

WORKERS VIEWPOINT

End the Criminal Rule
of the U.S. Monopoly Capitalist Class,
Fight for Socialism!

The Proletariat and Oppressed People
and Nations of the World, Unite!

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DEMAND HEALTH BENEFITS - NEW CONTRACT

MINERS DEFY BACK-TO-WORK ORDER



Miners jam the meeting of the United Mine Workers Executive Board in Charleston, West Virginia, to tell the hacks like Miller what to do with his strike-breaking "back-to-work" order.

"I've got \$4 in my pocket and \$14 in the bank. That's all I have, but we have to fight this now. If we wait until December, there be nothing left of us or the union. Without that hospital card I ain't going down in that mountain."

These are the words of a coal-miner recently in Beckley, West Virginia. Coalminers are wildcating wave upon wave in the mines of West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Ohio. Nearly 35,000 are out now. Continuing the 10-week old strike, roving pickets are shutting down mine after mine over cuts in the health benefits.

The conditions in the mines have deteriorated dangerously in the past year. Mine safety is the No. 1 issue to miners. Safety procedures and guidelines are disregarded by the company as they push for more profits.

For miners, safety is an every minute life and death issue. The number of days the miners have been out this year is up 93%, and the coal profits are still at record levels.

MINERS IN FRONT RANKS OF U.S. WORKERS' STRUGGLE

The militancy of the miners is

increasing. The possibility exists for a long, hard strike after the current contract expires on December 6. Miners are clearly in the forefront of the workers' struggle in the U.S. Like the U.S. working class as a whole, their struggle has mainly been on the economic front, like for health benefits now.

But their fight is increasingly political. They have taken on the government directly, wildcating against injunctions thrown out left and right by the capitalist courts because of the no-strike clause in the contract. The miners feel they're fighting the whole capitalist class. They're right, and they'll beat them too. The courts aren't giving out injunctions against the miners now, but it's not because the coal operators aren't asking for them.

Whipping fear into the monopoly capitalist class, the struggles of the miners inspire workers across the country in every industry. Their rock-hard rank-and-file solidarity in struggle, their fierce fight to build and protect the UMW shines clear as day. In struggles like Stearns, miners are keeping the scabs out and the company goons in their place with hot lead. Willing to live on cornbread rather than knuckle under to the capitalists, willing to die fighting to the end for their just demands, the miners

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SON OF SAM - SON OF CAPITALISM

All around the cities is evidence of capitalism's decay -- the abandoned buildings, the garbage in the streets, the pornography in the stores -- and the walking wounded. Capitalism creates the "bag ladies" who mumble on the park benches, the panhandlers who live inside cheap wine bottles, and youth who must live from needle to needle. Then there are those like "Son of Sam," who take their private "worlds" into the streets and destroy the sons and daughters of the laboring masses.

Try as they might, the capitalist press cannot pin the blame on the "other" world, whether it be insanity or LSD, when the roots are in the "real world" of decaying capitalist society. They must attempt to divert the genuine hatred of the working class toward those like "Son of Sam" by portraying him as an isolated case. To protect themselves, the capi-

talists must place him outside the context of the society from which he crawls.

What kind of society gives rise to those like "Son of Sam"? It is the kind of society which starves people and dumps food; which has hotels for dogs and no homes for workers; which uses and discards the elderly as it kills the youth. It is a society in which many individuals are forced to fend for themselves against the daily oppression of capitalism. It is no wonder that there are many like "Son of Sam" -- lonely and frustrated, like time bombs ready to go off.

But the ruling class goes beyond merely diverting attention from the real causes of those like "Son of Sam." The "Son of Sam" case is another example of how the bourgeoisie inevitably turns and twists spontaneous sentiment and events to serve their own ends.

Just as in the winter of '76



when the cold weather was the perfect opportunity to jack up fuel prices sky-high, the ruling class is attempting to use its own deformed offspring, like "Son of Sam" to further their designs for fascism. They are using the "Son of Sam" case to cover for their own crimes.

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CAROLINA SPRINGS WORKERS STRIKE AGAINST 30% WAGE SLASH

125 workers at Carolina Springs Co. in High Point, North Carolina are entering their 24th week in a strike against an attempt by the company to cut wages by 30%! Workers at Carolina Springs, through struggle, had won wages of \$5 an hour average, wages that are relatively high for the Black Belt South.

This attack by the company is part of the stepped-up attacks on our class by the capitalists around the country. Moreover, it represents an attempt by the furniture capitalists to smash this small example of the organized powers of workers right in the heart of this overwhelmingly unorganized industry.

The Carolina Springs workers not only aimed their struggle at this blatant attack by the company, but also fought for union democracy. The misleaders from the international union tried to get the Negotiating Committee to sell out the struggle. They tried to get the Negotiating Committee to "compromise" by accepting the company's offer to "give" the

striking workers their jobs back and offering not to cut the wages of 25 workers who have been scabbing during the strike!

When the local president bucked this sellout, the misleaders proceeded to wage a slander campaign against him, take him out of office by decree from up top, and push through the sellout. The workers defeated this maneuver by standing with their local president and forcing the misleaders to go along with the continued strike.

The misleaders, now trying to pose as if their support for the strike has been consistent, called a rally to build support for the struggle. At this rally, the local president gave an angry speech where he exposed the misleaders' maneuvers. He said, "I believe in unionism, but not this." After laying out his determination and that of the other workers to struggle for union democracy, he finished by saying, "I believe we can win, and we will stay and fight till we do." ■

Afro-Americans Fight Racist Texas Frame-up

Oliver Lee Davis, 19, is presently serving a hideous 99-year life sentence in a Texas prison -- Coffield Unit. Davis, an Afro-American youth was charged and convicted in 1975 for two crimes he did not commit.

Davis received a ten year probated sentence for a robbery case, even though the other two young men involved and the store owner said he was not involved.

On August 23, 1974, Davis, a recent graduate and star basketball player was looking for a fellow Skyline High School teammate who had been absent from their Dallas school. Oliver Davis got a ride with two other young Afro-Americans. One of them knew Davis and owed him some money. He told Davis he would pay him and then drop him at his destination if Davis would ride with them to a nearby town.

Unknown to Davis beforehand, the pair intended to rob a store in Waxahatchie, Texas. After the attempt, Davis, scared for his life, got back in the car. The cops arrested all of them.

At the end of the robbery trial, as Davis was leaving the court room, Texas District Judge Milton Hartfield called him back saying, "We've got something else for you." The all-white jury gave Davis a life sentence for "sodomy and aggravated sexual abuse" of two white prisoners in the Ellis County jail.

An outpouring of outrage in the Afro-American community over this racist injustice has resulted in a number of demonstrations and rallies, both in Waxahatchie and in Dallas, demanding Davis' freedom. Earlier in June, Davis was granted an appeal and is awaiting the new trial date.

In spite of the fact that one of the white inmates and the other two Afro-Americans charged admitted and testified that Davis was not involved in the sexual attack, this working class Afro-American youth was railroaded to prison.

He has continuously maintained his innocence. And his stand of resisting the brutality and racism of

his jailers made them hate him. While in prison in Ellis County, he was the target of constant harassment. Davis, who has an asthma condition was given pills that were not only not suited for the treatment of asthma, but could have caused his death. Other pills were found hidden in his food.

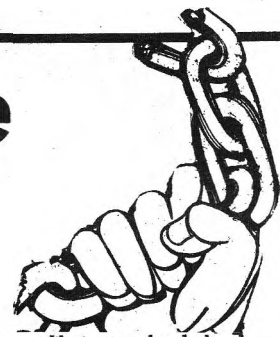
Oliver Davis is a victim of the South's Jim Crowism (especially in east Texas). This is a blatant example of how the monopoly capitalist system does not and will not grant justice to working class and oppressed minority people.

Under the capitalist system, the state serves and grants "justice" and "democracy" only to the rich ruling class that controls it. For example: Patty Hearst (heiress to the fortune of publisher-millionaire William Hearst) convicted for armed robbery was sentenced to a vacation in the confines of her father's luxurious estate. The Watergate burglary and cover-up criminals received minimal sentences. John Mitchell and Haldean were sentenced the minimum of 2½ years to a minimum-security country club with single dormitory rooms. Out of the 25 persons sent to jail and later got off, only three are in jail now. And everybody knows Richard Nixon, arch criminal responsible for ordering the deaths of millions of men, women and children in Indochina, not only was pardoned but got paid for it.

Yet, in prisons where working class and oppressed minority people are locked up, conditions are brutal and degrading, and the only "privacy" is solitary confinement.

The railroading of Oliver Davis is a classic example of who the state -- the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie -- serves. The revolutionary struggles against oppression and for self-determination by the Afro-American nation in the Black Belt South is linked to the U.S. working class struggles. The fusion of these struggles in the fight for socialism will break the chains of wage slavery and national oppression by smashing U.S. monopoly capitalism and bringing about the dictatorship of the proletariat and socialism. ■

Breaking the Chains!



INDIANA

Over 13,000 auto workers at the Delco-Remy Plant of General Motors have just ended a 2-week strike. The members of Local 662 of the United Auto Workers walked out over the speedups, job assignments, and the generally oppressive working conditions at the Anderson, Indiana, plant.

Delco-Remy is the sole supplier of electrical components, including starters and ignitions, for General Motors. The walkout forced several other plants to a standstill and 13,600 GM workers were laid off as supplies of parts became short.

A ratification vote over the terms of a new three-year contract for the Delco-Remy division which has been offered has not been set.

GEORGIA

Once again showing how bourgeois "justice" serves only the ruling class, as well as how deeply national oppression runs in the Black Belt South, the judge in the "Dawson Five" case ruled on August 16 that there was no evidence to prove police "misconduct" in the handling of the case.

To briefly review the case, five young Afro-Americans are on trial for first-degree murder and armed robbery in connection with the holdup of a Terrell County grocery store. The prosecution is relying on alleged "confessions" of four of the young men. The defense has rejected those "confessions" on the basis that the five were threatened with castration and electrocution unless they "confessed" to the murder. In fact, a former Dawson police officer has testified that a sheriff's deputy put a cocked pistol to the head of one defendant and told the "nigger" to reveal the whereabouts of the murder weapon. Despite clear evidence pointing to the brutal manner in which the so-called "confessions" were forced out, the judge in the case has ruled that there was no police misconduct in the case.

Dawson, Georgia, which is about 20 miles from Plains, the home of Jimmy Carter, and which has a population of about 70% Afro-Americans, and Terrell County as a whole, have had a history of brutal national oppression. In the 1960's, it was known as "terrible Terrell": it was the scene of the burning of 3 Afro-American churches during the 60's Civil Rights struggle, and has long had a reputation for police brutality against Afro-Americans.

The present mayor of the town, a wealthy landowner named James Raines, has been known to go to the police station and demand a machinegun to "shoot some niggers." In fact, so blatant is the attempt by the ruling class to intimidate Afro-Americans in Terrell County that in the Dawson Five case, one defendant was not even identified until 2 days after the robbery and killing. What is so incredible about this is that the defendant finally named, Roosevelt Watson, was well known to the store owner, Linward

Denton. Watson had had a charge account at the store and had even been given a gift by Denton less than a month before the shooting. And yet Denton took over 2 days to "identify" him.

It is clear from the recent events of the Dawson Five case that bourgeois "justice" is once again revealed to mean "just us bourgeoisie."

NEW YORK

As part of the increased repression of the Puerto Rican independence struggle, a Federal judge, Richard Owen, sent 3 brothers to jail for refusing to testify before a grand jury about their alleged "FALN activities." The brothers, Julio Rosado, a warehouseman; Luis, a porter; and Andres, a family counselor for a poverty program, refused to comply with the judge's order to provide palm prints and handwriting samples.

Two of the brothers have been connected with the National Commission on Hispanic Affairs of the Episcopal Church. Three others connected with the Hispanic Affairs Commission have already been sent to jail also for "contempt of court." The refusal to testify before the grand jury is an expression of solidarity with the Puerto Rican independence struggle. These latest jailings come on the heels of the arrest of 2 other Puerto Ricans who have been associated with the independence struggle and the struggle to free the Five Nationalists, heroes of the independence struggle still imprisoned in the U.S.

HOUSTON

Following a number of police killings here over the past year, the handcuffed body of Joe Campos Torres was found floating in Buffalo Bayou in downtown Houston on May 8. This murder took place on May 6 following the arrest of Torres at a bar by Houston police.

The facts surrounding the death of Joe Torres by Houston police were only beginning to come out when state district judge Allen Stilley advised the police not to discuss the murder any further.

This "drowning" and the unofficial "gag order" was the spark for the unleashing of the tremendous revolutionary indignation of the Chicano people. Taking to the streets to demonstrate against the cover-up and the national oppression of Chicano people, Afro-Americans, and the "war against the poor", the Chicano people are focusing everyone's attention here on the necessity for organized resistance. A number of demonstrations, protest rallies, and meetings have been held involving from 40-people to expose this brutal killing and link it up with the many others that have happened over the past year.

A demonstration is planned for August 13 in Houston to take forward the work of raising this murder as an issue that concerns all oppressed nationalities, national minorities and the working class. ■

BROAD HORIZONS - BLITZ CAMPAIGNS: THE TRADE UNION EDUCATION LEAGUE

The proletariat needs a firm grasp of the revolutionary theory of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tse-Tung Thought and a deep sense of our own history to make revolution. This is especially true for the U.S. multinational working class because the U.S. monopoly capitalists have suppressed our heroic history for so long to suffocate our revolutionary will.

To beat back this trend and establish a strong tradition, we are starting a regular column on labor history. The first article focuses on the methods of organizing of the Trade Union Education League (TUEL) members, using their two early campaigns in the packinghouse and steel industries as examples.

Our main emphasis in the trade union work at this point must be to build deep and strong rank and file caucuses to build up and take back the unions. We must have broad and sweeping campaigns, but they can only yield fruit when built on good and solid rank and file base-work. Building up rank and file caucuses through taking the lead in immediate struggles, and rallying the advanced and activists is the main way to push our trade union work ahead. Only through building up the rank and file caucuses inside the unions, and winning the advanced and active, militant workers, can an organization such as the TUEL be built. And in turn it will serve to further deepen and broaden communist work in the trade union and working class movement.

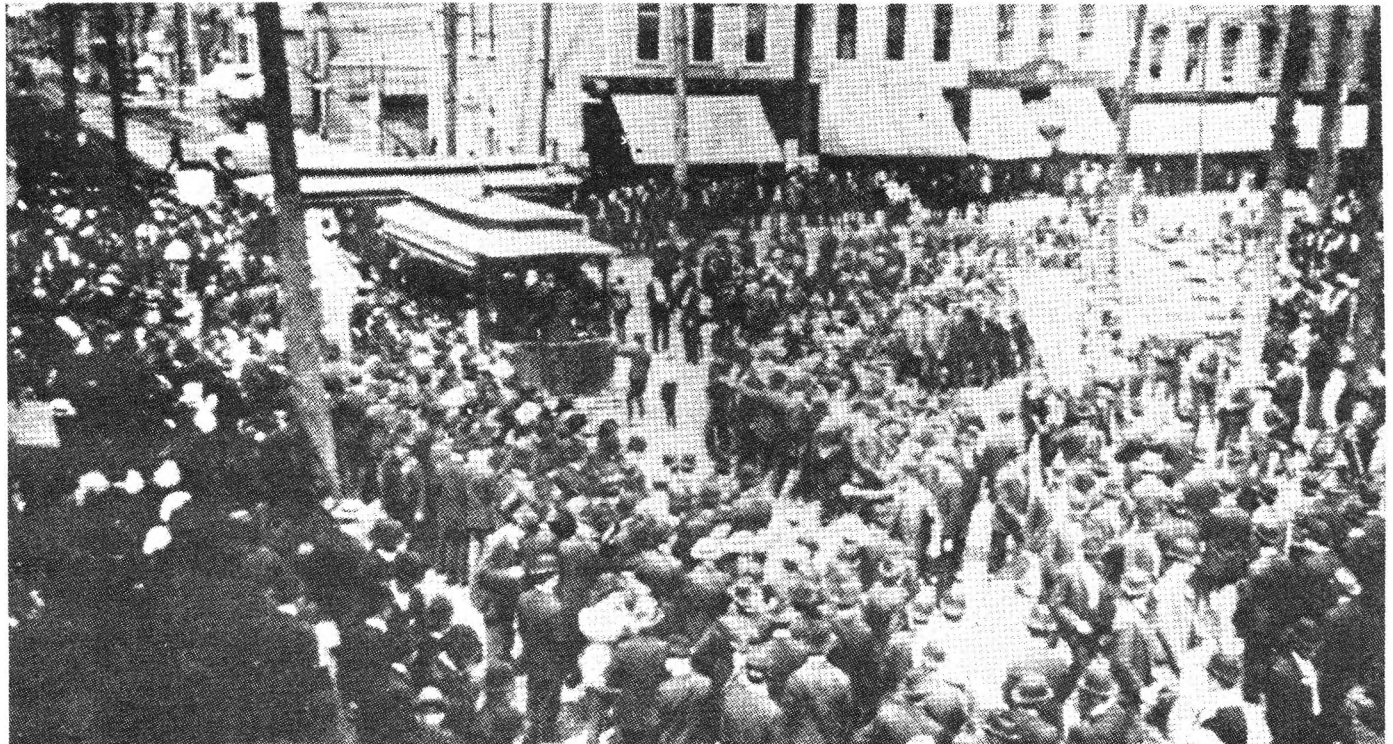
But there are many other lessons and aspects of the TUEL as well as other parts of labor history which we will go into in the future columns.

The packinghouse and steel campaigns were carried out under conditions of political flow period. The higher fusion between the communist movement and the working class movement because of the established Communist Party at the time of TUEL's existence was one reason for the high level of principles of unity of the TUEL and the relative ease of doing mass campaigns. The conditions of World War I and the intensified exploitation of the U.S. workers were another reason for the political flow.

The political character of the TUEL and its active role in taking up struggles in mining, textile and garment (which were the strongholds of TUEL), the relation between the TUEL and the United Front Committee of Textile Workers and the United Textile Workers, the relation between the TUEL and the national Save-the-Union Committee when the United Mine Workers of America was under attack in the '20s -- all these will be addressed in later articles.

Last month, at the height of the heatwave, workers' anger was boiling over the inhuman working conditions. Walk-outs not only hit the auto Big Three but other industries as well, such as chemical plants. Meanwhile, steel and copper workers were out on strike fighting for a better contract and miners are wildcatting against cuts in health benefit and virtually closed down all soft-coal mining.

In all these struggles, communists, advanced workers and active militants took up the actual work of organizing their fellow workers to fight



Chicago Stockyard strike, 1904. Meatpackers learned the lesson of the need for craft unity. Although the strike was defeated that year, the lessons learned pushed forward the struggle, setting the basis for victory in 1917.

the grievances. They make up the heart of broad rank and file groups at the different mines, mills and factories.

The sumup from these working class battles shows the urgent need for organization and correct leadership as the key to successful actions and to make sure the fight continues till victory. The Party, as the headquarters of the proletariat must use correct forms

to provide leadership to all these different battle fronts. The long and rich labor history in this country provides invaluable lessons for the present situation and today's struggles.

RETRIEVE THE RICH HISTORY OF THE TRADE UNION EDUCATION LEAGUE

In the 1920's, a nationwide organization called the Trade

Union Education League (TUEL) took up the task of organizing, uniting and supporting work for the working class movement.

The TUEL was formed in 1920 based on the lessons summed up from the experiences of the packinghouse campaign of 1917 and the Great Steel Strike in 1919.

PACKINGHOUSE CAMPAIGN, 1917

Workers in the packinghouse industry had been terribly neglected by the American Federation of Labor and were totally unorganized except for the teamsters. But the demand for workers was high, so the time was ripe for an organizing campaign, especially with a world war going on. The campaign was initiated and carried through by communists like William Z. Foster and rank and file militants like Jack Johnstone who gained respect and won the love of the masses of workers through hard-hitting campaign after campaign.

CORRECTLY WORKING WITHIN THE UNIONS

Foster, through the Chicago Federation of Labor (a progressive group within the AFL machinery), called for a joint organizing campaign of all trades in the Chicago packing industry by the local unions even though most of these were half-dead. They formed the Stockyards Labor Council, a federation of existing locals of Butcher Workmen, Railway Carmen, Machinists, Electricians, Carpenters, Office Workers, Steam Fitters, Engineers, Firemen, etc. The Council was a concrete step in fighting both the left dual-unionist deviation of setting up a totally new and separate "one big industrial union" outside of the existing unions as well as the narrow craft-unionism of the AF of L. The workers welcomed this industrial plan. They had learned from their own bitter experience in the 1904 strike which had been smashed due to disunity among the several craft unions.

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Blacksmith

BALLOT

IRON & STEEL WORKERS

The Union Committees are now seeking to get higher wages, shorter hours and better working conditions from the steel companies. Are you willing to back them up to the extent of stopping work should the companies refuse to concede these demands?

TAJNO GLASANJE

Odbor junije sada traži da se dobije bolja plaća, kraći radni satovi i bolji uvjeti za rad od kompanija želika. Dali ste voljni ići do skrajnosti podupreti da se prestane sa radom ako bi kompanija odbila da udovolji zahtevima?

SZAVAZZONI!

Az Union Bizottsága, az Acél Társaságoktól való—magasabb fizetés, rövidebb munka idő és jobb munka feltételek—elnyerése után törekszik. Akar ezek után törekedni? s a végsőkéig kitartani? és ha a társaságok ezen kívánalmaknak nem tesznek eleget a munkát beszüntetni?

VOTAZIONE.

I comitati dell'Unione stanno cercando di ottenere paghe piu' alte, ore di lavoro piu' brevi, e migliori condizioni di lavoro. Desiderate voi asscondarli, anche quando dovesse essere necessario di fermare il lavoro se le Compagnie rifiutassero di accettare le domande?

HLÁSOVACI LISTOK

Výbor uniový chce dosiahnuť podvýšenie mzdy, menej hodín robít a lepšie robotnícke polozenie od oceliarskych spoločností. Ste vy ochotní ich podporovať do krajnosti, až do zástavenia práce, v páde by spoločnosť odoprela žiadostučinif tým požiadavkám.

BALOT

Komitet Unii stara się obecnie o uzyskanie od Stalowych Kompanij więkzkiej płacy, krótszych godzin i lepszych warunków pracy. Czy jesteś gotów poprzeć nas aż do możliwości wstrzymania pracy na wypadek, gdyby Kompanie odmówiły naszym żądaniom?

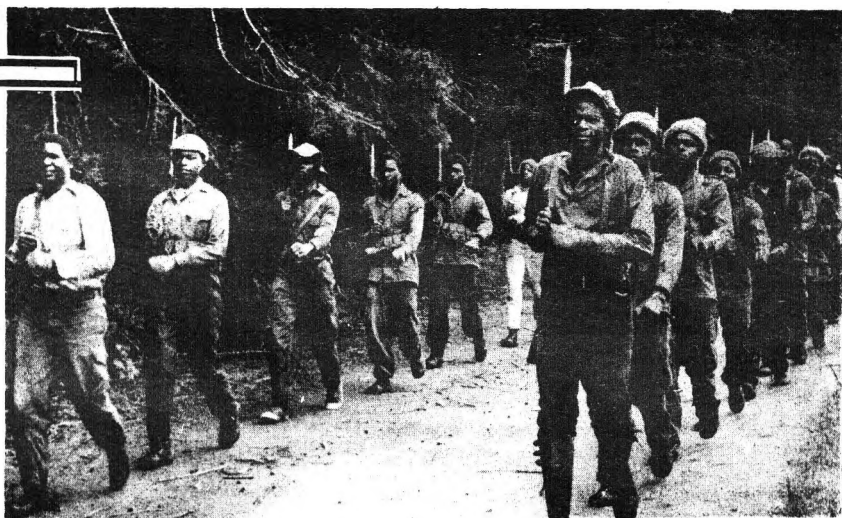
VOTE YES OR NO. Mark X in square indicating how you vote

Yes No

National Committee for Organizing Iron and Steel Workers
WM. Z. FOSTER, Secy-Treas. 303 Magee Bldg., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Ballot given out to steelworkers by the National Committee for Organizing Iron and Steel Workers 1919. This campaign showed clearly to its organizers the need for an organization of trade union militants to carry out hard-hitting campaigns.

ZIMBABWEAN ARMED STRUGGLE FORCES RACIST SMITH TO CALL SHAM ELECTIONS



Ever since the breakdown of the Geneva Conference last winter, the U.S. and British imperialists have been cooking up different variations on the same theme, hoping to pull off a trick that would give the appearance of majority rule in Zimbabwe but in reality hoodwink the masses into laying down their arms.

Now the villain Smith has come up with a new trick to buy time for his fascist rule: he has announced that, for the first time in 3 years, he will hold general elections -- or, in his words, a popular "mandate for reform" -- on August 31. By doing so, Smith is trying to show that he is inching towards majority rule by forming a "broad-based government" that would include a more liberal Constitution and more "responsible" Black Zimbabweans.

But let's take a close look at what will happen: First, Smith will be reelected Prime Minister of the illegal racist regime and again try to pass off his clique as the only legal representative of the Zimbabwean people. Second, because of racist property, income, and educational qualifications, only 7,500 of Zimbabwe's 6.5 million Blacks (or approximately 1 out of every 1000!) will be eligible to vote in the general elections, while one-third of the white settlers, who make up less than 5% of the population, will be voting. This is Smith's idea of a general, "popular" (i.e. by the people) mandate for reform!

Just who are these "responsible" Black Zimbabweans that Smith is so willing to transfer power to? Why, precisely those willing to work within the existing Constitution, and who outspokenly condemn the use of arms to achieve majority rule. Also, Smith already has some Black lackeys in his cabinet, so changing their faces or even increasing their number isn't going to make any difference -- it all just amounts to plastic surgery on his fascist rule.

Smith's "solution" is just another fraud -- he isn't even inching towards majority rule. In fact, he is moving further away from it as he desperately attempts to use more sophisti-

cated tricks to guarantee the white minority continuing economic, political and military power.

FRONT LINE AFRICAN COUNTRIES AID STRUGGLE

The desperation of the Smith regime, which is daily growing more isolated internationally, is also shown in the recent threats and provocations against neighboring Zambia and Botswana and the scores of armed raids into Mozambique, all in the name that Rhodesia is defending itself against the guerrillas that operate from bases in those countries.

The African frontline countries actively support the liberation struggle in Zimbabwe -- politically, economically, and militarily. The fight of the Zimbabwean masses for their national independence is a just one, and is also supported 100% by other African countries, by the Organization of African Unity (OAU), and by freedom-loving peoples and countries around the world.

But the struggle for national liberation and independence depends mainly on the millions of Zimbabweans who have fought tooth and nail every step of the way against the atrocities of the racist Smith regime, as well as against colonialism, imperialism and interference by the 2 superpowers. Armed struggle is being waged in over two-thirds of the country, and every week, thousands of young people and students eagerly volunteer to take up arms in the fight to liberate their homeland.

The Zimbabwean freedom-fighters know all too well that armed struggle is the only language Smith really understands, and that the only real solution will be found on the battlefield. Without a military victory on the battlefield, there can be no victory over the racists at the negotiating table, for negotiations are only a continuation of the struggle on the field. The Zimbabwean people will win liberation by relying on their own strength! The Zimbabwean people will surely overthrow the criminal rule of the doomed regime of the white racists! ■

ALSC to hold nation-wide demonstrations in support of Zimbabwe national liberation struggles Nov. 12. Watch next issue for details.



WORLD IN STRUGGLE

COUNTRIES WANT INDEPENDENCE
NATIONS WANT LIBERATION

PEOPLE WANT REVOLUTION!



Birmingham, England

Masses of people, enraged by a deliberately provocative march by the National Front fascists through an oppressed nationality community in Lewisham, England, and a rally in another community, attacked the fascists as they attempted to hold their events. The National Front advocates shipping all immigrants, particularly West Indians and Asians, back to where they came from and spouts racist slogans to whip up reactionary and racist ideas. 113 British police, fighting on the side of the National Front, were dealt just injuries.

In a related incident, a spontaneous outburst brought about by years of national oppression, erupted in London's West Indian community during a carnival. The West Indian community, exploited by the worst housing and jobs, discriminated against and subjected to daily racial harassment, and antagonized by the recent attacks on them by fascists like the National Front, exploded as darkness fell on the carnival. This is not a new occurrence. Last year's carnival also turned into a rebellion against national oppression and 325 police were injured, as police attempted to brutally suppress the rebellion.

The racial situation in England has been aggravated by the intensifying economic crisis. As unemployment soars and inflation eats away at workers' paychecks, the ruling class has stepped up its exploitation and oppression of the masses. The government is considering a ban to prohibit political demonstrations using the recent events to cover its fascist designs in order to control the rising and militant workers of Britain. Thus the political crisis of the British ruling class has intensified to the point where drastic steps are now being considered to openly suppress the masses.

Soweto

The fascist South African police recently raided 5 schools in the Azanian township of Soweto, wounded an 18-year old student and arrested 175. As students at one school, Orlando West, fought back with stones, the police fired into the youths and seriously wounded one. Accompanied by attack dogs, the police made a sweep through the schools in an attempt to stem the tide of resistance surging forward in Azanian townships like Soweto.

Malaga, Spain

Striking hotel workers crippled the tourist industry on Spain's luxurious resort area of Costa del Sol. Following a mass meeting of more than 4000, the workers demonstrated and militantly marched through the streets. The police used rubber bullets and nightsticks to disperse the demonstrators who were demanding a \$95 a month wage increase.

London

The walkout of the assistant air controllers in Britain has literally shut down the airports of London. It came after a slowdown that lasted 9 days. The strike has implications far beyond the shutdown of air services. It is a direct challenge to the Government's plan to keep wages down after the ending of formal wage controls on July 31. The controllers are supported by the Trades Union Congress. Recently members of the Congress such as the Mineworkers and Transport and General Workers Unions, going against the pleadings of their national misleaderships, refused to give up their demands for collective bargaining and voted to seek wage increases after the formal wage controls have been lifted. (See WVO, Vol. 2, No. 7, "British Workers' Resistance Intensifies")

Pamplona, Spain

A rally of over 75,000 demanding independence for the Basque region of northern Spain climaxed a 6-week march across the Basque region. While thousands cheered the slogans "Long Live Basque Liberty" and shouted "assaisins" at the police helicopters overhead, still more thousands were kept away by huge traffic jams around Pamplona and delaying tactics at police checkpoints. Over 10,000 marchers attempted to enter the city of Pamplona and clashed with civil guards who attempted to block the entrance into the city. The demands of the rally included the release of political prisoners as well as autonomy for the Basque region. During the fascist rule of Franco, who ended the tradition of home rule for the area, the Basque independence movement was outlawed and brutally suppressed. ■

Women Hold Up Half the Sky

Carter's Workfare Scheme

Working and oppressed women have been and are demanding the right to jobs, the right to quality daycare, decent education, etc. Working women are fighting, as their sisters fought in the past, against the brutal exploitation of capital. Masses of women have organized in the textile and garment factories, fought against child labor, for shorter working days, and an end to slave wages and sweatshop conditions. During World War II, the capitalists were forced to give us government-funded daycare because they needed more women to work the factories, mills and mines when the men were lured off to fight the imperialist war.

Working women have had a long and rich history of struggle. A history that speaks to our resistance against the brutal exploitation of the capitalists, a history that shows our victories in forming unions, uniting our struggles with our class brothers for better wages and working conditions, and forcing other concessions -- like daycare and the right to work at jobs once excluded to us -- from our most hated enemy.

UNMASK CARTER'S WELFARE REFORM

Now Carter has come up with a "new welfare reform" plan. It's called "Workfare" and will force welfare mothers to work for their welfare checks. But at what kind of jobs? In so-called "training programs" like the Work Incentive (WIN) Program, at below minimum wages, without benefits, and without the right to join a union.

What does this mean for mothers with babies and small kids, or who are unable to work for health or other reasons? It means forced labor at slave wages. It means welfare mothers will be cut off from their only means of support if they don't accept whatever degrading jobs are thrown at them.

There's already a case in court in New York State where a welfare mother who failed to report for a work-relief assignment had her benefits cut off. The capitalists, instead of finding out why she couldn't report, just assumed that she was one of those "lazy" welfare recipients who "enjoy" being on welfare. They didn't bother finding out that this mother had to take care of a sick relative.

SUPEREXPLOITATION OF WELFARE MOTHERS

Under-employment is built into capitalism: the monopoly capitalists need to keep a certain number of workers as a reserve labor force which they can use to hold down wages, bust unions and strikes, and pit against those with jobs to try to sabotage the unity of the working class. Welfare mothers, especially those from national minorities, make up a large chunk of this reserve army of labor created by the bourgeoisie.



Working women take the front lines in the Flint auto strike of 1937!

Welfare is downright degrading. Working class mothers do not want to be on welfare, but most are forced onto it, usually because they don't make enough at their low-paying jobs to pay for daycare for their kids. And for working mothers, especially in families of national minorities, where many are the only bread-winner because of capitalism having broken up our families -- daycare is an absolute necessity. But under Title XX, which went into effect almost 2 years ago, the bourgeoisie sets the income standards so low that only women in the dirtiest and lowest-paying jobs are eligible for daycare. So if you don't have one of these jobs, or if you don't even have a job at all, then you're forced to stay home and take care of the kids, and go back on welfare.

WELFARE MOTHERS GET DRIVEN DOWN A BLIND ALLEY -- FINANCE CAPITALISTS PROFIT BOTH WAYS BY THE WELFARE SCHEME

Either way, welfare mothers are driven down a blind alley and get hit from both sides -- they're either slaves to welfare, or they're forced to work at slave wages for the monopoly corporations like the telephone company which make money off the sweat of welfare mothers. What's more, the bourgeoisie and finance capitalists (bankers) reap huge profits out of welfare, because cities pay for welfare with money they borrow from the monopoly capitalists' banks in the form of high interest-paying bonds. And where do the cities get the money to pay off those loans and interest? From our taxes!

Carter is also trying to use welfare mothers to split the working class by making people on welfare the enemy, saying that they are taking away jobs from men and women who are already working. For example, in New York City, where there are now an average 2 1/2 teachers per daycare classroom, the capitalists are going to get rid of one teacher per classroom, and replace them with welfare mothers. This pits daycare teachers against daycare parents, and blames those on welfare for the economic crisis we're in. Already the Mondale-Packwood Bill (Daycare Bill) passed last year is putting this into effect. It says daycare teachers need not be certified, so the capitalists are already making it "legal" for welfare mothers to take away the jobs of those already working.

This scheme by Carter and his gang is also an attempt to lower the wages and living conditions of the entire working class. The capitalists prefer to hire welfare checks rather than workers who work at the regular pay scale that exists now. So to get jobs, other workers will have to either go on welfare or lower the price of our labor power. It is also an attempt to disorganize the working class and break our unions, because welfare mothers can't join unions.

WHAT DO WELFARE MOTHERS REALLY WANT?

Welfare mothers can do something about all this. They can stop this treacherous scheme of Carter and his gang. Welfare mothers don't want to be used as scapegoats for this economic crisis, don't want the standard of living and wages of the entire working class to go down, don't want daycare centers to fall apart. Welfare mothers want good, decent-paying jobs, jobs that are productive. They want the right to join unions and get regular job benefits.

Welfare mothers want free, quality daycare. They want the right to take care of their babies and children and not be penalized when they have to take a day off because their child is sick. They want more infant daycare centers and nurseries, so that mothers with babies can also go out and look for productive labor. Welfare mothers don't want to be confined to the home, but they also don't want to be forced onto welfare, only to work at slave wages and be pitted against their class brothers and sisters.

These demands of welfare mothers are clear, despite the capitalist press' recent slander. Welfare mothers will fight this attempt by Carter and his gang -- under their slick image of "human rights" and "concern" for working and oppressed people -- to superexploit them to split their ranks and lower the general standard of living. They will unite with their class brothers and sisters to oppose Carter's welfare reform, and fight for the only genuine reform of welfare -- a society where all will be productive, active members in building that society. That society is socialism, where we will begin to step-by-step do away with classes and all exploitation of man by man. ■

Carter Tightens Reins Over CIA, Names Top Spy

Secret LSD experiments. Mind-altering drugs. New torture techniques. Crash programs in brainwashing.

Out of sheer desperation, there wasn't a trick in the book that the CIA didn't try over the past 25 years to destroy rising revolutionary movements.

But when all the hubbub and dust settles on this "CIA scandal", the real significance of the whole affair will be crystal clear: Carter is using the "CIA scandal" as a cover to undertake a mammoth centralization and streamlining of the entire intelligence and repressive apparatus.

Already, Carter has given Admiral Stansfield Turner, head of the CIA, direct control over the entire intelligence budget (at least \$5 billion) including the National Security Agency and the National Reconnaissance Office (both of which mount massive espionage and surveillance of the other superpower, the Soviet Union, through a network of spies and satellites). And it's only a matter of time before the entire repressive apparatus of the U.S. imperialists will be centralized under one man, the Director of Central Intelligence.

Carter's so-called "CIA reform" is a clever smokescreen to make the CIA, NSA, and NRO more efficient and more deadly. By eliminating the clumsy duplication between the Department of Defense (which runs the NSA and NRO), and the CIA, Carter, the "liberal fascist", hopes to lay the groundwork for fascism. (And to show that he meant business, Carter booted out the No. 2 man in the CIA just last month because he

clung to the old elite, clubby image of the CIA.)

And to meet the rising tide of revolutionary forces in this country, Carter has given the green light for a complete centralization of all domestic intelligence through the FBI. Now, the state and local police can, through a direct computer hook-up, cut through mountains of red tape and bureaucracy and get instantaneous information concerning "trouble-makers and dissidents" through the FBI.

Carter is a sly fox. On one hand, he is stepping up deception by hawking his "human rights" campaign, designed to undermine the Soviet Union and Eastern European governments and to say to the world, "Hey, look, forget Vietnam. We're the good guys now." On the other hand, Carter is pushing centralization, getting the repressive apparatus ready for fascism. Deception and centralization are two aspects of his preparation for war with the Soviet Union. Carter knows he can't fight a world war unless he gets his own ship in shape, and unless he whips up all sorts of chauvinism and blind patriotism among the masses.

But deception and centralization are only weapons of a dying class. No amount of deception and centralization can stop the historic march of the working class toward socialism. No matter how much Carter flails about "human rights" and no matter how he cuts the fat to centralize the state apparatus, no amount of last-ditch efforts can prevent the working class and oppressed masses from overthrowing the monopoly capitalist class. ■

WHY IS CARTER RUSHING TO SIGN THE PANAMA CANAL TREATY?

In 1903, President Teddy Roosevelt sent the U.S.S. Nashville to insure that the U.S. imperialist supported rebellion which was to set up the Republic of Panama would be successful. Within hours of the establishment of the country, originally a province of Colombia, a French citizen acting as Panama's "envoy," would sign a treaty giving U.S. imperialism exclusive rights over 648 square miles of Panama's territory forever. Nothing sophisticated about it--straight "big stick" diplomacy by the U.S. imperialists.

On September 7, 1977 another treaty will be signed between Panama and the U.S. imperialists. This time, no Marines will be invading Panama. In fact the U.S. says it will pull out its 14 U.S. bases which occupy the Canal Zone (at "their own discretion"). The clause giving the U.S. exclusive rights over the Canal Zone will be replaced with one saying the U.S. will turn over control in 23 years to Panama.

This move, 75 years after the original treaty was signed, is the most sophisticated form of imperialist diplomacy, a shell game designed to keep control over the Canal, but covering it with a treaty that appears less blatantly colonialist to build up its rotten image in the Third World.

THE SOVIET SHARK IN THE CARIBBEAN

All this is taking place within the situation of intensifying contention between the 2 superpowers.

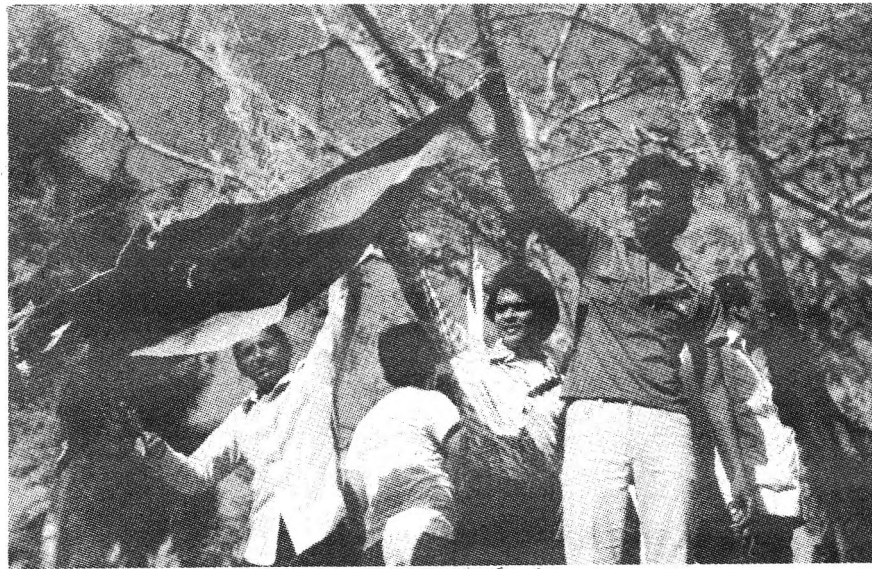
The Soviet social-imperialists are eyeing the situation closely. Coveting the strategic Panama Canal for their own imperialist interests, they are cruising the waters of the Caribbean waiting for a chance to grab it.

The U.S. imperialists know this damn well, and they are moving on the new treaty now--to deny their Soviet rivals any chance to outflank them in the region.

The clause that Ambassador Bunker and Sol Elenowitz, long-tested, crafty and respected agents of U.S. imperialism, forgot was the proposing of a sea-level Panama Canal for oil tanker travel between the East and West Coasts of the U.S. The U.S. fears the Soviet Union jumping in and offering to build a sea-level canal big enough for the biggest ships in her fleet to get through, giving the Soviet Union the ability to quickly deploy her ships in the Atlantic and Pacific, as well as the Caribbean. The U.S. imperialists, therefore, dictated in the treaty that Panama cannot build a sea-level canal with any "third country," that is, Soviet social-imperialism. This clause is clearly calculated to deter the Soviet Union from moving into Panama and gaining a foothold there through their potential aid to Panama for building a sea-level canal under the name of an "international waterway."

On the one hand, the Soviet Navy regularly plies Caribbean waters. At the same time, Soviet diplomats put forward proposals to "internationalize" the Canal Zone, which means an "open door policy" of opening up the Canal so the Soviet social-imperialists can get their hooks into it, kick out the U.S. and take over Latin America.

The Soviets now do a billion dollar a year trade in weapons with Latin America. They carry out economic penetration through so-called "joint ventures" with some Latin American countries. Using COMECON, they try to lure countries into the



The Panamanian people have always fiercely resisted US imperialism's occupation of their country. On the left, masses burn a replica of the hated US flag. In 1964, Panamanian students tore down US flags in the Canal Zone and thousands demonstrated in the streets. The cold-blooded murder of 20 patriots further heightened the determination of the Panamanian people to kick the US out of their country, once and for all.

Soviet orbit away from the U.S. At this time, the Soviets are trying to get Jamaica and Guyana to join the Soviet-dominated organization.

The U.S. knows that the Panamanian people are ready to fight to the death to kick the U.S. imperialists out and regain sovereignty over Panama's rightful territory. This was shown by the heroic struggle in 1964, in which 20 Panamanians sacrificed their lives fighting U.S. imperialism.

But large scale opposition to imperialist adventures abroad from the US people makes it difficult to send in the Marines, like Teddy Roosevelt did. It would invite the Soviet social-imperialists to intervene under the cover of "friendship with the Third World and national liberation." As one British diplomat stated, "a U.S. strategy of holding on to the Canal Zone by force would be tantamount to following a strategy devised in Moscow."

U.S. IMPERIALIST "OPPOSITION" TO THE PROPOSED TREATY

Yet imperialist fossils like Ronald Reagan oppose the treaty, calling it a "sell-out," although they clearly know that it is in the U.S.' interest to sign the treaty. This is all petty politics among the bourgeoisie, maneuvering around an issue to build themselves up.

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Young's Caribbean Cruise : Shoring Up US, Shutting Out Soviets

Andy Young was in Latin America in mid-August trying to mend fences and repaint the U.S. image. Visiting seven Caribbean countries as well as Mexico, Costa Rica and Venezuela, Young pushed the slick (but sham) Carter line of "human rights" and "concern" for the Third World. Knowing that the Soviets have their eyes on Latin America, Carter sent Young to beat the bushes for the U.S.

Latin America has been under the U.S. gun ever since the U.S. was formed in the late 1700's. Since the Monroe Doctrine in the 1820's, telling the other colonial powers of the day to stay out, U.S. imperialism has treated Latin America as its backyard (exclusive imperialist stomp- ing grounds). Time and time again, the U.S. imperialists used the Marines and the CIA to oppress and exploit the Latin American masses and governments: from the stealing of the Panama Canal to the crushing of the Dominican rebellion in 1965 and the overthrowing of the Allende regime in Chile. This was all to extend and protect U.S. imperialism's extensive investments in Latin America, ranging from United Fruits' bananas to ITT's telephone company in Chile.

But recently it's been rough going for U.S. imperialism. Resistance to U.S. hegemony and superexploitation is growing. Mass rebellions against U.S. imperialism and their local lackeys have sprung up in Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Peru, Venezuela, and a host of other countries.

Latin American countries have taken stands against the two superpowers with other Third World countries. Venezuela has stood firmly

with OPEC on oil prices, concretely an anti-imperialist action. Latin American countries united against the 2 superpowers in establishing the 200 mile nautical limit. Coffee-producing countries have demanded and obtained stable prices for their product (coffee production is monopolized by U.S. monopolies) as well as a cut in the production of finished coffee products, like instant coffee. Clearly, U.S. imperialism can't dictate to Latin American countries like it once could.

SOVIETS TRYING TO MOVE IN

Meanwhile, the social-imperialist shark has been cruising in the sunny waters of the Caribbean looking for an opening to attack. While trying to keep its stranglehold on Cuba, it has been moving on other countries in the region through increased trade and aid. This has been especially true for governments like Guyana and Jamaica who take strong stands against U.S. imperialism and who have refused to follow U.S. imperialism's line of isolation of Cuba.

This has sharpened the superpowers' fight for the area. No longer sewn up by U.S. imperialism and on the run in other parts of the Third World, Carter has to pay attention to it. On the one hand, he is tugging on Cuba to pull it closer to the U.S. and away from the Soviet Union. On the other hand, he is shoring up the fascist military governments like Chile and Uruguay, by pushing them to clean up their image on "human rights."



Carter reduced Uruguay's aid from \$250 million to \$25 million this year under the cover of "human rights" violations. Recently, the Chilean government dissolved the brutal DINA secret police as a response to Carter's threats to cut off aid. But these are only symbolic to make the U.S. look like a real defender of "human rights." The U.S. imperialists support in economic aid to Latin America runs to the tune of over \$2.5 billion dollars and there has been no cut here.

Young brought the word from Carter that the U.S. would offer increased aid to the Manley government in Jamaica and the Burnham regime in Guyana, both of which resist the 2 superpowers. This was an attempt by the U.S. imperialists to build better relations with these countries. The aim of this move was to appeal to the national feelings of the national bourgeoisie of these countries against the 2 superpowers, but from the U.S. point of view, to keep the Soviet social-imperialists out.

This is all part of the U.S. tactic to play on the Soviets' aggressive social-imperialist character. Like in Angola and Zaire, the U.S. imperialists want the Soviet

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Son of Sam
Continued from p.1

First, they are using the case to glorify the police. The bourgeois media has been filled with stories of "New York's Finest," 25 cops have been promoted in rank, the detectives in charge of the case have been interviewed and praised on TV and radio. This is the same police force which has brutalized communities for years - the same ".38 caliber killers" of Clifford Glover and Randolph Evans. This is the same police force that actually worked with David Berkowitz when he was an auxiliary cop. It is the same police force that could not even find "Son of Sam" for over a year and then only caught him through the grossest kind of luck. Without a lucky parking ticket, completely given out by chance, "Son of Sam" would still be roaming the streets!

But instead of focusing on this aspect, the bourgeois media portrays them as heroic and the "Finest." It is no accident. When in-

creasing numbers of workers and oppressed are seeing through bourgeois legality (laws written by and for the interests of the ruling class) and the role of the state in enforcing those laws in the interests of the oppressors, the "Son of Sam" case is a perfect opportunity to clean up the image, confuse the masses, and reinforce illusions about the power and "justice" of the system.

Second, the bourgeoisie has been using the case as another means to push gun control. The Carter Administration is now considering legislation that would tighten the laws such that the transfer of weapons among the masses would have to go through tightly controlled "licensed gun dealers."

This legislation is supposed to "protect" the working class from those like "Son of Sam." In just the same way, the Boston Strangler would not be eliminated by outlawing hands. The legislation is not aimed at those types. It is aimed to "protect" the ruling class against the armed might of the aroused masses. It is aimed at keeping

weapons only in the hands of agents of the state, like New York's "Finest," to be used against the oppressed masses.

Third, the "Son of Sam" case is an opportunity to use the hatred that people feel against "Son of Sam" to push for the death penalty under capitalism. The death penalty is a weapon of class rule - it has always been used as such. It is another "legal" weapon of the ruling class along with the other "legal" weapons in the arsenal of the bourgeoisie. It does not and isn't meant to deter crime. It has been used and will be used to "legally" murder the poor, oppressed, and their revolutionary leadership. That has been the role it has played throughout its history in the US.

The ruling class is attempting to use spontaneous events like "Son of Sam" to portray the death penalty as a deterrent to crime. This is like the attempt to portray the death penalty as a "moral" question - "the right to die" - in the case of Gary Gilmore. This slimy trick neatly covers for the death penalty's

real intent - the repression of revolution.

The cry for the blood of David Berkowitz is the righteous anger of the working class. The ruling class is trying to make use of this anger to go for the jugular vein of the working class itself and turn the immediate and spontaneous sentiment into long range advantage in their march toward fascism.

The same manipulation attempts to divert the spontaneous feelings for armed self-defense into arms of the state itself, by promoting auxiliary police and vigilante groups which have close connection with the police - the breeding grounds for fascist gangs.

The "Son of Sam" case is not over. The ruling class is not finished with him. "Son of Sam/Son of Uncle Sam" born out of the rotting womb of capitalism continues to dutifully serve his "parents." ■

Marxist Philosophy

The Relation Between Cause And Consequence - What Is Accidental And Inevitability

Dialectical materialism is the philosophy of the working class. It is a tool we use to both explain and change the world. We are introducing two concepts here -- relationship between cause and consequence and the relationship between what's accidental and inevitability.

In future articles we will introduce other concepts and relations such as: form and content, appearance and essence, basis and condition, part and whole, probability and actuality, and most important, the law of one dividing into two.

David Berkowitz, as Son of Sam, is an accident. It can be someone else and there are a lot of sick people like him running around. But the phenomenon of Son of Sam is no accident. He and his actions are not without cause or connection. The Son of Sam case is an example of the relationship between cause and consequence.

RELATION BETWEEN CAUSE & CONSEQUENCE

The cause and effect relationship between things is one of the forms of connection in the world. That is, everything has its cause, a connection to something else, independent of whether we will it or not. Even the bourgeoisie must attempt to look for the cause of Sam's actions. They push forward the view that the cause of his actions are to be found in his dope and adoption. But they will not and cannot go deeply into the real cause which is the conditions of life under capitalist society. Capitalist society itself is the fundamental cause behind the dope, the broken home, Sam's gradual disintegration and his actions. His wandering into the army, his "Jesus freak" conversion, and his dope are all themselves consequences. Capitalist society produces these consequences and, in turn, they become causes -- the actions of Son of Sam.

In the same way, the Son of Sam case itself becomes a cause

for another set of consequences -- the sensational press headlines, the seiling of his story for the movies, other sick people like him are set off by the publicity, as well as the chances for the ruling class to attempt to use his case to further push society toward fascism (see above article). This in turn further aggravates the degrading conditions of life under capitalism for the laboring masses.

This shows how cause produces consequence and under certain conditions, how the consequence itself changes into cause. The same thing can be a cause in one set of relationships and a consequence in another. For



example, revolutionary practice produces revolutionary theory, but revolutionary theory under certain conditions also can become the cause guiding successful revolutionary practice.

Thus there is an identity between cause and consequence. They form a unity of opposites. They mutually coexist (i.e., rotten society and David Berkowitz) and transform into one another under certain conditions. The idealist notion of cause and consequence is that the relationship between things is a product of our minds -- that cause and effect are mere expressions of our will. Thus the root of Sam's actions are to be found in his "head". The metaphysical view is that cause and consequence exist apart and absolute -- pitted against each other and never transforming into another. From that view,

there is no relation between Son of Sam and the state of capitalist society. Neither view can really explain and analyze in full the Son of Sam case.

The bourgeoisie has attempted to portray Son of Sam as a case of pure accident -- unrelated to anything else except David Berkowitz and his "private" world. They have attempted to explain him away as an isolated "psychological profile" or a quirk of "fate".

There are external and internal causes. For an egg to hatch into a chicken, there must be favorable external causes (or external conditions)

-- the right amount of heat to hatch the egg. However, for an egg to hatch into a chicken, there must be favorable internal causes (internal contradiction -- that is, it must be a chicken egg! You could heat a stone from now until the next Ice Age and it would never change into a chicken. Thus as Chairman Mao said, it is the internal contradiction which is the basis for change not external cause. External causes are the conditions for change. Internal cause becomes operative through external conditions.

It is the task of science to unravel the cause and consequence relations between things to find out the basic roots of the development of things and what determines their development. Science must discover the laws of development. It

must predict the trend of its development in order to guide our practical activity.

RELATION BETWEEN WHAT'S ACCIDENTAL AND INEVITABILITY

The capitalists are trying to portray the Son of Sam case as a pure accident. Nonsense! There is no such thing as pure accident just as there is no such thing as pure inevitability. There is nothing that happens that jumps out completely by accident without connection to anything. And there is nothing that develops in an absolutely straight line without twists and turns and unexpected developments. The accidental occurrence is a form of how things inevitably show themselves. In fact, in the development of things, the inevitable direction of something expresses itself in a large amount of accidents.

For example, from January to July, the temperature increases. It is an unchangeable general trend year after year because of the angle of the sun's rays. But does that mean that each day from January 1 to July 30 gets a little warmer. Of course not. Some days are warmer, some colder. That is accidental, and can be caused by air currents and other factors.

The rising of the temperature is an inevitable trend but it progresses through a whole series of many accidental factors. Thus inevitability determines something's development and its general direction. Accidental phenomena is external and unstable. It can appear or not appear and take many forms. It has the effect of slowing down or speeding up development.

Accidental occurrences and inevitable trends also form a unity and identity of opposites. They mutually coexist and under certain conditions can transform into one another. Just as the trend of something shows itself through many accidental factors, within accidental factors lies hidden the trend of something else.

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COMMEMORATE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH OF CHAIRMAN MAO



1893 - 1976

SATURDAY
SEPT. 10, 1977

Speech
Slide Show
Discussion

Time and place to be announced

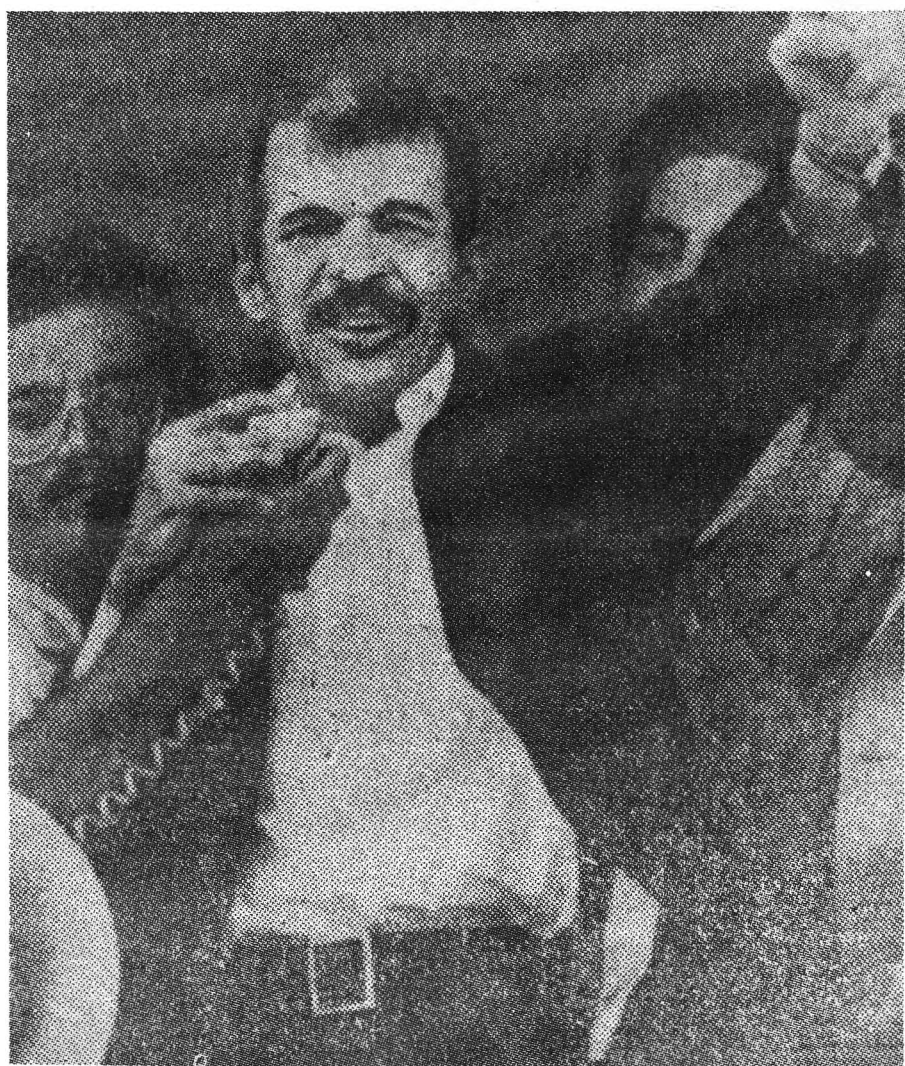
RAFAEL MIRANDA, JAILED PUERTO RICAN HERO SPURS SUPPORTERS ON

FREE THE FIVE LIBERATION FIGHTERS!

Rafael Cancel Miranda, one of the 5 imprisoned heroes of the Puerto Rican independence struggle, was taken to San Juan from his Marion, Ill, prison cell to attend the funeral of his father. Brought into San Juan stuffed into a dog cage still reeking from dog waste, Mr. Miranda was greeted with a hero's welcome. Though 47 years old, imprisoned for over 20 years and still faced with a 25-75 year sentence, Mr. Miranda exhibited an unshakable stand with the Puerto Rican people.

"This is not a time for tears. Raise your fists and be strong," he shouted to his supporters outside the funeral parlor. Earlier, he stated that if ever released, he would "continue the struggle for the liberty of my country, the same as always."

All 5 of the imprisoned heroes of the Puerto Rican independence struggle have refused to ask for pardons on the grounds that that would constitute recognition of United States sovereignty over them. As Andres Figueroa Corádera, another of the 5 Nationalists, said, "The 5 Puerto Ricans will not ask forgiveness of anyone, because there is nothing to be forgiven. We did not shoot up the House of the Angels but the den of the accomplices of those who commit crimes against our people. We do not regret that, and we will never regret it." Their unwavering strength and spirit are an inspiration and shining example to those fighting imperialist oppression around the world. Que Viva Puerto Rico Libre! ■



MARXISM UNFOLDS ITS RIDDLE

MONEY

'Wonder' Bread You Can't Eat

WHAT IS MONEY?

What is money? Money like everything else in the world has a concrete origin, a real history. Money does not grow on trees nor does it fall from the skies. There are four stages of growth in the development of money. These stages are linked to the change from natural economy to commodity economy.

At one time man hunted for his own food, made his own tools, etc. Man produced to satisfy his own wants. When a man labored to make a knife, the knife has a use value. The use value of a knife is to cut things. A thing could have use value even if it is not a product of human labor. For example, fruit growing wild has use value because it satisfies a human want.

If one man met another man and traded his tiger skin for the other's extra spears, this exchange took place by chance. To the man who needs the tiger skin it is worth two spears. The value of the skin is two spears. In order to get the skin the spearman must give up the use of his two spears; he gives up the use value of two spears. The use value of the skin can only be measured in terms of the use value of two spears. It must be measured in terms of something other than itself since to say the value of one tiger skin is one tiger skin doesn't tell us anything at all. This form of value is known as the elementary, single or accidental form.

But how did the skinman and the spearman decide that one skin was worth two spears instead of one? What does a tiger skin and a spear have in common? Both the skin and the spears are products of human labor. And since it takes twice as much labor to get a tiger skin as it takes to make a spear, the value of the skin should be twice as much as the spear. Thus the amount of human labor spent in making a spear decides its value, and this value can only be measured in terms of another commodity, skins. Only human labor can create value.

As one tribe or village comes into more contact with other tribes or villages there is more exchange of things to meet each others' needs. Exchange is no longer the result of an accidental meeting of individuals. As exchange grows more widespread and regular, the form of value changes into what is known as the total or expanded form of value. A whole circle of things can be equated to each other. The tiger skin can be exchanged for two spears, three bowls, a sack of corn, etc. This form of value develops when one item, for example, cattle, is as a general habit exchanged for a variety of other things. In addition, when people begin to produce things expecting to exchange them for other things, this represents the end of natural economy and the beginning of commodity production.

THE WORLD IS SPLIT IN TWO

As the amount of exchange and its regularity increases between tribes or villages, the former system of exchange becomes awkward and inconvenient. For the sake of convenience and efficiency, cattle, for example, becomes the commodity which expresses the value of all other commodities. Cattle is regularly taken in exchange for other commodities. This is called the general or universal equivalent form of value.

The value of all commodities is measured in terms of one commodity; the world is split into two groups, the universal equivalent (cattle) by itself and all other commodities.

THE MONEY FORM OF VALUE

The money form of value, the fourth stage in the history of money, is only slightly different from the general form of value. When precious metals like gold and silver become the fixed universal equivalent, when gold and silver become the commodity used to express the value of all commodities, then the general form of value changes into the money form of value.

Precious metals such as gold and silver replace cattle as the universal equivalent. Gold is indestructible, uniform in quality, can be divided into infinitely small units, and is easily transported. Cattle, on the other hand, cannot be divided, are not of uniform quality or easily transported, and have a limited life.

Money becomes the only and universal way to express value.

MONEY IS THE MIDDLE MAN BETWEEN PRODUCERS

Today a commodity is seldom directly exchanged for another. A shoemaker usually sells his shoes for money and then uses this money to buy the commodities he needs. Money acts as a "middleman" in the exchange of commodities. The capitalist sells his product for a definite sum of money. He uses this money to buy new raw materials and machinery, to hire workers, to expand production.

As long as commodity production exists, money is necessary to serve as the middleman between separate, individual producers.

The value of a commodity is measured by a definite sum of money. This sum of money is called its price. If a pair of shoes is bought for 20 dollars, its price is 20 dollars which expresses its value. However, if a shoemaker has a pair of shoes which no one will buy at any price, then the shoemaker has worked for nothing.

When a shoemaker cannot sell his shoes, then his private, individual labor put into making the shoes is not recognized by society as labor society needs. "Money is the stamp with which the market puts its label of social recognition on commodities, transforming them from products of private labor to those of social labor." (Political Economy, Leontiev, p. 71) Due to disorganization or anarchy in production, the shoemaker's labor, raw materials, and tools have been wasted. Thus money appears to have a life of its own, "money talks."

THE "MYSTERY" OF COMMODITY FETISHISM

A shoemaker sells his shoes for money and with this money buys clothes from a tailor. The tailor satisfies the need of the shoemaker for clothes. This social connection between different producers is revealed in the process of exchange. However this production relation between people is camouflaged by the middleman of money. "Being the highest product of the development of exchange and of commodity production money masks and hides the social character of individual labor, the social tie between the various producers whom the market brings to-

gether." (Karl Marx, Lenin.) Under commodity production, relations among people appear as relations between things, as the movement of things--money. The social relation between the shoemaker and the tailor appears as the movement of money from the shoemaker to the tailor and the movement of clothes from the tailor to the shoemaker.

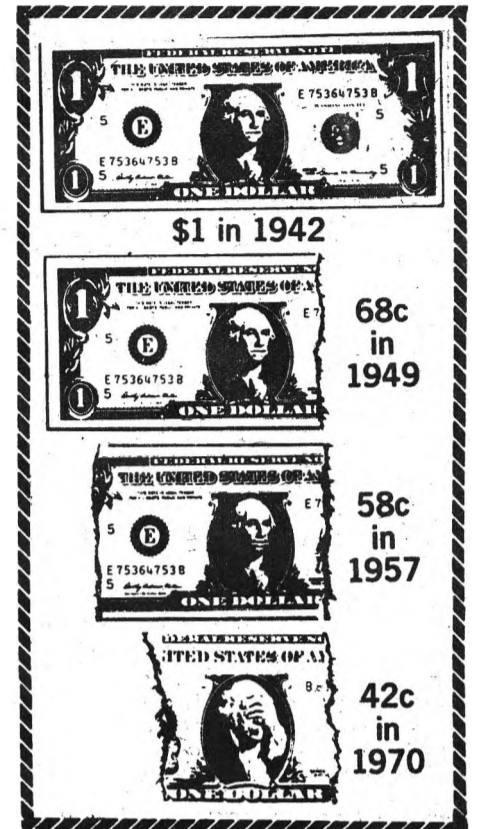
If the value of a pair of shoes expressed in its price is 20 dollars and the value of a shirt expressed in its price is 10 dollars, then the value of the shoes in relation to shirts is two shirts. But what the value of the pair of shoes really represents is the relation between the shoemaker and the tailor. This value appears as a "natural" property of the commodity like size, color, weight, etc. Thus it appears that the value of a pair of shoes is naturally two shirts. The fate of the shoemaker is tied closely to the fate of his shoes. For the connection between the shoemaker and the rest of the producing world lies in his commodity--in its value realized on the market. When production relations between people appear as relations between things and when commodities gain such a social power, this is called commodity fetishism. And this mystifying of commodities is most clear when we examine the money form of value. Expressions such as "money is the root of all evil" or "put your money where your mouth is" show how money is treated as something "alive" and with "mysterious" power.

MARX FIRST SOLVED THE "MYSTERY"

Under capitalism all production relations among people are hidden by the cover of things. The illusion caused by commodity fetishism hides the real meaning and character of capitalist relations. This is why it is important to expose the so-called mystery of commodity fetishism that surrounds all relations under capitalism.

Marx was the first to solve this bourgeois riddle:

"Political economy begins with commodities, begins with the moment when products are exchanged for one another--whether by individuals or by primitive communities. The product that appears in exchange is a commodity. It is, however, a commodity solely because a relation between two persons or communities attaches to the thing, the product, the relation between PRODUCER AND CONSUMER WHO ARE HERE NO LONGER UNITED in the same person. Here we have an example of a peculiar fact, which runs through the whole of economics and which has caused utter confusion in the minds of the bourgeois economists: economics deals not with things but with relations between persons and in the last resort between classes; these relations are, however, always attached to things and appear as things. This INTER-CONNECTION, WHICH IN ISOLATED CASES IT IS TRUE has dawned upon particular economists, was first discovered by Marx as obtaining for all political economy, whereby he made the most difficult question so simple and clear that now even the bourgeois economists will be able to grasp them." (Ludwig Feuerbach, Engels, as quoted in Political Economy, p. 69.)



CAPITAL, SON OF MONEY

Money plays an important role in the change from small-scale production to capitalism. At a certain stage in the development of commodity production money becomes capital. At first money is a means of exchange only, the middleman in the process of exchanging one commodity for another. A shoe is sold for money in order to buy two shirts. The general motion of commodity circulation is commodity to money to commodity.

When money becomes capital, this motion changes. The capitalist starts with money and ends up with money. He starts out with money, buys a thousand pairs of shoes in order to sell them for more money than he paid. In commodity circulation the shoemaker ends up with a qualitatively different commodity, a pair of shoes is different from shirts. But in capitalism money is put into circulation and is taken out. Money can only differ in quantity not quality. Thus "the whole reason for the existence of capital, the whole meaning of its movement, is that at the end of this movement more money is withdrawn from circulation than was put in at the beginning. The goal of capital is the extraction of profit." (Political Economy, Leontiev, p. 84.)

How does the capitalist make profits? If Rockefeller buys a Cadillac and sells it to Morgan above its cost price, he gets fat off of other capitalists; either he paid less than the Cadillac was worth or he sold it for more than it was worth or both. But the capitalist class cannot get rich cheating itself. Thus Rockefeller has to find a commodity that creates value while it is being used. This commodity is labor power. ■

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CHAIRMAN MAO TSETUNG

BLACKOUT SHEDS LIGHT ON RCP'S CHAUVINISM

The recent events of the July 13 blackout in New York City forced different classes and their representatives to react. The bourgeoisie launched a frenzied campaign to brand the masses "criminals", "animals", and "savages". The "Communist" Party USA showed where they stand -- and their fear and hatred of the masses and revolution by editorializing: "There is nothing good about looting, whether by Con Ed or by individuals."

The "Revolutionary Communist" Party (RCP) is no different. Long notorious for their thoroughly chauvinist line and practice, the phoney revolutionaries of the RCP once again exposed themselves.

In an article on the blackout in the August issue of "Revolution" the RCP slandered the tens of thousands of youth, workers, and entire families who participated in the spontaneous redistribution of goods throughout the oppressed nationality and working class neighborhoods of the city.

According to the RCP, the "masses had to take things into their own hands...by helping each other defend against terror like muggings and arson by lumpen elements". But when the streets went dark on the night of July 13 there was not more, but less crime against people in the community, as even the police themselves admitted. This was plain to everybody -- everybody except the RCP, that is. By speaking of the "terror" (and without once mentioning the vicious and brutal terror of the state during and after the blackout) the RCP echoes the chauvinist and racist lies of the bourgeoisie that when it is dark the masses will prey on each other.

According to the RCP, the "people in the Black and Puerto Rican neighborhoods and throughout the city were scared by the violence". But obviously it is the self-proclaimed but sham "communists" of the RCP who were scared. Because in the streets of the South Bronx, Harlem, Bushwick and Bedford-Stuyvesant where the so-called "looting" was taking place, it was like a festival where the masses took the opportunity to take some of the necessities of life denied by the capitalist system.

According to the RCP, "cases like the looting in New York are often joined in by lumpen and criminal elements" But by focusing on and playing up the role of the lumpen the RCP peddles the bourgeois line that the actions of the masses were no different than the individual crimes of the strata of professional pimps, pushers, and robbers. And by playing up the "lumpen and criminal elements" these so-called revolutionaries not only reveal their own isolation from the masses but also, in fact, reveal that they know even less than the bourgeoisie whose statistics show that almost half of the "looters" were workers with jobs (not

even counting those unemployed workers).

IN SPITE OF THEMSELVES

The power of the spontaneous motion of the oppressed masses forced the RCP to call the July 13 events "generally righteous" (mark that -- "generally").

Their half-hearted stamp of approval, the fact that they focus on the "terror" and "violence", and on the "lumpen and criminal elements" betray that they do not and cannot stand with the masses, and indeed, by not clearly standing with the masses, condemn their actions. To the bourgeoisie it was the "Night of the Animals;" to the petty-bourgeois outlook of the RCP it was "terror and violence" -- in spite of themselves, their chauvinism jumps out.

NO ACCIDENT

This chauvinist line is no accident. It is a continuation of the rampant chauvinism which has marked the RCP since its inception as the Revolutionary Union.

Communists, and especially those from oppressed nationalities, in the earlier period of our movement, had long ago condemned the outright chauvinism of the Revolutionary Union for its notorious position on the forced busing plan. They totally liquidated the special demands of the Afro-American national minority as being "divisive" and "splittling."

Minority workers and others remember the Revolutionary Union's slander and lies directed against the struggle for jobs and against national oppression in the construction industry.

The workers don't forget that in the middle of a fierce and bitter fight for jobs and to defend and extend the union in both theory and practice, uniting all the workers against the state, the bosses, and the reactionary construction union misleaders, the RU was on the sidelines crying "splitting off our struggles doesn't do us any good," and "union busting." They don't forget that the RU, blinded by their chauvinism and worship of motion, praised to the skies the demonstration of thousands of construction workers at City Hall two years ago -- without once mentioning (much less struggling against) the fact that the thrust of the demo (instigated by the union misleaders) was to keep minorities out of construction and to deport "aliens" -- and where some even burned an effigy of a Latin worker.

They don't forget that the RCP called this demonstration an example and inspiration to millions of workers. And while these self-avowed communists were shamefully tailing the backwards workers under the influence of bourgeois chauvinist



In May, 1975, over 700 construction workers, Harlem residents and students shut down the construction site at the City College of New York. Resisting the goon squads sent in by labor aristocrat Van Arsdale, this struggle against national oppression and the bourgeoisie's cutbacks built broad based unity of the national minority communities with the multinational working class. The "Revolutionary Communist" Party, nowhere to be found during the battle, cried "splittism."

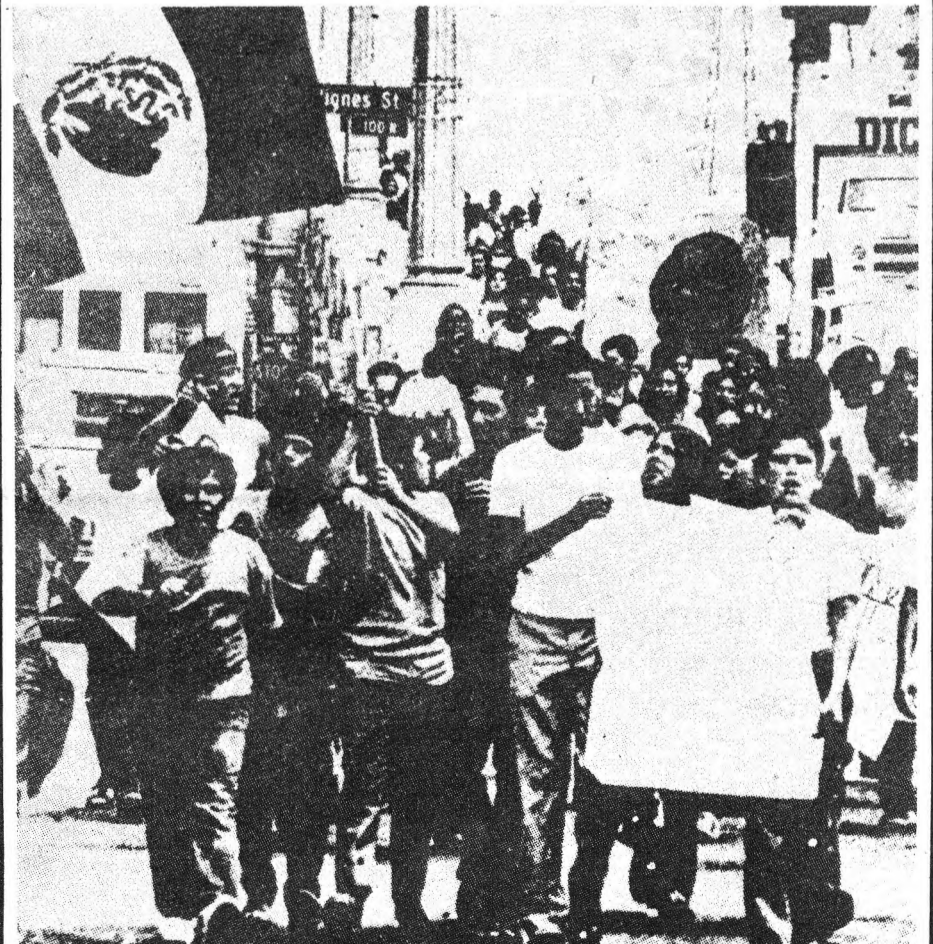
ideology, they were openly attacking the just and correct struggle of the minority workers. By telling workers that if we take up the fight against chauvinism it will split the class, the Revolutionary Communist Party sided with the labor aristocracy, the bourgeois agents in our ranks, who

pushed that "Black workers are taking away our jobs."

It is no wonder that the "Revolutionary Communist" Party's chauvinism has earned it the hatred of scores and scores of workers and revolutionaries of all nationalities.

(continued on page 14)

Commemorate National Chicano Moratorium



In the Chicano National Moratorium of August 29th, 1970, Chicano workers and students rose up in a mighty wave against the imperialist Vietnam War and demanded an end to national oppression. It is part and parcel of the glorious tradition of struggle of the Chicano masses and the entire U.S. working class.

MINERS

Continued from p.1

are taking the front ranks in the working class counter-offensive against the capitalist attacks.

This has thrown the monopoly capitalists into a panic. The Bituminous Coal Operators Association (BCOA), the capitalist bargaining tool on the coal front, have said they can't meet Carter's energy goal of exceeding 1 billion tons a year if the wildcats continue. The energy goal is a cover for war preparations. For this they have to have steady coal production. This means greater control over the miners by BCOA. It means they won't allow the UMWA any more benefits such as the Appalachian Regional hospital system or improved mine safety. The BCOA is leading a direct attack upon the UMWA to bust the union's ability to fight for the miners. This is a dangerous precedent for all workers.

Mine safety, the strikes, the hospitals and war preparations are all linked together. The system cannot provide our class with what we need and profits for the capitalists at the same time. Their answer is more wars and less health and safety. The interests of the two classes are directly opposite. Workers have no interest in killing other workers. Opposition to the Vietnam War expressed this.

The miners have taken up this fight despite the union leadership's efforts to disorganize and demoralize the struggle against the BCOA. In meeting after meeting in the coal fields the rank and file have demanded their district leaders organize the strike and trip to D.C., but the misleaders have only echoed the BCOA, "Go back to work and things will be fine."

MINERS DEMONSTRATE IN WASHINGTON

The strike was slow to build for everyone thought surely Miller would call the mines out. After it became clear his stand was with the BCOA, 1500 miners militantly marched on D.C. and the UMWA office on August 8th. Spontaneously the miners organized themselves to let Carter and Miller know they are tired of being wage slaves and that they are going to fight this battle. Miners raised thousands of dollars among themselves to pay for chartered buses and auto to go to D.C. Some even rode their motorcycles to get to the Washington demonstration.

When the marchers assembled in front of the UMWA headquarters in D.C. the misleaders disorganized the group by sending them off in 4 or 5 contingents. Some to the White House, some to the Capitol to get the run-around from Congressmen, and some to the BCOA. This momentarily took the pressure off Miller to take a stand. One Congressman "thanked" the miners for keeping him advised of the situation in the mines.

Like all misleaders they want to take our class and deliver it up into the hands of the bourgeois politicians. Instead of turning the UMWA headquarters into a real strike headquarters, they rip the heart out of rank and file efforts with calls of more talks with politicians and demands to go back to work.

NEED FOR FIGHTING LEADERSHIP

Considering the union did not organize the march on D.C. it was a success, but everyone agreed that what was needed was leadership. When the gathering of miners in front of the UMWA building grew later in the afternoon, Miller called in "sick" and had his front man Vice-President-Elect, Church, take the heat. Miller and Church are totally exposed, one miner said, "I wouldn't want my children or grandchildren to know I voted for a man like Miller. He knows if he shows up in West Virginia we would shoot the bastard."

As the strike mounted and gained momentum, Miller and the union's executive board pulled a slick one. On August 22, the 24-man board unan-

imously passed a resolution calling on striking miners to return to work for 60 days. To make it seem less like an outright sell-out, it went on to say that if grievances are not settled within those 60 days, Miller would end the contract with BCOA. But the contract would have ended on December 6 anyway. This only allows the coal companies to stockpile. Who does Miller think he's fooling?

The miners agree the withholding of funds from their hospitals is a move initiated by the BCOA to break the union before the December contract talks. The money to keep the hospitals operating is administered by a board of three people, one from the UMW, one from the BCOA and one a supposedly neutral party. The money is based on a percentage assessment on tonnage mined. Both the health and retirement money is controlled by the same board. Miners fought tooth and nail and paid in blood for gains such as compensation for black lung, pension, retirement funds and health benefits. They won't let it be taken away easy! "Re-allocating" the funds is no answer either. If money is transferred from the pension fund into the health fund, like Miller wants, all miners especially pensioners, will suffer. Since the fund also subsidizes local clinics and hospitals the cuts will mean less staff and the threats of closing. Ambulances have been turned away from hospitals and clinics when miners had no cash.

The BCOA wants to drive the miners down on their knees by the December contract talks so they will be forced to take anything offered. The rank and file wants to take up the contract now in the summertime when conditions are favorable to strike and not in the middle of winter. Everytime the BCOA picks up a rock to throw at the miners it falls on their own feet. The determination of the miners is stronger than the tricks of the capitalists. But without organization, a fighting union, workers cannot win--as one retired miner said in D.C., "I've been through battles untold to get the union in and I'm 73 now and I'm still fighting for my rights. The union is all we workingmen have, but we need leadership."

MINERS FIGHT LIKE THE DEVIL FOR JUST DEMANDS

Despite Miller, despite the BCOA, the rank and file will fight to the end for every demand.

- **OPEN CONTRACT NOW, BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS IMMEDIATELY!
- **MAKE THE COAL OPERATORS PAY FOR FULL BENEFITS, FULL COMPENSATION FOR THOSE ALREADY PAID OUT!
- **TAKE THE NO-STRIKE CLAUSE OUT OF THE CONTRACT!

And to the misleaders, the rank file demands:

- **ALL OUT CAMPAIGNS TO UNIONIZE WESTERN MINES!
- **BRING ALL MINERS UNDER ONE CONTRACT!
- **SUPPORT THE WILDCAT, ORGANIZE PICKETS, SHUT DOWN ALL MINES!

No demands are met without a fight. The bourgeoisie don't give nothing unless workers fight for it. This strike is going to be long and hard. That miner may not want to tell his children he voted for Miller, but he can surely tell his children and grandchildren about the fighting miners bringing the coal capitalists to their knees! ■

TUEL

Continued from p.3
VIGOR AND BOLDNESS...

The militants launched a vigorous organizing drive. But workers were coming in only by the hundreds and not en masse by the thousands. So the organizers took out their weapon of a militant strike, convinced that workers were open to striking despite Gompers' sellout "no strike" program during the war.

...YIELDED STRIKING RESULTS

When the Chicago press came

out with flaming headlines of "Strike Looms At Yards", the effect was electrical. The masses of workers practically broke down the doors to join the unions. The movement spread like wildfire. Tens of thousands streamed into the AF of L locals.

Fearing a nationwide strike by the packinghouse workers which would bring the distribution of much-needed foodstuffs to a grinding halt, the AFL leadership collaborated with the federal government to head it off. They called for government mediation. Because of the organized militancy and unity of the rank and file, they had to give in to a majority of the workers' demands -- 10%-25% wage increase, 8-hour day with 10-hours' pay, equal pay for equal work, guarantee 5 days' per week during slack season, time off with pay for lunch periods, right to organize and to present grievances, principle of seniority in employment, no discrimination, and many others.

"MOP UP" -- CARRIED IT THROUGH TO THE END

Workers greeted this great victory with enthusiasm. They poured into the unions around the country and built solid organizations in every plant. But the campaign did not end there. The militant organizers began their job of "mopping up". They swept through hundreds of small packers and many subsidiary sections of the industry, such as retail butcher shops, independent soap, washing powder, glue, canning, butterine, fertilizer, cooperage, etc. The contagious organizing fever also spread to other local industries like machine shops and car works.

200,000 workers had come into the unions, many of them unskilled, immigrant workers as well as native born. 25,000 of the new members were Afro-Americans. The victory was significant in that it was the first mass-production, highly monopolized industry ever to be organized by the trade unions at that time. Also it affirmed the correct policy of working within existing trade unions and of boldly taking advantage of the war situation to organize the unorganized.

GREAT STEEL STRIKE, 1919

Building on the victory and lessons of the packinghouse campaign, Foster immediately launched into the next big, unorganized and most monopolized of all industries -- steel. Again the scope of the plan was broad, its aim ambitious yet realistic. It called for a nationwide AF of L joint campaign of all the unions having jurisdiction over workers in the steel industry. It was based on a broad industrial movement, covering the whole industry from the workers who produced the raw materials like the coal and iron miners to those who delivered the finished products to the railroads like the switchmen.

SWEEPING AND HARD-DRIVING CAMPAIGNS:

To take full advantage of the war situation, Foster drew up a hard-driving, practical plan based on a concrete assessment of the actual situation and capabilities of the unions. His proposal called for a whirlwind campaign of organizing simultaneously in all important steel centers. Huge mass meetings, noted speakers, bands, parades, full-page newspaper ads, etc. were all to be used to set the masses in motion. The financial and labor support would come from each union pledging 25¢ for each of its members from its funds, and allocating 3 or more organizers. This would yield several hun-

dred thousand dollars and a hundred or more organizers which were necessary for the bold but feasible nationwide campaign. With these resources, the campaign could wrap it up in 6 weeks, after which the organized workers could send a committee to the steel trust with their demands and the threat of a strike if the demands were not met.

This sweeping proposal was rejected by the Gompers leadership. Despite this sabotage from within, the rank and file activists went ahead as best they could with the available resources. The result of the limited campaign showed clearly that the original proposal was correct.

The actual organizing campaign had to be confined to the Chicago district, but the organizers applied the exact same methods outlined in the proposal for a national campaign. They scored immediate success. 15,000 steel workers attended the 1st meeting in Gary and there were similar mass turnouts in South Chicago, Joliet and Indiana Harbor in the same week. Steelworkers were ready and open, joining the unions by the thousands. They could have easily struck the steel mills in the Chicago district in a month's time. And they could have repeated the same feat simultaneously in every important steel town across the country if not for the treachery of the trade union leaders.

After 14 months of bitter struggle and in the face of the most vicious weapons from the arsenal of the ruling class (spy system, wage concessions, company unionism, terrorism) at least 250,000 workers were organized in key plants in the main steel districts. Then came the 4-month strike by 365,000 steel workers in 1919 -- a paralyzing strike of such magnitude that the industry has never before or since experienced. Although the strike ultimately failed, all these accomplishments testified to the correctness and reaffirmed the lessons of the packinghouse campaign.

GET INTO IMMEDIATE STRUGGLES, SCAN THE HORIZONS AND BE WELL-GROUNDED

Aside from the correct policy of working within existing unions, the other major characteristic of Foster's and other activists' method of work was their impressive hard-hitting campaigns. One thing can be said about their plans and their implementation -- they were bold and ambitious and they carried through with it. Because the boldness was based on sober and cold assessment of the objective situation. It was a case of looking far and aiming high but with both feet planted firmly on the ground.

This lesson we must grasp to set our sights further and broader. Of course this does not drop from the sky. We must develop this confidence and train ourselves to acquire a feel for the practical movement, to tune into the wavelength of the masses of workers. The best way to do this is to get into the immediate struggles. Foster was able to formulate his bold plans by getting into the thick of class struggle.

The purpose of the TUEL was twofold: First, to work within and not outside of conservative unions to put them back into the hands of the rank and file and get rid of the corrupt and treacherous union leaders, like Gompers of the AF of L. Second, to have a strong organization of militant, active elements to push forward the work of the first task. The TUEL acted as a temporary base of operations since the reactionary top union leadership was entrenched in the official union machinery. Cont. next page.

TUEL

TUEL -- ORGANIZATION FOR ACTIVE WORKERS

The TUEL was the appropriate organization form to clothe the content of the work the militants were carrying out. It was a concrete step in correcting a gross weakness in the packinghouse and steel campaigns. In both cases, there was no organized form for the militants to link themselves up nor to link up with the rank and file workers in other plants. The result was that while the rank and file activists gave the whole stimulus and militant leadership to the national campaigns, the actual control of the international unions involved remained in the hands of reactionary AFL officials. They had to rely on the union bureaucrats to get in touch with the mass base.

RELATION BETWEEN TUEL AND MASSES

The policy of the TUEL showed that it took this lesson to heart. The TUEL was an organization for the militant activists in the working class movement. It was not a mass organization but its work was among the masses and in mass organizations like trade unions. The militants were kept among the masses at all costs. They carried their propaganda right into the midst of the workers' organizations and struggles. They aimed to secure the support of the mass of workers by taking the lead in all their battles, by showing in the heat of class struggle that their theories, tactics, and organization forms were the best for the whole working class movement. In this way, the grip of the reactionary bureaucracy who now straitjacket and paralyze the trade unions will be broken, and the control of these organizations will pass into the hands of the militants who will stimulate and develop them.

The militant activists were a minority but they were of supreme importance to the labor movement, carrying on the vital activities when the great masses of workers were usually inactive. This militant minority was the thinking and acting part of the working class. It worked out the fighting programs and took the lead in implementing them. It was so at that time and it is still true today. The militant minority is the heart and brain and nerves of the labor movement not only in this country but all over the world.

In England, Germany and other countries with strong labor movements, the militants have remained within the old trade unions and acted as the practical teachers, stimulators, and leaders of the masses. Therefore they have been able to communicate to the masses something of their own understanding and revolutionary fighting spirit to make their movements flourish and progress.

ACTIVE AND ADVANCED WORKERS

Some of these active workers are advanced workers. They have inquisitive and philosophical minds, and actively seek out socialism, and are open to studying the revolutionary theory of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tse-tung Thought and to following communist leadership. Their scope is broad and can see beyond their own oppression, link it up with other workers, oppressed nationalities and oppressed people around the world.

But there are others who are middle but nevertheless staunch trade union fighters. They are not immediately down to check out what's socialism. In this period, given the state of fusion between the Party and the working class movement, they are not necessarily willing to go under communist leadership. But these workers are down to get workers to join the unions, to build them up. They fight the bosses to make them stick to the contract. They fight the union hacks to give workers their say at union meetings and the right to vote on agreements. They will lead walkouts and strikes. They are the stable cores of mass caucuses and committees in the workplaces. They'll take up grievances of workers and workers will come to them when they're laid off or harassed by the foremen. Many are shop stewards. They are fighters for trade union democracy. They have organization consciousness in the form of a staunch class stand which can develop into communist consciousness under the leadership of the Party.

The priority of the Party in this period is concentrated at the advanced. But these other active workers must also be treasured, nurtured and developed. They will work as hard as advanced workers to build the caucuses and really make them broad through their ties and networks with the masses of workers. They also help draw out other advanced workers.

TUEL BUILT REPUTATION THROUGH HARD WORK AND TIME

Communists like Foster and other militant activists like Johnstone came out of and were firmly rooted in the trade union movement of their time. Through their active participation in that movement they helped to build the prestige and fighting reputation of the TUEL on which it launched its later organizing work. Their history of work and the strong ties they have with the masses of workers accounted for the success of the TUEL. There is no shortcut to winning the confidence and love of the masses.

The same is true today. These struggles in the past and today make up the working class movement. It has a rich history with many milestones like the Flint sitdown strike, the San Francisco general strike of 1934, Haymarket Square Incident, the Detroit Revolutionary Union Movement and produced working class heroes like Bill Haywood, and William Z. Foster. The demand for the 8-hour day was a national and international movement of the working class, and the struggle for industrial unions was a national working class movement. Just as consciousness against national oppression forges national movement together, so the spontaneous trade union consciousness forges the working class movement together.

There is a labor movement in the mines and mills around different issues, mainly around struggles for economic demands. At the head of this movement is a group of active militants. They must be identified and worked with through getting involved in this movement.

Laying the basis for an organization like the TUEL should begin now. Building rank and file caucuses through taking the lead in the battles of the class, rallying the advanced and activists is the only way to pave the way for the formation of such an organization. This will in turn serve the growth of the working class movement, in taking back our

unions, and in organizing the unorganized. Hardhitting and sweeping campaigns like the ones in the packinghouse and steel industries can succeed only where they're built on good, solid rank and file base work, done over a period of time. It is through entrenching among the masses and digging deep in the day-to-day work and immediate struggles that broad campaigns will yield fruit.

Philosophy

Continued from p.7

For example, in primitive society, where people produce only what they themselves require to live, commodity exchange (the exchange of what's left over from subsistence) is accidental. But in higher society, like capitalism today, this commodity exchange develops from this "accidental" exchange and becomes inevitable. In the same sense, the "accidents" of those like Son of Sam are a form of the inevitable decay of the fabric of capitalist society. However these "accidents" become more and more an inevitable part of the fabric itself as capitalism continues to decay. There will always be Sons of Sam under capitalism and there will be many more like him, especially as the capitalist media continues to promote him as a newsworthy commodity.

The reason we want to understand the relations between accidental occurrences and inevitable trends is to be able to appreciate accidental phenomena and understand their significance. A correct understanding will enable us to make a good analysis of various accidental things so that we can avoid the harmful accidents and use the advantageous ones to push the task of making revolution forward.

PANAMA

Continued from p.6

But the effect on public opinion is exactly the same as the support of the treaty--to build up support for U.S. imperialism. Carter's angle is to give U.S. imperialism a facelift, to make it look like the defender of human rights and friend of the Third World. Reagan's is to directly whip up reactionary patriotism against the Third World, appealing to imperialist organizations like the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion.

"DECOLONIZATION" OR SLICK TRICK?

Carter is going all out to sell the treaty to the U.S. masses, saying that it's an act of decolonization, a gracious and of course "moral" act on the part of U.S. imperialism.

It is nothing of the kind. U.S. imperialism retains control for 23 more years while saying they are giving it up, and keeps their troops there while saying that they are going to remove them, "at their own discretion." The U.S. retains the "right" to intervene arbitrarily to "protect" the Canal.

Once the ink dries on the treaty, nothing changes except that the U.S. hands over a \$10 million check to the Panamanian government every year instead of one for \$2 million (a drop in the bucket for U.S. imperialism which saves business billions by operating the Canal!). And this is over and above its value as a military base to carry out aggression against the rest of Latin America, to keep U.S. superexploitation of these countries going.

The Panamanian masses know that the only way to kick out U.S. imperialism from Panama is through people's war. But the dictator Torrijos

who led the Panamanian National Guard in brutally suppressing the people's struggle against U.S. imperialism in 1964, says that it's either the slow way over a generation, living with the treaty as a pebble in the shoe, or the quick way, liberation war, with a "high price in blood."

The present treaty, however, will not liberate Panama--fast or slow. To trust the U.S. imperialists to come through because they signed a piece of paper is to trust a thief with your life savings. Everyday, the Panamanian people are already paying with their blood, sucked out of them by the superexploitation of U.S. imperialism, and suffer the national disgrace of having a foreign flag flying on their native soil and a foreign army occupying their country.

One more day of the U.S. occupation is too long. The only way to get ticks out, especially big ticks like U.S. imperialism or Soviet social-imperialism, is to burn them out. This is the way the Panamanian people will deal with the imperialists--with the flames of war of national liberation, freeing their country forever from the imperialists' hated clutches.

YOUNG

Continued from p.6

Union to get bogged down in a Vietnam of their own, where they will get exposed, while the U.S. will stay in the background, sending aid under cover, like sending "non-military aid" to Zaire or by sending it through third countries. With the Soviet Union intervening, they will be opposed by the national bourgeoisie and the masses of those Third World countries and get further exposed as an imperialist power.

There is nothing wrong with Third World countries receiving aid from the superpowers, exploiting the contradiction among the superpowers and the country pursues a policy of self-reliance. But if these countries become dependent on it, not only will they lose economic independence, as Cuba has, but also political independence.

Young's trip clearly shows that the struggles of the Third World have pushed the U.S. into having to fight for its own backyard with the Soviet social-imperialists. The U.S. imperialists are taking the initiative, true, but in the context of increasing offensive by the Soviet Union all over the world. While Andy Young takes a Caribbean cruise, it certainly is no vacation from the global contention of the two superpowers.

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BLACKOUT

(continued from page 11)

It is no wonder that given its chauvinist line of liquidating the national struggle in the name of class struggle, it has virtually no influence-- much less leadership-- in the national movement. By crying that the special demands of oppressed nationalities are "divisive", the "Revolutionary Communist" Party pits the national struggle against the class struggle, treacherously attempting to justify their chauvinism theoretically.

The "Revolutionary Communist" Party uses the working class movement to deny the revolutionary potential of the national movement. Their vulgar view that "all nationalism is nationalism" (as they said in Red Papers 5) in fact liquidates the revolutionary content and essence of the national question. In fact their line sabotages the development of both the national and the workers struggle.

The legacy of their chauvinism, as well as their historically incorrect lines on party-building and the role of theory, has spread around the country. And this has left the "Revolutionary Communist" Party like "dried, beached fish."

After ramming into a wall and getting booted out of the workers movement, and haunted by its total isolation in the national movement, the "Revolutionary Communist" Party has recently taken to all sorts of desperate flipping to prolong its life.

Thus from yesterday denouncing the organization and struggle of the minority construction workers, the "Revolutionary Communist" Party today has

shamelessly asked (after watching them grow and flourish) to be admitted to the exact same organization and struggle. Thus from yesterday holding the position that the African Liberation Support Committee was a thoroughly reactionary bourgeois nationalist formation, it today has put together a bogus coalition around this year's African Liberation Day and continues--along with the notorious careerist elements in the "Revolutionary" Workers Congress to engage in all sorts of self-serving and counter-revolutionary maneuvering to try to wreck the ALSC.

This 180 degree flip-flop expresses the same instability of principle which led them to reverse the verdict on the role of Soviet Social imperialism--dropping their opposition to both superpowers in southern Africa and around the world for ten months, and just as readily picked it up again when trying to get into the ALSC.

The example of their position on the TV movie ROOTS again reveals their complete about-face. From their previously liquidationist position on the national question they flipped to singing endless praises to ROOTS -- calling it a "great contribution".

In the vain hope that it will increase its influence in the Afro-American national movement the "Revolutionary Communist" Party hails this gross distortion of the Afro-American people's history of struggle, packaged in the form of an above-class pride in one's "roots". While ROOTS pushed the sinister themes of bourgeois democratic illusions and non-violence, the petty-bourgeois nationalism of "hate white" and "like sticks to like" and an elitist disdain for the masses. The "Revolutionary Communist" Party called this "a powerful force in fighting

some long standing myths about slavery".

But aside from this chauvinist line which trumpets to the sky this, the bourgeoisie's slicker and more advanced piece of counter-revolutionary propaganda, the "Revolutionary Communist" Party's analysis of ROOTS also reveal their total isolation from the Afro-American masses.

It writes that ROOTS "refutes the modern and scientific myths of the Black family and Black people (like the Moynihan Report written by the New York Senator), which portrays Blacks as having no family feelings or ties." The fact that the "Revolutionary Communist" Party feels it must polemicize against the Moynihan Report reflects more on what the "Revolutionary Communist" Party is thinking than anything else. Just as the "Revolutionary Communist" Party substituted its own fears when it said in their article on the blackout that the "masses were scared", so too they are substituting their own view of reality when they say that "ROOTS refutes ... Blacks having no family feelings or ties". The Afro American masses were never taken in by Moynihan's blatantly chauvinist trash. And yet these impostors claim to be the spokespersons for the Afro American masses.

This again is the same "Revolutionary Communist" Party chauvinism which jumped out -- in spite of themselves -- in calling the masses "lumpen" and "criminal elements". It is the same deep-seated chauvinism which has been the historical characteristic of the "Revolutionary Communist" Party and the same chauvinism, though in different form, as they desperately maneuver in their attempt to acquire influence in the national movement.

WVO SOLICITA CARTAS

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WORKERS VIEWPOINT ORGANIZATION

Organizaciones y partidos comunistas alrededor del mundo tienen que obtener las gran tradiciones de un partido Marx-Leninista genuino resumidos por el Partido Comunista de China; integrando la teoría con la práctica; manteniendo relaciones con las masas y practicando la crítica y auto-crítica. Nosotros creemos que una manera en que WVO emplee se ha obtenido esta tradiciones es atraer a los miembros de la correspondencia a nuestro periódico.

Le pedimos a camaradas y amigos alrededor del país que nos manden cartas, críticas, reportes sobre las luchas, y otros temas en los movimientos comunistas y el movimiento obrero, la situación internacional y nacional, los movimientos nacionales, el movimiento de las mujeres, etc. Esta correspondencia directamente ayudará a nuestra lucha común de construir el partido comunista anti-revolucionista de los EEUU y a establecer la dictadura de el proletariado.

PUNTO DE VISTA OBRERA p. 3

N.Y.

EL PAPEL DEL LIDERATO DE LA CLASE OBRERA

Las lecciones del levantamiento son muchos. Con todas las clases en movimiento activo, vimos claramente como varias clases actúan. Mucho confusión ocurre a resultado de levantamientos espontáneos y tenemos que comprender sus leyes concretos, y su historia concreta para poder comprender y darle liderato al movimiento de la clase obrera y las minorías nacionales oprimidas.

La pregunta es clara: nos separamos de las masas denunciado que son "terrible" o que "se pasaron", o nos metemos profundamente en la lucha al ir, guiando las masas a mas victorias en un tiempo en cual las masas ven mas claro la dimensión verdaderamente crítica del capitalismo y están mas y mas abiertos al comunismo.

Como dijo el Presidente es una cuestión de punto de vista y posición, como vemos a la revolución levantamientos espontáneos en la sociedad de "se pasaron" o si decimos "esta bien".

Una cosa esta bien clara. Esta no es la primera ni sera la ultima vez que las masas se levantan contra la opresión. Habrán mas levantamientos espontáneos causados por incidentes como los apágonos. La burguesía lo sabe y también lo sabe la clase obrera y las nacionalidades oprimidas. Bajo el liderato del partido comunista genuino puede ser una amenaza directa a los capitalistas.

WVO
CALLS FOR LETTERS

Communist organizations and Parties around the world must acquire the great traditions of a genuine Marxist-Leninist party summed up by the Communist Party of China: integrating theory with practice, maintaining close ties with the masses and practicing criticism and self-criticism. We think that one way for WVO to start acquiring these traditions is through our newspaper's correspondence.

We ask comrades and friends around the country to send us letters, criticisms, reports on struggles, etc., on our articles and other issues in the communist and workers' movements, the international and national situations, the national movements, working women's movements, etc. This correspondence will contribute directly to our common struggle to build the U.S. anti-revisionist communist party and establish the dictatorship of the proletariat.

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