

mass RESISTANCE

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POLITICAL ORGAN OF THE M-L LEAGUE
P.O. BOX 513, TRIBORO STATION, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10035

Occupation of Sydenham Hospital

Black Uprising in the making

STOP NATIONAL OPPRESSION
AND RACISM!
STOP POLICE BRUTALITY!
FREEDOM, EQUALITY, LIBERATION!

The battlecry of the Black community in the Miami Rebellion echoes across the country. Mississippi, Wrightsville, Harlem are living testimony of a new upsurge of the Black masses. History is on the making and the masses are the prime movers

In the Black community in Harlem, the manifestations of that new upsurge has been the struggle to keep Sydenham Hospital open. The Sydenham struggle is one for survival, for equality, for the right of the oppressed Black people to determine their own lives. We can see in it the seeds of bigger and greater battles. Sydenham is a call to action to which thousands are answering "Present!" It is the prelude of what the eighties will be about

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Mass Resistance photo

Iran - Iraq War

No one to gain but the Superpowers

The war between Iran and Iraq is a tragic one, deplored by all who love the independence and freedom of all countries and who stand for world peace. While Iran and Iraq are spilling their blood, while Iran and Iraq destroy their economies in a war that is not in either's best interests, the US and Russian imperialists sharpen their claws like vultures waiting to swoop down for their victims.

The lengthening of this fratricidal war and its escalation can only bring about negative results for Iran and Iraq. Moreover, the continuation of this conflict can result in major confrontations in the Middle East, an area which, because of its richness in oil, is of strategic importance for all advanced capitalist countries, and especially for the two superpowers. The danger of imperialist intervention

in this conflict is a very real one, and it has to be combatted.

We believe that it is in the interest of both countries to end the armed confrontation, that Iraq should abandon Iranian territory taken over in the course of the war, and that no further territory should be taken over, while all past disputes should be resolved.

The territorial, religious and political contradictions which have existed to one degree or another between Iran and Iraq for many years can and should definitely be resolved through negotiations and agreements which benefit both countries. They are part of the colonial past, a legacy left by imperialist powers to the third world countries. The territory disputed by Iran and Iraq, for example, has been under contention for many years. Agreements were signed in 1937

and 1975. Who benefitted from those agreements, how the disputed territory is to be divided, etc., are important questions to be decided at the negotiations table and not at the battlefields.

Moreover, despite the contradictions, there are points of unity and areas of mutual interests between Iran and Iraq that should serve as a basis for the restoration of peace, friendship and mutual cooperation. Both Iran and Iraq have been victims of imperialist penetration. Both are part of the third world, members of the non-aligned movement and of the OPEC. Both have broken diplomatic relations with US imperialism, given support to the PLO and have established their opposition to the Zionist Israeli regime. And at this moment, while they are fighting against each other,

the two superpowers are busy scheming and looking for ways to bring them under their yoke.

The Soviet Union, which has clearly been on the offensive in the last 5 years, has made declarations of neutrality while intervening in different ways in the conflict. Its puppet regimes in Afghanistan, Ethiopia and South Yemen have offered aid to Iraq and Soviet arms have been reaching Iraqi hands.

Soviet arms have also been reaching Iran indirectly through backers such as Libya. USSR's economy, highly dependent on arms sales throughout the world, benefits from this flow of arms to both countries. This puts them in a position of developing relationships of dependency.

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CONGRESS TO BATTERED
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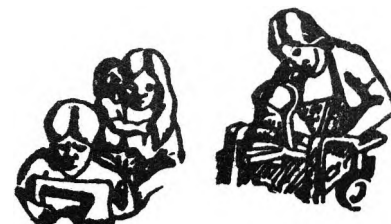
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WOMEN HOLD UP HALF THE SKY



Congress to Battered Wives: "Forgive and Forget"

Striking Nurses: - "Back but not for Long"

Until 1874, in the U.S., a husband had a legal right to beat his wife with a stick as long as it was no thicker than his thumb

Although this "right" was finally annulled that year, wife beating is still an accepted practice in U.S. society. Up till this very day the court says that if there is no permanent injury inflicted upon the wife (eventually broken bones heal and bruises disappear), it is best not to prosecute. And so, yearly millions of American women have to bear this burden because it's "nobody's business but their own"

This year, a bill entitled "Act to Prevent Domestic Violence", faced a lot of difficulties in Congress. This bill provides for some modest funds from the Federal government to match up state funds for shelter programs for battered wives.

The opposition is coming mainly from "pro-family" groups (first cousins of the "right to life") who contend that any attempts to help battered wives is interfering with the family and threatening to break up marriages.

We strongly condemn wife beating and support this bill. In doing so, however, we are in no way opposing the family or even advocating divorce in every case. We believe problems between husband and wife should be dealt with in a peaceful, rational manner in the interest of the unity of the family. But we certainly do not advocate that a woman should stay in the home when her personal safety and that of her children are threatened.

It is pure hypocrisy to deny women the right to safety under the guise of "keeping the family together". For these so-called "pro-family" groups, it's better to have women with broken bones than to have broken marriages.

All of their phoney concern with preserving the family institution, at the expense of the life and well being of the women and children, is nothing but the

defense of the male supremacist ideology that the man is the head of the house and can use violence to impose his will.

In many cases, the wife beaters are a consequence of social conditions too. All day being pushed around at work, they finally let off steam at home, victimizing wives and children. This, of course, doesn't excuse them but it does mean that wife beating (and child abuse) are a social problem, not a matter between husband and wife exclusively. And it has to be treated as such, with society providing at least some protection and shelter for the victims.

However, with the deepening of the capitalist crisis, the right wing attacks on poor and working people are becoming stronger and stronger. Women are one of the hardest hit and money for battered wives is at this time at the bottom of the list for the capitalists.

Battered wives are an example of capitalism itself - where violence by the oppressor against the oppressed is acceptable in the eyes of the law. Under capitalism, women are victims of hideous crimes and oppression. Family relationships are a reflection of the overall state of affairs: the working class and other oppressed people are held in line by violence backed up by the law. As a matter of fact, the family under capitalism is a small sample of society at large. The woman exemplifies the worker and is oppressed by the male who exemplifies the capitalist.

The solution for battered wives, and for women's problems in general, are linked up to those of the working class. Ultimately, in fact, women will be free when the working class is free, and vice versa. In the meantime, it is in the workers' interest to support women's struggle for reforms such as this one, as it is in the women's interest to support the workers' struggle.

Defeat "right to life"

During this economic crisis the country is making a sharp turn to the right that can be illustrated with the victory scored in congress by the "right to life" movement. There is a new bill in the Senate now that limits the funds for Medicaid abortions and gives the states the option to reject the federal monies for such abortions. A House version of the bill goes further by granting states the right to adopt even tougher restrictions than the Federal government.

This hypocrisy of the system is clear: the federal government says that it will put up funds for abortions, but then the state governments can decide to reject that money even if the mothers' life is in danger.

In this way, women are being deprived of the fundamental right to decide whether or not to have children and when. Worst still, they are being forced to either have unwanted children even in the case of rape, incest, etc., or resort to abortions outside the hospital, that endanger their lives and health.

These attacks against women's rights cannot be tolerated. They are attacks affecting poor and working women, especially oppressed nationality women. The struggle against the "right to life" movement, a fascist by-product of the economic crisis in this male supremacist society, must be supported by all progressive forces in this country.



Nurses who are in great majority women, suffer a lot of discrimination. During the crisis their work load has been increased (there are less nurses now due to attrition, lay offs, etc.), plus they have been given additional non-nursing duties. Their wages have in effect been lowered due to inflation.

Over 1,000 nurses in 13 out of 16 public hospitals in New York City recently staged a wildcat strike to protest these conditions, which not only affect them but patients as well. During their walk out, the nurses courageously resisted the city's threat of using the Taylor Law and their union's pressure to come back to work. Although a settlement was reached, nurses have come back reluctantly, stating that they will go out again. The nurses showed that they will not be intimidated and that they are willing to fight for their rights.

In a time of wholesale cutbacks in health services, the nurses' action is more than welcome. It is a necessary step in developing the struggle for health services. It is also part of the struggle to forge unity between health workers and community residents who use the hospitals, and it should be supported.

Iran - Iraq

Continues from first page

with countries that are receiving their arms, even if indirectly, for parts, more weapons, etc. And ultimately, it can put them in a position of being able to tip the balance in one direction or the other simply by withholding their arms from one of the sides.

United States imperialism, on the other hand, has been very active also. They sent Saudi Arabia four AWAC radar command aircrafts and have mobilized combat ships and aircraft carriers near the Strait of Hormuz. Carter has said on repeated occasions that the U.S. will keep the Strait of Hormuz (where over 40% of the oil that is used in the West has to go through) open at any cost.

The people in the U.S. cannot stand by another intervention of U.S. imperialism in any part of the world. It is obvious that the U.S. would very much like to see the Iranian revolution defeated and will do anything to achieve this. It is our task to actively oppose the use of military force, or any other economic measures, by the U.S. in order to intervene in the conflict.

IRAN AND ITS REVOLUTION ARE IN DANGER

Though neither Iran nor Iraq stand to gain from this war, and while it's the superpowers who stand to gain the most, Iran undoubtedly stands to lose the most. The victorious revolution of some years ago was a heavy blow against U.S. imperialism.

Without a doubt, the direct intervention of one or the other superpower, or both, is especially dangerous for Iran and its revolution. The Soviet Union after its invasion of Afghanistan is in a position of easily invading Iran. They also have the option of supporting the revisionists in their attempt to take power.

The U.S. is not left behind in their alternatives. To begin with, they have the trump card they've already been using of supporting the attempts of the counter-revolutionary exiled Iranians who want to take power once again. It's no mere coincidence that the last Prime Minister under the Shah, Bakhtiar, has been in direct contact with the Iraqi government and has spoken of the possibility of creating a "government in exile". This is a very attractive idea for the U.S. And there's always the possibility of another armed incursion using the hostages as an excuse. Both superpowers are against the present Iranian government and there's no doubt that the present conflict with Iraq makes Iran very vulnerable both to internal and external enemies.

In summarizing our position on the Iran-Iraq conflict, we reiterate our hope that Iran and Iraq end their armed confrontation peacefully and resolve their differences. We must oppose each and every attempt by the superpowers to interfere in the conflict. We especially oppose the schemes and maneuvers of our own bourgeoisie.

Sydenham Hospital

Continues from first page

The new upsurge is developing in the midst of the deepest economic crisis faced by US imperialism since the great depression of the '30s. Massive unemployment, galloping inflation (record increases in gas, heating oil, foodstuffs, mortgages, etc.) and a deterioration in housing, mass transportation, health and education are the conditions faced by the working and oppressed people in the US.

Particularly hit during these times are the oppressed nationalities, of which the Black is the largest. The worst of every thing is for the oppressed nationalities. The classic "Last hired, first fired" has increased unemployment among Black youth to over 50%. It is accompanied by the worst housing, education, health, and every other basic need of the people.

To top it all, in order to make sure that the people don't rise up against these conditions, the police are mounting increasing attacks against the oppressed nationalities. The capitalists are hoping to intimidate, to stop the anger, before it gets out of hand. But neither in Miami, nor in Wrightsville, nor in New York City, can the capitalists dampen the anger of the oppressed. In fact, all their attacks have only served to intensify that anger, to create the conditions for that uprising.

While the whole multinational working class is suffering from the burden of the crisis, and while there is a general impoverishment of the so called "middle class" there is no doubt that for Blacks, Latins, Native Americans, Asians and other oppressed nationalities, the situation is worst. National oppression becomes especially severe during times of crisis. All the gains which have been fought for so hard are taken back in order to insure that profits continue to flow into the pockets of the capitalists. In the great struggles of the 60's hundreds of thousands of oppressed people filled the streets demonstrating for their rights. Although thousands were beat up and jailed, others lost their jobs, or school scholarships, and still many others their lives, some significant victories were scored. As a result of those struggles today we can talk about the right to affirmative action, free day care centers, ethnic studies, open admissions and other reforms that have meant some improvements, no matter how minimal, in the quality of life of the oppressed nationalities. Today, all those gains that

Blacks and others had won are being taken back. Thus, the Black uprising which is beginning to take shape, and which is leading into a much broader mass uprising in the US.

The closing of Sydenham Hospital is definitely a manifestation of national oppression. Specifically, it is a direct attack on Black people who in the main are the ones who use the hospital and need it badly. It is done under the pretense of "balancing the budget" by Mayor Koch who is cutting precisely those services and programs which are badly needed by

Black and other oppressed nationality people. Two other hospitals in Black Harlem (North General and Arthur Logan Memorial) are also closing.

Under the administration of Mayor Koch, one of the most racist and right wing mayors NY has ever known, the government has initiated a program of so called austerity that has cut the budget allocations and services for the poor in vital areas such as hospitals, schools, housing, fire protection and others. In the medical services the attacks have been more brutal and blatant. Koch is disguising his attacks on health services claiming that the majority of the public hospitals of the city, which are the ones used by the great majority of the oppressed nationalities, are not needed. His plan calls for the immediate closing of Sydenham and Harlem Hospitals in Black Harlem, Metropolitan in Spanish Harlem, Gouverneur in the Chinatown area of the Lower East Side and some others. Who but the oppressed nationalities are the target of these attacks?

This is criminal. In Harlem, we have the highest rate of child mortality in the country, drug and alcohol abuse is a chronic disease. The area has one of the lowest ratios of doctors per population in the US. And racist Koch says that Sydenham Hospital is not needed! But the residents of Harlem, the people whose very lives depend on whether or not they are able to make it to the hospital in time and get good treatment, think differently. And the majority of doctors, nurses and other medical personnel at Sydenham also think differently, despite the fact that jobs are being provided for them in other facilities.

HARLEM COMMUNITY SAYS "ENOUGH"!

The Harlem community drew the line on Sydenham. They realize that if they are to allow racist Koch to close the hospital that would be a sign of weakness of the Black masses which would serve to embolden Koch and mean greater repression and cutbacks. The Black community in Harlem, and everywhere, is tired of being pushed around and has decided to do something about it. And that they did.

Sydenham was occupied by representatives of a broad coalition of community, religious, youth, political, civic organizations and individuals. While dramatizing the fight for justice of the Black people,

the occupation served as a rallying point for the development of a broad united front within the Black community, as well as, to some extent developed the unity of Black people with other oppressed nationalities and the multinational working class. In fact the occupation was supported by broad sectors of progressive people in the city and throughout the country. For example, over 3,000 people

entered the hospital and carried the demonstrators out after they refused to leave. Due to the strong support within the Harlem community and throughout the city, the police did not arrest or file any charges.

As a result, Koch has promised to postpone the closing in the event that funds are granted. It is rumored that Carey will put up \$1.3 million if matched by Koch with another \$1.3 million. But it all seems



The Harlem community is fighting for its democratic right to decent health care. This militant picket is an example of that struggle.

Mass Resistance photo

were mobilized to support the occupation and to protest a police attack on the picket line outside the hospital.

The importance of this fact cannot be overstressed. In order to achieve Black liberation in this country, all progressive people must actively support the just demands of the Black people. At the same time, unity and mutual support is key in the struggle for the multinational working class and all oppressed people in the US.

The Sydenham occupation is a real example of the militancy and determination that is necessary for a successful struggle. The hospital was occupied for many days. The demonstrators inside the hospital, in an attempt to force them out, were cut off from all communication and contact with the outside world. There was no phone service, no electricity, no water, no food. Visitors were not allowed through police lines to bring the demonstrators food or anything else. Police lines were made thicker and thicker every day to prevent any attempt to get through or even close. But this did not stop the protest. Every day there was a picket line outside the hospital, made up of sympathizers and supporters of the occupation.

During the occupation we saw the courage and determination of the Black community to fight for its rights despite all the odds against them. Neither the rhetoric and campaign promises of the politicians nor the direct repression of the state apparatus (materialized in a brutal police attack on a peaceful demonstration in front of the hospital) were capable of stopping or derailing this very important struggle. In this attack on September 20, at least 6 people were sent to the hospital with one woman in critical condition.

OCCUPATION ENDED, BUT NOT THE STRUGGLE

At 2:30 A.M. on the eleventh day of the occupation, September 25, the police

to be just rumors, with the November 8 election in mind. Meanwhile there are no more inpatients in the hospital, furniture is being removed and the presence of only 3 guards is an obvious invitation for vandals to destroy what is left. It is clear that we cannot trust politicians and their false promises. There is nothing for Blacks in the November 8 election, and we have to rely on our own militant struggle to achieve our goals.

And indeed, people have not given up. The coalition to save Sydenham keeps a picket line every day in front of the hospital, with special rallies on the weekends.

You too can support by

1. Participating in the pickets from 4-8 PM on weekdays and in the weekend rallies.
2. Joining the Coalition to Save Sydenham Hospital. Meetings are on Wednesdays, 6PM at 215 W. 125th St., Manhattan (Office of Hospital Workers Local 420).
3. Propagandizing the struggle and helping others join it in New York and throughout the country. Make Sydenham a national issue!

Although the occupation ended, and independently of whether the short term goal—keep Sydenham open—is to be achieved or not, the Sydenham struggle is part of a history that is in the making.

Historically, in the US the upsurge of the Black masses has served as a call to struggle, has marked the tempo for all the oppressed. This time, it will not be different. The path of the struggle initiated by our Black brothers and sisters will expand indeed. The '80's are just beginning, but Miami, Wrightsville and Harlem are a great, great beginning.

KEEP SYDENHAM OPEN!

END NATIONAL OPPRESSION AND RACISM!



Only the militant struggle of the masses will keep Sydenham Hospital open. Thousands of people from Harlem and other parts of the city have united in this effort.

Mass Resistance photo

10 YEARS RESISTENCIA 1970



ON JULY 25TH, TEN YEARS PUBLISHED FOR THE FIRST TIME HAVE BEEN DEDICATED TO IMPERIALISM, FOR SOCIALISM AND DEMOCRACY

RESISTENCIA, THE ONE PART OF RESISTENCIA PUERTORRIQUEÑA BULLETIN AND THEN A NEWS ORGAN OF THE LEAGUE FOR MARXIST LENINIST TODAY, THE POLITICAL ORGAN OF THE LEAGUE

ALTHOUGH MISTAKES HAVE THOSE YEARS, WE ARE PROUD OF DEVELOPMENT FOR, WHATEVER MISTAKES, OUR PAGES HAVE OF THE WORKING AND OPPRESSED TRY AND THE WORLD OVER

WE SALUTE THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY AND VOW TO DEDICATE OUR EFFORTS, ITS QUALITY, ITS DISTRIBUTION AND ITS FORMAT IN ORDER THAT WE CAN SERVE THE CAUSE TO WHICH WE ARE ALL

BUILD THE REVOLUTION
BUILD MASS RESISTANCE

GREETINGS MARXIST-LENINIST

Comrades

We wanted to send this short note to extend our congratulations to the League for Proletarian Revolution (ML) and the Colorado Organization for Revolutionary Struggle (MLM) on the successful completion of your merger process and the founding of the Marxist-Leninist League

The further unification of communist forces is a definite plus for the deepening and extension of our work within the various mass movements. Additionally, the above-board method in which the LPR and CORES struggled for unity was important for communists to witness, especially those who have given up hope that such things are possible

While the Proletarian Unity League and the Marxist-Leninist League have a number of outstanding differences, it will be very important for us and other comrades to build on our unities, strengthen the Marxist Leninist understanding of the conditions in the US and the world situation, further party building and promote revolutionary struggle. We wish the Marxist-Leninist League the best of luck

In unity and struggle,
Executive Committee,
Proletarian Unity League

Dear Comrades

We extend our greetings and congratulations to you on the occasion of the founding of the Marxist-Leninist League. The merger of the League for Proletarian Revolution and the Colorado Organization for Revolutionary Struggle into the Marxist-Leninist League marks an important forward step in the struggle to forge greater unity among U.S. Marxist-Leninists

In the world today as contradictions are sharpening very rapidly internationally and here at home, the need for Marxist Leninist unity is very important. Building strong Marxist-Leninist unity, based on principled agreements and tested in practice advances the struggle to defeat the U.S. monopoly capitalists and win socialism in the U.S. It enables the peoples of the U.S. to make more contributions in the internationalist task of supporting the just struggles of the people of the world against the two superpowers and for independence and liberation

The merger of LPR and CORES into the Marxist-Leninist League will enable you to further expand your work and make even more contributions to the revolutionary struggle. Again, we offer our congratulations and wish you even more success

With Communist Greetings,
League for Revolutionary Struggle (M-L)

Brothers and sisters in the struggle

The unity of revolutionaries in any part of the world fills us with joy because revolutionary movements everywhere help each other. I am sure that within your ranks there are men and women who are completely dedicated to the struggle, willing to give their all in order to defeat Yankee imperialism

Congratulations and continue forward with your work!
Gregorio Hernandez

(Don Gregorio Hernández is a Puerto Rican nationalist, sole survivor of the attack on the Fortaleza during the Nationalist Uprising of October, 1950 in Puerto Rico. Message translated from the Spanish)

10 YEARS OF RESISTANCE 1970-80



ON JULY 25TH, TEN YEARS AGO, RESISTANCE WAS PUBLISHED FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THEN ITS PAGES HAVE BEEN DEDICATED TO THE STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM, FOR SOCIALISM, PEACE, FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY

RESISTENCIA, THE ONE PAGE MIMEOGRAPHED ORGAN OF RESISTENCIA PUERTORRIQUEÑA, GREW INTO A SMALL BULLETIN AND THEN A NEWSPAPER WHICH BECAME THE ORGAN OF THE LEAGUE FOR PROLETARIAN REVOLUTION MARXIST LENINIST TODAY, AS MASS RESISTANCE, IT IS THE POLITICAL ORGAN OF THE MARXIST-LENINIST LEAGUE

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WE SALUTE THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF RESISTANCE AND VOW TO DEDICATE OUR BEST EFFORTS TO IMPROVE ITS QUALITY, ITS DISTRIBUTION, ITS REGULARITY AND ITS FORMAT IN ORDER THAT IT CAN BETTER SERVE THE CAUSE TO WHICH WE ARE ALL COMMITTED

BUILD THE REVOLUTIONARY PRESS!
BUILD MASS RESISTANCE!



GREETINGS TO THE MARXIST-LENINIST LEAGUE

Greetings and congratulations to you on the occasion of the founding of the Marxist-Leninist League. The merger of the League for Proletarian Revolution and the League for Revolutionary Struggle into the Marxist-Leninist League is an important forward step in the struggle to forge greater unity among the working class.

As contradictions are sharpening very rapidly internationally, the need for Marxist-Leninist unity is very important. Building this unity, based on principled agreements and tested in practice, to defeat the U.S. monopoly capitalists and win socialism for the peoples of the U.S. to make more contributions in the supporting the just struggles of the people of the world against imperialism and for independence and liberation.

The merger of the League for Proletarian Revolution and CORES into the Marxist-Leninist League will enable you to work and make even more contributions to the revolutionary struggle. We offer our congratulations and wish you even more success.

With Communist Greetings,

League for Revolutionary Struggle (M-L)

Brothers and sisters in the struggle

The unity of revolutionaries in any part of the world fills us with joy because revolutionary movements everywhere help each other. I am sure that within your ranks there are men and women who are completely dedicated to the struggle, willing to give their all in order to defeat Yankee imperialism.

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(Don Gregorio Hernández is a Puerto Rican nationalist, sole survivor of the attack on the Fortaleza during the Nationalist Uprising of October, 1950 in Puerto Rico. Message translated from the Spanish.)

Greetings to the Marxist-Leninist League

The New Voice, a Marxist-Leninist organization, welcomes the formal merger of the League for Proletarian Revolution (M-L) and the Colorado Organization for Revolutionary Struggle (M-L-M) to produce the Marxist-Leninist League. We need more organizational unity in our movement. All groups that work for proletarian revolution in the United States to break up the capitalist state machine, uphold the need for the dictatorship of the proletariat during the entire period of socialism and oppose Soviet imperialism should do everything possible to combine into one democratic centralist organization. The formation of the Marxist-Leninist League is a step in this direction. The New Voice wishes the Marxist-Leninist League success in making contributions to working peoples' struggles against exploitation and for a better life.

Comradely,

The New Voice

(The message that follows was sent by Circulo de Trabajo Comunista (M-L), a Marxist-Leninist organization in Puerto Rico. This organization, along with others, is striving to build the Marxist-Leninist Party of Puerto Rico.)

YEARS OF RESISTANCE 1968-80

AGO, RESISTANCE WAS PUBLISHED SINCE THEN, ITS PAGES REFLECT THE STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM, PEACE, FREEDOM AND

WHICH MIMEOGRAPHED ORGANIZATIONS Grew INTO A SMALL PAPER WHICH BECAME THE VOICE OF THE PROLETARIAN REVOLUTION. AS MASS RESISTANCE, IT IS THE MARXIST-LENINIST

WE HAVE BEEN COMMITTED IN THE COURSE OF OUR HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT TO THE EXTENT OF THOSE WHOSE INTERESTS ALWAYS BEEN ON THE SIDE OF THE OPPRESSED PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY.

ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF RESISTANCE WE MAKE OUR BEST EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF OUR PAPER, ITS REGULARITY AND TO MAKE IT CAN BETTER SERVE THE INTERESTS OF THE COMMITTED

PROLETARIAN PRESS!
RESISTANCE!



WELCOME TO THE MARXIST LEAGUE

Greetings to the Marxist-Leninist League

The New Voice, a Marxist-Leninist organization, welcomes the formal merger of the League for Proletarian Revolution (ML) and the Colorado Organization for Revolutionary Struggle (M-L-M) to produce the Marxist-Leninist League. We need more organizational unity in our movement. All groups that work for proletarian revolution in the United States to break up the capitalist state machine, uphold the need for the dictatorship of the proletariat during the entire period of socialism and oppose Soviet imperialism should do everything possible to combine into one democratic centralist organization. The formation of the Marxist-Leninist League is a step in this direction. The New Voice wishes the Marxist-Leninist League success in making contributions to working peoples' struggles against exploitation and for a better life.

Comradely,
The New Voice

We Greet Merger LPR-ML and CORES-MLM

Dear Comrades

The merger of your two organizations constitutes a significant step forward in the necessary unity of all US Marxist-Leninists required in order to move forward your main task of building the Communist Party of the multi national working class of the United States.

The process of merger of the LPR-ML and CORES MLM serves as an example of how a principled unity of Marxist-Leninists is forged, not only for US Marxist-Leninists but also for Marxist-Leninists in Puerto Rico who have put the task of party building in front of us.

Your merger did not happen overnight. On the contrary it was a long process of open and above-board ideological struggle and joint work which culminated in a solid, principled unity based on the application of Marxist-Leninist principles to the concrete practice of party building in the US. This process is qualitatively different from other merger processes of organizations in the US in which the predominant factors are that of back-room negotiations, of an policy of burying differences in principles and of pompous celebrations of a false, opportunist "unity". These latter factors do not constitute the forging of the monolithic, iron unity of M-Ls, but rather a fragile, short-lived opportunist unity.

We are sure that the unity of wills of both organizations will give new stamina and strength to the new organization needed to carry on more effectively the work of party building.

Forward in the correct, Marxist-Leninist unity of principles!

Your Merger Serves as an example!

Forward with the building of the Party of the multi-national working class of the US!

Circulo de Trabajo Comunista-MI
(Puerto Rico)

(The message that follows was sent by Circulo de Trabajo Comunista (M-L), a Marxist-Leninist organization in Puerto Rico. This organization, along with others, is striving to build the Marxist-Leninist Party of Puerto Rico.)

Puerto Rico in Struggle

The exploitation to which US imperialism has subjected the Puerto Rican people has been challenged and opposed historically by the pro independence forces in that island. However, the latest attacks on the part of the US government are now being challenged not only by these forces, but by much broader sectors as well. All across the board, the people of Puerto Rico are demanding that their puppet government take a stand and fight against certain measures taken by the US government, particularly in regards to the issues of Vieques and the relocation of Cuban and Haitian refugees from the mainland to P.R.

At the present time, the people of Vieques are in great need for concrete material support. In the last Navy operations (in which Great Britain, Argentina, Venezuela and others also participated), the Navy destroyed all the fishermen's nasas (a type of net made of wire). This has left the fishermen without their means of livelihood. The operations also caused the death of tons of fish (as usual). The lives of a large sector of the people of Vieques has been ruined. You can show your support for the cause of Vieques by sending any donation to

Initially, the governor of Puerto Rico, Carlos Romero Barcelo, made a statement approving the relocation on a "humanitarian" basis. The reaction of the people was not long in coming. There has been a universal condemnation of the measure. It is not that the Puerto Rican people are not humanitarian. The opposition, again coming from all quarters regardless of political affiliation, is based on many facts.

like cattle. Carter wants to shift this trouble out of sight of the American people, at least until after November 8. All but one refugee camp have been closed and refugees are thus being relocated in P.R.

Besides all these facts, there is the most important question for the Puerto Rican people—the right of the U.S. to make a decision which affects the Puerto Rican people so deeply without even bothering to consult them about it. The U.S. can do this so long as the island remains its colony, stripped of its right to self-determination. So, the struggle of the Puerto Rican people against the relocation is in this sense a struggle against U.S. domination and control, a struggle which weakens our common enemy, the U.S. imperialist bourgeoisie.

FACT No 1 Housing facilities are not enough for the people of the island. Although the federal government claims that this is just a temporary measure and that the refugees will be relocated permanently in the mainland, this is skeptically seen by Puerto Ricans. It is expected that refugees will systematically trickle into the Puerto Rican communities. And then, where will they live? How will they support themselves? No doubt the influx of refugees will have a serious effect on the already troubled Puerto Rican economy and society in general.

The outcry against the proposed relocation has been of such magnitude that even the governor has been forced to retract his original statement and criticize the move, asking the Justice Department to file an injunction with the Supreme Court to stop the relocation. There have been a number of militant demonstrations and pickets throughout the island with more being planned. Meanwhile, president Carter has said he will reduce the number of refugees to be relocated, but plans to go on with this relocation. The case is yet to be seen in the Supreme Court, but knowing colonial relations between the U.S. and P.R., it's easy to guess the court's decision. The P.R. people, on the other hand, are sworn to stand firm in their position of challenging the U.S.' decision.

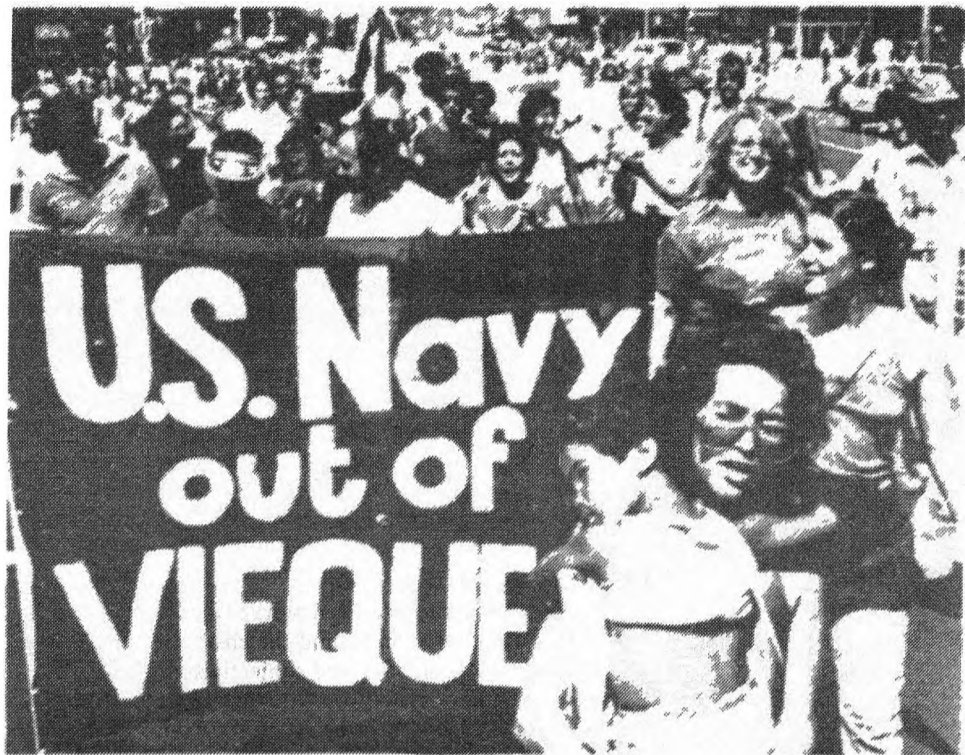
FACT No 2 Health Services are very poor in the island. With some areas lacking medical facilities, the question then arises—How are the refugees going to be treated if they get ill? The Fort itself lacks adequate sewage facilities for so many people. This will create a serious problem of infestation of the waters that could become an epidemic, besides many other health problems.

We, in the U.S., support the demand of the Puerto Rican people to stop the relocation. The Puerto Rican people should have the right to decide who enters and who leaves their island and under what conditions. But, we not only support the right of the Puerto Rican people to self-determination, we also oppose the treatment given to the refugees themselves.

FACT No 3 Historically the government of the commonwealth of Puerto Rico has claimed (the U.S. government as well) that there is a "chronic problem" of overpopulation. In fact, to "alleviate" the supposed "problem", the commonwealth government has promulgated the immigration of the island's people (nearly two million Puerto Ricans left the island) to the U.S. How can this relocation even be proposed then? When it's to their convenience—cheap labor source in the mainland—they ship Puerto Ricans out because the island is overpopulated. But when they need to ship several thousand refugees into the island, then "overpopulation" is swept under the rug.

According to Jose Arsenio Torress (PDP candidate for Resident Commissioner) he was told in Washington that the refugees would have no contact with the community. What this really means is that they will be in a veritable concentration camp—in make shift houses, kept against their will by soldiers and barbed wire. We cannot condone this kind of treatment afforded to human beings. The majority of these refugees are workers. They have a right to decent housing, jobs, health care, etc. They are here, like in the case of the Haitian refugees, because of extreme poverty and repression brought about by the U.S.-backed Duvalier regime, and by the ravage and plunder caused by U.S. imperialism throughout the world. It is U.S. imperialism that has brought upon itself the refugee problem. It is our task to demand immediate solution—adequate housing, jobs, health care, etc. to the refugees, provided by the U.S. government, and to oppose their dumping on Puerto Rico.

FACT No 4 Traditionally, Puerto Rico has been used as a dumping ground. During the period following the Cuban Revolution, 50,000 Cubans alone were sent to P.R. Obviously, the U.S. government sees Puerto Rico as a "safety valve" to be used any time there is trouble brewing for the U.S. This is an election year and Jimmy Carter cannot afford to displease his supporters. There has been increasing pressure on Carter not to accept any more refugees. The riots which have taken place in refugee camps here have been very embarrassing. The U.S. brags about being the "land of the free" but when refugees arrive here, they find that they are kept and treated



Clairidad photo

U.S. Navy : Out of Vieques!

Cruzada pro Rescate de Vieques
Apartado 878
Vieques, Puerto Rico 00765

You can also aid the cause of Vieques by joining the local U.S. chapters in support of Vieques and help build their work

Vieques is one of the islands which compose the Puerto Rican nation and which has been used by the U.S. Navy for target practice and special operations. Since the time in which the Navy was forced out of Culebra (another island in P.R.), the navy has intensified its use of Vieques.

The Navy has found the growing militancy of the people of Vieques quite a force to contend with. The people of Vieques constantly challenge the Navy. Just one example of this was earlier this year when the fishermen, armed only with slingshots, forced the Navy's modern boats to retreat.

Recently, a comrade had the opportunity to visit Vieques and talk to the people there. One of the fishermen stated that, "The people of Vieques understand the damage the Navy is doing to our island, and we will not stop until we see the Navy out of Vieques. The Navy knows this and it is trying to destroy the unity of the people of Vieques. But they will not succeed." This statement reflects the sentiments of the people of Vieques, who, regardless of their political affiliation, religious beliefs, etc., are united in their fight against the Navy under the leadership of the Cruzada pro Rescate de Vieques. They have identified the Navy as their common enemy and are determined to kick them out of the island.

The people of Vieques have found support not only from the rest of the island's peoples, but also from the people in the US and at an international level. This support has expressed itself in a number of ways—creation of support committees (in many cities in the US), pressure at the international level (UN decolonization committee, etc.)

Refugee Camps : Out of Puerto Rico!

Another measure which has met with great opposition from the Puerto Rican people is the proposed relocation of Cuban and Haitian refugees from the mainland camps to Fort Allen, in Juana Diaz, PR.



Clairidad photo



In Puerto Rico, demonstrations against the relocation of refugees have taken place. The sign reads "P.R. is not a garbage can for the U.S. Meanwhile, in Pennsylvania concentration camp, refugees await relocation with despair written in their faces."

DOWN WITH US IMPERIALISM!!!

COMMUNIST FORUM



Since it first appeared in *RESISTANCE*, we have urged organizations and individuals to make use of the *COMMUNIST FORUM* as one of the ways in which to develop a principled and above board ideological struggle over the burning issues facing the U S proletarian revolution

We reiterate our invitation and our commitment not to run from struggle but to welcome it as one of the fundamental ways to help develop the correct ideological and political line for our revolution

Thus, by printing the views of the comrades of *PUL*, and our comments on them, we want to encourage other comrades to express their views on these and other fundamental questions facing our movement. The pages of *MASS RESISTANCE* are definitely open for that purpose

Comrades

We thought that it might be productive to exchange some views on issues of mutual concern. Your article from March 1980 on work in the working class particularly raised some questions which we wish to speak to. One of the impressive points about this article was its attempt to come to grips with problems which not only affect LPR-ML/COReS MLM, but in fact, the work of most ML groups. Few communist groups have made outstanding gains in the working class, a fact which the movement is presently coming to grips

The dilemma you address, i.e., the relation between reform work in the shops, and more propagandistic (consciously or openly socialist) tasks is a significant issue. We had some thoughts on this and other points in your statement. Your article raises a question about a tendency to overemphasize economic or trade union work in the shops. You note that your cadre tended to be active trade unionists, but were weak in carrying out other tasks. You characterized this deviation as economism. This characterization sounds accurate, but at the same time inadequate.

Under economism there are many types of deviations, both rightist and "leftist". We are in no position to summarize or characterize your work, especially since we have never worked directly with you in a shop situation. We do, however, encourage you to look at both aspects of the economist deviations. In the past, many comrades have characterized any sort of trade unionist deviation as being right-economism. This has just not always conformed with reality. Through our work and examination of the line and practice of others, we came to identify "left" economism as a very common error.

As we understand "left" economism, it is rooted in anarcho-syndicalist theory. Foster, who himself was influenced by this trend, noted some important characteristics of this deviation:

- 1 failure to provide the closely-knit organization of the most revolutionary elements (which must be in the Communist Party) indispensable for uniting and leading the less developed masses,
- 2 failure to utilize the many political methods of struggle vitally necessary to carry on the workers' daily fight against the state and the capitalists for the eventual overthrow of capitalism, and for the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat,
- 3 failure to establish a basis for the unity of the workers with the poorer sections of the farmers and petty bourgeoisie against the capitalists, a unity fundamental for effective struggle against capitalism,
- 4 failure to work out a practical plan for the operation of the workers' society after the abolition of capitalism

(Foster, *THE COMMUNIST*, Nov 1935)

We would basically agree with these points. As is clear, an obsession with trade union work in and of itself says little about the deviation. What is important is the real nature of the work being carried out and the line which was guiding it. Were the caucuses

you worked in organized "in principle" in opposition to most things done by the union officials or did the committees or caucuses basically tail the officials, did your cadre practice united front tactics or was there basically a go-it alone orientation for the left wing in the unions? Additionally, what kind of leadership did your cadre exert? Was there an encouragement of confrontation-ism, or was it more conciliation-ism? These are some of the issues which we and other comrades have been dealing with. We have found that even the category of "militant trade unionism" is only adequate to give an empirical description of a problem. Anarcho syndicalists are certainly militant trade unionists, but the same can often be said of some more right ward leaning activists, for example, some honest activists in union democracy struggles. We don't have any simple answers to all these questions from our work, but they are the types of questions which must be asked if any serious rectification of the movement's work is to happen.

Since we know little about your work, we cannot say to what extent some of our points apply, but they may be worth considering. The lack of Marxist-Leninist unity, additionally, has certainly affected the level, the competition around winning over certain activists has often led to these individuals turning away entirely out of frustration. Additionally there are a number of tasks in the working class which individual pre party organizations will have and have had a difficult time accomplishing. Organizing the unorganized is one such task. Different communist groups, yours included we're sure, have played an important role in helping to form, organize and lead union organizing committees. Difficulties have arisen in struggling with the ridiculous union officials. Overcoming this reformist passivity is a task which affects us all, and must be taken up by the movement. Perhaps meetings might help to coordinate such activity as well as come up with possible solutions to these and other problems. With the increasing anti union offensive, new and dynamic methods must be utilized to win workers to recognize the need for unions. The reliance which many union officials place on cash just will not get over. Non union companies, such as Polaroid, Gillette, as well as many of the open pit mining companies in the West, can provide rather substantial cash incentive to overcome union drives based primarily on the issue of wages. This will probably change the face of unionization in the immediate future. Also, the reliance or extreme emphasis which has been placed on boycott as a primary thrust in union drives has been used to substitute for the actual support work and organizing which must be done.

A final point about your article. The issue of the advanced worker raised by you is an important point. There has been a lot of confusion behind the character of the advanced worker (this is especially true since the dogmatic and subjectivist debates carried on by WVO, RWL/PRRWO). You correctly point out that we must not judge the advanced strictly by their words and views, but especially based on their relationship to the class struggle. This point was particularly ignored in past debates. It is clear from work in the workers movement, but the same is true in the other mass movements, that there are many who express an openness to socialism, and may even "adhere" to some form of eclectic socialist view, but this does not make them advanced. Communist have spent a lot of time engaging individuals in interesting discussions, but this often led nowhere. It is particularly important to seek out the leading activists within the mass movements and place energy on winning them over.

Your article provided food for thought for all of us, we as well as (we're sure) for other communists. Marxist Leninists need to further sum up and critically evaluate our work. Yours is definitely a contribution.

With Communist Greetings,
Proletarian Unity League

We agree with the Proletarian Unity League that under economism there are many types of deviations, both rightist and 'leftist'. We take to heart their call to "look at both aspects of the economist deviations." In fact, if everybody in our movement were to look at all the aspects of things, as opposed to being one sided, we would have a more consistent and systematic struggle against revisionism and all sorts of opportunism, rather than these holy crusades against this or that danger.

Our organizations had been actively integrating cadres and close contacts into factory shops until the last two years. In moving them into the shops it is fairly reasonable to say we did not know exactly what we were doing. This doesn't mean we blindly led our forces without direction. But it does mean that when it came to answering the vast questions in the working class struggle, our cadres lacked the experience, and many times the line, to successfully take the leadership of these struggles. Our forces thus fell into a lot of tailism and spontaneity.

In the article in question, (*RESISTANCE*, March 1980) we pointed out that at the moment (that is still the

case) we were in need of a thorough sum up of the LPR(ML) and COReS (MLM) line and practice on the trade union question. It is the goal of our Rectification Campaign, initiated 2 years ago, to determine our errors, successes and future direction of our work. In doing this sum up we will definitely take into account *PUL*'s remarks. Up to now we can say that we have committed both right and "left" errors and we have identified our a main tendency as a rightist one.

We consider the characterization of much of our factory work as one of "militant tradeunionists" both accurate and adequate. Yes, it is true that you have "militant tradeunionists coming from the right and from the 'left'." Yes, "anarcho syndicalists are certainly militant tradeunionists and the same can often be said of more rightward leaning activists." But we were not talking about anarcho syndicalists, nor right ward leaning activists, but about our cadres, about communists. We were saying that by our cadres failing to develop communist propaganda and agitation in the shops, by failing to link the day to day struggles for reforms with the long range struggle for socialism, they were acting as militant tradeunionists, and not

as Marxist Leninists. Furthermore, we identify that tendency as a rightist one, not a "leftist" one.

Why rightist? Because our errors were not in overestimating the subjective factor but in underestimating it. It is not that we proposed to the workers actions that were beyond their actual level of preparedness and consciousness, but rather that we failed to propose a course of action that the workers were more than ready to take.

In the context in which we were using the term "militant tradeunionists" we were referring to the type of activity our organizations were involved in in the shops. In the main, we were liquidating the ML tasks and overemphasizing the trade union ones. The correct relation which combines the legal and illegal work of MLs among the working class was thus not being practiced.

We agree with *PUL* that the lack of ML unity has affected communist work among the working class. We would add further that it is the lack of struggle for unity which has hurt the movement's ability to give leadership to the working class as well as its ability to move closer to an ML party, so necessary to lead the working class to socialist revolution.

Finally, in relation to the question of the advanced workers, we want to stress the importance of taking into consideration both the class stand and the viewpoint of the workers in our approach. If they do not actively participate in the day to day struggles, if they talk to other workers with contempt, if for them every struggle is "not going to resolve anything", unimportant, etc., we are not dealing with an advanced worker. But on the other hand, if we just go for the "leading activists" we can make the mistake many times of relying on "right ward leaning activists" or anarcho syndicalists, and not advanced workers. Words and deeds, theory and practice, that is how we are to detect those advanced workers who in every country determine the character of the working class movement.

In closing, we will state that we may find out that we have more unity or disunity with *PUL*'s view of the working class movement and our role as MLs in that movement. The point is that we should keep the channels for discussion open. In our part, we will be discussing this question further, and will in the future be printing the results of those discussions and sum-ups of our work. We will be substantiating with concrete examples of our work the views that we have laid out here today.

IN FUTURE EDITIONS OF MASS RESISTANCE
EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE NEW VOICE
AND THE MARXIST LENINIST LEAGUE
ON THE NATIONAL QUESTION

Marxist - Leninist League

Blacks and Latinos Rally Against the Draft



Mass Resistance photo

er for the MLL denounced the role of the Soviet Union in the world today, explaining that they are not friends but enemies of the world's peoples and that together with the U S imperialists, are driving humanity towards a third world war

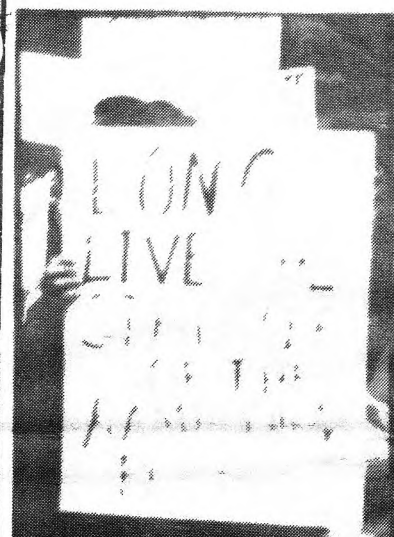
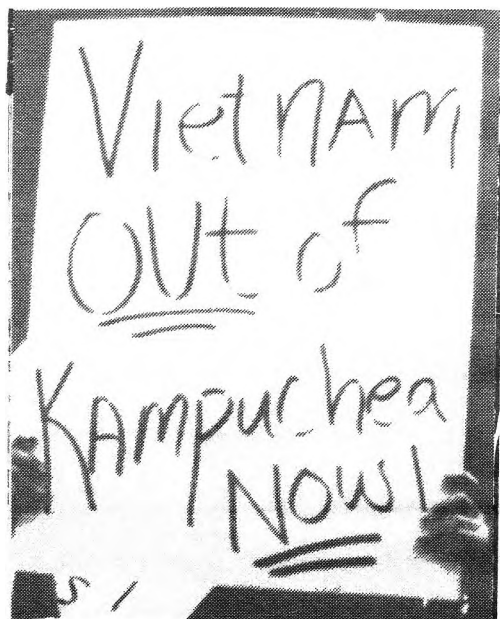
In the coming months, BLAM will be developing a whole campaign against the draft and war preparations in the oppressed nationality communities in New York

Rallies, teach ins, demonstrations, literature distributions, draft counseling, etc, will be carried out in an attempt to organize the resistance to the draft among the oppressed nationalities We call on you to join and /or support BLAM and its goal

Call or Write

Blacks and Latinos Against the Military
1119 Fulton Street
Brooklyn, New York

Kampuchea STILL needs our support



Mass Resistance photo

"We will not fight a war in defense of Exxon, City Bank and General Motors The only war we will fight is right here for our rights and freedom" This was the message that speaker after speaker raised at the anti-draft rally held in Harlem on Sept 27, under the auspices of tBlack and Latinos Against the Military (BLAM) Participants in the rally included the New York Chapter of the Nlack United Front, The Committee Against Registration and the Draft (CARD), the Marxist Leninist League and others

The rally emphasized the urgent need for all people, but especially Blacks and Latinos and other oppressed nationalities to oppose the draft and all war preparations "There's no doubt," said a Latino comrade speaking for the Marxist Leninist League, "that U S imperialism will give us the dubious privilege of being the first ones drafted, the first ones wounded and

killed, the first ones to serve as cannon fodder in their imperialist war Remember Vietnam in which Blacks, while constituting about 13% of the population, comprised over 50% of the military personnel and engaged in battle, over 50% of the dead and wounded"

A Black veteran expounded on this point indicating the kind of treatment Black veterans are getting He indicated that unemployment and drug addiction is rampant among Black veterans "When it was time to die in defense of their they called on us first, but when it's time to provide us jobs, education and better veterans benefits, it's another tune But we learned our lesson real well Next time we won't fight our brothers and sisters in the third world, but fight right here at home for our dignity and freedom"

A sister from the Asian Students Association of City College as well as the speak

The picket signs above are from demonstration at the U N on Sept 19 this year demanding the continued seating of the government of Democratic Kampuchea The demonstration was attended by about 300 supporters of the Kampuchean people's struggle They were also demanding the implementation of last year's U N resolution calling for the immediate withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops

The demonstrators marched on to the Soviet embassy and there staged a militant picket line denouncing the USSR's role as instigator and provider of arms for the Vietnamese aggression

Since the demonstration, the Kampuchean people scored an important victory at the U N The government of Democratic Kampuchea will continue to represent its country at the U N This is a blow at the Soviet Vietnamese aggressors who are keen on legitimizing their invasion by getting a seat at the U N for their puppet regime in Kampuchea

Despite this victory though, Kampuchean are still being massacred by the Vietnamese, and their country is still being plundered and oppressed They still need our support

VIETNAM, OUT OF KAMPUCHEA!

TO OUR READERS

In the past, our newspaper has printed photographs without giving credit to their source As of this issue we will be printing the source of the photographs we use, and we apologize for those we have neglected to properly identify in the past

We wish to acknowledge that in our last issue, in an article about the Miami uprising, we printed a photograph taken from the newspaper SOUTHERN STRUGGLE We thank the SCEF for that opportunity to share in their photographs We also want to let others know that it is our policy to share our photographs with the movement

WHAT IS MASS RESISTANCE ?



The Marxist-Leninist League was formed through the merger of the League for Proletarian Revolution (ML) and the Colorado Organization for Revolutionary Struggle (MLM) We are a multinational communist organization based on Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought We are committed to the struggle for the overthrow of the U S bourgeoisie, the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat and the building of socialism in the U S Opposi-

tion to both superpowers, support for the national liberation struggles of the Third World, upholding of the Three Worlds Theory are some of our guiding principles

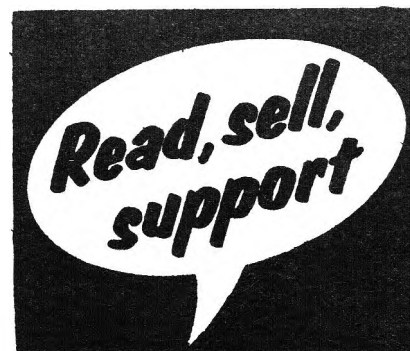
MASS RESISTANCE is our political organ Its name comes in recognition of the positive role that for the last ten years was played by RESISTANCE the political organ of the former LPR(ML) Proud of that tradition, we will con-

tinue publishing the newspaper that is the oldest continuous publication within the U S anti-revisionist communist movement We have added "MASS" to the name to make explicit that it is to the building of the conscious and organized resistance of the masses of working and oppressed peoples against the capitalist onslaught that we have dedicated ourselves to

MARXIST-LENINIST LEAGUE

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