

WORKERS VIEWPOINT

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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!

FRANCE: Who Holds the Noose?

Robert Goldstein

"Communist ministers! Communist ministers!" The Communist Party of France chanted this after Socialist leader Francois Mitterrand was elected President of the Fifth French Republic. The CPF pressed its demand after the Socialist Party's landslide parliamentary victory on June 21. On June 23, its whole reason for existence was fulfilled with the appointment of four CPF ministers — the first in 34 years — to Mitterrand's government.

The CPF's ministers hold only minor posts with no access to sensitive security matters, but their appointment was enough to worry the U.S. government. Vice-President Bush immediately flew to France, and, although he graciously allowed France to determine its own affairs, he was worried about the impact Communist Party participation might have throughout Western Europe.

Bush's worried reaction betrayed the bourgeois press' smugness surrounding the occasion. The British and American press made Mitterrand out to be the winner in the deal. The New York Times said that the CPF getting ministers was the crowning of its failure. Some called it the ultimate in humiliation for the Communist Party, that the CPF consummated its sellout. The Manchester Guardian Weekly ran "Giving France's Communists enough rope" as a headline.

Actually, the CPF has little to lose compared with the U.S., the French bourgeoisie and Mitterrand. They are just trying to hang on. But the U.S. and the French bourgeoisie have staked their whole ability to fool the French working class on Mitterrand. Volatile as the political situation is in France, there is the ever-present possibility that Mitterrand will be hung by his own rope. The opportunities for communists to further revolutionize the French working class exist, including participation in parliament and the Government. But the revisionist Communist Party of France, an ardent believer in the peaceful, parliamentary road to socialism, will not be part of this revolutionizing process. Most likely they will set the working class up for a bloodbath.

"France is the land," wrote Frederick Engels, one of the founders of scientific communism, "where, more than anywhere else, the historical class struggles were each time fought out to a decision, and where, consequently, the changing political forms within which they move and in which their results are



French President and Socialist Party leader Francois Mitterrand.

summarised have been stamped in the sharpest outlines." Engels' words, written almost a century ago, could have been written as commentary on the current French political situation. The developments of the class struggle in France foretell developments throughout Europe and America, although not necessarily in exact reproduction.

In England, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is politically more vulnerable than ever before, and the possibility looms that the opposition Labor Party will be captured by its militant left-wing. In Italy, the possibility of Communist Party participation in government has been put off temporarily, but there is no telling what the effects of France will be. But it is France — Mitterrand's mandate and the inclusion of CPF ministers in the government — that is producing advanced lessons in tactics for the world working class.

Victory No Surprise

When the final results in the French parliamentary elections were in, even seasoned political observers' jaws dropped. The Socialist Party swept the elections. So large was the victory margin that the Socialists control Parliament and can now rule without a coalition either with the CPF or the center grouping, the Radical Left. The political analysts were counting on the old right-center coalition to retain a majority to curb Mitterrand's alleged zeal for his election platform, which includes far-reaching social programs and widespread nationalizations, in-

cluding the remaining private banks. They considered premature the business panic immediately following his presidential victory.

But the Socialists' sweep was really not so surprising. Mitterrand's presidential election was no passing infatuation with the left. His parliamentary victory proves this and shows a mandate — a mandate for the left, a mandate for change, a mandate against the right.

Historical Lever of Economic Crisis

France's economy is in dire straits. USINOR and SACILOR, two French steel companies, are buckling; they have stagnated to the limit, and are indicative of most of French industry. Since Mitterrand's election, the Bourse, the French stock market, dropped 30 percent. Inflation stands at 14 percent. And in the first six months of this year, unemployment has jumped 22 percent, to 1.8 million.

Perhaps the most serious problem — and the most difficult to solve — is caused by the U.S. imperialists. The franc has crumpled under the weight of high interest rates in the U.S., which are meant to bring down inflation. But the high interest policy is bringing down the French economy with it. Despite official measures to stem its flight, capital is leaving France for the U.S., where it can turn the most pro-

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CPF leader Georges Marchais



Political
Tortures from
El Salvador to N.Y. 8

ATLANTA
Day 707

NATIONAL NEWS



Representative from El Salvador's FDR gave warm revolutionary greetings.

Shorts... Shorts...

From Those United to Fight Fascism, Newsletter No. 26

Behind the Shield in Florida

In Broward County, near Miami, Florida, an unarmed black youth was shot to death after he was arrested for allegedly robbing an antique store. Witnesses said, "We shouted, 'Don't shoot him.' But the cop lifted his arm and shot him and then pointed his gun at us."

In Deerfield Beach, Florida, the next day, Broward County police killed a 23-year-old black man who had recently been released from a mental hospital. He was reportedly throwing bottles at passing cars and waving a table leg. Three white cops told him to put down the leg. The police say he then hit one of them on the head with it. All three cops opened fire on him, killing him instantly.

Frame-Up

In Florida, the state is preparing to re-try Delbert Tibbs. Tibbs is a poet and former theology student whose frame-up in the 70's for rape and

murder has been reopened by the Florida Supreme Court.

The case against Tibbs was based upon the identification of a 16-year-old runaway who said she was under the influence of drugs at the time of the attack. She originally described her attacker as "a pockmarked, very dark nigger with wooly hair like they all have." Tibbs is light skinned and has a clear complexion.

Bombing of Black's Home

A young black woman in Detroit, Cynthia Steel, was seriously injured when she tried to defuse a bomb thrown through the kitchen of her home. The racially motivated attack cost her four fingers. Three young white men were arrested and charged with assault with intent to commit murder. Other blacks in Detroit have received threatening letters from the Klan.

Defend Annie Small

A black woman who tried to defend herself from racists has been charged with aggravated assault in Cincinnati, Ohio. KKK-er, including her neighbor, made threats, blocked her drive, put nails in her car tires, overturned garbage cans, and threw things at her for over one year. Police refused to help her.

In January, the Klan doused her home with gasoline and began shouting at her from her lawn. Then one of them broke into her house and came at her. She shot and wounded him in self-defense. She then ran to a neighbor for safety. Support can be sent to the Annie Small Defense Fund, P.O. Box 29334, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Racism on Ice

The only Black hockey player in the Eastern Hockey League is tired of hearing hockey fans call him "coon," "nigger" and "buckwheat." Val James of the Erie, Pa., Blades, says the abuse is getting worse. "It's part of the nation's conservative swing. Like the child killing in Atlanta."

James does not plan to quit hockey although he said, "I've come to expect the name-calling now. Some nights I can take it, but others, I feel like going up into the stands, grabbing somebody and beating the hell out of them."

750 in Columbus "Starve the Pentagon, Not the People."

Harmon Duke

COLUMBUS, Ohio, June 21—Threatening skies and intermittent showers failed to deter 750 anti-Reagan demonstrators from Ohio and neighboring states who marched under the slogan that is fast becoming a national battle cry: "Reagan's got no mandate."

Reagan was scheduled to address a meeting of the International Association of Local Government Officials at the Ohio Convention Center in downtown Columbus. As soon as Reagan's planned appearance was made public about a month ago, an ad hoc group called the June 21 Coalition began planning a warm reception for him.

The June 21 Coalition was endorsed by 40 organizations representing feminist, gay, religious, welfare rights, anti-fascist, anti-war and radical concerns. Prominent among the endorsing organizations were People's Antiwar Mobilization, Welfare Rights, Those United to Fight Fascism (TUFF), National Organization of Women, and the Communist Workers Party. Many groups that in the recent past had found it impossible to work together buried their differences and pulled together to make June 21 a success.

At the pre-march rally in Goodale park, the anti-Reagan demonstrators heard a variety of lively and informative speeches by a broad range of progressive activists.

Among them was Ted Dostal of the Cleveland Senior Citizens Coalition who told the primarily youthful audience how the people had fought for social security, unemployment compensation, and other social programs in the 1930s and how to carry that fight forward.

Victor Rubio of El Salvador's Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) brought the crowd warm revolutionary greetings of solidarity from the heroic people of El Salvador fighting against the Reagan-supported junta which is savagely repressing its own people for the benefit of U.S. imperialism.

Dr. Michio Kaku, professor of nuclear physics and anti-nuke activist spoke. Dr. Paul Bermanzohn, wounded in the KKK/Nazi ambush of the CWP stated, "it's the worst of times and the best of times. . . . Reagan is actually helping to create a mandate for socialism," by his reactionary policies that united a deep and broad opposition to the entire capitalist system he represents.

A few minutes before 3 pm the group marched a few blocks to the Convention Center where they chanted "Reagan has no mandate!" bringing a forceful message to the delegates from many countries that no matter what lies Reagan might be telling them, he is not supported by the American people.

Reagan himself punked out and didn't make his scheduled appearance, although there was a later report that he did sneak in and out of Columbus. Jim McNamara of Those United to Fight Fascism said after the march, "We are now on the way to creating a nation-wide situation in which Reagan or Haig or Bush can't come out of the White House without facing mass protest." □



Hundreds marched against Reagan's cuts in Columbus, Ohio

WORKERS VIEWPOINT

Workers Viewpoint is the weekly newspaper of the Communist Workers Party.

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Announcement

Gone Fishing

During the publication dates of August 12-18, 1981 and August 19-25, 1981 members of the Workers Viewpoint staff will be on vacation. We will resume with publication date August 26-September 1, 1981.

3 Charged with IRA Gun-Running

FBI Entraps Irish Supporters

Sally Campbell

NEW YORK, N.Y. — The FBI's international terrorism division arrested three men on charges of illegal possession of firearms, claiming they were intending to supply weapons to the Irish Republican Army, on Friday, June 19 and Saturday, June 20.

Thomas Falvey, 56, and George Harrison, 67, were arrested here after the alleged delivery of 42 semi-automatic rifles, submachine guns and handguns, and the payment of over \$16,000 for them. Patrick Mullin, 43, was arrested the next morning, at his home in Queens when agents supposedly found seven AR-15 rifles, the semi-automatic version of the M-16; a machine pistol, a flame thrower, several thousand rounds of ammunition, and numerous rifle parts. They also found a pre-WWII 20-millimeter cannon, for which they had previously delivered 24 rounds of ammunition.

It was the 20-millimeter ammunition, the FBI stated, that led them to offer Falvey and Harrison the assortment of weapons. These two in particular had been watched by the FBI on picket lines supporting Irish hunger strikers and at the protest of Prince Charles' visit two days before the arrest. FBI spokesman Donald McGorty said the agency had worked jointly with Customs in the investigation, and that he was "certain" the guns were to be exported, though he didn't know quite how.

The three were allowed to go home over the weekend and post bond of \$100,000 on Monday, June 22. The judge said, "How would you like to be on the wrong end of a flamethrower?" to the men, old enough to be the judge's father. The three face a possible ten years in jail and a fine of \$10,000 if convicted.

A Case of Entrapment

Frank Durkan, lawyer for the three, says it is a clear case of entrapment. The FBI had noticed the three men at pickets, and had approached the men first. When asked if the Irish Northern Aid Committee (Noraid) would make a public statement on the arrest, spokesman Martin Galvin said it was still considering the question. Others had more to say. Jimmy Breslin, a Daily News, N.Y. columnist, asserts the FBI planted the weapons because they don't like the Irish in general. "Last week, the FBI planted a 20-mm cannon on Patrick Mullin and a flame-thrower on Thomas Falvey. They then held a press conference in which they tied the arrest to arms shipment to Northern Ireland." (Daily News, 6/25/81) A woman on the daily picket line at the British Consulate in N.Y.C. said, "I think it was Reagan's order. It was just done to put pressure on the Irish community because of the insult to the Prince. Another felt it peculiar that "three men suddenly pop up buying guns two days after the Prince is here."

"Well-regarded" in Community, Jobs

Mr. Falvey and Mr. Harrison were born in Ireland, coming here because "there wasn't a living to be made" at home. Like Mr. Mullin, they told the FBI they were doing it for "social justice, not money." All three men were well-respected on their jobs and in the Irish-American community. Mr. Falvey was seriously injured while a security guard for the A&P supermarket in 1977. He now lives in forced retirement on a disability pension. His lawyer says, "There isn't a widow or a child he hasn't helped." Mr. Mullin

has worked for the New York Telephone Company for 18 years. He is "well-regarded in Division 35 of the Ancient Order of Hibernians," Durkan says, a group which promotes Irish culture and history. Both Mullins and Harrison had served in the armed forces with honorable discharges. None of the three had ever been arrested.

The background of the three, well-respected, long-standing members of the Irish-American community is testimony to the depth of the sentiment for the Irish struggle among Irish-Americans. A woman at the consulate picket said, "I'd be proud to shake their hand."

Support Movement Under U.S. Attack

This entrapment is the latest in a string of attacks against the Irish support movement here.

• On October 1, 1980, Desmond Mackin was falsely arrested at a protest of a visit by Prince Philip by Immigration agents. When Britain learned he was in custody, it moved to extradite him, which it cannot do if his case has political overtones. He is now awaiting a judgement on the case.

• The U.S. government has ordered the Irish Northern Aid Committee to register as a foreign agent of the Provisional Irish Republican Army. It also says Noraid's newspaper, The Irish People, is a foreign agent. This means disclosing the mailing address, and telephone number of the IRA in Ireland, as well as the names and addresses of those who donate money, the amount, and where it went. Irish Northern Aid steadfastly maintains the money is for the families of prisoners in British prisons in Northern Ireland. The case is also awaiting a judge's decision. Meanwhile, the government has declared that no search warrant is needed to search the property and offices of a foreign agent.

• On May 9, N.Y. Daily News Columnist Michael Daly was forced to resign under pressure from his editors and the British press because of a column he wrote about a British soldier who shot an unarmed youth in Northern Ireland. His newspaper, whose editorials have voiced support for Margaret Thatcher, claimed, in effect, that he made up the story. "I stick by my story," says Daly. Irish-Americans responded with a protest at the Daily News building a few days later, demanding his reinstatement.

• The State Department has barred any representatives of Sinn Fein, the IRA's political wing, from entering the U.S.

On the other hand, the U.S. government has openly encouraged British policy in N. Ireland. Ian Paisley, a fascist Protestant leader in Northern Ireland who favors union with Britain, was invited by the Moral Majority's Senator Bidgen to Pres. Reagan's inauguration. On June 17, Nancy Reagan accompanied Prince Charles when he came to see the Royal Ballet. Earlier this year, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher received the William J. Donovan Award for "distinguished service to the democratic process and the cause of freedom," and was honored by Jesuits of Georgetown University, both just days before the hunger strike launched by Bobby Sands, the first of the hunger strikers to die.

These acts show that the U.S. government is far from neutral over the question of British occupation of N. Ireland. In fact, the recent attacks



Support for fighters in Ireland drew hundreds to demonstrate in N.Y.C.

Free Dessie Mackin!

NEW YORK, N.Y.—Desmond Mackin, a member of the Irish Republican Army is presently in jail awaiting the result of extradition proceedings begun by the British government. By "mistake," Mackin had been arrested at a demonstration last October 1 by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Once the British government learned of Mackin's identity, it demanded that he be handed over for "crimes" committed in northern Ireland. The verdict deciding Mackin's fate is due any day.

Dessie Mackin had once been arrested in northern Ireland along with Bobby Sands, the now-dead hunger striker. Both were sentenced to five years in prison for their membership in the IRA. Mackin was arrested again for "attempted murder of a British soldier" in a skirmish with British troops. He was hit five times in the exchange.

Mackin was released on low bail and took advantage of this freedom to escape to the Irish Republic in the south, out of the reach of British law.

Last October, Mackin came to the U.S. and participated in a demonstration against Prince Philip, husband of Britain's Queen Elizabeth. Philip was here to show his concern for endangered species of animals, far more concern than any member of the British ruling class has ever shown for the people of Ireland. It was then that the INS, looking for someone else, nabbed Mackin.

On June 18, Mackin's lawyer, Frank Durkan, delivered his final arguments. Durkan contends that although the treaty between the U.S. and Britain allows for extradition of people who commit crimes, the exception is when the case has a definite political caste to it. The fact that Mackin is a member of the IRA and was fighting British soldiers, in his country against the wishes of the Irish people gives the case a definite political tone. But the argument of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is that any who protest Britain's occupation of the six counties in the north of Ireland are common criminals.

If Desmond Mackin is extradited back to northern Ireland, he will face the usual railroading before a juryless Diplock Court, certain torture and beatings, and will be sentenced to suffer in the H-Blocks.

In anticipation of the verdict, there has already been a demonstration called by the New York H-Block/Armagh Committee in front of the Department of Corrections in downtown Manhattan. Over a hundred people voiced the demand that Dessie Mackin be freed. □

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Vets Take Fast to White House Steps

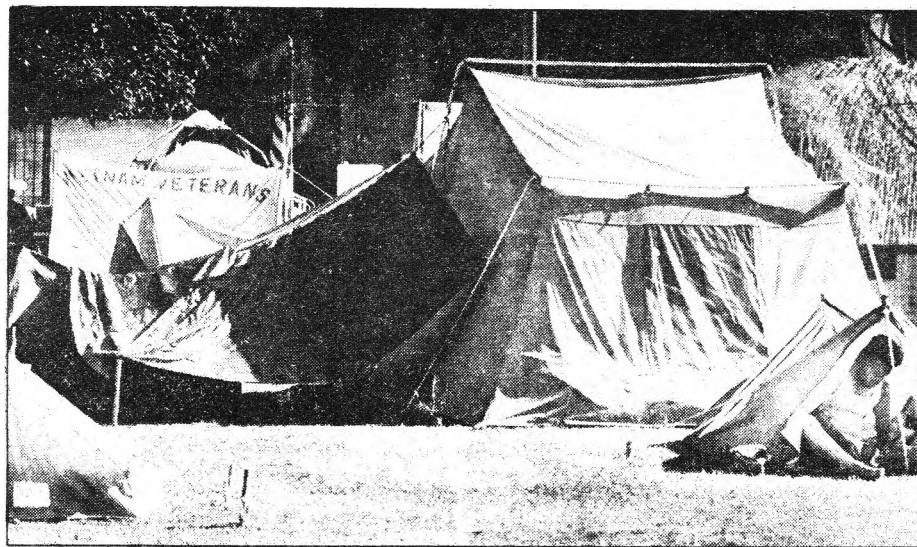
Julia Santiago

LOS ANGELES, Ca.—Plans for a national demonstration at the White House in late July by hunger striking Vietnam veterans are underway. After three weeks of encampment on the Wadsworth Hospital lawn, the vets were removed by the Veterans Administration police on June 9. Seven were arrested for passively resisting the authorities. The veterans began their hunger strike and sit-in on May 20 and have vowed to continue until all their demands are met. They have moved the encampment to the Faith Center in nearby Glendale.

Eight delegates sent to Washington, D.C. are trying to get a permit to camp out in Lafayette Park, across the street

from the White House. A spokesman stated they chose Lafayette Park, "so that each morning and afternoon before the President goes to bed, he will be able to look out from the Oval Office and see that we are here." They plan to deliver tape-recorded complaints from six veterans to President Reagan.

Despite Reagan's refusal to meet with them (one of their demands), the vets have pressured the Administration to recognize two of their demands. On June 16, the Senate voted 99-0 to pass a \$232 million package for treatment of health problems relating to veterans' exposure to Agent Orange, a defoliant used widely in Vietnam. No govern-



Veterans camp outside Los Angeles' Faith Center draws attention to government's inactivity.



Vietnam veteran Ron Kovic speaks at demonstration. Next to him stands Suzanne Hopkins, widow of veteran who died recently, and son Christopher.

ment agency, including the V.A., has before recognized health problems that were Agent Orange-related.

The money will also be used to continue funding 91 Veterans' counseling centers around the country. In April, the Senate Budget Committee had voted to close down all the counseling centers by September.

The other demand was met when the V.A. agreed to have non-V.A. doctors investigate the facilities at the Wadsworth and Brentwood Hospitals here.

An investigation into the untimely death of veteran James Roger Hopkins is an important demand. "His mind was infested with Agent Orange," one Veteran stated. Many of the hunger strikers and supporters were friends of his and contend that his death was not "an apparent suicide." Veterans have stated that the hunger strike had been planned before Hopkins' death and it was not a coincidence that he died. They say that "the government didn't know that he (Hopkins) would be more trouble dead than alive." An autopsy is still in progress.

Outraged by the lack of medical and psychological treatment from the

V.A., Hopkins crashed his jeep through the Wadsworth Hospital glass doors and sprayed the ceiling and walls with machinegun fire. He received three purple hearts while serving in Vietnam but his records had been inadvertently "misplaced" by the V.A.

James Roger Hopkins' treatment is typical of the treatment Vietnam veterans have suffered since they returned from an unpopular war. The U.S. government has consciously discredited the GI's who served in Vietnam. The government has tried to make the veterans responsible for losing that war. But in reality, it was the people of Vietnam's determination to liberate themselves by throwing out U.S. imperialism. In addition, the tremendous anti-war demonstrations in this country with veteran organizations like Vietnam Veterans Against the War who were at the forefront in denouncing the U.S. role in the war, helped liberate the people of Vietnam. U.S. imperialists' embarrassment at the hands of a tiny country such as Vietnam is one of the real reasons for the malicious treatment of Vietnam veterans today. □

Washington's Budget Carnage

What's Next?

Norman Sadler

"I feel like I'm being coerced into supporting two families," Mary said. Her daughter, 24, had worked as a waitress until the ninth month of pregnancy. After the baby was born, she began receiving \$195 a month in welfare, plus food stamps. But her rent was \$300. Her mother, Mary, took on another job to help out. When the welfare department learned of the help, they cut down the food stamps, and reduced the welfare grant to \$114 a month. What does Mary think of Reagan?

"I think he's trying to push us back to the Hoover times. But I lived through those times and they were terrible, my dear. This is a wealthy country, and we can't take care of our poor? The cuts he is making are on the poor. The rich get richer and the poor get poorer. But we have to wait and see. Congress is there to tell him he's trying to move too fast."

A multitude of coalitions has formed to fight the budget cuts, and many are now assessing the impact of the cuts, and the forces behind them. An organizer in Indianapolis said that this is a "period of definition."

What interest is there in coalitions against the budget cuts? A welfare rights organizer in Chicago said, "The media is playing it down. It's hard to get the word out. People keep saying 'it's not going to affect me.'" She believes that the full impact of the cuts will come this fall, and noted that Senator Stennis was upset that debate

over the military budget will happen at the same time.

The U.S. News and World Report on June 29 projected that the slashes would start hurting in October, the beginning of the new Federal fiscal year. The magazine also warned that "as debate goes on, effects of massive cuts will sink in on potential victims."

Some coalitions have recognized the delays in passing budget cuts into law for an opportunity. As the Democrats try to get the Republicans to hang themselves by voting against popular items like the minimum Social Security payment, awareness heightens and time for organizing expands.

Hospitals, Day Care, Small Businessmen

But one member of the Illinois Coalition Against Reagan Economics (ICARE) feared that unity was breaking up as groups lobbied hard for their immediate interests. This danger was illustrated by a demonstration in front of the Illinois governor's mansion in Chicago on June 21.

Gregory Coler, state director of Illinois's Children and Family Services Department, 150 children and adults, and members of two day-care advocacy groups forced Governor Thompson to back off on a \$2.9 million cut in day care. But Thompson, saying the cut was needed to prevent the state from going bankrupt, put the burden on Coler. "If Coler is willing to spend more for day care and less for

something else, then that's fine with me," Thompson said. Turning the axe away from one program just points it at another.

Small businessmen have protested that the business tax reforms will help only the largest 2,000 firms, although small businesses are responsible for generating most new jobs.

Although the effects of Reagan's budget cuts may not be felt until October, the economic crisis of the eighties is already tearing through peoples' lives, waking them to the dangers of this decade. In Indiana, state financial aid for college students already has been cut in half, and thousands of students have already

been told they will not receive the aid. In Illinois, Thompson proposed a \$150 million cut in Medicaid — again, to keep the state from going bankrupt — while half of that \$150 million would have gone to eight public hospitals in Chicago. One of the hospital's trustees wrote that "it cannot be equitable that

because of a problem (skyrocketing costs) common to all hospitals in the state, eight institutions with a unique mission to the poor should become the scapegoats." A Chicago Sun-Times editorial, titled "Paying the Bills of the 80s," said "we need to recognize what's coming: more hardship for the poor, more bills for the rest of us." □

Proposed Regulations

Proposed regulations for welfare (Aid to Families with Dependent Children) and the essential findings of the Congressional Budget Office's April 14 report on Cumulative Effects of Some of the Administration's Tax and Transfer Proposals were published in the April 27 issue of the Social Legislation Bulletin.

Among the proposed 27 changes in welfare are:

- A National Recipient Information Systems, which would collect and provide information on individuals receiving public assistance throughout the nation;
- Prohibit welfare and food stamps to workers on strike, except during a lock-out;
- Require welfare parents attending college to register for work;
- Put a lien on a welfare recipient's home to recover aid paid out when the home is sold;
- Require every welfare recipient able to work to put in 80 hours a month of unpaid labor;
- Limit work-related expenses and child-care deductions (which increase welfare payments) to \$75 and \$50 a month, respectively;
- Assume that the Earned Income Tax Credit is paid in advance, and count it against a family's monthly welfare payment.

The Congressional Budget Office concluded that half of low income families would face a decline in spendable income of 5% to 16%, and that low income families who receive some public assistance to supplement their low earnings would be affected more than those with no earnings. □

What the Progressive Press is Saying . . .

Hey Comrades — Anyone Here Have Change for a Ruble?

from *Northern Sun News*, publication of the Twin Cities, Northern Sun Alliance, June 1981

Ron Thums

Well, the paranoids among us knew it was just a matter of time. (But then, can you be a true paranoid if they really are after you?)

Short months after a notorious report by the right-wing Heritage Commission urged President Reagan to crack down on the antinuclear movement and other "left" subversives, the U.S. Senate's Subcommittee on Security and Terrorism has heard testimony from individuals claiming that the nation's antinuclears are receiving financial backing from Moscow.

(A note to put things in proper perspective: the newly formed, Republican-dominated Senate subcommittee is chaired by Alabama Senator Jeremiah Denton, who won his seat largely on the basis of the seven long years he spent as a POW in North Vietnam. An intensely religious man, Denton is given to launching into long, rambling monologues — largely on Vietnam — a cause which he firmly believes was "just.")

Denton's subcommittee played to a packed house during its initial "security and terror" hearings in late April. Witnesses included three journalists — two of them authors of current "the Roosies are coming" best-sellers — and former CIA director William Colby.

Of this foursome, one of the most interesting was Claire Sterling, author of *The Terror Network*, a recently published book which purports to show that most, if not all, of the violent social unrest in the world during the last decade was orchestrated by the Kremlin. The Soviet KGB, not fundamental inequities in society, lies at the root of this violence, Sterling claims.

Yet, despite some hilarious material, Sterling's performance before the subcommittee was upstaged by that of novelist Arnaud de Borchgrave. A former *Newsweek* correspondent, de Borchgrave is co-author of the current best-seller novel, *The Spike*, a vicious, red-baiting attack on the nation's left-progressive institutions. (The gist of *The Spike* is that the Soviet KGB has infiltrated the core of the U.S. media). *The Spike* mounts a thinly veiled smear campaign against many progressive individuals and organizations. Chief target of the "fictional" book is the Washington, D.C.-based Institute for Policy Studies, a left-wing think tank which publishes the excellent political weekly, *In These Times*. (So transparent was the author's attack that in the just-published paperback version of the book, names had to be changed to avoid libel suits.)

Given his background, the contents of de Borchgrave's testimony before the Senate subcommittee should have come as no surprise. Yet even he managed to raise a few eyebrows as he launched into a virulent, red-baiting attack on those organizations working to halt the spread of nuclear weapons and power plants.

Claimed de Borchgrave:

"A number of leading scientists, ranging from Andrei Sakharov to Dr. Fred Hoyle, have suggested that as part

of Russia's strategy of control of the Western world's oil supplies in the Middle East, the Soviet Union today is playing a covert role in promoting the antinuclear lobby. There is a direct link-up between the World Peace Council, a well-known Soviet front organization, and antinuclear lobbies, both in the U.S. and Western Europe."

De Borchgrave went on to say "the World Peace Council's U.S. branch, known as the U.S. Peace Council, and the U.S. CP (Communist Party) are affiliated with MFS — Mobilization for Survival — which is a leading umbrella organization for antinuclear groups. Interestingly enough," he added, "MFS has now linked the antinuclear protest to unilateral disarmament advocates, New Left activists, and some ecologists."

It was unfortunate, he said, that under existing guidelines the FBI cannot investigate groups that are not actively committing — or plotting to commit — a crime.

De Borchgrave's attempt to smear the entire antinuclear movement by innuendo — while himself immune under congressional privilege — was lambasted by MFS. In a statement released by the organization it called the "guilt by association tactics" employed by de Borchgrave "reminiscent of the repression and intimidation of the McCarthy period." It added, "Any innuendo that Mobilization for Survival is dominated by external forces, or that we are in any way associated with terrorist organizations, is total fabrication. MFS is committed to nonviolence and democratic processes, and we challenge Mr. de Borchgrave to present one shred of evidence to the contrary."

(MFS is a nationwide coalition of 140 peace, religious, women's and citizen's organizations, among them the Twin Cities Northern Sun Alliance. MFS is committed to four goals: abolish nuclear weapons, ban nuclear power, stop the arms race, and meet human needs.)

The antics of the Senate Subcommittee on Security and Terrorism — so reminiscent of the infamous House UnAmerican Activities Committee of the '50s — would be laughable were it not for the present political climate.

Political activists, or for that matter any person labeling themselves a "concerned citizen," would do well to keep informed of such shenanigans. Given the makeup of the present Congress, such spoutings, however ludicrous, may give the forces of darkness all the leverage they need to come down hard on the voice of dissent.

And as far as Soviet sponsorship of the antinuclear movement goes — well, listen: the Northern Sun Alliance has enough trouble just getting rid of the quarters sent us by our Canadian subscribers. □

Maybe Denton Needs Cue Cards

Gary Madison

Jeremiah Denton's Senate Subcommittee on Security and Terrorism continued its "fact finding" hearings on "terrorism" June 11 and 12. Asked to testify on the "Historical Antecedents of Soviet Terrorism" were two right-wing historians, one from the reactionary Hoover Institute and the other from the Woodrow Wilson International Center in Washington, D.C. According to Denton's opening statement, the purpose of the hearings was to "document" that "international terrorists" are actually Marxist-Leninists.

Claire Sterling: "Summer Reading"

The first witness was Dr. Billington of the right wing Woodrow Wilson Center. He is a Phi Beta Kappa, a Rhodes scholar and a professor at Princeton. His book, "Fires in the Minds of Men," apparently tries to prove that Marxism and revolution are inherently "irrational" and are based on "fundamental metaphysical mistakes." His high-brow testimony on the philosophical basis of "terrorism" was so abstract that Denton conceded that even he could not formulate questions on the testimony. "A most profound testimony," Denton hummed and hawed, "(there is) too much in it to derive perspective questions."

Denton got the discussion "down to earth" by referring to Claire Sterling's book which he kept open on his desk throughout the hearings.

"Have you read the book?" asked Denton.

"No, I have not read the book, I have too much to read," Billington responded. Then he offered, "Maybe I'll read it this summer."

Russians "National Character" — Inherently Terrorist

Denton then stunned the half-filled hearing room when he asked this question, "Do you think the Russian national character is the basis for terrorism?"

Denton explained that the Russian people had a "heartland characteristic of patience," and because they so "patiently" bore Czarist oppression for so long, it was the cause for the "explosive" reaction to the "final manifestation," resulting in the Oc-

tober Revolution. Denton explained that he had come to this conclusion after reading the Russian writer Dostoyevsky's book, "Crime and Punishment."

Billington responded first by saying that to describe the Russian national character as a basis for terrorism is a "great disservice to the complexity of the Russian people." Billington closed his testimony by questioning Denton's assumption that terrorism is always linked to communism. "It is not a unitary phenomenon of communism," he said.

IRA — "Terrorists?"

The Alabama Senator then used the testimony of his next witness, Dr. Possony of the Hoover Institute, to prove that he Provisional IRA had been "infiltrated by communists who adulterated the Irish cause — beyond the shadow of a doubt."

When Denton asked, "Don't most of their weapons come from Czechoslovakia?" The witness replied, "I can't say now (who supplies the IRA), my book was written five years ago."

When Denton claimed that the "Official IRA now considers itself Marxist," by quoting several IRA pamphlets calling for an Allende-style government in Ireland, Dr. Possony told Denton, "In the Catholic frame of mind — a number of Catholic priests are coming to 'Marxism.'"

Isolated

Denton also stabbed at the press. "Anyone who is aware of the realities which I have just described (Soviet support for national liberation struggles, i.e., terrorism) and continues to hold the Soviets blameless is either intellectually dishonest, inattentive, or may possibly have other sinister motives."

The Subcommittee on Terrorism and Denton do intend to go on witchhunts. Thier narrowing of their targets as "Marxist-Leninists" equal terrorist shows this. However, right now, it remains isolated. By the hearing's end, only eight spectators remained in the hearing room, and even the witnesses disassociated themselves from Denton's rantings and ravings. □

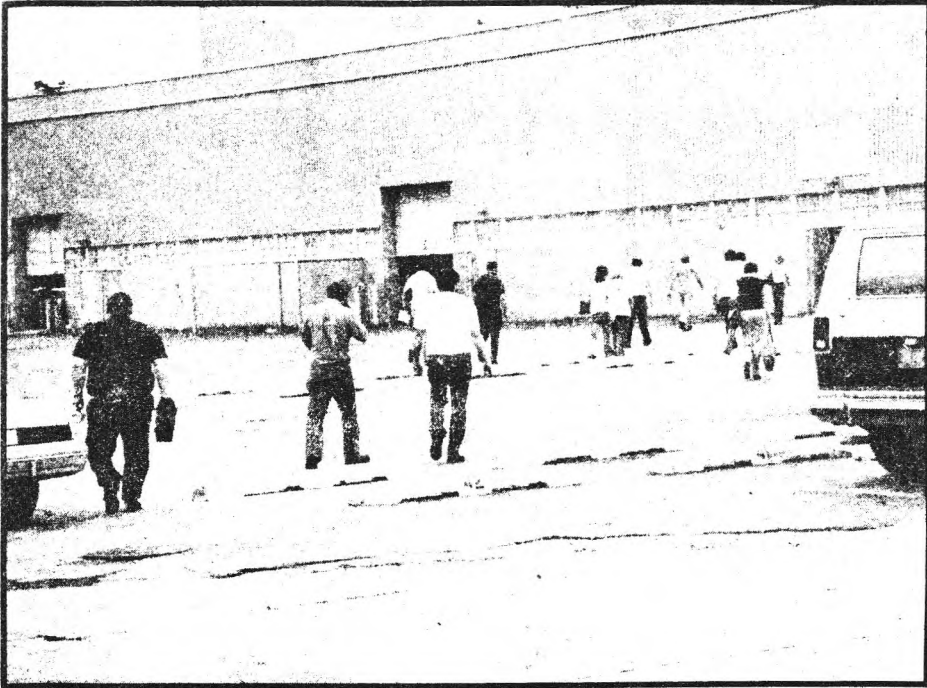


Thousands across the country came out to show support of the IRA. Does Denton think they're terrorists too?

LABOR NEWS

COLA Day Hits Chrysler

"No More Sacrifices"



Only half the Monday morning shift showed up at Chrysler's Belvidere plant in a successful job action against Chrysler's wage concessions.

Clair Holland

BELVIDERE, ILL. — If Chrysler can afford pay raises for its top brass, then it can afford what the workers gave up! That's the way workers at Chrysler's Omni/Horizon plant in Belvidere, Ill., 80 miles west of Chicago, feel. They shut down the plant on "COLA Day." About 50% of the 4,300 production workers stayed home on the second shift Friday June 12 and the first shift Monday June 15. Both shifts had to be called off due to "excessive absenteeism."

COLA Day was the day workers were to receive quarterly cost of living checks amounting to as much as \$800 each. The UAW gave up the cost of living increase until Sept. 1982 — the third wage and benefit cut the workers took from Chrysler in the last two years. The wage cut means a loss of about \$2,400 a year per worker or \$1.37 per hour. Altogether, Chrysler workers have swallowed over \$1 billion in wage and benefit cuts to bail out the giant corporation.

Recently the top Chrysler officials including President Lee Iacocca voted themselves back the pay raises they had voluntarily given up one year ago in the interest of "even handed sacrifice." The bosses' pay raises right in the face of workers' wage cuts did it. The job action was on.

Pacesetter Against Chrysler

Belvidere is typical of hundreds of small midwestern towns. Its neat downtown storefronts and wide, shady streets trailing off into hills and fields are a picture of what's often thought of as a quiet middle America. But the workers from Belvidere and the surrounding towns who make the loop down Chrysler Drive to the plant everyday are in the front lines to defend auto workers' interests against the auto monopolies' wage cutting policies. Belvidere UAW Local 1268 was the largest UAW local to reject the third wage concession in January 1981. That was the concession that cut the COLA workers should have received on June 12. While it passed 58.8% throughout the union, Local 1268 voted it down 2-1.

The shut down was an organized, planned job action serving notice to the

company. It was organized through leaflets posted through out the plant for several days prior to Friday and by a word-of-mouth campaign. Scheduled not to interfere with pay checks delivered Thursday night and Friday morning, the shut down was planned to hit one night and one day shift. Though there were no pickets the parking lot was only half full, and both shifts were cancelled.

Preparing To Strike

Local union officials neither openly supported nor opposed the action. But it may be a prelude to a local strike over local issues. L.U. 1268 is continuing to operate under a local contract that expired in 1979. There are some 415 items that remain unsettled — mainly over working conditions like ventilation in the paint shop.

Two years ago the UAW made a tacit agreement with Chrysler not to strike to "help the company out." But now that they've helped the company out to the biggest round of wage cuts since 1929-31 and have done nothing to lead the fight against plant closings and job losses, the union leadership's sellout made-in-Detroit-and-Washington stinks all the way to Belvidere. Jerry Dale from UAW national headquarters said after the Belvidere action was over, "We're happy they're back to work." He lamented all the wages workers lost by staying out, "I don't know what they proved by that." Apparently, he forgot the billion of dollars in wages and benefits they lost by the UAW being the yes-man for Iacocca and the government's bail out scheme.

Why Belvidere?

Belvidere is in the lead in opposing Chrysler. The only Omni/Horizon plant, it produces 1,300 cars each shift — 72 an hour. It's a modern plant that's not going to be passed out. That puts the workers in a strong position against the company. Second, the plant is far from Detroit, UAW national headquarters, and the Local has more independence from the top union officials — they are not thoroughly dominated as are some Detroit-area locals. Third, the local leadership voted against the last wage cut. This

stand from the official leadership makes the workers' actions more "legitimate," within established union channels and less risky. Fourth, the area around Belvidere is not as economically depressed as Detroit. The economic hardships of taking action are not as great.

Time to Draw the Line

Some of the workers who disagreed with the shut-down mainly disagreed with the timing. They felt it would be better to wait until September 1982 when the contract is up. These workers feel by then Chrysler should be back on its feet. The way they see it, they've

done their part to help the company. Three times they gave in to the company. Next contract it will be up to the company to give the workers what they need and demand. But Chrysler, and the other auto monopolies, are desperately fighting to survive the economic crisis. They must squeeze even more out of the workers. That's what the rumblings of wage cuts from Ford and GM are all about. Workers feel they've been reasonable. When Chrysler demands more, their chickens are going to come home to roost. Now or 1982, one way or the other, workers feel there's a time to draw the line. □

Sun Ship Cry Sabotage in Workers' Deaths

Laura Johnson

CHESTER, Pa.—A short 5 months after Sun Ship announced plans to lay off 3,000 of its 4,000 workers, tragedy struck. On June 9, four workers were killed and two injured when a fire-extinguishing system suddenly went off and filled the engine room of the SS Lash Atlantico with deadly carbon monoxide gas.

The company has maintained a low-profile, refusing to comment on the incident. The company's official silence caused workers' resentment and suspicion and has fueled rumor and debate in the yard. Underneath emerges a picture of a treacherous cover-up.

It began the day after the workers were killed. Sun Ship executives leaked news they found evidence of tampering with the fire extinguishing system. They claimed the explosion had been triggered by hand and called in the local police and FBI to investigate.

But several workers interviewed by the Philadelphia Daily News told different stories. They reported that specific OSHA regulations required shutting down the carbon monoxide system before repairs began. A 30-year-old pipefitter commented, "They don't want to say it's the company's fault, so they say it's sabotage. It's well-known that they're really good at shifting blame, and OSHA is kind of toothless with Reagan in there."

Meanwhile, the Delaware County Criminal Investigation Division sealed off the scene of the crime. After nine days, OSHA inspectors still had not investigated the engine room even though Sun Ship and Prudential Lines officials had come and gone several times. OSHA regional administrator David Rhone did not resist this company/police blocking of OSHA inspec-

tion, explaining that "our people have the ability to re-construct."

The President of Boilermakers' Local 804, which represents workers at Sun, Leo Fine, backed the company. This is a repeat performance by Fine, who last January blamed Sun Ship's economic problems on worker absenteeism and low production.

Workers recall the 22-year-old welder who fell to her death four years ago. OSHA fined the company \$810. Still no guard rail has been put up in the place from which she fell. "Lives don't mean nothin' here," said an older worker who was pallbearer at his co-worker's funeral. A machinist commented that the funeral notice itself was posted "just like notices for a job opening, with when they are going to be laid out and when they're going to be put in the dirt. They didn't even put up their pictures."

A shipfitter summed-up, "The feeling in the yard among the people who know about this is that there is quite simply a lot of money involved in this thing, and this (delayed OSHA inspection) gives the company an opportunity to make things look good for them."

Since January, company and union officials have both been looking for a new buyer for the economically troubled shipyard. Reports say the Philadelphia Naval Yard is interested. The last thing Sun Ship needs now is a major scandal around criminal health and safety conditions. Leo Fine and David Rhone have been willing accomplices to keep things cooled down. The question remains: is it a growing trend among shipbuilders to cry sabotage, conspiracy and terrorism to confuse, divide and deflect the struggle of the workers? □



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SONG AND STRUGGLE

JULY 4, 1981 at the Storefront
SATURDAY 8 PM 78 Fifth Ave
\$4 Admission BROOKLYN, N.Y.

“Action Draws Broad Support”

Eaton Workers Fight Run-Aways

Laura Johnson

PHILADELPHIA—When Eaton Company announced the closing of its Northeast Philadelphia forklift plant on April 22, the 500 workers of Machinists Local 1717 knew immediately the question they faced. Either fade into the oblivion of the unemployment and welfare lines (and who knows where from there) or fight. Barely had the company announced its decision to close than the workers answered with action.

As the time buzzer rang sharply at 3:45 pm on May 18, Eaton's machinists by-passed the parking lot to take position in front of the plant gate. There they were joined by supporters from the Delaware Valley Jobs Coalition, representatives from the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union, the United Auto Workers, Bakery Workers and Confectioners Union and others, to rally against the plant closing and the threatened close-down of ten other Philly area factories.

Showing they meant business, the workers surged out onto Roosevelt Boulevard chanting “Save Our Jobs!” and blocking traffic in this working class section of Northeast Philly. But even this wasn't enough. Taking up the cry “We Want (Eaton President) DeWitt!” the crowd turned around, tore down part of the company fence and rushed onto Eaton grounds to serve notice in no uncertain terms that the company had a serious struggle on its hands.

Local 1717 Grievance Committee Chairman Danny Chmelko, one of the key organizers of the action, rallied the sentiment of the demonstrators as he addressed the workers over a bullhorn. “I do consider this a militant action — but fellows, it's not getting any better,” he said. “This is a life and death situation and this city's facing economic death. What we want is solidarity — if we can't stop Eaton, we want to at least save jobs in Philadelphia.”

“This is my reward”

This was the beginning of a struggle that is becoming a rallying point for cross-union and community efforts to stop plant closings and run-aways in their tracks. Economic stagnation scars the lives of every family in the Delaware Valley. During the 1970s, factories closed down in Philly at a rate that made even the hard-crusted dizzy.

That decade saw 140,000 manufacturing jobs lost, as big and small shops moved abroad, moved south, or were swallowed by competition.

In January, a new round of lay-offs began. Sun Ship issued 3,000 pink slips. Container Corporation's Philadelphia plant and Mid-City Press' shut-downs are the most recent area-wide sores inflicted by general economic decay.

The announcement of Eaton's closing sent shock waves throughout the city. The Mayor quickly offered the company a prime piece of industrial real estate and tax breaks. The workers were willing to go for a wage cut at first. Some of them now express the

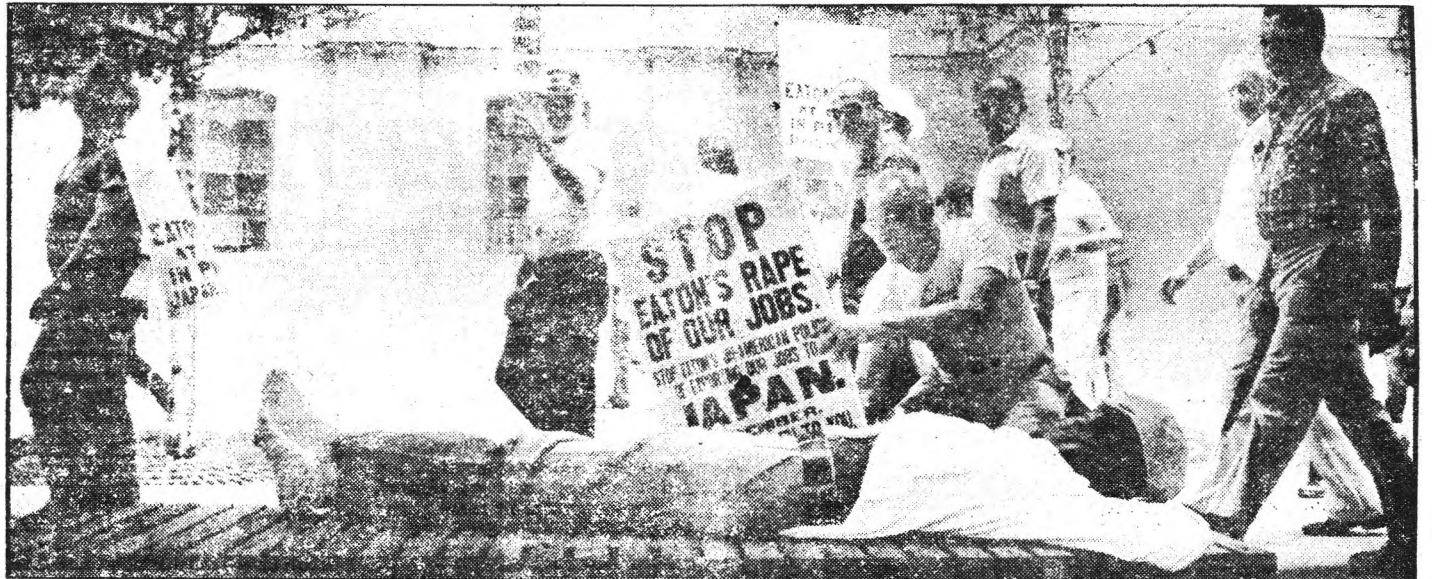
the whole labor movement in Philadelphia and gotten wide media coverage and community support. Two days after the first action, 150 union officials came together for a breakfast meeting to hash out plans for stemming the tide of run-aways in the city. Included were local and district heads of the Teamsters, ACTWU, UAW, Transport Workers Union, Teachers Union, the Steel-Haulers Union and others. Similar meetings were called by union officials in 1979, but those ended with no results and the stifling of left forces' and the rank and files' proposals for action against plant shut-downs.

Haunted by visions of many more

week before. Longstreth applauded Eaton's closing as part of the over-all trend of Philadelphia changing from a “manufacturing to commercial banking center.” He added that any laid-off workers could find a job as a waiter.

One union activist riled the rally when he said, “We don't want Thatcher's resignation, we want his head.” Angry shouts of “We want Thatcher” rang throughout the downtown streets as the demonstrators made their way from the Chamber of Commerce office to City Hall. They blocked Broad Street, a main street, forcing the police to re-direct traffic for blocks.

At the same time, signs like “Buy



wish they had not “played it safe” when lay-offs began. They were taken in by company lies that the Philly plant was secure, although over 1,000 workers had been laid off.

Joe Dushlek, a 59-year-old machinist said, “I'd read the newspapers and see 100 jobs lost here or 200 lost there . . . I never thought it would happen here.” In the end, the workers — mostly older, white workers with an average of 25 years seniority — had no choice. They took bold action.

George Skoda, 52 years, questioned, “Where am I going? I've got two sons in their 20s. They can't find jobs. What's supposed to happen to them? Become bums?” His co-worker, Rich White, a veteran of 19 years on the job, bitterly complained, “I'm a World War II vet, participated in five invasions. This is my reward for three years I fought for this country.”

Philly Union Movement Comes Alive

The Eaton struggle has shaken up

Eatons and pushed by the bold actions of the Local 1717 workers, labor officials listened to Danny Chmelko's and Tony Gavin's proposal for a 15-minute city-wide moratorium, including a general work stoppage, a traffic stoppage and church bells ringing, to protest the lay-offs.

“We've come to the conclusion, if we don't act decisively, we're going to be like the rest of the union leaders whose factories closed and who did nothing. We know we are going down — if we're going to be the assault troops, we're willing to take the beachhead,” said Gavin.

Although the assembled officials made no firm commitment to the moratorium, another action was called June 17. Eight hundred workers, union officials and community and church activists rallied at the downtown office of the Chamber of Commerce. The demonstration was given new fuel by a statement Thatcher Longstreth, head of the Chamber of Commerce, made a

Determined not to let their company leave town without a fight, 500 workers turned out for a rally.

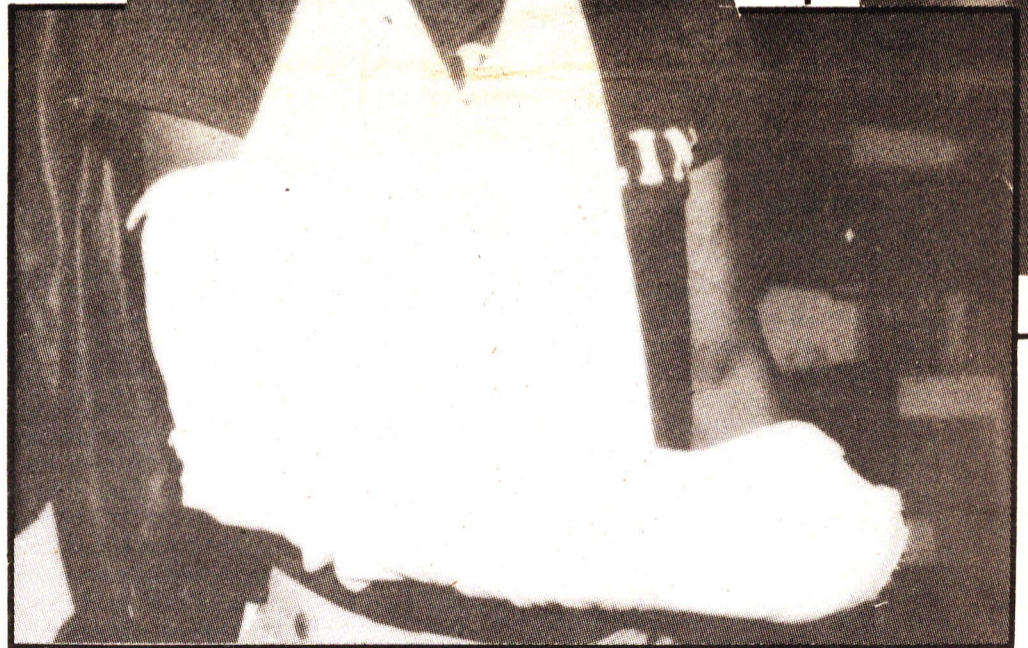
American” and “Stop Eaton's Un-American Policy of Exporting our Jobs to Japan,” dotted the march. These narrow, anti-foreign views are especially pushed by such unions as the UAW and ACTWU. They mask the real source of the problem and misdirect the thrust of the movement to stop plant run-aways into simplistic chauvinism against foreign nations and workers — themselves exploited by the same capitalists responsible for the havoc being wreaked on the lives of every American worker in the eighties.

Eaton itself is a huge conglomerate with holdings in 26 foreign countries, bringing in 42% of its net profits. It is not a question of moral appeals to the Eaton Board of Directors, including such giants as Dow Chemical, K-Mart, All-State Insurance and Conoco, for “reasonableness” in keeping its experienced Philadelphia workforce who, as one machinist says, gave their “life's blood to the company.” Eaton is putting its capital into its operations that will bring the surest and fastest profits: its overseas holdings and its rapidly expanding electronics division. Eaton is following the blind dictates of capitalism and doesn't give a damn about how many lives it ruins in the process. □



Al Singer, 17 years at Eaton Corp. will lose his job when the company leaves the city this year.

Is th
El Sa



The 14 arrested demonstrators (top) after arraignment, the broken arm, broken noses, cracked heads, stitches and bruises from blows by a billyclub, are evidence of the handwork of the New York City Police Department.

Is Political Torture in El Salvador or in Koch's N.Y.?



NEW YORK, NY—In El Salvador, 12,000 people were tortured, mutilated and killed in one year alone because they dared to fight for unions, for genuine democratic elections, and for land reform. The military "death squads" who continue to execute the El Salvadoran people, are U.S.-equipped, U.S.-armed, U.S.-trained and receive the political blessings of the U.S. government. By the same perverted logic, those people in the United States who dare to fight for unions, who dare to fight for the rights of blacks who dare to care for the poor, are similarly persecuted, except in the "American way."

On August 14, 1980, New York City police viciously attacked and descended on a thousand people, who protested the murders of the CWP 5, at the Democratic Convention. Not only did police beat demonstrators in the street, six to one, they were beaten in the police cars, and brutally tortured in the backrooms of the Midtown South police station. Officers willfully and knowingly denied them medical treatment and their right to due process. The trials of the fourteen political demonstrators arrested on August 14 are expected to begin midsummer.

One arrested demonstrator gave this account of his arrest and beating:

"... Two officers, one a sergeant, the other Officer Leddy, badge number 6269, lifted me up and threw me into the back seat of a police squad car. The sergeant punched me frequently, every 15-30 seconds in the stomach and on the back during the entire trip to Midtown South Station, Manhattan for approximately five minutes. The police officers in the car said, "It's payback time. We're going to beat the shit out of you. Red scum bastard. You won't get out of jail alive." One officer piped up, "Let's take him down to the river like we used to do. We can't be soft on this commie bastard."

"The sergeant in the car, who later stole my watch at the precinct, tore off my protective helmet without loosening the strap, which was still in the back of the squad car. He said, "That's a pretty face, but we're going to have to change all that."

"I was brought into the precinct station first by the sergeant. At no time was I informed of the charges against me, nor was I allowed to make a phone call to an attorney or anyone else. He stood me in front of the main desk and punched me twice in the stomach. The sergeant pushed my face against the wire grate and said that I had to keep my eyes on the grate. I heard other (demonstrators) being pushed into the room. The officers yelled, "We're going to kick the living shit out of you."

"The sergeant that was in on my arrest and who escorted me to the station immediately began hitting me on the back and shoulders very hard. He hit me so hard, he broke his billy club. He had my wallet in his hand. He asked me my name. I answered him, but he hit me again. He asked me my address. I gave him my address. He hit me on the back again. My legs began to buckle and I stooped over. He said, "If you hit the floor, I'm going to kill you."

"He had all the identification necessary, but he continued to beat me for 10-15 minute intervals for one hour. The sergeant found my work identification when he rifled through my wallet. He said that he was personally see that I was fired.

"With every other word, he beat me with his billy club on the back and shoulders. I did not say anything, but I made animal-like noises on the impact of the club. I could hear him breathing heavily. He was overweight and as a result of beating me so hard, he became exhausted. During this beating, I was also kicked sharply in the groin.

"Officer Leddy beat me next. He hit me ten times on the shoulder and back. Then he went to the marshal standing next to me and beat him.

"The desk officer said that the police inspector had given him orders that detainees from the demonstration be taken *immediately* to Bellevue Hospital. Leddy said that he had to get medical treatment himself. He left us at the precinct lock-up, he said, because his sergeant had told him to. The desk officer ordered Leddy to take us to Bellevue immediately. Leddy and another officer then took us to Bellevue. On the way, they stopped for coffee at a 7-11 while we bled in the back seat. We arrived at Bellevue at 5:45 a.m. Friday. I was treated for head injuries and x-rays were taken on my head, chest and ankle. I received no treatment for sprains, bruises, shock or pain, although my left ankle was severely bruised and swollen. My right shoulder was also bruised severely to the point I had very limited movement of my right arm. Leddy escorted me out of Bellevue at approximately 10:00 a.m. I know that it was some time after 9:00 a.m. when I left Bellevue and went back to Central Processing." □

Retiring in Dignity Miami or Moscow?

Jim Davis

"If I had known things would be this tough I would have set aside more money. In this country getting old is about the worse thing that can happen to you. If you're smart, try to save as much money now. You'll need it when you get my age," was Willie's advice. Willie retired in 1977 after laboring nearly 50 years in every job imaginable from bellhop to cab driver. He had to cut back so much on what social security gave him that he decided to come out of retirement and work again. He found out that not too many people wanted to hire a 66-year-old man. That's why he ended up taking a minimum-wage job as a messenger for Paine Webber. At least the work wasn't back-breaking.

Willie has been working for the company nearly two years. It is the difference between living in either a cheap rundown tenement in the Lower East Side of New York or a tiny but nice studio in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn.

Willie's plight is like that of many older Americans. With the realities of

ment age is lowered to 50-55 for men and 45-50 for women.

Unlike Willie who has to keep on working to make enough money to live, older workers in the Soviet Union receive enough from their pensions to live comfortably. In the U.S. retirement benefits replace on the average only 42% of pre-retirement wages. In the Soviet Union it is anywhere from 50 to 75%. The lower the Soviet workers' wages are the higher are his retirement benefits. Workers with exceptionally low incomes receive benefits equal to 100% of their wages. Minimum benefits are raised on a regular basis. Between 1971 and 1975 retirement pensions for factory and office workers was raised 50%. For collective farmers the increase was 65%.

In the U.S. the soaring prices have driven many older Americans in to poverty. In the Soviet Union there is no real inflation to speak of and prices have remained relatively stable over the years. Between 1968 and 1975, food prices rose an average of 1.2%. The establishment of free medical care (in-



Medical exams such as these are free in the Soviet Union.

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In the U.S. the soaring prices have driven many older Americans in to poverty. In the Soviet Union there is no real inflation to speak of and prices have remained relatively stable over the years. Between 1968 and 1975, food prices rose an average of 1.2%. The establishment of free medical care (including long periods of hospitalization in the event of severe illness) has relieved many older Soviet workers of a heavy financial burden. In the U.S., older Americans are often victims of rip-off medical care. In many cases they are forced to pay nearly 3½ times more than the average American. The Soviet health care system is extensive with hospitals and district clinics throughout the country. Most large factories and plants have their own clinics and in some cases their own hospitals. In 1975 there were 20 doctors for every 10,000 people in the United States. In that same year, there were some 30 for every 10,000 in the Soviet Union. Health resorts are also available for retired Soviet workers and their families to spend holidays and vacations. In most instances they're fully paid for by the government.

In the area of housing construction, the Soviet government again plays a major role. While people like Willie are left on their own to pay for housing, Soviet housing costs are heavily subsidized by the government. Tenants pay less than one third of the cost of maintenance. From 1940 to 1975 rent

remained fairly stable. A Soviet family spends only 4-5% of its budget on housing costs. Under Soviet law private construction and leasing of housing is illegal.

The Freedom to Retire

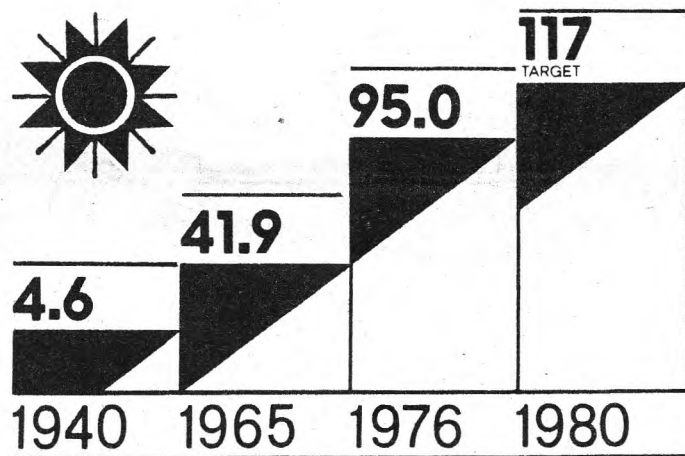
When Willie reached 65 he had a choice to make — either retire and live in poverty or return to work and be able to live just a little better. Under present law, older Americans between 65 and 72 can earn up to \$5500 a year without losing benefits. For every \$2 earned above that amount, \$1 is taken out of their benefits. Under Soviet law, workers past the age of 60 who continue to work receive both their full pensions (which is not taxed) and their wages. As they add more years to their work record they can eventually qualify for a higher pension. They also receive the same benefits as other workers (like paid vacations). One out of every four Soviet workers eligible for retirement chooses to continue working.

In many cases money is not the only incentive for older workers to continue working. Many people in their sixties want to and are still capable of leading active and useful lives. On any pleasant summer day in New York, the city's parks are crowded with older people who sit all day with nothing to do. Many may want to work but are told they are too old. When they are forced into the job market like Willie no one is willing to hire them. It is a waste that can't even be measured.

To take advantage of the wealth of experience and wisdom that older workers have gained over the years, labor veteran councils have been set up in large Soviet factories. Older workers advise and counsel younger workers. In many of the larger cities and towns in the Soviet Union, house committees are set up on every block. One of their responsibilities is to look after the recreational needs of the older people. For example, one committee in the Petrograd District built a library and a small concert hall for its residents.

continued on page 14

SOVIET CONSUMPTION FUNDS (In thousand million roubles)



The steady growth of public consumption fund has led to an improved standard of living for the Soviet people.

double digit inflation, many Americans reaching the age of 65 think twice before retiring and having their incomes cut in half. Food prices, medical and housing costs and just about everything else goes up while the Reagan Administration continues to talk about "cost-saving" cuts in the social security program. Willie was right, growing old is about the worst thing that can happen to you in America.

How would things change for Willie and other older Americans under a socialist America? How would their lives improve? To give a glimpse of what the future socialist society holds for our elderly, look at the achievements already made in the Soviet Union.

Retirement Should be Something to Look Forward to

Willie and the millions of Americans like him have put in their share of hard work. They've more than earned the opportunity to sit back and enjoy life in their later years. It is a right that has been paid for in blood and sweat. In the Soviet Union, social security and other benefits (like free medical care) are guaranteed under the country's constitution. There are presently 47 million Soviet citizens collecting pensions. Men who have reached the age of 60 and have worked for 25 years are entitled to a full pension. Women are eligible at the age of 55 after working 20 years. For those working in dangerous jobs, like miners, the retire-

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Elderly in the U.S. have no guarantees of meeting even basic needs like housing and good health care.

SPORTS

How Long?

Anthony LaRusso

Strike notes: This thing started out as two sides, players and owners. Now it's seven. Add fans, umpires, commissioner, commercial T.V., and media (T.V. and newspapers)... Owners' stand still unchanged. They want a prime talent player in return for a lost free agent for signing team. This is merely issue that they used to push players to a strike. Biggest hopes of owners is to break strong union led by Marvin Miller. Owners still crying about salaries driving them to brink of bankruptcy, but when NLRB requested them to open books to prove it they refused and judge ruled "Play ball!" Then the strike followed days later....

On the other side of fence, players have continually shown sincere interest in solving strike by offering counterproposals one after another. Owners won't budge. One thing must be realized, players are only asking to keep what they already have won through courts. All free agency says is that you are not bound to one team, regardless of what they offer you, for entire career.... Free agency has changed things around for players and owners alike. In last 10 years salaries have gone up from average of \$31,000 per to about \$175,000. On owners side, T.V. money has soared, attendance is way up, and competitive balance is at its best. No longer are teams winning year after year by 12 or 15 games virtually ending pennant race in mid-July.... As for fans, price of ticket is still the best entertainment bargain in town, an average of about \$5.50 a pop....

Umpires got into the act last week by taking the owners to court to stop payment on Lloyd's of London insurance policy. Their contention is that as long as owners are collecting strike insurance, incentive to reach quick settlement is zilch. Owners are now collecting \$100,000 per game that can go on for 60 days. That's a hundred grand a piece!... Umps throughout whole ordeal have been 100% behind players. Their union officially endorsed the strike and this move (though later disallowed) to push the owners against another wall can only help. Owners contention is it only causes more delays at the bargaining table. That's the biggest can of garbage I've heard since this began! Owners haven't made one concession, haven't come to the table with anything new since last December 1979! They claim to be attempting to put out the fire but they are using a water pistol to do so. And that's empty....

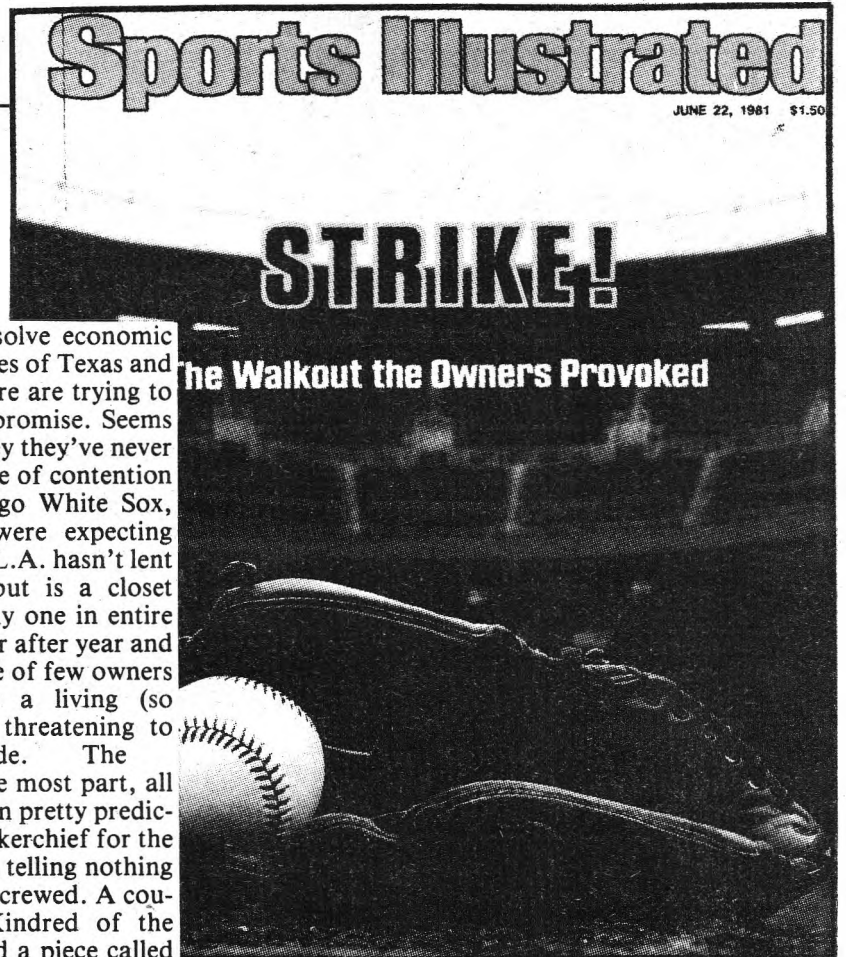
Baseball commissioner Bowie Kuhn has claimed all along that he's hogtied, can't do a thing. If that's so, all he needs now is a muzzle to shut his mouth. Kuhn has instructed owners to "avoid helping the media contact players" during the strike. All scheduled public appearances by players that were arranged by club are to be replaced by managers or front office personnel. Just what the Kawanis Club wants to hear, a director of advertising instead of George Brett or Rod Carew. Ha!

Some comments from players.... Tom Seaver, player rep in middle of negotiations thinks the season will not resume. "That's the only assumption I can make right now. It's obvious from the two bargaining sessions we have had that the owners simply do not want to make an agreement." The issues have never been addressed. Seaver is one of many "name" players not striking for himself. He's already made a nice buck and doesn't need free agent clause now in twilight of a brilliant career. "This won't affect me. It is for the association and everything it has stood for."... Gaylord Perry, 42-year-old Atlanta Braves pitcher who will probably be the next 300-game career winner also hasn't struck for himself. "I remember what it used to be like. I was owned by San Francisco for 14 years. You could take what they offered and that was it. You couldn't even go to arbitration. We can't go back to that kind of thing again."... Dave Winfield as the highest paid player naturally losing most per game not played. That doesn't stop Dave from his self-appointed duties as big brother to any and every needy kid he can find. Though three-game series were cancelled due to strike, (which Dave bought 1,500 tickets for \$4,500 for local kids) Winfield still flew to Minnesota at own expense to supervise health checkup and dinners for 200 children. The medical and dinner tabs were picked up by the Winfield Foundation, started and funded by Dave to help America's children....

T.V. losing tons of green with no baseball. Juggling of schedules has more John Garfield movies in two weeks than I've seen in the last five years....

Owners are showing their class nature already, can't have any kind of unity. Typical trait of

bourgeoisie. That's why they can't solve economic crisis they've created. Owners Ed Chiles of Texas and Edward Bennett Williams of Baltimore are trying to rally support to settle quick, to compromise. Seems they plus a few others are losing money they've never made in the game of baseball. Because of contention this year they along with the Chicago White Sox, L.A. Dodgers and a few others were expecting tremendous gates. Peter O'Malley of L.A. hasn't lent his support publicly to dissidents but is a closet router. His club losing more than any one in entire league. They have best attendance year after year and 1981 no exception. Also O'Malley one of few owners who rely strictly on baseball for a living (so hesays)... The old hard-liners are threatening to sell their clubs if a compromise is made. The media seems split on this one. For the most part, all stuff written and said on T.V. has been pretty predictable. Dick Young and his usual handkerchief for the poor mistreated owners. Mike Lupica telling nothing but the truth, the players are getting screwed. A couple of others of interest: David Kindred of the Washington Post and L.A. Times did a piece called *Shed No Tears for the Poor Owners*. His article tells us of the nature and phoney hungry greed of the owners. Their million and billionaire status, tax shelters and multinational corporate fangs. This puts "big" player contracts into perspectives, not pitting them against what an auto or steel worker makes but what the owners reap in profits from the players talents. Good piece Dave... But the best (and, I must admit, most surprising) was from Sports Illustrated magazine. The article was written by Jim Kaplan entitled *Strike! The Walkout the Owners*



Sports Illustrated cover tells it like it is.

Provoked. It's self explanatory, no? Gives a top to bottom rundown on whole issue and doesn't pull any punches. To me, that is what a Pulitzer Prize article should look like. By far best sports article to appear in print this year.

Want to close by saying scrap the idea on settlement I said two weeks ago. Players don't need my help yet. But if they do, they know now that I'm available. □

American Journal

Lost Ark, Lost Innocence

David Armstrong

The kids in the darkened theater cheer when the hero mounts his white horse and gallops after the bad guys. The grown-ups do the same, squirming in their seats with excitement. The popcorn is fresh, the Yanks are winning and all is right with the world. It's a Saturday matinee in America, 1981. The movie is the new megabuck release from George Lucas and Steven Spielberg, *Raiders of the Lost Ark*.

It's gonna be a monster, as they say in Show Biz. Meaning: it's going to make as much money as Lucas and Spielberg's biggest previous productions (*Star Wars* and *Jaws*, respectively), and do a great deal to shape our national fantasies for the next year or two, besides. From a strictly-entertainment point of view, that's fine. *Raiders* is a socko movie, brilliantly edited to a staccato, thrill-a-minute clip, with great sight-gags and a Dolby soundtrack that makes every punch and slap sound like bombs bursting in air.

Viewed in a political perspective, however, *Raiders of the Lost Ark* is less enchanting. The more-American-than-apple-pie hero — who bears the felicitous name Indiana Jones — lashes his way through a variety of Third World locales, scattering crowded marketplaces and demolishing construction sites in his quest to outmuscle the villains and rescue the damsel in distress. Of course, the simple natives love him anyway, because Jones sticks it to the *really* evil guys — German, Nazis, circa 1936. We can tell they're evil, because they speak in menacing accents and wear uniforms. Jones, he wears old clothes and this boyish beard, and his speech is Midwestern, direct, flat.

So, there are no troubling questions of conscience in this movie, no unsettling ambiguities. We are the Good Guys and *they* are the Bad Guys, and we beat the bejesus out of them, period. *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, despite its big-budget gloss, is a conventional action picture, artistically and politically conservative, drenched in nostalgia for a time when Americans believed themselves to be politically pure and militarily omnipotent.

Raiders is of a piece with Lucas' earlier films, such as *American Graffiti*, a nostalgic look back at the director's high school days — made when he was still in his twenties — and *Star Wars* and *The Empire*

Strikes Back, in which the values of an idealized American past are set in a futuristic conception of outer space.

Spielberg's track record is more complex. It includes pictures that explore ambiguity and doubt, such as *The Sugarland Express* and even *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, in which the benevolence of the saucer people is left up in the air until the film's climactic moments. With *Raiders*, Spielberg appears to be turning his back — only temporarily, one hopes — on subtle colorations of character for the simple clarity of a world viewed in black and white.

Raiders of the Lost Ark depicts not just a quest for the Lost Ark of the Covenant, but an invocation of lost innocence — the Golden Age of America's past, when we outproduced everybody and won all the wars. In a scene toward the end of the film, Jones (played by *Empire's* leading man, Harrison Ford) is nearly run over by a German plane that fortuitously bursts into flames before it can do any harm. Although I'm sure its coincidental, the wreckage of that plane looks like nothing so much as the famous photograph of the smoldering American helicopters in the Iranian desert widely circulated last year. In the movies, where wishes come true, it's the other side's aircraft that crack up and burn.

It is, perhaps, a sign of the times that these popcorn passion plays are being produced by young directors — Spielberg and Lucas are both in their thirties. Despite the recent example of the experimental cinema of the 1960s, with which they are undoubtedly familiar, Lucas and Spielberg have forsaken risk to stick to the safe commercial formula of the 1940s.

Of course, one can argue — as the filmmakers themselves do — that *Raiders*, like their other work, is "only a movie," only entertainment, and not meant to be taken seriously. That *Raiders of the Lost Ark* is an entertaining picture, there is no doubt, but we're being more entertained when we cheer the hero on the white charger. Lest we forget, Nixon watched *Patton* several times just before he decided to invade Cambodia, and a star of Grade B oatburners has taken his place in the White House, itchy trigger finger and all.

Praise the Raisinettes and pass the ammunition. □

...FRANCE

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fit, seriously crippling capital investment in the French economy.

So choked by the high interest rates is the already weak franc that the French government was forced to raise gasoline and heating oil prices by 8 percent despite the world oil glut. Several times the French have protested the U.S. high interest policy; German leader Schmidt has bitterly complained too. But the U.S. monopoly capitalists have turned a deaf ear, preferring to throttle their allies.

Unwanted Mandate

The French workers and working people gave former President Giscard d'Estaing seven years to solve the country's problems. They gave him a final chance in the 1978 parliamentary elections, but only after they were barraged with right-wing, anti-communist propaganda. He failed. And the masses gave their mandate to Mitterrand.

It was a mandate he never wanted. Socialist Mitterrand is actually pro-capitalist and pro-U.S. imperialist. During the presidential race, he criticized Giscard for being too soft on the Soviet Union. His solution to the problem of Soviet interference in Europe is to call on the U.S. to take more responsibility for its security. He called for the installation of U.S. Pershing missiles in Europe should the Soviets not remove their SS-20s. His worries of Soviet hegemonism put him in the U.S.' lap, and he ends up advocating the escalation of tension in Europe.

He fares little better in home policy. His brand of socialism is nationalization of only 17 percent of the country's industry, let alone dismantling the state and establishing workers' rule. His idea of change does not include socialism or revolution. His political philosophy is perhaps best expressed by Pierre Mauroy, the new Prime Minister. "To change society," he remarked, "it is necessary to turn our back on the illusion of revolution."

Mitterrand was catapulted much further than he anticipated — or wanted. Had a right-center majori-

ty been elected to Parliament, as everyone expected and most likely Mitterrand wanted, he could have settled down, been blocked on the implementation of his election program, blamed Parliament for the country's woes and emerged blameless. But with a clear majority and a mandate for his program, he is in trouble. He cannot deliver within capitalism's framework, and he will not deliver outside of it.

"The central question for the French business community," wrote Paul Lewis, a writer for the New York Times, on June 23, "is no longer whether President Mitterrand can carry out his economic program, but whether he will try to do so. The economic constraints on his freedom of action are starting to show."

We might also add political constraints. The capitalist class would never agree to the full demands of the French people expressed in his election platform, and he will not move without their consent. That is why Mitterrand will implement his nationalization plans only "when the economic conditions are right." And that is why the French business community remained curiously calm when he formed his government.

He has taken tiny steps. A presidential decree raised the minimum wage by a modest 10 percent, and social security benefits have been raised. But his is hedging on most of his program. The popular demand for a 35-hour work week has been put off; he is leaving it to union-management negotiations.

And what of his nationalization programs? Paul Lewis, in the same article quoted above, said this: "one widely discussed scenario foresees the Socialists nationalizing the troubled steel companies, some armament makers that depend on government contracts anyway, and perhaps a big private bank. But no more." The masses' demand for sweeping changes including the confiscation of the robber baron banks has been twisted beyond recognition. Mitterrand's high-sounding phrases have turned into a deadweight around the masses' neck. Nationalization of only the most petrified industries bleeds the

working people white. This is how far apart Mitterrand is from the masses' demands.

Hogtie CPF

Unwilling and unable to implement his mandate, he found himself in a sticky spot. In full control of the French ship of state, he would have no easy time over the next seven years.

The Communist Party, although it lost half its parliamentary seats, is potentially the new Socialist government's most worrisome opposition. In the final round of elections, it won every seat that it ran for. It controls the General Confederation of Workers, the equivalent of the AFL-CIO. It also controls many local and regional governments, especially in working class areas. In the second round of the presidential election, its support was a decisive factor in Mitterrand's victory.

Mitterrand's tactics in regard to the Communist Party is simply this: invite the CPF into the government, obligate it to support it. And when he proves a failure at implementing his election promises, wish and hope that the CPF gets blamed, much the same way as it was blamed for the rupture of the Socialist-Communist Union of the Left in 1977.

The Agreement

The decision to include the CPF in the government has three main points. The Communist Party declares its support for disarmament in Europe and opposes the installation of U.S. Pershing missiles and Soviet SS-20 missiles. The Communist Party calls for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan and for the Soviet Union to stay out of Poland. Both these decisions are good. They are in accord with the French masses' opposition to both U.S. imperialism and Soviet hegemonism. This line change can give the Communist Party initiative among the French people and can keep it politically relevant.

The third point—actually the haziest—declares that the Communist Party will promote "the new policies that the French have chosen in electing Francois Mitterrand." He will undoubtedly use this to hem in the CPF and restrict its freedom to agitate for the full demands of the people. But the wording is fuzzy enough so that it could also mean the CPF can criticize the government should it fail to carry out the policies Mitterrand promised in his election campaign.

United Front "From Above"

This last point—freedom of agitation and freedom to criticize other parties—is the most important condition for joining a government. If genuine communists ensure this freedom, a freedom Mitterrand will struggle to deny them, they gain another platform from which to make their views known and to advocate socialist revolution.

The workers and oppressed of France support Mitterrand; they think he will deliver on his promises. But it is clear that he, and all social-democrats, will compromise the masses' demands. The communists' strategic aim in participating in Mitterrand's government would be to enlighten the working class, to reveal his treachery, to defend the workers' independent interests from him. This is the historically necessary, strategic direction of the main blow; communists must deliver this blow as part of winning the working class to their side.

Mitterrand gave in to the CPF's demands in order to control it and prevent it from delivering the main blow. And he will likely succeed, especially given the CPF's revisionist line. But this is not historically ordained; genuine communists could enter the government and turn the situation around. They could use the new positions "from above" to step-by-step apply pressure on the government to implement the masses' demands, including bank nationalization. In short, genuine communists could give Mitterrand enough rope to hang himself, convince the masses they cannot achieve their demands under capitalism and bring them into position to fight the final battle against the capitalist class.

With this orientation in command, there is nothing opportunist or wrong with participation in government. It is no different from electoral work or other united front activity from above. Denying the permissibility of participating, under certain conditions, in this activity means denying all parliamentary work or any united front work generally. This cuts off communists from all legitimate forms of struggle to reach the majority of workers and working people.

Lenin said about these communists who refused to utilize electoral forms of struggle, "Criticism — the keenest, most ruthless and uncompromising criticism — must be directed, not against parliamentarism or parliamentary activities, but against those leaders who are unable — and still more against those who are *unwilling* — to utilize parliamentary elections and the parliamentary tribune in a revolutionary, communist manner." The tactic of participating in government is not wrong. This is class struggle. In class struggle, as in war, communists must master all forms of struggle. Those communists who refuse this task, who are afraid of electoral work or hand-to-hand combat, will not be mature enough to lead the

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NOW AVAILABLE A documentary film on the Greensboro Massacre

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RED NOVEMBER, BLACK NOVEMBER

"Finally, after all the months of distortions, after seeing Jim and my other friends turned into faceless ideologues and terrorists, and so many things they weren't, finally there is something that begins to tell the story. I hope everyone sees this film. It's all there: it's angry, it's thoughtful, it's beautiful, it's tragic and ugly; it's hopeful, it's even funny. But most of all, it's about real human beings fighting and dying for something they believed in. And it's about what those deaths mean for all of us."

Signe Waller,
widow of Jim Waller,
killed Nov. 3, 1979

"The government always wants its victims to remain faceless, nameless. That way, it's easier for people to write off the years of unjust imprisonment, the shattered families, the ruined lives, even the murder of innocent people. RED NOVEMBER, BLACK NOVEMBER makes sure those people who were killed on Nov. 3, 1979 will be remembered as husbands, friends, fathers, brothers and sister. The American people must see that this tragedy belongs to all of us, not just those who lost someone they love. As long as we don't speak out and fight against this kind of thing, who knows who will be next?
I expected to be depressed by RED NOVEMBER, BLACK NOVEMBER. I expected it to be a eulogy for the dead. But it's really a film for and about the living. It's very hopeful. I hope everyone who feels 'overwhelmed' or confused or depressed sometimes about where this country is heading has a chance to see this film. It has a lot to say that we need to hear."

Anne Sheppard, Wilmington 10 Defendant,
Present Co-convenor of the Triangle
Area Greensboro Justice Fund Committee

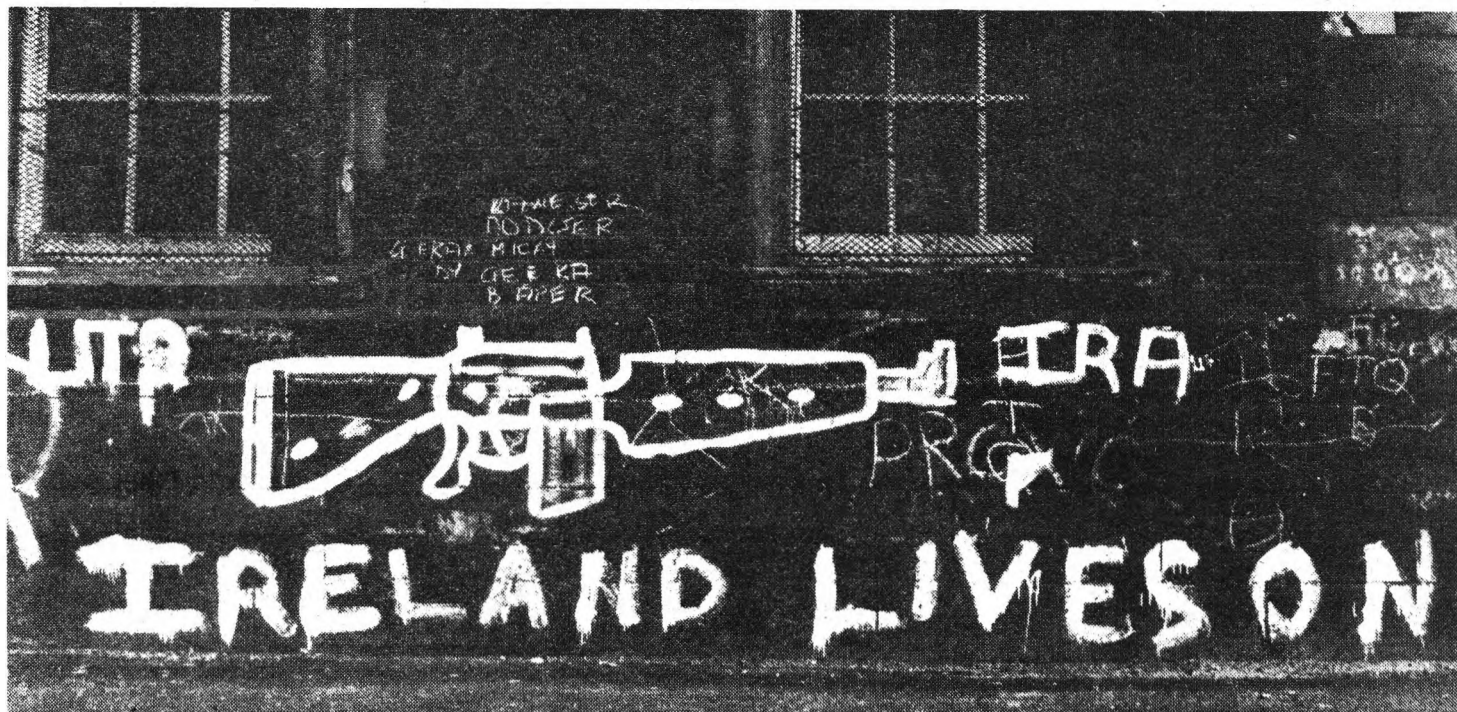
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Look For Showings In Your Local Area

continued from page 3

on the Irish support movement here reveal the real agenda behind the Reagan Administration's propaganda campaign against alleged "international terrorism." The government campaign, justified by works like Claire Sterling's *The Terror Network*, is really aimed against the American people — in this case the Irish support movement.

The support movement is not the only sector of American society being victimized by increased government repression. Three union activists at the NASSCO shipyards in San Diego were convicted on June 5 of possession of explosives and conspiracy to firebomb. In a conspiracy between the company and the FBI to bust the militant union in the yards, the three were entrapped by an FBI informer. Stepped up government repression is one feature of the 80s. At the same time conditions are better than ever to beat these attacks back.



"Low-Profile" Handcuffs Movement

There are some in the Irish support movement who believe it is better to maintain a low profile in the face of these attacks. They justify this by arguing that Britain is the main enemy of the Irish people, not the U.S.

This view ignores the reality of the present political situation. While the British imperialists are the main oppressor of the people of Ireland, it is the U.S. government that is putting up obstacles and harassing American support for the Irish struggle. For example, how effective will the Irish Northern Aid Committee be if it is forced to hand over the names of all who donate money to the cause to the government, and if it is subject to warrantless searches at any time the government wishes? And wouldn't the

support movement be strengthened if the Reagan Administration allowed Sinn Fein to come here and speak to the American people directly?

Moreover, to maintain a "low profile" so as to avoid government crackdown is absurd since the support movement is already under attack. A low profile only encourages further government attacks and cuts the support movement off from the vital source of its strength — the sympathy of the American people. The sentiment of the people, particularly Irish-Americans, is overwhelmingly in support of the Irish struggle against Britain. Only if the issue is brought out to them and U.S. complicity exposed will their righteous sentiment be tapped and the attacks beaten.

Those who push a low profile position reveal deep illusions about where the Reagan Administration stands on the question of N. Ireland, and are doing a great disservice to the people of Ireland and the support movement here.

Take Political Offensive

It has been our experience that the only way to turn back government attacks is to take the political offensive. When five of our comrades were assassinated by the KKK/Nazis and FBI on November 3, 1979, we did not bury our heads in the sand. Through serving notice to U.S. presidential candidates and Carter, through the Workers Viewpoint newspaper, through agitation and propaganda teams on street corners, through

vanguard actions like our burial of the CWP 5, and broad demonstrations like the Feb. 2 march in Greensboro, we exposed the government, Klan and Nazis to all.

If we had not taken the political offensive, Nelson Johnson, Willena Cannon and Rand Manzella would have been convicted for "provoking" their own comrades' deaths, and activists all over the country would have been discouraged from taking on the challenges of the 80s.

Only with a strong political offensive can the Irish support movement withstand the attacks by the U.S. government, of which the arrest of Falvey, Harrison and Mullin is the latest example. □

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workers to victory over capitalism and to the establishment of socialism.

Cadre Core Decisive

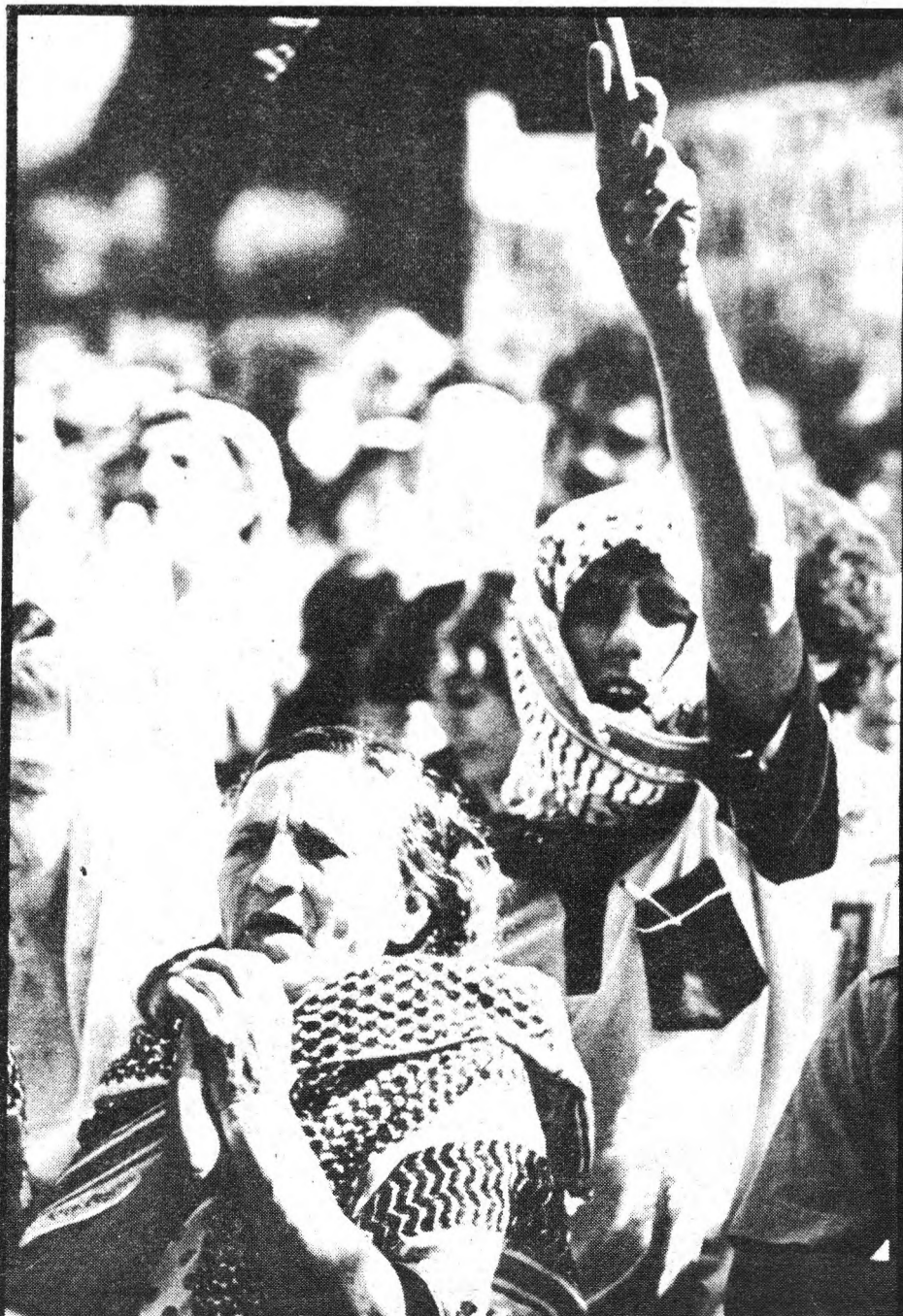
The failure or success of these communist tactics, whether Mitterrand will hang or be hung, depends on a cadre core, a seasoned core of communist rank and file political leaders and parliamentarians.

The CPF has the support of many of the trade unions and much of their rank and file. But because of its revisionist line, it has no cadre core educated in Marxism-Leninism and historical experience, and is not able to use this weight to push Mitterrand to make good on his promises. The CPF preaches the parliamentary road to socialism, and has no strategic view to expose the compromisers of the masses' demands.

The CPF, too, compromises and sets itself up as part of the direction of the main blow. But it does much more than that. It sets the workers up for a bloodbath and a right-wing reaction similar to, but more intense than, the one following the collapse of the revolutionary tide of 1968.

The CPF has thoroughly tied its fate to gaining ministerial seats. It does not believe in violent revolution and is preparing neither itself nor the masses for this eventuality. Neither is it preparing for possible counter-revolutionary violence. When the masses' big letdown comes, when they get totally disgusted with the Socialist Party, the CPF will be dragged down with Mitterrand. With no party there to lead the masses to revolutionary action, the reaction will have tremendous opportunities to play on their disappointment. This is the net result of the CPF's revisionist line on the road to revolution.

Were the CPF revolutionary, it would utilize its parliamentary and ministerial posts to agitate for the full and complete demands of the election. And then on the basis of the masses' disappointment and disillusionment with Mitterrand, it could mobilize the workers to fight for socialism and the workers' dictatorship. But no such "if's" exist. Unable to properly utilize the historic opportunity to participate in the government, it appears that the Socialist Party has the CPF by the hand only as a prelude to taking it by the throat. □



Hundreds turned out for Palestine Day in N.Y.C.

... Social Security

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Special Needs of Women

In America the plight of older women is an especially desperate one. Many women who have short work periods (or none at all) because of responsibilities in marriage and in raising a family are entitled to only 50% of their husbands social security benefits. For those women who can work they earn only 59 cents for every dollar a man earns. As a result most women will receive less in social security benefits. According to Prof. Morton Bernstein, a consultant to the White House Conference on Aging, one out of every ten widows in their sixties lives below even the government's poverty level.

In the Soviet Union the special needs of women are taken into consideration in the social security program. Women who have worked at least 15 years and have raised five or more children to the age of eight are entitled to a pension at age 50. Daycare is free and available for all working mothers. The government also distributes grants for children of single mothers, mothers of large families and families with low incomes. Through government subsidies, children's clothing and other necessary items are offered at lower prices.

Soviet women are granted maternity leave 56 days before birth and another 56 days afterwards. In the case of a difficult birth or the birth of twins, the leave is extended to 70 days. Throughout the entire leave, women continue to receive their normal wages. Upon return to work, women are entitled to paid breaks to feed their

babies. After the pregnancy, women can get light-duty work and still be paid the same wages as before. In the U.S. there are no laws that guarantee maternity leave and pay.

Other Kinds of Benefits

The Soviet social security system provides for other types of benefits for those in need. For those workers injured on the job full pensions are automatically granted no matter how long they've worked. Those injured outside the job are also entitled to a pension (calculated based on their work record). In the event of the death of a breadwinner in the family, all surviving relatives who were financially dependent (not only the spouse and children) are eligible for a full pension.

Planned Socialist Economy Puts People Over Profits

Why is the Soviet social security system vastly superior to ours? The answer to that lies in the fact that the Soviet Union has a planned socialist economy which puts the needs of the people first. With the elimination of private ownership of factories and

other sources of production for the sole aim of profit, the Soviet government has been able to organize and harness the country's vast natural and technological resources for the needs of its citizens. Since the 1917 revolution, large factories, plants and other major sources of production and distribution of industrial and consumer goods have come under public ownership and control.

By 1977 Soviet national income had increased 65 times since the revolution. In the same year, the Soviet Union produced one-fifth of the total world industrial output. Individual income doubles every 15 years in the Soviet Union while prices remain stable.

The steady improvement of the Soviet people's standard of living is done through money accumulated by the government in public consumption funds. The funding for pensions is done entirely from government resources. There is no additional tax for social security.

In the government's tenth Five-year plan (1976-80) the public consumption fund was increased to \$525 billion rubles (more than the total funds allocated in the seventh and eighth Five-year plans). It represented an increase of nearly 76,000 million rubles (roughly 12 billion rubles more than the increase in the previous plan).

It's of course a whole different situation in the U.S. While vital services, among them social security, will be cut, the Reagan Administration, if it gets its way will add three times as much money into the military budget as dur-

ing the height of the Vietnam war. After a stunning 96-0 setback in the Senate, Reagan still plans new assaults on the social security program. Leading the attack is the New York Times. In an editorial dated May 26, it recommended to the Reagan Administration a series of sweeping but "gradual" changes in the program. Among the necessary reforms proposed was the raising of the retirement age to 68 and the elimination of "freeloaders," such as children under 18 of retired workers from the program. Gradual? The angry response to these proposals from the American people will likely be swift.

A Long and Happy Life Under Socialism

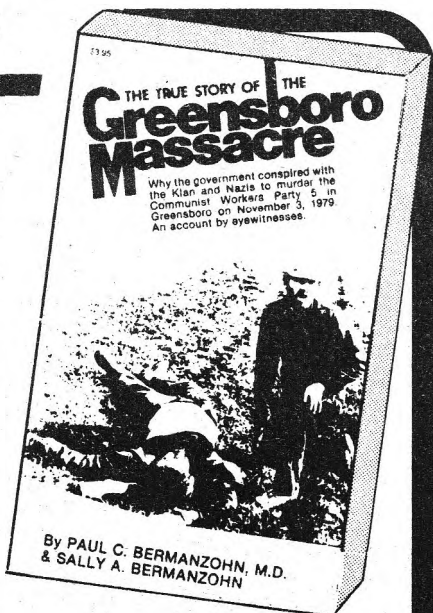
Since 1917, the life expectancy in the Soviet Union has more than doubled. Statistics in 1978 showed that the Soviet Union boasted the lowest death rate in the world. The 1970 census pointed out that nearly 3 million Soviet citizens were past the age of 80. 23,000 more lived passed the one hundred mark. These are part of the fruits of the socialist system in the Soviet Union. □

From El Salvador to Greensboro The U.S. Gov't Backs Right Wing Death Squads

Nov. 3, 1979 — U.S. Treasury agent Bernard Butkovich and police informer Edward Dawson organized a Klan-Nazi terror squad that assassinated five anti-Klan demonstrators in Greensboro, N.C.

March 27, 1981 — U.S.-backed security forces slaughtered 1,500 El Salvadoran refugees. The U.S. government has pumped millions of dollars to the military junta which has murdered over 10,000 people.

From El Salvador to Greensboro the list of crimes against the people is growing. Miami, Atlanta, Buffalo, Three Mile Island, Love Canal are warning signs to all that what has been forced on people thousands of miles away is beginning to happen at home. Just as the El Salvadoran people fight daily against government repression so must the American people.



Read the *True Story of the Greensboro Massacre*. This dramatic eyewitness account of the Nov. 3 murders details the government's involvement in right wing death squads and the shocking court verdict which freed Klan/Nazi murderers.

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LETTERS TO THE CWP

To Sandi Smith

The following is one of many poems written by Chandelle Markman, a comrade who died recently after years of battling the Lupus disease. We think the best way to remember her courage, spirit and boundless talent is to print some of her poems and writings from time to time. This poem was written after the assassination of the Communist Workers Party 5 on November 3, 1979 in Greensboro, N.C. Chandelle dedicated it to Sandi Smith, one of the five.

Chandelle Markman

Dedicated to Sandy
Who fought and died a heroine
Whose beauty did not create a false trapping...

And if for a moment I think I could live as she
Fearing no aggression her life
If I could arm myself as she —
with the weapons of our scientific theory and guns —
If only I could struggle to capture her relentless spirit
to taste freedom's flavor—
If I could succeed in picking
Up from where she left off —
How much easier it would be to
Prepare the stew to roast the oppressor —
And prepare the meal for celebrating a long awaited victory.

There's a storm brewing —
Yet we need not tell the oppressors
how many days for them are left —
There's a terrible, wicked storm brewing —
And the present raid on our youth will be met with it.
When we speak of avenging — we
Are not speaking of revenging
The people will enjoy the final Victory - but hush - we need
Not tell the ruling asses
When their funeral will be.
Suffice to say — it will be!

Tough chocolate skin
With faint snowflake hairs that outlined her face — like
a faint snow on Mt. Kilimanjaro
Tight — skin tight corn rows that
Railroaded down and under her head
Simple earrings
Eyes that slanted
Deep penetrating eyes
Lips that parted deliberately
Never loosely; never without purpose
Liken her to a tower of strength.
Solid arms
And thick thighs
That knew no shame.

Because she was a woman
With principles
No make-up
No bull-shit,
Being a lady was out of the question,
'cause the real question
Was taking care of business at hand.
So she had to get down
Like a man
And study
And think
And practice
And teach
And provide
And fight

'Cause there aint that much
"being taken care of" in the World.
She lapsed sometimes
Into a feeling of softness and Warmness
Only to be awakened by the
Cold winds of bourgeois brutality.
And yes — she grew bitter
At times would feel restless
Because everyone paid
there was only room
for one Harriet Tubman!

She knew different
And she knew not everyone
could be what she was —
Even if they wanted to
or needed to —
You know she wanted to see
More of life — but not as a
Bystander — not as a
Spectator
You know she wanted to be
With us now —
And come that much closer
to marching in the funeral
march of the ruling class.
Yet we marched at her funeral
Yet we marched at her funeral;
And with her we buried
a soldier — a woman fighter —
a class fighter
And with her we buried
Any hesitation about
destroying the U.S. gov't.
and its stepchildren
KKK/Nazi/FBI.
Avenge the CWP 5!

Chandelle Markman
February 29, 1980

Hunger Striker

Wm. Franklin is the pen name of a brother who is in prison. The author dedicated this poem to "Bobby Sands and the Irish strugglers in the I.R.A., NLF (Irish National Liberation Front — ed.), and to the Irish prisoners, who are fighting for political rights and national liberation."

HUNGER STRIKER (for Bobby Sands)

Oceans separated us
Bobby
And now a deeper
gulf has swept
you far beyond.

Yet you live...
In California prisons;
In Australian jails —
Wherever spirits soar
Away with you.

There is a Tide
stronger than
death
Which Humankind
is carried
on.

Agree with New Line

Dear friends,
I would have written you *much* sooner, but have been unable to obtain your address. You see, since last summer, I have again been locked up.
I am a Marxist-Leninist. For years (since 1964), I have been either a member of or associated with the Communist Party, U.S.A. I have been engaged in the struggle for civil rights and civil liberties for proletarians and working class organizations and oppressed nationalities since 1958. I was in all of the movements of the 60's and 70's for peace, detente, and in trade union struggles, prisoner rights struggles and so forth.
Since 1968 I have been under political and "legal" bourgeois state repression. Because of my anti-revisionist, anti-opportunist positions I have not been a member of the CPUSA since 1969. I was in prison for three years for armed self-defense and was arrested last summer for the same reason. I was held in isolation, railroaded, and sentenced to 10 years

in prison for "assault with a deadly weapon," in other words, for defending myself with arms from eight fascist-type hooligans. I am viewed with some alarm by the CP because I have consistently advocated armed self-defense when necessary against Klan-Nazi attacks. I have been a consistent student of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin.

But I have *not* been in agreement, ever, with the "two worlds" theory; not the "three worlds" theory. I have also consistently held that the Soviet Union is, and has been since 1917, a socialist country. I am not a "Maoist," a social democrat, or a Trotskyite (nor an adventurer, an anarchist, or a petty-bourgeois radical).

I have participated in united front efforts with the CWP in San Francisco against the Nazis and the Klan. I spoke at a San Francisco Board of Supervisors hearing, along with CWP members, in an effort to get a Nazi rally banned and an anti-Nazi rally permitted in place of the Nazi gathering. After our success on that front I was part of building the CWP anti-Nazi, anti-Klan rally at the UN Plaza of San Francisco.

I am also a writer and Leninist journalist. I have edited several student and community newspapers and am contributing to community newspapers, a radio station and two prison magazines.

I now receive the Guardian from New York, and I see that we are now in agreement politically and ideologically. This makes your party the one with which I think I may be able not only to support, but to subordinate myself to in a Leninist manner. (By the way, I got your address at long last from your ad in the Guardian.)

I would like to begin receiving the Workers Viewpoint at once, just as soon as you can send it; and keep sending it each week. I would also like to meet with CWP comrades to discuss my desire to enter as a candidate member. I will send my \$1 sub fee at once, but it will take the prison "trust" office about six weeks to get your \$1 to you and in the meantime would you please enter my subscription and allow me to begin receiving the paper at once.

Please count me in. I'm with you and I hope you'll be with me. I'll look forward to getting the Workers Viewpoint as soon as possible and to hearing from CWP by return mail very soon.

Yours in Struggle,
L.C.

I'll Always Read the Paper

Dear Workers Viewpoint,
I am moving out of town next month so discontinue sending me the paper until I get my new address. I am very satisfied with the paper and hope one day that our country can be socialist. Because of my age and position I am in life, I cannot get too involved with the movement the way I would like without hurting some of the plans I have in the future. I will always read the paper and relay some of the messages the paper and comrades put across to me to as many people I know.
D.E.
Baltimore, Md.

HOW TO CONTACT THE CWP

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OR CALL YOUR LOCAL OFFICES

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Boston: (617) 364-5813
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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!

NEWSPAPER OF THE COMMUNIST WORKER PARTY, U.S.A.

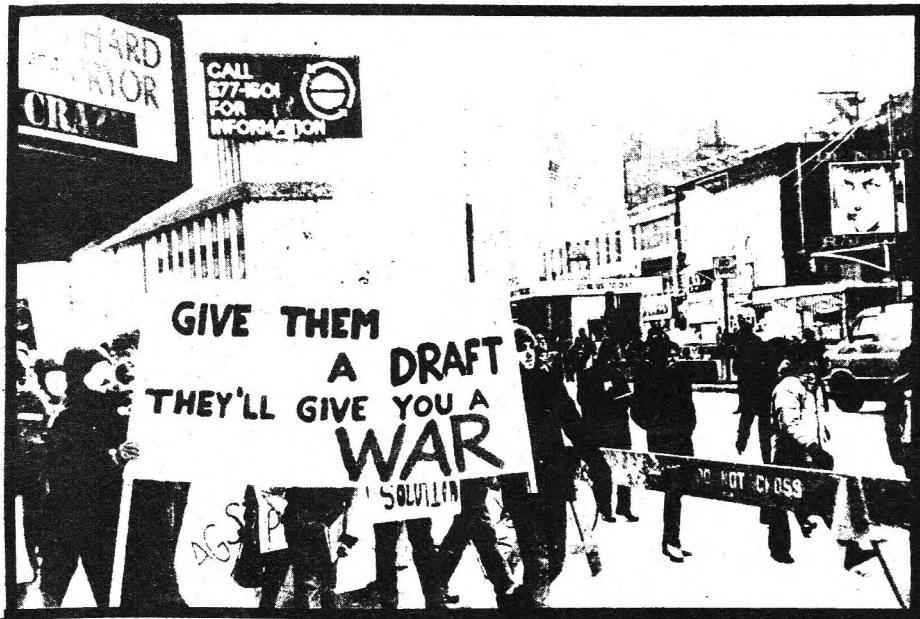
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Women's Rights — False Issue

Court Clears Way for Draft



Over 250,000 men have refused to comply with the draft registration. The Court's decision means they can now be prosecuted.

Sara Anderson

A Supreme Court ruling prohibiting draft registration of women was handed down on June 25. In a 6 to 3 decision, the court upheld the constitutionality of the Military Selective Service Act and its male-only draft.

Last July a special panel of three Federal District Court judges ruled the draft law violated the 5th Amendment of the Constitution which provides for equal protection under the law. The latest court decision overrides the lower court's which was appealed by the federal government.

The test of the draft law began nine years ago when a group of men who are anti-war activists, filed a federal suit claiming the law was discriminatory against men. Their intention was not to change the law to include women but rather to void it completely. It wasn't until the case reached the Supreme Court, that feminist groups jumped in arguing that it was test of women's rights.

Briefs filed by the National Organization of Women, and the League of Women Voters, among others, said that the law put women in a second class status by excluding them from a fundamental obligation of citizenship. Although some of the women's groups like NOW said they opposed the draft and war, their positions did not state this.

When the men first filed the suit, the draft registration was not in effect. After the Soviet Union's invasions of Afghanistan, however, President Carter exercised his presidential authority under the draft law and reinstated it. This action triggered widespread protests against the draft—many men refused to sign up, and the court suit was revived. The immediate effect of the court's decision will be the government prosecution of about 250,000 draft resisters.

More Flexibility for War

During Reagan's presidential campaign when protests were making front page news, he said, "I oppose draft

registration and conscription for men and women." But after the decision, White House spokesmen said Reagan was "genuinely pleased." They added that he was still "undecided" whether to continue with registration. Military experts conceded that the decision would give the Pentagon and the White House more flexibility for a quick call-up. It also gives Congress the go-ahead to direct funds into draft appropriations, and a wider field of action for approving the use of combat troops.

This flexibility was, in fact, upheld in Justice Rehnquist's majority opinion. He argued that the Court should not interfere with the responsibility of Congress which alone has the duty to "raise and support armies." Since the purpose of the draft is to meet a "national emergency" characterized by a need for combat troops, women could not be drafted because they are excluded from combat duty.

The question of using women for combat proved to be a bourgeois trap for the women's groups involved in the case. The Court cleverly diverted the issue from the draft itself, into a debate of who should have the "right" to fight in the interests of U.S. imperialism. And the feminists took the bait — hook, line and sinker.

Referring to Defense Department documents on the high performance records of women in the military service, Eleanor Smeal, president of NOW, said that the Court's decision implied that, "no woman is capable of defending the country — and we know that's untrue." Some even went so far as to say that excluding women from the draft is a big loss to the Pentagon. Women, they said, could "fill a large pool of talent to operate its increasingly complex military systems."

Draft Only Solution

Many young, working class men and women enlist to get the technological education and training that is a by-product of the "complex military systems." But this is because education, training and jobs are denied them

in civilian life. As soon as they serve their time, they leave, not wanting to be a cog in the U.S. war machine. This situation has become so widespread, that the Pentagon admits that the all-volunteer army isn't working, and that the draft is the only solution to maintain "combat readiness."

Justice Rehnquist pointed out that the draft is not meant as an "equal opportunities offer." Its purpose is to insure combat readiness for national emergencies. By national emergencies, he means U.S. intervention in the liberation struggles of third world peoples and the backing of fascist dictators like Duarte in El Salvador. He also means the "emergency" of militant struggles of people fighting against capitalist oppression here in the U.S. And by combat troops, he's talking about forcing our brothers and sons to act as fascist troops and strikebreakers and to die cannon fodder for U.S. imperialism.

NOW Negates Antiwar Movement

NOW's Smeal argues that if women were drafted, it would broaden the movement against the draft. Not only does this argument negate the experience of the antiwar movement when there were as many women as men out on the streets fighting, but it's a dangerous exercise in golden mean politics. Essentially, that's saying if we all are reduced to share the same forms of oppression, then we have a basis to fight together. This is a cop-out for not organizing women to oppose the draft itself.

Smeal fails to mention the already "shared experience" of thousands of army nurses who are still suffering from the effects of the Vietnam war. They share the same flashback syndrome that has led to the deaths by suicide of many Vietnam vets. Or the fact that some of these women have also been exposed to Agent Orange and are now terrified of having children. Nor is there any mention of the terrible guilt these men and women feel from the "shared experience" in a genocidal war against people fighting for freedom and independence.

Backers of Women's Draft — Dangerous Allies

After the decision was handed down, some of the women's groups said they are still committed to fight for women's right to be drafted. Instead of declaring an all-out drive against the draft and war preparation, which has been a unifying demand for both men and women activists, a NOW spokesperson could only whimper that the decision was a setback for, "women's equal rights." Coming from their own narrow understanding of what real rights for women consists of, these women such as Smeal and Bella Abzug (who are best described as legal feminist because they consistently try to limit women's struggle to court cases, and congressional battles) missed the whole point of the decision. It was not a testing of women's legal rights, it was a legal maneuver to back up the warmaking powers of the government. □



During the Vietnam War, many soldiers joined the protest movement, some even refusing to fight. Do these women really want the "right" to be cannon fodder for another imperialist war?