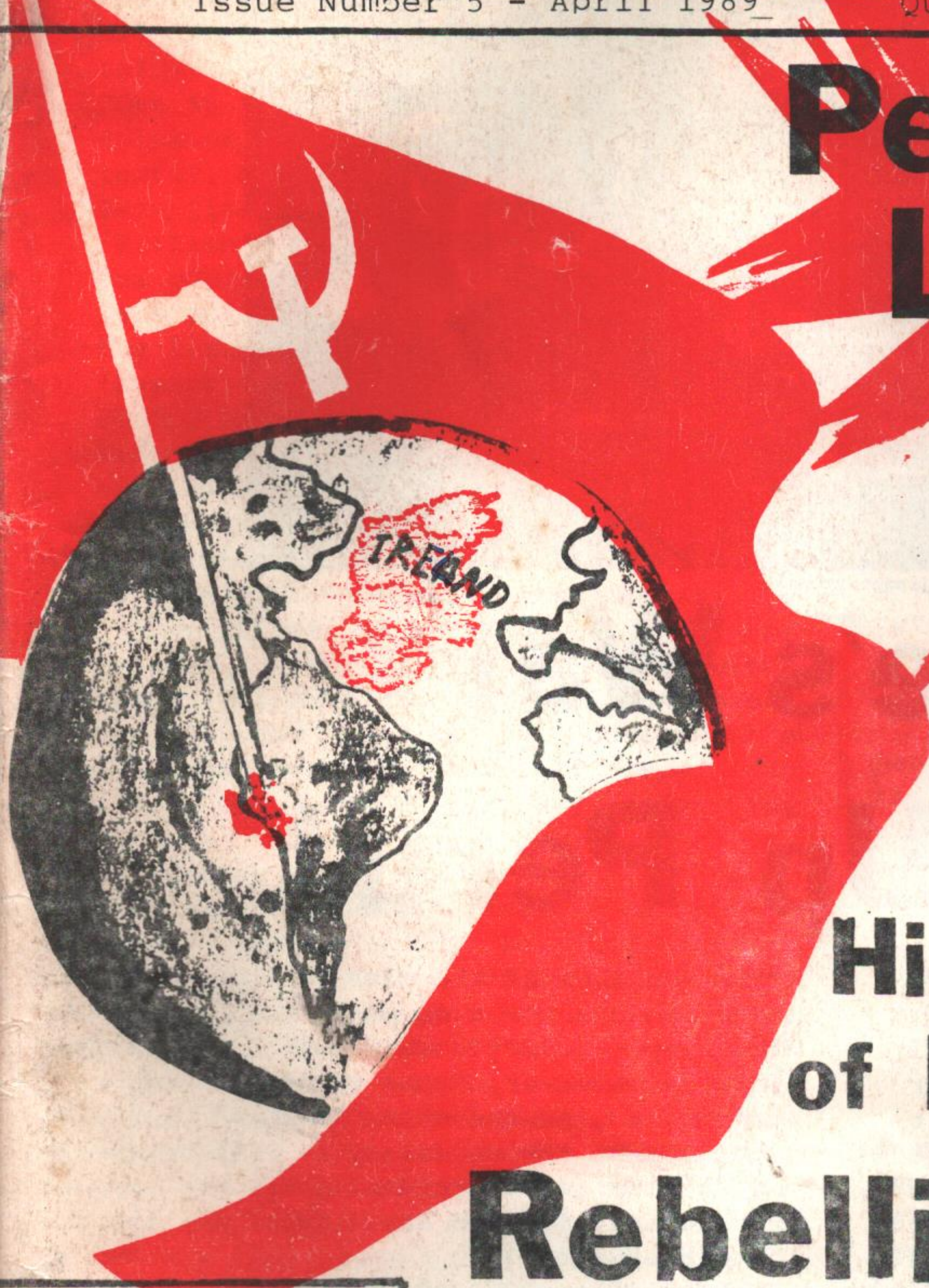
CONQUER THE WORLD

The International Proletariat Must and Will

Voice of The Supporters of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement (RIM) in Britain.

Issue Number 5 - April 1989 Quarterly

People's War Lights Up Peru!



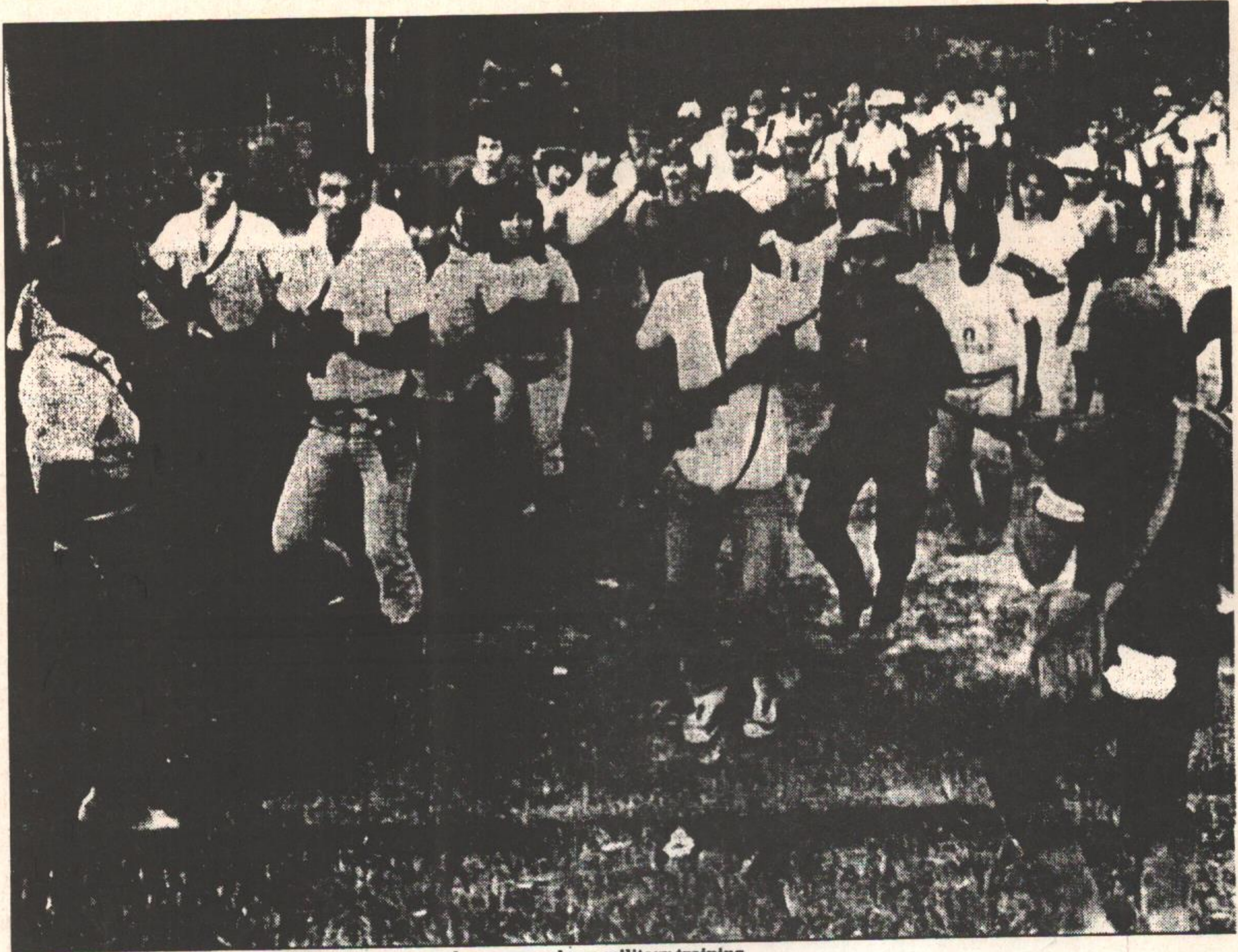
History of Irish Rebellion

Rebellion

RIM on Kurdistan, Iran, May Day.
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Let's Finish It Off!



New Shining Path recruits, men and women, undergo military training

People's War Lights Up Peru!

"South America's most dangerous Rebels".
(Guardian.)

In the face of the "white terror" of the Garcia government and his predecessor Belaunde, the reactionary army and their imperialist backers, (U.S. imperialism, with "aid" from the European imperialists, and Soviet social imperialism,) our comrades of the Communist Party of Peru advance, forging the party and building the people's army from the class struggle. In these hard times our Peruvian comrades struggle is pregnant with the future society, which will be born through their revolutionary actions. The masses in Peru show the peoples of the world that they are willing to take destiny into their own hands, not just theirs but the whole world's. The Communist Party of Peru is leading the peoples' War along the correct path, guided by our proletarian science, Marxism-Leninism-Maoism.

There comes a time and this IS the time when the imperialist press are forced to speak in plain words.

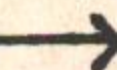
"If you look at the classic requirements for a counter-insurgency policy", said one foreign observer, "none of them exists. If, on the other hand, you look at the necessary conditions for a successful revolution, Sendero seems to have them all."

The Guardian, 10/2/89:

"...the Maoist rebels whose nine year insurgency is spreading like a red stain across much of Peru"

"Like a red stain". Maoism is spreading and penetrating deep into the social fabric of Peruvian society, an economy dominated by imperialism.

The Peruvian Communist Party (P.C.P. - is a participating organisation in the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement) is one of the Maoist forces carrying out peoples' war in the world. The imperialists are watching its development with concern for themselves, for their very existence. So



too are the world's people watching, with the intention of spreading the "red stain" across the borders of Peru, through South America up into the heart land of the biggest imperialist in the world, across the oceans, around the whole imperialist world.

The imperialists apply their world outlook:

Mass Genocide.

The Independent 7/3/89:

"There are two strands of military thinking on the problem" said the intelligence officer.

"One is the so-called French solution - essentially one of terror, applied successfully in Argentina. The other is the 'British solution' of recruiting the population on to the military side and defending them against the insurgents. In Argentina the 'French solution' meant about 20,000 dead, since it was a largely middle-class rebellion and relatively easy to isolate."

This "British solution" they speak of has been implemented in Peru, like in all other Latin American countries. The imperialists use pre-trained units made up of army veterans, local tyrants, live-stock rustlers, all employed as infiltrators and agents linked up to the government's intelligence network. They are formed into vigilante bands under military leadership, unleashing terror in the countryside, assassinating party members and peasants.

The "French solution" consists of setting up concentration camps in "Los Cabitos" barracks in the city of Ayacucho, Totos (Cangallo), and Qoisa and Pichari (La Mar), and Huanta. There have been reports of prisoners having their throats cut, prisoners being tortured and buried alive. To extend this reign of terror against the people, the army had the heads of captives cut off and impaled on stakes. On the 10th of January 1983, in a place called Chuschi, they tied dynamite to a peasant and blew him up, while shouting "this is how terrorists die".

The reactionary army of Peru is carrying out a counter-revolutionary offensive against the revolution, an offensive of robbery, rape, torture, looting, arson and slaughter, a policy of burn all, loot all, and kill all.

The purpose of the "French" and "British" tactic is nothing but genocide of the masses, who have dared to take history into their own hands, by taking up arms against the enemy, who has always used the gun to put them down.

The imperialists, through their running dogs like Garcia, have implemented these fascist tactics through the whole of Latin America, but it is only in Peru, at the moment, that they face defeat. Why? Because PCP practices the science of the proletariat, they rely on the masses for everything. Like in China under Mao, the imperialists cannot defeat the people. Marxism-Leninism-Maoism is the invincible weapon of the world's masses. With it, we are unbeatable. Without it, we cannot defeat them. This is why PCP goes from strength to strength, while other rebel groups of Latin America are weighed down by the counter-insurgency of the imperialists.

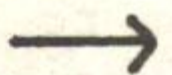
As one Peruvian general said: "Only now are [politicians] realising that Sendero is against the whole system and it won't go away." What they mean by this statement is that they have felt defeat at the hands of our comrades. Chairman Mao wrote of the Chinese experience: "All reactionaries try to eliminate the revolution through mass slaughter, and they think the more people they kill the more it will weaken the revolution. But despite the reaction's subjective wishes, facts show that the more people they kill, the stronger the revolution becomes and the closer the reactionaries come to their doom. This is an ineluctable law of history."

Maoists rely on the masses. To kill the Maoists you have to kill the people. This is the main reason the imperialists and their allies cannot defeat our comrades in Peru using the "French" or "British" fascist tactics.

"No one knows what to do about Sendero that isn't a completely repressive and genocidal response", Professor Flores Galindo says.

This is exactly the plan - a genocidal response on a mass scale - on a scale that impels the imperialists to create "public opinion" around the developing situation in Peru, against the PCP, in favour of an attack. And this "public opinion" is being created around the drug issue...

"While the rebel's dominance increases, the coca eradication campaign is being extended. Four more helicopters were donated at the end of last year, bringing the total to nine, and the number of American drug enforcement agents, technicians and pilots has been raised to more than 30. The bitter social resentment provoked by coca eradication in the absence of substantial



economic aid, which would probably be impossible to introduce because of Sendero, is swelling the guerrillas' support. A clash between the rebels and the US anti-drug effort seems inevitable." (The Independent 7/2/89)

Under the guise of "drug eradication" the U.S. is preparing for a large-scale attack against PCP. It is not PCP that supports the drug traffickers, but the imperialists themselves, as we saw with the Iran-contra affair. It is the CIA who finances drug production and is the main dealer on the world market, using the money to finance counter-insurgency plans like those of the contras and those in Peru.

Gonzalo, chairman of PCP, has been quoted as saying that the people's war in Peru is the most economical war because they rely on the masses, taking their weapons from the enemy. It was recently reported in the press that a top Peruvian diplomat was found with £16,000,000 of drugs in his London house. Drug production is a weapon of the imperialists against the peoples of the world and goes contrary to the goal of PCP. The imperialists try to implicate PCP in this drug production, so as to confuse the people and thus create public opinion against them, attempting to lessen their support among the peoples of the world.

The imperialist's running dogs are forced to admit they have not been able to stop the advance of PCP. They have not even been able to minimise its effect.

The PCP have inflicted crushing blows against reaction. 1980 saw the beginning of armed struggle in Peru by PCP. The armed struggle was extended in 1981 and 1982 into the forming of "peoples committees", the new shoots of peoples power in Peru, based among the workers, peasants and petty-bourgeoisie, a joint dictatorship based on the worker, peasant alliance, led by the proletariat through its party. The first stage, the New Democratic stage, of the two-stage process of the dictatorship of the proletariat on the road to communism.

To date, PCP holds an area of control stretching from the South of Ayacucho up along the spine of the country to the Huallaga valley. With the concentration of military actions in the region of Ayacucho, Huancavelica and Apurimac.

"Maoist guerrillas have extended their siege of a city of 45,000 people in the Andes to three nearby villages, police said. Rebels of the Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) have blocked all roads into Azangaro cutting it off from police reinforcements." (Reuter 27/2/89)



In areas under PCP control The Independent reports...

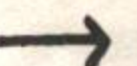
"A former coca grower, whose family's plantations were eradicated by the government, said: "Sendero has formed committees in every village and there are several in Tingo Maria itself. People join the party because it protects them against eradication and repression by the police and army. It offers them justice." (7/2/89) and....

"a lawyer said: "We no longer have clients from outside Tingo Maria in cases like theft, rape, or land disputes. They have their own form of justice. It is quite logical, because official justice is unjust."

This shows the great support PCP have won amongst the masses, because they represent the masses class interests and serve the people by waging revolutionary war.

PCP is carrying out their policy of "winning base areas" in the "plan for the great leap". They are creating the pole for the new society of the proletarian dictatorship. Building the new society out of the ashes of the old.

A reporter from the Times took a taxi drive through Peru into PCP areas of control. The reporter, for reasons of fearing for his own safety, posed all his questions to the driver of the taxi! "They have better intelligence service than the army" said the taxi driver about PCP. "If you have done nothing you have no reason to fear, but the army..." He shook his head "They come into your house looking for "terrorists" and steal everything they can



get their hands on. If there are young women, they rape them. The Shining Path check your I.D.; if your name is in their list you are dead. But they do not steal and they do not touch women."

PCP are well prepared for an escalation in the situation. The imperialist tactic of making a coup and bringing in greater reaction against the people has been considered by the running dogs. But they realise it could work to the advantage of the revolution rather than counter revolution.

The Independent, 7/3/89:

"A coup would legitimise the violent insurrection of the Maoist guerrillas of Sendero Luminoso and, in the view of many, trigger a prolonged civil war.

"Peru "has the conditions for a social explosion much worse and greater than in any other country in Latin America", Mr Garcia said on Sunday."

For the reactionaries the fuse is getting short and in such times contradiction shows itself between imperialists and their running dogs...

"There is discontent in the senior military ranks, which led to a coup plot at the end of December, stopped only when the US ambassador made it clear that no interruption to the constitution would be supported by Washington."

The analysis from the reactionaries....

"After eight years of advance by the Maoist Guerrillas, Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path), the Peruvian army is demoralised, badly equipped, miserably paid and convinced it cannot defeat them unless the government makes political changes, according to several senior military officers."

(The Independent, 7/3/89)

The analysis from the revolutionaries...

Quote PCP: "What is developing in Peru, while the whole world watches, is simply and completely a peoples war and nobody with an ounce of brains can deny it..." (AWTW/8)

The imperialists undercover insurgency campaign has not stopped the development of PCP "like a red stain" through the whole of Peru, attracting the attention and support of the advanced of the world. The imperialists are planning a second Vietnam for our comrades. Direct invasion by the imperialists is on the cards, this is the final card the reactionaries can play, when everything for them will be put on the line. For PCP it is an extension, onto a higher level, of the same white terror they have faced and it will be a step closer to seizing state power, and the chance to make great advances for the world proletarian revolution. Through the defeat of this white terror a new proletarian society shall be born. ■



Demonstration against racism in London, 1979.

Salman Rushdie's "Satanic Verses" and the Satanic Verses of the Imperialists and their Reactionary Puppets

On 14th February Ayatollah Khomeini passed the death sentence on Salman Rushdie and his book: Satanic Verses. It was from that moment that the affair reached global dimensions. The same book was first banned about a year ago in India, but this went unnoticed. The first sign of what was to come occurred in Bradford in January, when deceived sections of the Muslim community gathered and burnt the book. This was followed by riots in Pakistan where things

(Continued on Page 32)



The State Male Right

Oppression Of Women...

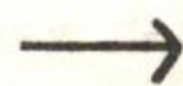
Let's Finish It Off!

On 29th November 1988, people once again witnessed another clear example of how the judicial system of this country serves and reproduces the rotten and crisis ridden imperialist system, of which one of the most sickening and essential components is the oppression of women.

This time, a 72 year old judge, Sir Harold Cassel freed a "former" London policeman on probation, who had committed three sexual assaults on his 12 year old step' daughter. This judgement came as another judge freed an admitted child molester at St Albans crown court.

The judge, Cassel, said that the sexual assaults had occurred when "pregnancy led to a lack of sexual appetite in the lady and considerable problems for a healthy young husband", and went on to accuse the mother of "encouraging" the assaults!

After this incident, some MP's in parliament were quick to save "people's confidence" in the judicial system, by suggesting that Sir Harold "should do the decent thing and resign". However, they were fully aware that his statement of



resignation was already in their hands. The Lord Chancellors department said that a decision to dismiss the judge would be "highly unusual". This "highly unusual" statement was an endorsement for the "highly usual" verdict of the court.

As the verdict of the court was announced, the illusion of "faith" in the judicial system evaporated; the mother was outraged and hit the "ex-policeman", which was also clearly a direct hit against the judicial system itself. Both the emphasis during the trial on the amount of sex that the couple had (the mother was forced to admit in court that "as from the sexual side, my husband did not go without") and the verdict itself, basically put the responsibility on women. This verdict will undoubtedly encourage men to commit rape, and will lead to some women not speaking out, therefore similar cases will not come out into the open exposing this oppressive system even more. Cassel told journalists that "do you think that some of the things you have put out haven't given aid and comfort to some evil minded person?" This statement carries an important message: Yes, your system's verdict has given aid and comfort to those "evil minded person[s]" who oppress women and children. But what the media has done (and this is part of its role) is to convey the verdict of your system. If this verdict is going to give aid or comfort, it is going to give it to the system and those who enforce it. But the real question is: what does this whole incident mean for the struggle of all women against their oppression?

This system portrays women as possessions, as pieces of meat, as commodities and as sexual objects. The brutal oppression of women is designed to put her back into her "proper place" and enforce her role as man's subordinate in the home and in society at large. This rape case provides an exposure of their brutal system and why it is not worth a single drop of blood to defend, but millions to overthrow.

This case reflects the view of the system that a man's wife and children are his private property and therefore if he wants to fuck with them, that's O.K. whether they like it or not.

The court case may seem contradictory with this campaign to promote the family. It is in fact a component part of it, as it promotes "male rights", male supremacy and the subjugation of women to men. It was this "contradictory" move that caused the "concern" of some MP's, who were worried that the verdict might damage their image of the family and all the oppression that goes with it.

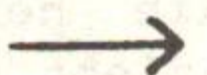
Let us take a look at another example of

how the state upholds the family. Take the Cleveland enquiry.

The Social Services Department came out of the controversy over the death of the child Jasmine Bechford very badly. Jasmine had been sexually abused, whilst under the supervision of the local authority, the London Borough of Brent. What came out of the enquiry was that the system was exposed in the eyes of the masses for neglecting the welfare of children, and so they came out with this hypocritical statement that the child should be put "first, last and all the time". So did they really mean this, or was it something to deceive the masses with? In the face of all the criticism of Social Services, in the same year Cleveland put forward a child policy which was considered "forward looking", a "child first" policy. In February 1987 the authority created a new team, in an effort to diagnose cases of child sex abuse. Dr Marietta Higgs and Dr Geoffry Wyatt of the Paediatrics department had made a breakthrough in the diagnosing of child sex abuse cases. They were prepared to diagnose child sex abuse when other doctors were not, and not just in their own patients.

However this hypocritical attempt by the authorities to show how caring the state is blew up in their faces. Overall 197 children were taken from their parents. 94 of them had safety orders taken out on them over a period of 2 months, the rise in abuse cases going up by 18 children over one weekend and by 37 over a five day period. The two consultant paediatricians were actually criticised by the enquiry, for refusing the direct request from the director of the country's social services department to reduce the number of diagnoses they were making! Dr Higgs responded "What is a doctor to do if, as a professional, he or she diagnoses sexual abuse? Should she return the child to the abuser?"! Thus the two doctors came into contradiction with the state on whether to continue with the programme or not. They were asked to reduce the number of diagnoses they were making, on the pretext that "the system in Cleveland could not cope with the numbers or the effects on the families". But the real reason was that the state could not possibly allow this programme to continue, as it exposed just how rotten the institution of the family, which the state promotes, really is.

Hence it was essential to discredit the two doctors and their method of diagnosis in order that the rule of the state, and the rule of the man within the family, is protected and upheld. Under no circumstances could the image of the "sanctity of the



family" be smashed. It didn't matter that children were being raped, as long as the institution of the family remained intact. From the state's point of view, it was fine for the odd case of family child rape to be exposed, as this would show how the system protects those under its rule, but what was happening in Cleveland, was that child rape was being exposed as a common occurrence, thus bringing the institution of the family into question. This could not be allowed to happen as the family is one of the main pillars of patriarchal society. Hence the state had to put the lid back on quick!

The state has accused women of being responsible for the increase in "crime and vandalism", they say that as women go to work, their children are free to go around and do whatever they want. Therefore the solution is for women to stay at home and control their kids.

After years of struggle by women to step out into society and be active participants in every sphere of that society, they are being made to feel unfulfilled with their role outside the home and somehow shameful, and are being "encouraged" and/or forced to turn more and more inward and back into the



**UNLEASH
THE FURY
OF WOMEN AS
A MIGHTY FORCE
FOR REVOLUTION!**



Vietnamese freedom fighter

So these two cases show how the state sees the wife and children as the private property of the man, and how the state preserves the right of the man to do what he wants with them. In the Cleveland case the state makes it clear that it will not expose the rapists, whilst in the other case, it is made clear that if the man is exposed, the hands of the law are with him.

home, their "rightful place". In this society, women are seen as expendable in all spheres of society, except for sex and reproduction. The family is a unit for fulfilling the needs of capitalist society for reproduction.

Patriarchy and "male rights" serve imperialism and the division of society into classes, and everything that goes with it; which can clearly be seen in the recent verdicts of their legal system.

Property based patriarchal societies throughout history have ensured that a "women's place" in the society is strictly defined, and that her overall social existence is severely restricted and circumscribed. Such means of keeping women in line and making it more difficult for them to challenge the existing social order, become all the more crucial in times of increasing social crisis and turmoil. When the social fabric is becoming severely strained, the ruling classes have to put a lot on the line to make sure that they stay in the saddle. The main purpose of this particular offensive against women is to

A major campaign by the government in linking the family and the role of women with "strengthening of the nation" has been going on for sometime. In this campaign the role of women as the "nurturing mother" is seen as key in preserving the family and as an instrument for social control. She must train her children to be "Good Brits", obedient servants of the nation.



batten down the hatches on the home front and reduce the chances that women will play a vanguard and decisive role in causing all hell to break loose against the system, as it works to prepare for a global nuclear showdown against the rival bloc. Furthermore (and linked to the above) the aim of such "women's place" measures is to throw a "bone" to the men in these times. That is, to give men the message that they have something to defend in this system, in particular their privileged role over women, and thus try to steer more men into firmer support for the system and at the same time, strengthen their dominant role in the family, by infecting them with the dominant bourgeois ideology, making them play the role of bourgeois in relation to their wife and children.

And, on the other hand, a lot of people, especially women, are made to feel suffocated by the reactionary offensive which is designed to penetrate all spheres of society. Many are falling for the hype about how everybody is supposedly wild about Thatcherism and itching to pound anybody who messes with the system. Many do not realise the extent to which their thoughts are being manipulated by the media etc., to get them to believe that there is a right wing consensus on just about everything. Many

feel isolation and despair, the feeling that "these days", you have "got to watch everything you say". "Don't believe the hype". It is important to see that it is not all sewn up. It is because the imperialists fear the masses of women fighting back against the system, that they implement these reactionary measures.

If the oppression of women was the only form of oppression under this system, it would be enough reason to rise up against the system and not stop until it has been completely overthrown, because ending unequal and oppressive social relations, and the emancipation of humankind, is impossible without the emancipation of women.

No amount of reforming of this system will bring about the emancipation and liberation of women. This system, and all it stands for, has to be smashed; because, under capitalism, women will always be seen primarily as sex objects and the incubators and minders of the next generation. And the overthrow of this system of hell we live under can only be carried out with the full participation of women in the revolutionary struggle.

Break the Chains! Unleash the Fury of Women as a Mighty Force for Revolution. ■



RIM Supporters celebrating International Women's Day in Brixton.

Available from Conquer the World.



Militia Women

How bright and brave they look, shouldering

five-foot rifles
On the parade ground lit up by the first gleams of day.

China's daughters have high-aspiring minds,

They love their battle array, not silks and satins.

February 1961

By Mao Tsetung



West Bank youth



Ireland

ONE STRUGGLE.. ONE FIGHT!



Belfast youths



South Africa

History of Irish Rebellion

(PART 1)

Because the ruling class promotes ignorance and confusion with regard to Ireland, to cover its tracks, all those wanting to overthrow this system, need a clear picture of Irish history - to better understand the great potential the Irish situation contains for defeating British imperialism, and learn from the lessons of the past, to better serve the struggle today.

Ireland is a major example of a country in the grip of imperialism. Irish history is one where oppression and resistance has taken place for centuries and this history also shows how Ireland was used as a testing ground for British colonial ambitions and repression, which Britain tried out from India to South Africa. Therefore, a good study of the history of Ireland will give a good view of this beast called British imperialism. For nearly 900 years, this country has been invaded and atrocity after atrocity committed against its people. And for 900 years there wasn't a time when the English governments were left in peace from

this historic struggle of the Irish people, and this struggle has been an inspiration for all those who are struggling against imperialism. As Ireland was the first colony of Britain, it could very well sound the death knell for British imperialism.

In 200 B.C. the Gales, a branch of the celtic race, settled in a land they called Eire.

The Catholic church was implanted on the Island by St.Patrick in the mid-5th century.

Ireland was first invaded by the Anglo-Normans in 1169. Before that, the Danes invaded it. During this time Ireland was a tribal form of society based on common ownership of the land. The country was brought under the feudal control of England. This process continued until 1609, when the first plantation of Ulster took place. At this time, an estimated half a million acres of arable land was confiscated, and Irish landholders were expelled from Ulster and

had to hand over estates to English groups. The settlers had to promise to clear out the native population and to take as tenants English and Scottish settlers only. The native Irish themselves were eligible only for the smallest group of holdings, and had to pay rents twice as high as the rents paid by the settlers. All the rest of the Irish inhabitants were to be evicted by a given date. The settlers backgrounds were, as is well known, "generally the scum of both countries England and Scotland.... abhorred at home", as one contemporary Scottish writer put it - thus the reason for their plantation was obvious.

The Irish were rebelling against nearly all the policies which were being put forward by the English, and therefore the ruling of Ireland by England became more and more difficult as time went by. The settlers were sent to plant the social base for the colonisation of Ireland. Making a suitable colony out of Ireland was proving not an easy task. These settlers were there to hold the Irish nation in check. Like the pass laws in South Africa today, the Irish were not to move from one place to another without a magistrate's certificate.

THE ENGLISH CIVIL WAR

The revolution in England brought with it a civil war between the bourgeoisie and feudalism, as represented by the absolute Monarchy, when the feudals tried to limit bourgeois freedom of trade and accumulation of capital. This civil war loosened the English hold on Ireland, because of all the in-fighting in England.

In 1641, a great uprising broke out, supported by all the dispossessed against the invaders, who had stolen their land. At this time, concessions were made to the Irish, to keep the rebellion down. Some sections of the ruling class in England tried to use the Irish people, who were outraged, to their advantage, even to the extent of trying to raise an army among the Irish to defeat Cromwell, who in fact represented the bourgeoisie side in that civil war. From all this, it was clear that both sides in the war were the sworn enemy of the Irish. And as for Cromwell's role in all this, to see what he did to the Irish people is enough to enable us to say, fuck Cromwell and fuck the English revolution, because, for the Irish people, it brought nothing but more misery and more subjugation.

In 1649 Oliver Cromwell had landed in Dublin at the head of an army to complete the subjugation of the country and the process of extermination and confiscation, with even greater brutality than was used before. Religious feeling was used to intensify the violence of the struggle. At

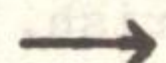
the siege of Drogheda, 30,000 Catholics were slaughtered. Thousands of Irish people, including children, were sold as slaves and sent to the West Indies. The confiscation of land under Cromwell was carried out on a scale which affected nearly the whole country. His plan was to expel the whole Catholic Irish population from Ulster, Munster and Leinster and confine them to the province of Connaught. The Irish army was dismantled and 40,000 of them were sent into exile abroad. The new settlers were former soldiers from Cromwell's armies, who were brought over and given land. But these settlers needed labourers to work for them.

Ireland became a rallying ground for various forces who came into condemnation of the English government. At the battle of Aughrim on July 12th, 1691, the forces which were supporting the restoration of the Stuart Monarchy were defeated by the troops of William of Orange. Some Irish masses took part in this battle from the point of view of fighting the British colonists and were justified in doing so.

The Catholic religion was persecuted as part of suppressing the Irish national identity. Britain today claims the cause of the conflict is religious differences but the fact is, the repression of the Catholic religion was carried out for political purposes, by the British state, to consolidate their hold over Ireland. As it wasn't about religion during these times, nor is it right up to the present day.

In the beginning of 1692 a number of Acts were passed by the Dublin parliament, all leveled against the Irish which were collectively called the penal code. Under these measures, Irish could not own land, or take land on lease for more than 30 years. If they became traders or manufactures they had to pay a special tax and could not employ more than two apprentices; they were barred from the vote, from entry into parliament, from the municipal corporations, from the "learned" professions and from commissions in the army, navy and civil service. No Irish could open or teach in a school or take any part in the sale or manufacture of arms etc. All these measures were designed to create a privileged social base for British colonialism to control the Irish people, as the settlers were given the benefits of all these measures which deprived the native Irish people. A typical settler colonial state was created by the laws.

Ireland was then used to supply England with raw materials and helped English industry to grow and develop. What was done



to agriculture and industry in Ireland depended on what suited the colonial master. This resulted in a section of settler businessmen being excluded from trade. So, a section of settlers came into conflict with the British ruling class.

The lack of any power for the Irish people, made life miserable for the vast majority of them, who were mainly peasantry. Therefore, the peasants organised themselves into an organisation called White-boys or Oak-boys. For the first time, the Irish were organised into an army type of force, called the volunteers. The British government allowed them to do, this as there was a lack of personnel in the British army, but the Irish used this as an opportunity to arm themselves.



Partition Border

The hatred of the Irish people was used by the Irish bourgeoisie to win concessions and reforms from the British government. Because of the war in America and the mass resistance put forward by the Irish, the British government was not in a position to refuse these reforms. The champion of these reforms was Henry Grattan, a settler and a small proprietor. However, all he was worried about was the removal of restrictions on the export trade and a breathing space for the Irish bourgeoisie. As the history of the struggle in Ireland shows, the British, in times of crisis, will gladly accept reform and take a step back, to prepare their forces to attack again when the situation is ripe. The economic crisis, was not just affecting the Irish, even though they were the ones who

suffered the most, but the settlers were becoming more and more impatient with the way things were. All this, at a time when bourgeois revolutions were sweeping Europe, when bourgeoisies were one by one getting their acts together and doing their utmost. The Irish bourgeoisie realised the opening for the improvement which could be made by independence and therefore resisted. The radical bourgeoisie realised that in order to fulfill this requirement they needed to have the masses with them, otherwise it would be impossible for them to do anything.

Wolfe Tone helped to form the society of united Irishmen in 1791. Wolfe Tone's viewpoint can be seen in the following quote:

"To subvert the tyranny of our execrable Government; to break the connection with England, the never-failing source of all our political evils; and to assent the independence of my country - these were the objects. To unite the whole people of Ireland, to abolish the memory of past dissensions, and to substantiate the common name of Irishman in place of the denominations of Protestant, Catholic and Dissenter - these were my means."

Wolfe Tone's good stand on the situation of the Irish made him very popular, especially as he was from the settlers community and a protestant. And in Irish history, it was a person's political viewpoint which determined who was the friend and enemy of the Irish people. It depended on whether you saw yourself as Irish or British.

As the crisis heightened in Ireland British colonialism used the "carrot and stick" method to calm the situation down. The Catholic Relief Act was introduced in 1693, in which the king of England "recommended a consideration of the situation of the Roman Catholics". Even so they wriggled out of conceding much, by saying that Irish should accept less than "equality with settlers". This had the element of keeping the privileges of the settlers, in order to enable them to divide the movement which, for the first time, came under a unified banner, even though the big landlords and the big bourgeoisie had no intention of letting go as the colonial masters. This act shows the two sides of British policy, that existed at the time of this act being introduced: British strategy was to bring some sections of the society into line by offering the "carrot" and crush the Irish movement with the "stick". So, three more acts were introduced, which were: (1) Convention Act, (2) Arms Act, (3)

Militia Act. The first, which made all assemblies of delegates illegal, was designed to prevent the United Irishmen and the progressive Irish from developing a political party, by organising the newly emancipated Irish voters. The Second, by prohibiting the importation, manufacture, and sale of arms and gunpowder, was designed to cripple in advance any attempt at insurrection. The third, was designed to provide a counter-revolutionary force with which to suppress any movement by the Volunteers or similar bodies. In this way, all further advance by the United Irishmen was to be barred.

British colonialism wanted to disarm the masses who had armed themselves under the disguise of joining the volunteers. The government targeted them and were successful, in the sense that the volunteers and leaders of the movement were not prepared for this counter-attack. Even so, it didn't go smoothly, rebellion broke out anywhere this act was implemented. But finally, they succeeded in disarming the volunteers. A civil war broke out, when the British tried to recruit for their army among the Irish. The peasants took to the hills and defended themselves with courage. The peasantry were showing their willingness for change and were prepared to go all the way, something which was paid attention to, as we will show later.

By 1794, the authorities were ready to suppress the Society of United Irishmen (S.U.I.). So the S.U.I. was suppressed and their newspaper banned. The British still didn't get the result they wanted, so they formed the first death squad in the world: in 1795 The Mother lodge of the Orange Society was formed. The Orange Order became an organised conspiracy of all the most degenerated reactionaries. Its main aim was to search Irish homes and harass and carry out atrocities. The English government had a hand in all of this, even if it was indirectly. This is something which is still being carried out in Northern Ireland today, with forces such as the Ulster Volunteer Force, as well as in other places of the world, such as the death squads in El Salvador, etc.

Meanwhile, as the leadership of the movement was in the hands of the bourgeois democratic forces, instead of relying on the masses (which were prepared and desperate to have a go at the British), they were preparing to go to France, to get help from the new French republic in the form of arms. The problem in Ireland, at that time, was not lack of arms, but lack of preparation, and not making full use of the fact that the time was ripe. The leadership took its time to organise and

the British took advantage of this and were thus able to put the rebellion and movement down.

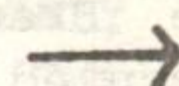
In the headquarters of the counter revolutionaries, Dublin Castle, plans were being drawn up to break the S.U.I. They raided their stores, arrested their leaders, and barbaric repression followed. "Homes were burned wholesale; stores of provisions were looted; hundreds were murdered; thousands were arrested. Tortures of incredible barbarity - flogging especially, carried to the point of actual death under the lash - were inflicted systematically upon a scale that would seem incredible if the evidence permitted any doubt. All indicated to the Irish people that they were to be regarded, at best, as conquered slaves, and at worst as wild beasts to be hunted without mercy." (Jackson 1947)

Two attempts were made by Wolfe Tone to land in Ireland, accompanied by 15,000 trained men and arms for 20,000 more. However the weather did not permit this landing, and they had to return to France. In December 1796, the people got impatient waiting for the French to arrive and started asking the question, why wait for the French before starting? Time was being wasted in recruiting, organising and drilling, while the main point was put aside, i.e. to start the rebellion.

Wolfe Tone was double-crossed by Napoleon Bonaparte who came to power in France in 1797, and the expedition was postponed again.



1796 Rising



Meanwhile the masses of peasants took matters into their own hands and uprisings one by one took place around Ireland. "The rebellion, as such, began on the night of May 25th, when signal fires were lit on the hills of Corrigua and Boulavogue in answer to similar fires lit on the Wicklow Hills. The Wicklow men had risen on the night of May 22-23; but had found, as they approached Dublin, that something had gone wrong with the plans. They had, accordingly retreated to the hills, where they defied every effort to dislodge them. Now they signalled to let the surrounding counties know that they could still hold out. The men of Boulavogue, infuriated by the militia-persecution, had resolved to respond to the call. They waited in a body on their parish priest. The morning following, acting under Father John Murphy's command, they successfully ambushed a party of Yeomanry; and then marched to capture the seat of Lord Mount Norris at Camolin Park. Here they found a great prize - all the pikes and muskets that had been surrendered since March 17th were stored there; and with them were some sixty carbines, and as many sabers, intended for the use of the Camolin Yeomanry.

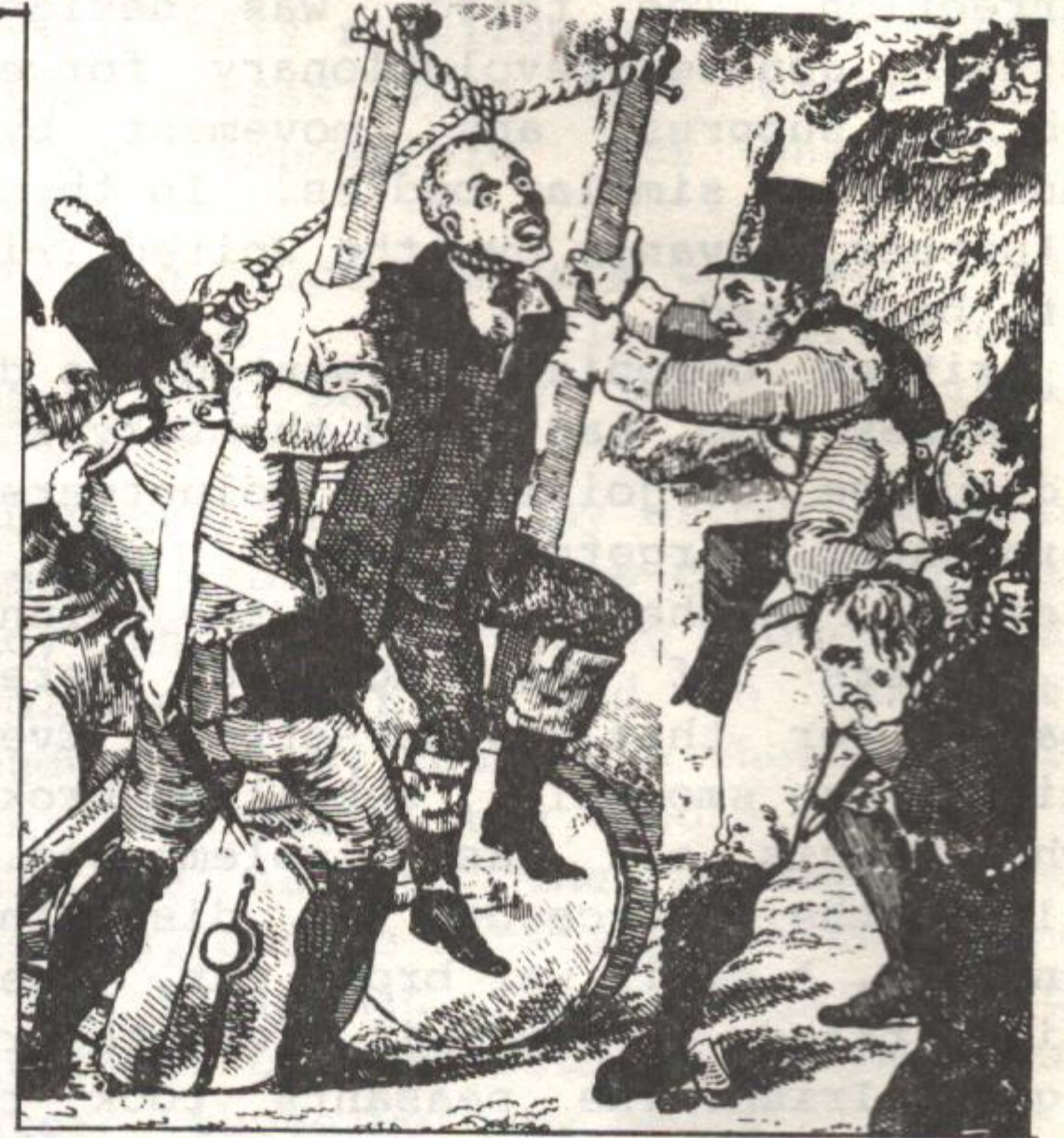
"News of this success spread far and wide, and brought recruits swarming to every hill-top in the county. Any hesitation was dispelled when, the following day, Father John's men routed and nearly exterminated a party of the North Cork militia. It was in this fight that it was discovered what a terrible weapon the ten foot pike can be when used with energy.

"In Down 7,000 men assembled. Aply led by a Lisburn linen-draper, Henry Munro, the rebels scored inconclusive successes in two hard-fought engagements. But despite their courage and determination, they were defeated and scattered on June 14th at Ballynahinch. All the leaders were hanged; Munro before his own shop door." (Jackson 1947)

The rebels were defeated. One reason for this, was the amount of time it took for them to begin the rebellion. The French finally agreed to send the expedition, but they arrived too late, because the English had already put down the rebellion inside the country and were prepared for the French to arrive. The French ship was reduced to a wreck and forced to surrender in a sinking condition. Among the prisoners taken off it was Theobald Wolfe Tone, who during the action had fought like a demon. Sent chained, to Dublin, he was tried by a court-martial and sentenced to be hanged. He claimed, as a soldier, and an officer in the French service, the right to be executed in the military manner. His claim being denied, he took the opportunity, on

the night before his execution to cut his own throat. So, defiant to the last, died the first man to dream of a United Irish Republic. He died on November 19th, 1798.

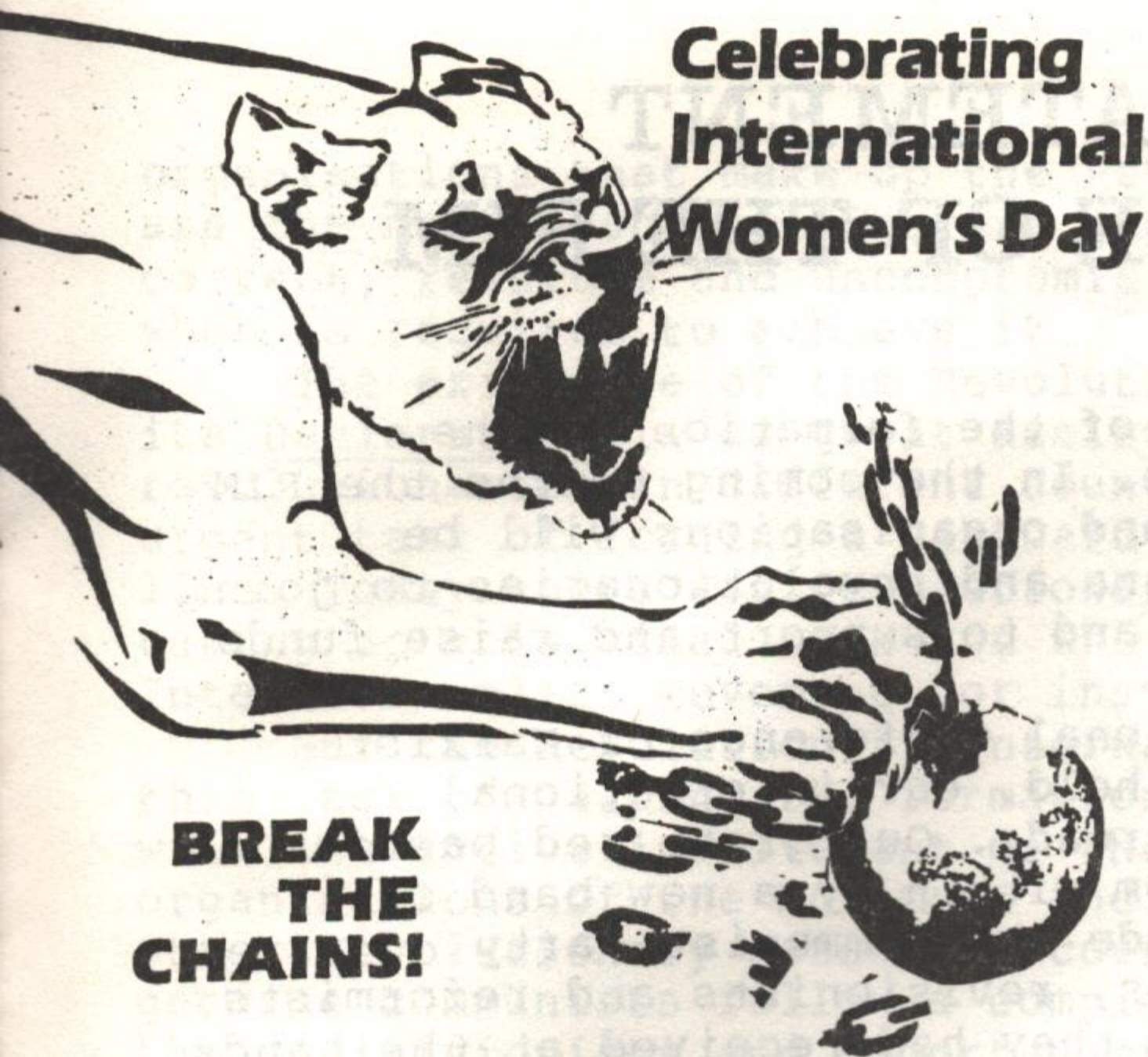
Following the 1798 Rising, British troops carried travelling gallows, to torture and execute Irish rebels found in the field.



As soon as the rebellion was put down, a massive counter attack started against the Irish. Then, the Act of Union was introduced and passed independently by each parliament. The act came into force on January 1st, 1801. Thereafter Ireland became politically part of Britain, and the Irish people in theory become "British". All this act did, was to intensify the national oppression, and hence, the resistance and rebellion. If anything, the Wolfe Tone experience shows that without the masses, a revolution cannot be made, and relying on them is the only solution.

All these moves were in vain, as Ireland entered the 19th century still in the grip of British colonialism. But the events in the next century were to be ones which British imperialism with all its different policies could not contain - something that will be covered in the next part. ■





Celebrating International Women's Day

**BREAK
THE
CHAINS!**

On March 8th oppressed people around the world celebrate International women's day to keep alive the fighting spirit of the angry working class and struggling women who organised strikes and massive demonstrations in 1908 in New York city. It was first declared at the International conference of socialists and communists. V.I.Lenin, the great leader of the Bolshevik Party and Russian revolution was among those who voted at this conference for March the 8th being international women's day. These massive demonstrations that demanded the end of brutal working and living conditions for women didn't go unnoticed among women through out the world who started to organise various sorts of movement as a mighty force for women's liberation. Though, these struggles undoubtedly break down some of the backward ideas in society through the world and have had an impact on the relation of women in society, yet, today, after almost 80 years of heroic struggle, women remain oppressed. The status of women has changed in the sense that they have been given the opportunity to develop certain positions in society. Some women were allowed to step out of the restricted limited role that they hold in society, which was previously dominated exclusively by men, while at the same time fulfilling their "duties" as housewife, mother and devoted wife. Imperialism - by its very nature - uses women as an object to exploit in every sphere of life. Here is one aspect of how they do it; A twelve year old girl was raped by her step father (who happens to be an ex-copper). The wounded mother took her husband to court to find "justice" but it never happened that way. In fact - "his honour" - didn't find it difficult at all to justify the ACT OF RAPE! The poor guy - the judge said - was so frustrated because his pregnant wife lost interest in sex during her pregnancy that he had "no choice" but to use his step daughter to satisfy his male right to fuck when ever he wants it and with

whoever he wants. If you are surprised that it is an ex-cop committed this disgusting abuse which is impossible to justify by any moral human criteria - you should not be. It fits perfectly. This is what the capitalist system is all about and this is what the world imperialist system is based on. They go to Gibraltar, they shoot three young freedom fighters and wipe their hands of it. One "man of the law" rapes his step daughter and with the help of another "man of the law" is cleared of blame. When the people who resist all this shit find themselves in the court "of justice" as described, it becomes obvious that they are not looking at the face of justice but at the face of the rapist, plunderer and murderer - at the face of hypocrisy. It is clear that there is a need to fight all this madness. Lenin said: The experience of all liberation movements has shown that the success of a revolution depends of how much women take part in it. And it is a fact that many women all around the world (particulary women from oppressed countries) have got the message. Look at the women in Palestine that were only yesterday hiding themselves behind the kitchen curtains and their faces behind the veils. Today you can see them out in the streets of their homeland Palestine shouting loudly for their rights , fighting the colonial settlers of the fascist state of Israel together with their imperialists backers, openly with the pride looking into the face of the oppressor and fearlessly standing up against them - all in the name of a future called - freedom! Take our comrades in Peru. It's been the ninth year since the Communist Party of Peru (Sendero Luminoso-Shining Path guerrillas) began to wage People's war in Peru. You may not know (because of media silence) that women are playing a vanguard role in this People's war covering every aspect of the struggle, from guerilla activities against Peruvian reactionary army to tear down the prison walls to free their comrades. Unlike the Trotskyites and revisionists (pro-soviet social imperialism) who call women demands divisive and narrow and say that their demands must wait, we - the Maoist - will never again allow anyone to call themselves a revolutionary who advocate or tolerate or participate in the oppression of women in any way whatsoever - without the most determined struggle. To all our sisters, we say, take heart. Turn your fury into organised struggle for the emancipation of all human kind and we will find the ways together to deal with those who would lock you up, steal your children, beat you, or in any way prevent you from fighting all oppression of women in any way whatsoever - with the most determined struggle. YOU CANNOT BREAK EVERY CHAIN BUT ONE! ONLY REVOLUTION, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT ARMED WITH THE SCIENCE OF REVOLUTION: MARXISM-LENINISM-MAOISM, IS THE FUTURE. ■ 8/3/89.

MAY FIRST 1989 STATEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE RIM

Today marks the fifth anniversary of the formation of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement. In the coming months the RIM and its various participating parties and organisations will be calling upon class conscious proletarians and revolutionaries to join in the celebration of this anniversary and to support and raise funds for our Movement.

In 1984, when the Second International Conference of Marxist-Leninist Parties and Organisations was held, our international communist movement was at a great crossroads. Our great red bastion of socialist China had been taken over from within by a new band of exploiters and capitulators hiding inside the Communist Party.

All over the world the imperialists, revisionists and reformists, anxious to seek revenge for the defeats they had received at the hands of Mao Tsetung and the genuine proletarian revolutionaries, had loudly proclaimed the end of revolutionary Marxism. Thus the formation of the RIM was of great importance in hoisting high the banners of Marx, Lenin and Mao Tsetung when others were trampling them into the mud.

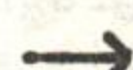
Although the international communist movement has still not fully overcome the crisis brought to a head by the death of Mao Tsetung and the loss of socialist China, the existence of the RIM is itself a very important step in reconstructing the unity of the genuine communists and the existence of such an international grouping is itself a key to further advance in the direction of our goal of creating a communist international of a new type.

In the five years since the formation of the RIM our Movement has continued to advance and spread. The people's war in Peru, led by the Communist Party of Peru, a participating party of the RIM, has advanced wave upon wave and today the roar of the revolutionary armed struggle of the workers and peasants of Peru is truly heard all over the world. The class conscious proletarians and all revolutionary people should be alert to the possibility of intervention by the imperialists against the Peruvian revolution and be prepared to counter such intervention with a revolutionary storm of support for the people's war.

At a time when revisionists and opportunists of all stripes are betraying the revolutionary struggle of the masses and preaching accommodation and compromise with the existing system, it is the genuine Marxist-Leninists, and above all those grouped in the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement, who are waging or preparing to wage the revolutionary armed struggle of the masses which alone can sweep away the old order and open the door to the communist future.

In many countries of the world, such as Palestine, the masses continue to wage a heroic struggle against the reactionaries. But despite their sacrifices and heroism, it is impossible for the masses in Palestine or in any other country to win their liberation without correct leadership. As the Declaration of our Movement points out, "Experience has shown that proletarian revolution can only be achieved and carried forward by a genuine proletarian party based on the science of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought."

Furthermore, it is only the revolutionary communists who link the struggle and sacrifice of today with the goal of building a whole world without classes and exploitation. The genuine communists, unlike the pro-Soviet revisionists and the other opportunists, do not use the struggle of the masses as negotiating chips in coming to agreements with the enemy nor do they seek to replace the existing authorities just to sit on top of the same old system of exploitation. Although many so-called "communists" have themselves joined the reactionary chorus of those who call communism a futile dream, the parties and



organisations that make up the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement are the most resolute fighters today because they have the most correct, resolute and uncompromising view of the future of mankind and what is required to achieve it.

The existence of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement and its Declaration is of great assistance to the proletarian revolutionaries in different countries who face the difficult but urgent task of forging a vanguard Maoist party based upon a correct line. Today there are revolutionaries on every continent who are taking up this vital task and who look to the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement for inspiration and assistance.

But the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement can only fulfill this task of helping the formation of new Marxist-Leninist parties with the active involvement of the participating parties and organisations of the Movement and the class conscious proletarians and other revolutionary masses in countries throughout the world. The genuine communists follow a completely opposite approach to that of the revisionists and opportunists on the financial front, as in all fields. Whereas they practice and preach reliance on imperialists and social-imperialists and reactionaries, the genuine communists practice reliance on the workers, peasants, and other revolutionary masses as their source of funds. It is for that reason that the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement is calling on the revolutionary masses to join in the celebration of our fifth anniversary including by financially assisting the further advance of our Movement.

It is high time that the world be wrested from the hands of the imperialists and reactionaries who now run it. Their rule means continued misery for the immense majority of people throughout the world. And despite their talk of peace and understanding, the real danger still exists that the imperialists will launch a third world war. Only the revolutionary struggle of the people can change this state of affairs and unlock the doors to the future.

Celebrate the Fifth Anniversary of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement! Raise Funds and Support the RIM!

Make Revolution! Build and Strengthen Maoist Parties United in the RIM!

Support the People's War in Peru!

Prevent World War, Step Up the Struggle for Revolution Throughout the World!

Break the Chains! Unleash the Fury of Women as a Mighty Force for Revolution!

Let the "Uprising of Stones" Pave the Way for People's War for the Liberation of Palestine!

Forward Along the Path Charted by Mao Tsetung!



Irish Rebels give their view of British "Democracy"

"DEMOCRACY": DEM(onstration of hyp)OCRACY

The importance of going back over the following events around Ireland, and developing a concrete analysis of them, is that, in this way, we can better understand the workings of British imperialism and what it stands for. These events are not just anomalies of history or one off episodes, but instead show what British imperialism is prepared to resort to.

The blazing infernos of defiance against British imperialist rule are rocking the very foundations of British imperialism and show the just hatred that Irish people have for the British state, which is desperately "cracking down" on all rebellious people, particularly Irish people - with all the instruments of the state,

including the media, the courts and shoot-to-kill policy - in an attempt to create public opinion against revolution.

THE GIBRALTAR "INQUEST"

The British state's policy towards anybody who dares to fight against the horrors inflicted upon the world by British imperialism was summed up by the editor of the "Times" newspaper when he stated in the "Times" on 8th March 1988 :-

" The killing of the three IRA terrorists [so called - CTW] in Gibraltar drives home the lesson which all those tempted to follow in their doomed footsteps



must be taught, there is no let-up, ever, anywhere."

By this logic the British state can murder anyone in the interests of British imperialism. The question is: does the British government have any right to speak in condemnation of "terrorism", given its whole record of mass murder and mass destruction throughout the world? To even suggest that such a question might be seriously presented in the British media is to invite laughter and ridicule. The so-called "free press" is free only to promote the interests of the imperialist ruling class that controls it.

The Gibraltar "Inquest" into the murders of the three Irish people opened in September 1988. (For a full analysis of the events of the 6th March 1988 see "CTW No.3 - "Tear Down British Imperialism in Northern Ireland.")

In relation to the media coverage of the Gibraltar Inquest, the question is, what were the terms of the debate? They were whether or not such media presence is helpful to the interests of British imperialism in such operations. This was the case with the "controversial" television documentary "Death on the Rock". Did this documentary serve the interests of the British imperialist ruling class? Yes, because although it may have exposed the actions of the British state to a small degree, the makers of the documentary were fundamentally "reading from the same script" as their imperialist masters, who control the media through finance capital. Such contradictions as the documentary did throw up, were with the aim of showing up loopholes in the working of the imperialist system, to better be able to close them up. An example of how the media was used to serve the interests of the British state in Gibraltar, was the way in which the media attempted to discredit the evidence of eye-witness Carmen Proetta, who exposed the British fascist death squad: the SAS.

Much of the evidence at the Gibraltar "Inquest" exposed the British state's actions in Gibraltar in March 1988 and its aim from the very beginning, of trying to murder the Irish freedom fighters. For example:-

"the SAS commander, referred to as E, said that once the firing started, the object was to kill. Attempting to arrest Savage as he lay wounded would have been inefficient and dangerous ... the intention from the moment the firing began was to kill him." That is standard and only by so doing could the threat be removed." ("Independent", 14th September 1988.)

Many other events surrounding the "Inquest" show how the trial was staged.

For example, the Spanish police refused to give evidence and 3 out of 6 "watchers" (MI5 spies) said they did not see the shootings, even though they were within yards of what happened. The verdict given by the jury of 11:2 (itself a facade of "democracy") of "lawful killing", shows the British imperialists need to try to justify to the world its huge crimes inflicted upon people all around the world.

Justifying future horrific actions to defend its imperialist interests in the violent upheavals that are to come, the British state does all this under the disguise of "defending democracy", but again, "democracy" for who? Democracy is a form of dictatorship, and bourgeois "democracy" is only practiced amongst the ranks of the ruling imperialist class, while dictatorship is exercised over the oppressed and exploited class.

In the words of the revolutionary nationalist Nigerian musician, Fela Kuti, "bourgeois "democracy" is a dem(onstration of hyp)ocracy ! "

THE BROADCASTING BANS

On Wednesday, October 19th 1988, broadcasted interviews with supporters or members of "paramilitary" organisations in Northern Ireland were banned by the Home Secretary, Douglas Hurd, referring to the IRA, Sinn Fein and the Ulster Defence Association (the political wing of the Unionist/Loyalist death squads). The restrictions also cover statements by people who "support or invite support for these organisations". Mr. Hurd said it was time to "deny this easy platform for those who use it to propagate "terrorism" ! "

The above statement by Home Secretary Hurd exposes the hypocrisy of the British state in implementing this broadcasting ban in Northern Ireland. It is the British state that is the true terrorist and that is using "this easy platform" of the media to propagate its own terrorism, to maintain its own interests against the interests of the vast majority of the people of the whole world.

The media is "no easy platform" for freedom fighters in the British media, and never has been, because freedom fighters do not promote the interests of the imperialists but the opposite. The hypocrisy of Hurd's statement is shown when we look at how one of the leaders of the fascist Orange Order in Northern Ireland, Ian Paisley, is allowed to freely air his disgusting views through the media. The fact that the Ulster Defence Association came under the Broadcasting ban as well, is an

attempt by the British state to portray the media as neutral. It shows how the British imperialists, as with all imperialists, are willing to make short-term sacrifices in order to serve its long-term international interests. The ban was also a pressure tactic by the British state to try to get anti-imperialist forces in N. Ireland to renounce violence.

The imperialists thrive on the political ignorance of people, so when the masses of people become more politically conscious, as the world situation intensifies and oppression and resistance increases, then the imperialists desperately try to crack down using force against any expression of opposition or resistance.

There is a song by the revolutionary nationalist Irish musician Christy Moore called "Section 31", referring to a broadcasting censorship law in Northern Ireland, which exposes the imperialist control of the media,

"Who are they to decide what we should hear?

Who are they to decide what we should see?

What is it they think we cannot comprehend?

Why do they fear what our reaction might be?

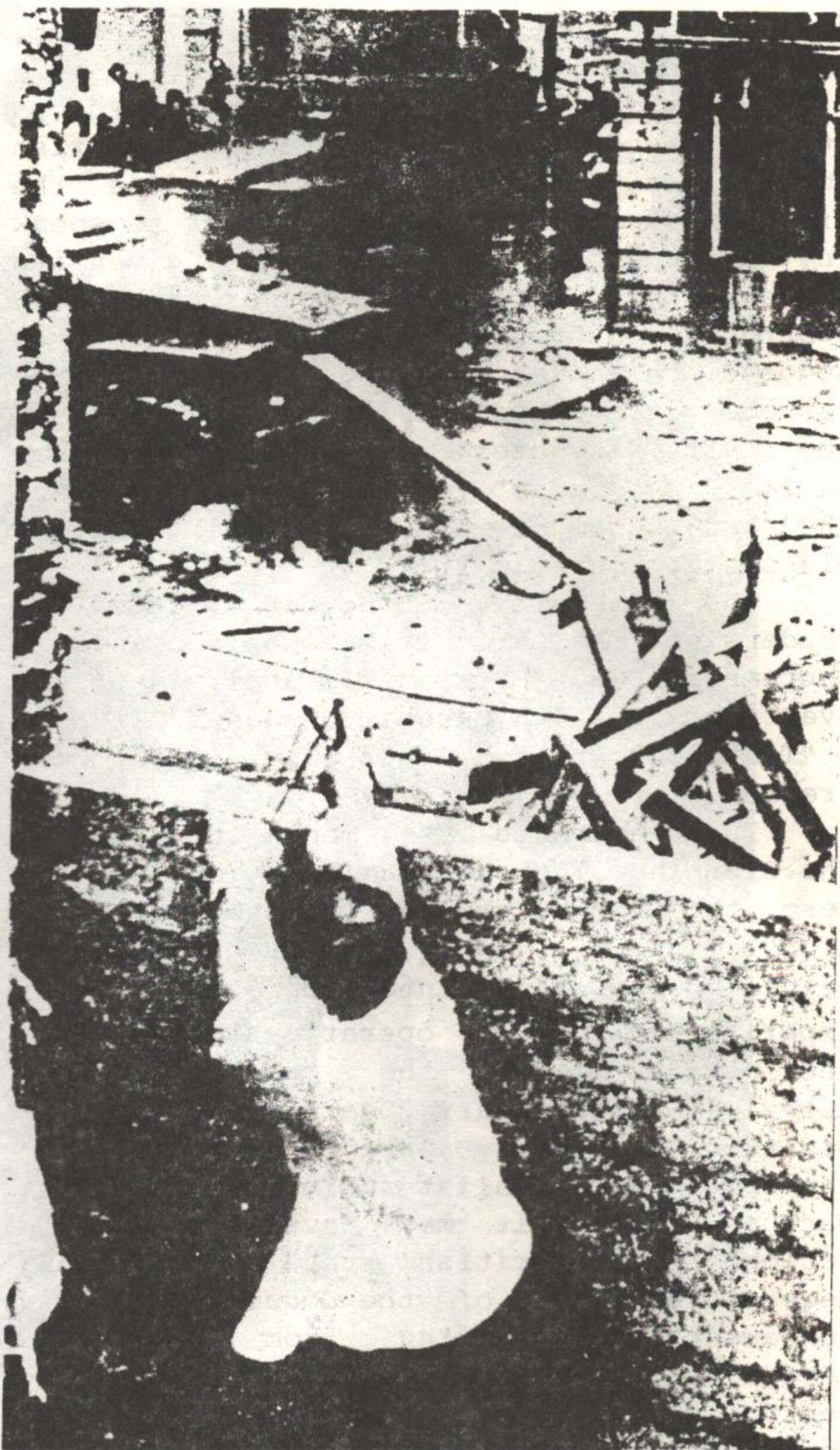
Section 31 on the t.v., Section 31 on the radio,

Section 31 is like a blindfold, Section 31 makes you feel cold,"

The British state has implemented powers under the Broadcasting Act of 1981 and the BBC's Charter, and Section 29 of the Broadcasting Act, which regulates the Independent Broadcasting Association, which says that the Secretary of State may "at any time require the authority to refrain from broadcasting any matter or classes of matter." In other words, the British state has the power of political control over what is to be broadcast on television and radio, which it uses for its own imperialist interests.

The so-called "freedom of speech" in the "democratic countries" is a part of the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie, particularly in the sphere of the media and the very powerful means of communication of television, because the ruling class has a monopoly on the means of moulding public opinion, and because its monopoly of armed force puts it in a position to suppress, as violently as necessary, any expression of ideas, as well as any action, that poses a serious challenge to the established order. As Marx and Engels wrote in the communist manifesto,

"The ruling ideas of each age have ever been the ideas of the ruling class."

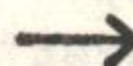


Nationalist resistance
at the Battle of the Bogside, Derry 1969.

"CRACKDOWNS" IN THE LAW COURTS. "NO RIGHT TO SILENCE"

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Tom King, recently announced on behalf of the British state, as part of the recent "security measures" to "crack down" on Irish people, that the Irish peoples' "right to silence" after arrest has been abolished, so now the law courts can assume that a person is guilty as charged if they remain silent. This change in the imperialist law now means that there is no longer an illusion that people are "innocent until proven guilty" but are now "guilty until proven innocent".

Mr. King announced that the Irish people have "no right to silence" and that the new law implemented in Northern Ireland will soon be implemented in Britain as well.



The aim of the abolition of the "right to silence" for people in Northern Ireland is to prevent Irish people escaping conviction on technical legal grounds, when they apply the revolutionary policy towards interrogation by the state of: "Whatever you say, say nothing," and to prevent people having the time necessary to prepare a defence before giving any information. Overall, the British state is planning to "convict" and incarcerate in prison even more Irish people. In any case, they want to put more people in their dungeons. In the eyes of the law, if you are Irish, you are guilty whether you say something or nothing.

In relation to the class nature of laws and the class interests they serve, here is a quote from Bob Avakian, Chairman of the RCP, USA in his book, "Democracy, Can't We Do Better Than That?"

"... laws must reflect the underlying economic relations and the interests of the class that is dominant in those relations. Otherwise, if the laws were in conflict with the fundamental property relations, the economic basis of society would be completely disrupted and society could not function.

"... all is an expression of the basic truth that the underlying production relations of society (the economic base) must and will determine the nature of the political and ideological superstructure, including the laws..... But as long as the relations of capital continue to dominate society, the laws of that society will reflect and reinforce those relations."

A clear example of how there is no "equality" in the face of the law is seen when we compare how the British state's SAS murderers were allowed to go free after massacring three unarmed people in Gibraltar, with how thousands of people are given life in prison and even murdered merely for being Irish or Black.

THE TRIAL OF MICHAEL STONE - LOYALIST ASSASSIN AND AGENT OF BRITISH IMPERIALISM.

On Friday 3rd March '89 in Belfast, Michael Stone, the loyalist thug and assassin, was jailed for 30 years for the murders of six Republicans and several other crimes. The same British state that jailed this loyalist moron is trying to cover over the fact that it is British imperialism that is the biggest criminal and that loyalist assassins serve its own interests in oppressing the Irish people and that Britain plays an active involvement in all loyalist assassinations of Republicans. Michael Stone was jailed to "satisfy" the demands of the Irish masses and the millions of people in Britain who saw him murder three Republicans in Milltown cemetery, Belfast, on

television! The British state could hardly not jail Michael Stone! - imagine the outrage of the Irish people if this thug was allowed to go free, - a mass outrage that would have threatened the interests of colonial occupation in the Six Counties.

"The British state plans, the RUC arms, the UVF carries out", is a slogan of the Supporters of RIM in Britain, which continues "Smash the fascist death squads in Northern Ireland". Anyone who doubts this collusion between the British state, the Northern Ireland "security forces" and the loyalist death squads, should ask themselves how come that for four years such an active loyalist assassin as Michael Stone, who operated in Belfast, Derry and all of the Six Counties, who was responsible for many attempted and actual murders of Republicans and who had close contact with the leaders of the "Ulster Defence Association", the "Ulster Volunteer Force" and other loyalist death squad groups such as the "Red Hand Commandoes", the "Ulster Freedom Fighters" and the "Ulster Resistance" - who themselves are well known to the "security forces" and presumably "under surveillance!" - how come the British state and its lackeys in Northern Ireland say that Stone has "never come to their attention" since 1977, before the Milltown massacre?

The truth is that it is in the interests of the British state to allow this loyalist thug and all the other loyalist thugs in the fascist death squads in Northern Ireland to carry out their murder of Republicans or "Republican sympathisers" as a part of British imperialism's political control of Northern Ireland and the oppression of the Irish people.

The grenades and Browning pistol used by Stone in the Milltown attack were provided by, and a part of, a loyalist arms shipment into N. Ireland in early 1988.

All these attacks, the broadcasting ban, and the attack on the "right to silence" and the arming of their "death squads", are nothing but the desperate screams of a beast called British imperialism, a beast doomed to extinction. Giving a taste of things to come, for the British state and all the reactionary forces, when the fury of the Irish people is unleashed against their oppressors. It is only through the mobilisation and reliance upon the masses of Irish people, that British imperialism and its partners in crime in Ireland can be overthrown through armed revolution and for this revolution to succeed, there needs to be a genuinely revolutionary leadership based on the ideology of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism. ■



Heroic fighters of Sarbedaran in the jungles of northern Iran.

UIC (Sarbedaran) International Women's Day poster

This statement by the Committee of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement (RIM) was made available by the Information Bureau of the RIM on December 18, 1988.

Oppose the Mass Murder of Political Prisoners by the Islamic Republic of Iran!

After the ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war, the bloodthirsty Islamic Republic headed by the butcher Khomeini unleashed a heinous campaign of indiscriminate killing of political prisoners and opposition political activists of all tendencies. Within three months, as many as 15,000 to 20,000 political prisoners have been murdered in cold blood, including many members and supporters of the Union of Iranian Communists (Sarbedaran), a participant in the RIM, and other revolutionary forces. Firing squads, gallows, even machine guns were all used to carry out this crime. In the midst of this wave of terror, the leaders of the Islamic Republic boast that soon they will have no political prisoners in Iran.

Many of those killed had been imprisoned for eight or nine years. The authorities also rearrested and killed large numbers of political activists outside the prisons. Their appetite for blood has not been filled.

This crime cannot go unopposed by the masses of people throughout the world.

The Western imperialists, those self-proclaimed guardians of "human rights," are suspiciously silent in the face of this massive bloodletting by the Islamic Republic. Hardly a word has escaped in the Western media as this medieval barbarism goes on.

This silence from the champions of human rights is part of a blueprint by the U.S. and Western imperialists to reconsolidate their grip on Iran after sacrificing the best daughters and sons of the Iranian people, who fought heroically first against the Shah and later against the Khomeini regime.

The advocates of glasnost have also hidden this crime. The treachery and betrayal by the Soviet social-imperialists was revealed again when they did not raise a voice even of mild protest against the large-scale executions of the Tudeh party and other faithful supporters of Moscow's new tsars.

In such a tragic situation, the Committee of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement calls upon its participating parties and organizations and all supporters of our movement as well as all revolutionary and progressive forces throughout the world to vigorously expose and oppose this barbaric crime of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The revolutionary masses in Iran and around the world will never forget these crimes, which will not go unpunished.

The Committee of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement

The War of the Kurdish Masses is a War of the Oppressed



Special ceremony held by Komala in which newly-trained Peshmergas receive their first arms.

Statement by the Committee of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement

Today not a single Kurdish village has been left standing in Iraq. The Iraqi regime, freed from its eight-year-long debacle with Iran thanks to a cease-fire arranged by the same imperialists who pushed Iraq into the war in the first place, sent in 150,000 troops to subdue this rebellious people. When these highly-armed, battle-trained troops could make no headway against the Kurdish peshmerga guerrillas, the government poured chemical bombs down on the villages. Helicopter gunships strafed streams of people who were trapped as they flowed towards the Turkish border. Iraqi troops moved in to level the houses left behind in the empty villages so that they could never be inhabited again.

Thousands of Kurds were killed. Perhaps 100,000 fled over the border to Turkey, a country whose large Kurdish population is not allowed to speak Kurdish and where even the name of the people is banned. The Turkish government has long turned the Kurdish area of Turkey into an armed camp; under a mutual anti-Kurd pact with Iraq, Turkish troops crossed the border to attack Kurds in Iraq earlier this year. At first the Turkish regime tried to keep the refugees from escaping the death meant for them in Iraq. But if these Kurds had been forced to stand and fight the Iraqi army to the end instead of fleeing across the border, the situation might have turned into more than the Iraqi government could handle, and even undermined Turkey's political stability. This did not suit the interests of the U.S.-bloc imperialists, with their major military installations dug into the soil of the Kurdish part of Turkey. So NATO's mascot dog "generously" allowed the Iraqi Kurds in — only to disarm them and to force more than half of them out right away, driving them back into Iraq or

dumping them onto the mercy of the Iranian government, which like Iraq has taken advantage of the ceasefire in the Gulf war to send another 100,000 soldiers to join the 200,000 already occupying the Kurdish part of Iran to contain the rebellion.

The U.S. and its allies uttered a few pious words against chemical weapons. Then the Western governments turned around and insisted that since no Western bigshots actually saw the bombs fall, the horrible chemical burns on the faces and bodies of Kurdish children and adults could not be taken as "proof" that Iraq had used chemical weapons. Soon the whole affair was dropped from Western sight. The Soviet Union, seeking to maintain whatever influence it can with the region's reactionary regimes, maintained a discrete silence about this slaughter.

What the imperialists found objectionable, to the extent that they found anything wrong at all in this picture of carnage, was that Iraq's attacks could misfire at both ends, setting off an explosion of contagious anger in one, two, three or four of the reactionary states in which the Kurdish people are imprisoned and threatening the imperialists' arrangements in the region even further. In addition, their momentary pose of stern anger at the Iraqi regime was meant to remind it who it depends on for its weapons and its very life, despite the Gulf ceasefire. But both the chemical massacres and the phony imperialist "concern" were meant to work together to serve imperialist politics.

Since the beginning of this century, the imperialists who arranged for the Kurdish nation to be carved up between four different countries and their various local reactionary flunkies have unleashed countless attempts to subdue or exterminate this people. Kurdistan's rivers have often run red with blood. But these most recent events are not just more of the same crimes. This genocidal attack has been shaped by the ever-growing problems and contradictions the imperialists East and West face as each side reaches for decisive and deadly advantage over the other in preparation for a final confrontation. The Gulf is an extremely strategic and volatile region for which each side would do anything to entrench itself at the expense of its rival. Brutal testimony to this fact is the million dead in the Iran-Iraq war the U.S. and Soviet-led blocs both kept going with unlimited arms and other inducements as long as it suited them.

Iraq's genocidal attack was launched at the behest of the U.S., which is coordinating anti-Kurdish policy between Iraq, Turkey and Iran. The USSR, for its own reasons, has gone along with it. No matter what ploys and demagoguery the imperialists might resort to, the bloody threads tying together the military and political moves of all the region's reactionary regimes and their imperialist masters in assisting the Iraqi regime's genocidal campaign reveal the fear that the spectre of all-out Kurdish revolutionary struggle for national liberation and social emancipation strikes into all their rotten hearts.

A little taste of this potential was given when revolutionary Kurdish masses in Iran liberated large areas of the countryside and major cities after the Shah's fall. Since then the Kurds have waged unceasing war against the Islamic Republic of Iran, which now, facing its most desperate hours, looks with terror at the prospect of having to fight decisive battles in Kurdistan. Western imperialist authorities are calling the influx of Kurds into Turkey "a recipe for disaster" as far as the Turkish regime's stability is concerned. The region's reactionary states have in common Kurdish blood on their hands and the common fear that the existing imperialist-erected political geography could get blown apart by a revolution spreading out from Kurdistan.

But the Kurdish struggle has long been hindered and repeatedly betrayed by its bourgeois and feudal leadership who have been manipulated by different reactionary states in the region and their imperialist masters. Thus the means through which they seek to pursue the struggle undo the very aims of the Kurdish struggle. For instance, Jalal Talabani, head of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (in Iraq), has lent its services to the Islamic Republic at the very moment it is slaughtering Kurds in Iran. He crawled to the U.S. to meet representatives of the U.S. government, which has provided bullets and bombs to all the executioners of Kurds, in order to ask the U.S. to "prevent the annihilation of the Kurdish people". In the same way, Masood Barzani, a feudal chief-



tain whose family has been on the CIA payroll for many years, and for years has been selling his mercenary services to the Islamic Republic of Iran, now is singing hymns of praise to the Kurd-murdering Turkish reactionary government.

Such vacillating and capitulationist forces within the Kurdish struggle have enabled imperialists and their flunkies to use dual tactics against the Kurds. While principally unleashing their murderous vassal states against Kurdistan, using the latest in modern imperialist-designed barbarism such as chemical weapons, they have not neglected to make phony promises to Kurdish leaders to lure and corrupt them, spread demoralisation among the masses and promote surrender. Even the way the Voice of America, BBC and Israeli radio broadcast the news of the West's "concern" about the use of chemical weapons into Kurdistan was to proclaim the helplessness of the masses in the face of overwhelming weapons, in order to make the point that despite their resistance so far, now the Kurds cannot continue without "powerful friends."

The likes of Talabani and Barzani repeat the humiliating refrain strategists in the imperialist capitals have placed in their mouths: "The Kurds are weak and what they need is strong friends." Talabani has even gone so far as to congratulate himself for his "diplomatic success" in getting Iran and the U.S. to "support" the Kurds. This slogan means that the Kurds must rely on one or another of the region's reactionary regimes for modern arms and money and that the only salvation for the Kurdish masses is for "powerful friends" (i.e. imperialists) to one day step in to grant Kurdistan autonomy — as though the imperialists themselves were not the main ones behind carving up Kurdistan in the first place and keeping it oppressed.

Nevertheless for 90 years neither murder nor deception has been able to subdue the Kurdish people. Their struggle cannot be wiped out; it can only be suppressed temporarily, only to spread and erupt like a subterranean fire across borders.

For today's favourable conditions to be turned to advantage, and to really wield the strength the Kurdish masses have so long given proof of, the Kurdish fighters must be able to sum up the historic experience of decades of heroic struggle and break through the forces sowing capitulation and confusion. They must wield the truly invincible weapon of the proletariat and oppressed, Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought, and apply it to chart the strategy for people's war. Instead of the present bankrupt non-revolutionary fronts, what is needed is a party that can really lead a united front in a revolutionary war. There is no other way that the heroic Kurdish national resistance can be transformed into something more, into decisive defeat of their enemies. What other outlook and line other than that of the revolutionary proletariat, the class that has nothing to lose, could truly rely on the masses of Kurdish people and really mobilise them by leading them in a war to the end in unity with the Kurdish people's real friends, the proletarians and oppressed of the four countries between which Kurdistan is divided, the region and the world? Looking at the harsh lessons of history in Kurdistan and the world as a whole, what other friends, really, can the Kurdish people count on? What good has dependence on imperialist illusory promises and reactionary "friends" ever done anyone fighting for emancipation?

The war the Kurdish masses have been waging is not just a Kurdish war, but a war of the oppressed against four reactionary regimes which are key to imperialism's neo-colonial set up of plunder and domination in the Middle East and beyond. Both the bestial ferocity and methods employed in this most recent genocidal attack and the accompanying imperialist dual tactics reveal the dire necessities and fears driving the imperialists and their local hangmen. Amidst blood and gunfire, current history has raised the revolutionary masses of Kurdish people to the stature of a principal actor in the Middle East who can play a major role in tearing a major piece of the world out of the bloody hands of imperialism. The hundreds of millions of not "powerful" but ordinary friends of the Kurdish people, the proletarians and oppressed masses of the world, need such a victory and would support it. This would be a powerful contribution to world proletarian revolution.

— October 1988

fight state attacks on students! prepare for revolution!

With the deepening of the world imperialist crisis in the 80's the imperialist powers are in no position to maintain the kind of education program that grew out of the post World War 2 period, marked as it was by rapid growth. The improvements in the education system were not, as some chauvinists would argue, as a result of the work of our forefathers, but rather as a result of the specific needs of the imperialists. This expansion in education has been paid for by the millions who died during World War 2 and by the millions since, suffering the oppression and exploitation by the whole imperialist system, both inside the oppressed nations and here in the belly of the beast.

The down turn in imperialist expansion, turning into crisis, has been marked by significant cut backs within the homelands. On the one hand the imperialist powers need to compete with each other in the world arena, this does not come cheap. On the other hand they all need to do this as efficiently as possible and in times of crisis the "efficient" side of things is very important. What you can study is determined by the nature of the imperialist system on a global scale, not by the needs of the people. And this system has, today, specific needs which are a reflection of this crisis it is facing, this is what is reflected in the governments white paper on education reform.

The effects of these reforms will be to hit the lower sections hardest, which is nothing new. This section will be pressured into taking low paid, part-time jobs during term time and full time work during vacation periods. At the same time these students are forced into low paid jobs, and some of them will be forced out of the education system altogether. Pushing some of them down alongside the dispossessed and oppressed sections of this society, a process that is reinforcing the polarisation of the society as a whole. An attack upon overseas students took place approximately 8 years ago when fees were

increased to an unimaginable level of around £25 per hour for lectures. This is itself a manifestation of superexploitation of this section of students, forcing people from oppressed nations to pay for the very system that oppresses them.

The increased polarisation of the education system will have its effects on the better off sections too. These students will find it ever more difficult to remain in the system without added finance, "top up loans", part time work etc. The restructuring of education is going to split this section down the middle forcing some students to take a more conservative outlook on what is happening, holding onto what they have, doing what they are told, obeying the rules of their imperialist masters more firmly than before. Whilst forcing the other side of this section down into the position of fighting to hold onto what they have and at the same time finding themselves more and more in sympathy with poorer and overseas students.

This kind of restructuring is to provide education for the few who will show willing to serve imperialism loyally, and this present trend will continue. The development of a generally philistine and reactionary atmosphere is reflected in such organisations as the "Monday Club".

Contrary to the trotskyites in this country who talk about "tories doing this, tories doing that", bullshit like, "Maggie, Maggie, Maggie, out, out, out", creating the impression that by getting the "Tories out" somehow things will be different. There are people out there who know this is bullshit, there are also people out there who have been fed this crap for so long they have come to believe it. To this second type we shout wake up.

Maggie is playing a forward role in all this but so is the Labour Party. The point we want to make is not that this or that individual or party has to go but the whole system, from top to bottom, "left" to right, all of it is rotten, all the way through and serves the interests of monopoly capital.

At this moment in time the state is attacking students for their efforts to stand up against the governments' offensive, for example, on the demonstration in November, 48 students were arrested and charged, in a real sense for simply being on the demonstration. This gave many students a lesson in what dictatorship of the bourgeoisie really is.

Are we going to limit this struggle only to loans or are we going to take on the wider offensive the imperialists are preparing for. We need all round preparations if we are serious about standing up against them. Advance our revolutionary organisation Rim Supporters and pose a real threat to this shit, they call a civilisation. ■



LINTON KWESI JOHNSON

Rap Music :

up against the beast!

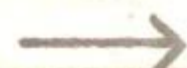
(part one)

It's a cold Monday evening in October and it's rap night at Brixton Academy. Inside the Academy the temperature is high, as Public Enemy storm the stage to a wild reception from the rebel audience. The atmosphere becomes frenzied as Chuck D booms out the powerful raps, "Consider yourselves at war" and "Revolution will not be televised!" The Security of the First World, guns in hand, perform military drill, putting the armed struggle to overthrow imperialist governments on the agenda - a fact that the mounted fascist pigs, the "Babylonian tyrants", waiting outside, know only too well. The rap audience of mainly Black youth is inspired by the message coming from Public Enemy - the need to overthrow the violence of the oppressors with the violence of the oppressed; or to put it differently - to "do the dog in the heartland of Babylonian madness!"

Rap culture - a culture taken up by those sections of the population, especially Black youth, with the least to lose in this system - from its origins in the U.S., has

spread to influence rebels throughout the world. Rap is a street culture that fosters the attitude of creating from the most limited of materials - from graffiti, which ranges from sprayed tags and nicknames, to extremely creative and artistic wall designs, to breakdancing (or turbo art) performed on strips of cardboard in the streets.

Rap music itself - spoken and semi-sung verse, over powerful rhythm tracks, characterised by "scratching" - is a Black dance music which grew out of the Hip Hop culture in New York in the '70s. Beneath this, there was the vast number of sources and influences reaching back to West Africa, the praise-singing of the Savannah Griots, the performers of social satires from Nigeria and Gambia. Reggae toasting from Jamaica was itself strongly influenced by U.S. jive-talking DJs and M.C.s, showing the



revolutionary movement and the highest form of struggle - the armed struggle - that must be developed.

There needs to be class unity on a revolutionary basis between proletarian whites (white in colour of skin but not "white" in attitude) and Black and other oppressed nationality proletarians, including Irish and Asian proletarians, specifically on the basis of opposing racism, national oppression and discrimination, as a part of overthrowing all exploitation and oppression throughout the world. There needs to be the strategic orientation of seeing and uniting the proletariat, the class with nothing to lose but its chains, as a class of all nationalities and of building the unity of the class-conscious proletariat with the struggles of the oppressed peoples against their oppression as peoples.

This has a very important effect in helping the masses of the oppressed nationalities to see that there are a lot of white people (not to mention millions of people from other oppressed nationalities! whether Black, Irish, etc.,) with whom there is a basis of unity, or who are real or potential allies in a revolutionary struggle; that there are many white people who, minimally, find a lot of things about this system that they don't like, and some of them have come to the point of wanting to get rid of this whole system too. Included among these whites are masses of women, outraged by the endless abuses suffered by women in this male-supremacist society, as well as other crimes of this system.

It is a class-conscious revolutionary understanding - including as a key part of that, an understanding of and hatred for white "supremacy", privilege and racism - that will lift people beyond the demoralisation of the line: "most people are against us." It takes something very powerful to rupture people out of the material ties of the system. On the other hand, we've seen all through the '60s on the world level, and we'll see it again that powerful things can, and do, develop, that do rupture people out of these ties in massive ways, and these are important points for people to understand, especially among the proletariat, and the oppressed nationalities particularly. Bob Avakian, Chairman of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA (participant in the R.I.M.) has stated, "Nothing is wrong with white people that a good proletarian revolution wouldn't cure!" There are real backward pulls from the system, but there are also material reasons why, with a real rupture of some things, masses of people - including masses of white people - could break through all this.

This shows the need to have a revolutionary movement that is based specifically among people who aren't caught up in all those ties that bind people to the system. It has to be based most solidly among people who have been kept out of all that and therefore, because they have the least, they are freer to be free. The people who have more, aren't so free to be free. And that's why those with nothing, are the ones who can lead the kind of all-the-way struggle that can rupture a lot of those other people out of the bind they're in and win them to revolution. To be able to do this, to lead this struggle, there needs to be a revolutionary party with a proletarian internationalist outlook and based upon and trained in the principles of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism.

Rap music, and culture more generally, particularly among the youth, is an area where proletarians of different nationalities can link up and unite to forge the multinational unity of the proletariat in the cultural sphere. Although it has to be said, that the little white rap music that has been produced so far - for example with the "Beastie Boys" - has been disgustingly racist and sexist. Much of commercial Black rap music, for example Derek B, has also been very sexist and should be exposed.

PUBLIC



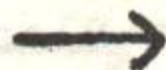
ENEMY

BROTHER D - "WHAT WE NEED IS POWER, WE'VE GOT TO AIM FOR POWER."

The above line is taken from the 12" single "Power" (on the Clappers record label) by the revolutionary Black rap musician Brother D from the South East Bronx, New York and who was formerly known as Daryl Aamaa Nubyahn during his involvement with the political and cultural organisation Black National Science.

The introduction to "Power" raps,

"So many of the problems in the world today,



especially the problems faced by our people,
are manifestations of the colonial contradiction."

The "colonial contradiction" referred to is the contradiction between the imperialists and those nations oppressed by imperialism, a contradiction which is intensifying on a world scale to a tremendous degree, due to the fact that the imperialists - the U.S. and the Soviet Union "superpowers", Britain and the western European powers, Japan etc., live directly off the backs and through the super-exploitation and plunder of the oppressed nations in Asia, Africa and Latin America etc. The relatively privileged standard of life in the imperialist nations is a direct result of the exploitation and vicious oppression of people in the oppressed nations by the imperialist countries. This is what imperialism looks like in its naked brutality. Imperialism needs to suck "superprofits" from the oppressed nations to survive - it expands or dies - at the expense of untold suffering for the masses of people living in the oppressed nations. This will continue until imperialism has been overthrown and the era of world communism blossoms.

"Power" continues to rap,

"Racism is a result of our powerless situation,

In which seeing "natural differences" plays a role in exploitation,

The fight to be equal often gets a lot of play,

Just ask yourself, who are they for us to be equal to, anyway?

Work to end outside control, we've got to build up our own state,

You see a new world order is coming like a flower from a stem,

Of the struggles of the people around the Earth for what rightfully belongs to them."

This rap opposes fighting for equal rights within this system, and recognises the fundamental inequality of this class-divided society, an inequality based upon the private ownership of the means of production and an exploitative system of wage slavery where an elite few appropriate and profit from the wealth produced by the masses. There can never be "equal rights for all" in a society based upon exploitation, oppression and international plunder.

"Power" raps about the world historic struggle of oppressed people around the world for what rightfully belongs to them and that this struggle is inevitably "Coming like a flower from a stem", because no force on Earth can prevent a just

struggle from succeeding finally. This is the lesson of history. "Racism is a result of our powerless situation" expresses the need for the international proletariat to have political power to eliminate racism and all forms of exploitation and oppression.

Martin Glynn, a Black rapso poet, in "De Ratchet A Talk - Conversation With A Racist" raps,

"So is power we want, power we gwanne get,

... mek den who suppress we

regret

den ever call we

ETHNIC

den ever call we

MINORITY ..."

As Lenin and Mao Tsetung both emphasised,

"Without political power, all is illusion."

The point is, as the rap track by Brother D and Siver Fox "Grenada Up Against The Beast," (on the album of the same title) stresses,

"The "devil" thrives on ones weakness,

Hence, internal strength is our main defence,

... We can rant and rave that the oppressor is wrong,

But the important lesson is to build our thing strong."

This is what we need to do exactly.

The murders of many radical cultural artists such as Peter Tosh and Michael Smith and the general attacks in the form of censorship, detainment and imprisonment upon others such as Public Enemy, The Pogues, Fela Kuti and Linton Kwesi Johnson show how the ruling class sees the threat that these cultural artists pose to the system.

Radical rap music and rapso/dub poetry has emerged from the black community, striking out at the shit going on in this imperialist dominated society. Rap culture comes from people being criminalised by a society and system that recognises the threat their resistance poses to it. Radical rap sticks two fingers up at imperialism and exposes who the real criminals are - the ruling class.

Above all, these raps are rallying calls for action, to rise up and get rid of this imperialist shit they call "democracy".

Part 2 of this article which will also look at the role of black women in rap will appear in the next issue of CTW. ■

(Continued from Page 5)

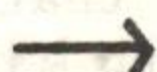
first exploded in a major way, when the fury of the people didn't just attack the book, but also targeted the American and British embassies, and burnt U.S. and British flags. After that, Khomeini jumped in, trying to put himself at the head of the movement by announcing the death sentence on Salman Rushdie. Several countries went on to ban the book: Saudi Arabia, Egypt, India, Pakistan, South Africa and Canada. There were riots in Pakistan and death threats against Rushdie. Dozens of people were shot dead by troops in the streets of several countries and Muslim people in England continued to protest against Rushdie.

Britain readily used the opportunity to turn events to further its own interests, pointing out that they had to stand by Rushdie because of the basic principles of "democracy" and "freedom of speech". Listening to all that, one can not help but remember the recent broadcasting ban on Sinn Fein and G. Adams. This group of criminals - the British government - closed the door behind them, and when they came out they briefly informed us that those who stood in their way would no longer be allowed to speak on Television or Radio. Speaking about British "democracy" and "civilization" we can easily look back over the past few hundred years and remember the massacres of dozens of nations around the world. Britain and "civilisation" are a world apart, today like they were in 1854 when they carried out the genocide against the Irish people, or in 1940, when they massacred over a 1000 people in Amritsar in India. When they talk about "democratic" and "civilized" values let us remember that Britain actually participated in the bombing of Libya in 1986, and the attempt to assassinate its leader, Colonel Gadafy. That Britain is the country which sent her fleet to the Gulf along side the USA. That in the Malvinas (Falklands) war it was Britain that bombed a ship, the Belgrano, when it was sailing in the opposite direction to the British, and killed 300 men. We remember such "civilized" things as the virginity testing of Asian women, firebomb attacks on Asian families, state terror against black youth, strip searching of Irish women in a futile attempt to break their spirit, and much more. It is also fitting that the Imperialist Labour Party should give full backing to the government and talk about "civilized nations" as after all they are an integral part of the same system. Remembering all this, it is not difficult at all to draw the conclusion that there is no "democracy" or "freedom of speech" and that Britain is as far from "civilisation" as it was 100 years ago or 500 or 800 years ago.

As long as you speak or act in favour of them, you are free to speak and you are free to act. As soon as they realise that there is no way for them to benefit from what you say or what you do they shut you up or shoot you down. It just depends what they think is more convenient to them under the specific circumstances.

To Muslim people in Britain, the government didn't hesitate to send a message saying that they must fully obey "law and order" in this country. But these same people are terrorised and exploited by that same racist law and fascist order that Britain is expecting them to support and obey. The government also tried to sort out the position these people take on "terrorism", saying that they should firmly stand against it. But there is disagreement between the people and the state around the issue, as to who are the real terrorists. Britain calls "terrorists" those who are fighting imperialism, in particular British imperialism, and all those who are in any way preventing them from spreading and carrying out their fascist policies. The same people that we call freedom fighters because these are the ones who are fighting the real terrorism and its implementors. What is really offensive for them in the Satanic Verses is the exposure of the British state, and they certainly express their condemnation. But when Muslim people do the same they call it terrorism. The Muslims are the victims of British racism and oppression, so they are actually asking the victims of their racism and oppression to support and stand by that same murdering machinery that is oppressing and exploiting them. Their hypocrisy reached its culmination when they started to pretend to be concerned about Salman Rushdie's life. In the last six months more than 20,000 political prisoners have been executed in Iran, and the British media did not mention it until it was over. The newspapers did not print a word, and the broadcasting media remained silent. They simply didn't give a shit for the lives of thousands of people, and now they are expecting us to believe that they are concerned about one Rushdie, with whom they don't share the same political ideas.

In Iran the situation is that the Khomeini regime, by losing the war with Iraq, lost the respect and prestige of the Muslim people. The postwar situation also created the split within the Iranian government around the issue of what was the best way to launch the "new" Iran into Western orbit. So, on the one hand, the cease-fire of the Iraq-Iran war created a



qualitatively new situation with regard to Iran's place in the Western imperialist apparatus. And, on the other hand, the split within the Iranian government between the different fractions remained an obstacle for Iran to actually occupy the most useful position for the Western imperialists. Therefore, Khomeini saw an opportunity in the controversies created around the book to consolidate his position among muslim people at home, as well as abroad, but more importantly, the opportunity to rally and unite the different fractions of the ruling classes in Iran under his leadership. To sum up, Khomeini used the Rushdie affair and blew it up out of all proportions, in a desperate attempt to bring back lost prestige and authority over decision making in Iran. All this in order to present his regime in the eyes of the western imperialists as a stable government which is in full control of the state and the people, and as such, has great potential for the Western imperialists' interests.

There is another aspect of the situation worthy of mention concerning the Soviet Union and the imperialists' rivalry. What was conspicuously significant about the Rushdie affair is that Soviet Union never made any comment about it. As they are in the process of rebuilding their relationship with Iran they apparently took the safest option: no comment. When the Soviet Union's foreign minister went to visit Iran and met the Iranian delegation for the first time in nearly 10 years he was asked by Britain to raise the Rushdie issue. It is not surprising that - as a rival - he did not do it.

The book itself is a powerful story in which the author is dealing with the tragic sides of life in a humorous manner, mixing reality and fantasies, using religion and mythology garnished with satire, jokes and fantastical insights, to expose women's oppression, racism, the exploitation of the Indian and Pakistani immigrants in Britain. The book refers to the British state as a police state, its capital as Babylondon and its present prime minister as Mrs Torture. Finally, the book attacks Islamic fundamentalism and condemns those who consciously spread it among Muslim people in order to control them.

Considering the content, it is hardly surprising that both Iran and Britain attacked the book. Along with the various comments and reactions connected with the affair, it is important in particular to criticise the ideas put forward by some pro-imperialist forces that the "Asians' condemnation of the novel is harmful because it creates racism"! And "that Muslim people shouldn't demonstrate because

it spreads racism"! Both of these arguments are wrong. Some pro-imperialist forces try to dampen the anger and frighten the oppressed nationalities from demonstrating their anger because, as they argue, it will create racism. Bullshit, because with these arguments the Asian people couldn't do anything to end their oppression for fear of "creating racism"! This argument is the same as saying: "shut up and put up with your lot". This is definitely not correct. Asian people have the right to speak out. Racism didn't just happen, it was created a long, long time ago. It is something that the ruling classes have carefully and consciously developed, it serves them, they benefit from it, they thrive on it, so they have developed their own strategy to keep it alive, with or without the Satanic Verses.

With regard to the Islamic fundamentalist leaders in this country, although they have certain contradictions with the British state, these contradictions are not of a kind which could harm British imperialism - in fact the opposite - in the final analysis they will serve it.



Indian and Pakistani workers in a leather factory, Brick Lane, London.

Concerning the Muslim people and people as a whole, here is a quotation from the introduction to LIBERATION WITHOUT GODS by Bob Avakian: "We must seek unity, on whatever levels unity can be built, with all those whose religious conviction moves them to take a stand with the oppressed against the oppressors. On the other hand, we must firmly oppose those whose religious conviction moves them to side with the oppressors and act as apologists and enforcers of the reactionary order and its crimes. And we must reject religious doctrine - all religious doctrine - as

such, for the basic reason that it is untrue. That is, we must reject its claim to be divinely revealed truth, for there is no such thing. Further, it is necessary and crucial to wage an ideological struggle, in many different forms, against religious ideas and notions, because these ideas and notions will keep us from going as far as we need to go - to the complete liberation of the masses of people, and ultimately humanity itself, all over the world."

So, Salman Rushdie in his novel has dared to criticise Islam. He has done it in his own fashion, somewhat differently than proletarian revolutionaries might approach the question, but proletarians and oppressed people should welcome his work and criticise it from their own point of view. And there must be resistance against all those who suppress progressive ideas, those who demand that the oppression of women should be hidden, those who answer atheistic prose with assassination.

And finally, if you really want to fight imperialism you have to fight all elements

of it together with the Third world pro-imperialist forces - like, in this case, the Khomeini's regime.

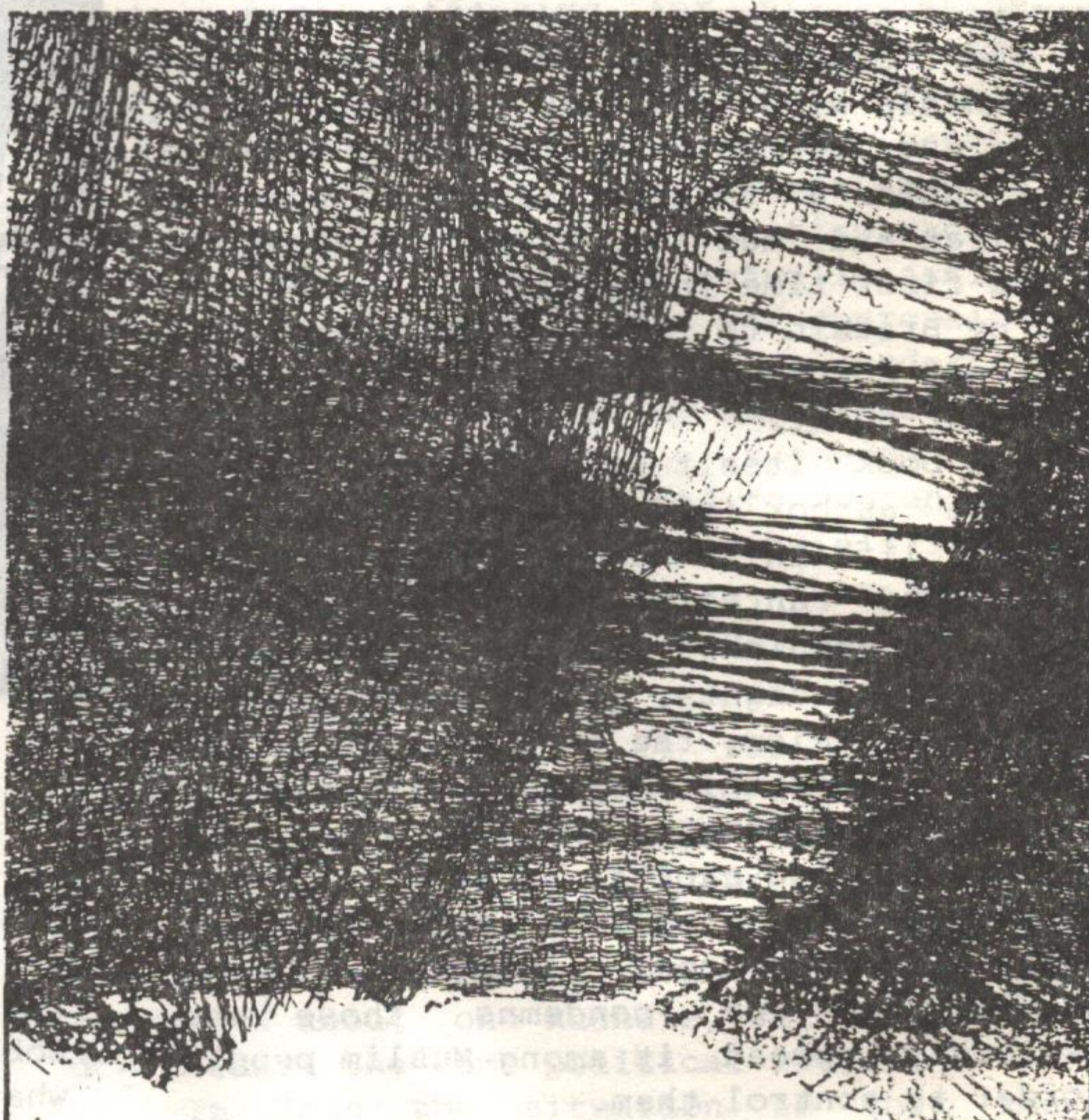
To support the anti-imperialist struggle of the Iranian people we support the Union of Iranian Communist (UIC), the only genuine anti-imperialist force in Iran, who are not using Islam or any other reactionary crap to fight the reactionaries, but instead are using MARXISM-LENINISM-MAOISM, the science of revolution, and the ideology that is leading towards liberation of all humankind from all existing forms of oppression and exploitation.

That so much can come out of one novel, riots around the world, where the masses used the opportunity to show their outrage against imperialism, shows just how fragile the current world order is, what deepening shit the imperialist system is in and what potential there is for the masses to be given Maoist leadership to wrench power from imperialism through revolution. ■

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*Adopted by the delegates and observers at the
Second International Conference of
Marxist-Leninist Parties and Organisations
which formed the
Revolutionary Internationalist Movement.*

- Central Reorganisation Committee
- Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist)
- Ceylon Communist Party
- Communist Collective of Agit/Prop [Italy]
- Communist Party of Colombia (Marxist-Leninist)
- Mao Tsetung Regional Committee
- Communist Party of Peru
- Communist Party of Turkey/Marxist-Leninist
- Haitian International Revolutionary Group
- Nepal Communist Party (Mashal)
- New Zealand Red Flag Group
- Nottingham and Stockport Communist Groups [Britain]
- Proletarian Party of Purba Bangla [Bangladesh]
- Revolutionary Communist Group of Colombia
- Revolutionary Communist Party, India
- Revolutionary Communist Party, USA
- Revolutionary Communist Union [Dominican Republic]
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Of all things in the world people are the most precious. Under the leadership of the Communist Party, as long as there are people every kind of miracle can be performed. — Mao Tsetung

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