

## The Case of Frank Santana

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# THE MILITANT

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## Senate Passes Eisenhower's Mideast Plan

By George Lavan

MARCH 6 — By 72 to 19 the Senate last night voted Eisenhower a blank check for war in the Middle East. Since the House of Representatives had earlier passed a similar resolution, all that remains is the formality of making the wording of the two versions identical and the Eisenhower Doctrine becomes law.

Truman plunged the U.S. into the Korean War without even consulting Congress which, according to the Constitution, alone has the power to declare war. The Eisenhower Doctrine gives Congress war-making power in advance to the president for use in the Mideast whenever he chooses and for as long as he wishes.

That the American people oppose this blank check for war was indicated by the unprecedented heavy mail opposing the bill received by members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. It ran "eight or nine to one" against the Eisenhower Doctrine.

Yet the Big Business Congress is so pro-war that an amendment introduced by Senator Morse (D-Ore.), requiring the president to get Congressional consent before ordering troops into combat, was overwhelmingly rejected.

The danger of Soviet aggression is the official justification for the surrender of Congress' war-making power to Eisenhower. But this is merely eyewash to get the bill passed—the theory that the American, press and public can be duped with anything if it is labelled anti-Communist. As Rowland Evans, Washington correspondent of the conservative N.Y. Herald-Tribune (Feb. 17) wrote:

"A blanket of military protection is about to descend over many nations in the Middle East against a danger of Communist aggression that, in the words of Admiral Arthur W. Radford [Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff], is neither imminent nor, at the present time, foreseeable. . . The paradox of a blanket military guaranty against a danger that

doesn't quite exist, against a threat that shows no immediate signs of materializing. . ."

Against whom then would U.S. troops be used? U.S. imperialism will use them against the same people the French and British did—the Arab people who are trying to throw off imperialism. These are the "aggressors" the Eisenhower Doctrine aims at. The danger is that their "aggression" may take the form of nationalizing their own oil resources and other natural wealth. For some months, the Administration and the Big Business press has been engaged in a campaign to picture Egypt and Syria as "Communist-dominated or infiltrated."

The 19 Senators voting against the Eisenhower Doctrine were mostly Southern Democrats who objected not to the expenditure of the lives of GIs but to expenditure of \$200 million also authorized by the bill. Voting with them were three isolationists and three liberal Democrats.



SENATOR HUMPHREY (D-Minn.) was one of the liberals who voted for Eisenhower's plan.

## Philadelphia, L. A., N. Y. Symposiums Announced

Continuing interest in discussion of the prospects for socialist regroupment is expressed in the growing number of symposiums throughout the country which are

providing a platform for the exchange of viewpoints of the differing radical tendencies. This month at least four such symposiums will be held in New York, Los Angeles and Philadelphia.

In New York, the Brooklyn Compass Club is sponsoring a discussion on "Socialism and Civil Liberties" to be held Sunday evening, March 10, 8 P.M. at Sunrise Manor, 1638 Pitkin Ave., Brooklyn. Participants are Simon Gerson, Chairman of the Civil Liberties Committee of the Communist Party and former City Editor of the Daily Worker; Farrell Dobbs, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party; and Tyrell Wilson, Sr., a veteran socialist, long active in the battle for civil liberties and civil rights.

Two symposiums are being held in Los Angeles:

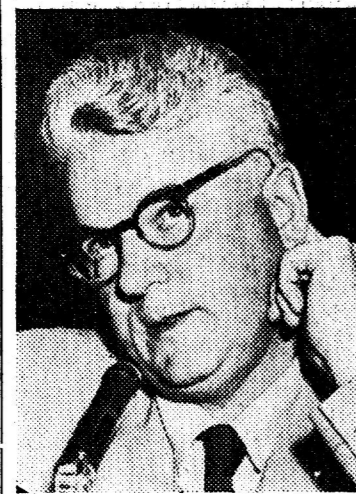
A March 29 discussion on the question "Is There a Future for American Socialism?" will hear Vincent Hallinan, 1952 Presidential Candidate of the Progressive Party; Dorothy Healy, Los Angeles County Chairman of the Communist Party; William F. Warde, Los Angeles Chairman, Socialist Workers Party; Bert Cochran, editor of the American Socialist; and Carl Marzanni, writer and lecturer. The meeting will begin at 8 P.M. at the Embassy Auditorium, 847 So. Grand.

On March 13 in Los Angeles, there will be an exchange of views on the issue "What is the Meaning of Socialist Regroupment?" The speakers include Arne Swabeck, a leading spokesman for the Socialist Workers Party; Max Schachtman, National Chairman of the Independent Socialist League and Harry Sitonen of the Los Angeles Socialist Party. Sponsored by the SWP,

ISL and SP, the meeting will be held at Channing Hall, 2936 W. 8th Street at 7:45 P.M.

In Philadelphia, on March 15 at 8 P.M., the platform will be shared by J. A. Davidson of the Independent Socialist League; Joseph Roberts, Chairman of the Eastern Pennsylvania District of the Communist Party; Tom Kerry of the Socialist Workers Party; and the revolutionary pacifist, Charles Walker. The discussion on "What's Ahead for the American Left" will be held at the New Century club, 124 So. 12th Street.

## Defies Probers



Communist Party leader Eugene Dennis at a Feb. 25 hearing of the Senate Internal Security subcommittee which tried to compel him to give information about the recent CP convention. Dennis refused to answer and attacked the invasion of his party's civil liberties.

# 'Right to Scab' Law Adopted In Industrial State of Indiana

## Tallahassee Students Get Prison Term

By Henry Gitano

Tallahassee's white-supremacist "justice" on March 4, sentenced three university students—two Negroes and one white—to 60 days in jail and \$500 fines for violating the city's new bus-seat assignment ordinance under which drivers tell passengers where to sit. Attempting through intimidation to smash the solidarity of Negro and white students, the court meted out the maximum penalty. Tallahassee's all white Florida State University newspaper urged students in a recent editorial to attend mass meetings of the Inter Civic Council (organized to direct the bus boycott) and to help in the struggle for equal rights.

In Miami, Fla., Ashton Jones a 61-year old white man who expressed his opposition to white supremacists, was jailed after being carried bodily by cops from a White Citizens Council meeting. The Amsterdam News (March 2) revealed that a flaming cross was burned at the Camp Lejeune, N.C., U.S. Marine Base on Feb. 16 and was followed by a riot.

Gus Courts who was shot in Belzoni, Miss., after having led a campaign to register Negro voters described the Dixie reign of terror before a Senate Judiciary Subcommittee: "We had to flee in the night. We are the American refugees from the terror of the South, all because we wanted to vote." Courts who now lives in Chicago, noted that only 8,000 Negroes are now on Mississippi registration rolls, "although there are 497,000 potential colored voters" in the state. Mr. Courts stated that they were "killing the colored people who want to vote and be citizens."

Rev. W. D. Ridgeway of Hattiesburg, Miss., told the committee that only 25 Hattiesburg Negroes out of a population of 12,958 "have been permitted to vote." Mrs. Beatrice Young from Jackson, Miss., told of Southern Gestapo methods. She testified how deputy sheriff A. L. Hopkins showed up at her home while she was pregnant, hit her with a blackjack, took her to jail and beat her again.

In New Orleans, Negroes are boycotting Mardi Gras festivities as a protest against segregation, and will utilize the funds to further integration on Louisiana's buses and in its schools. "We want to destroy the myth that we are satisfied," said Raymond Floyd, a New Orleans Negro leader.

## Government 'Regulation' Aids Oil Corporations in Huge Price Steal

By Vincent Copeland

Prices of gasoline, fuel oil and other oil products have recently risen again, while both profits and supplies are at an all-time high. This apparent defiance of the economic law of gravity is only possible because of the tremendous influence of oil monopolies on the United States government.

The Suez crisis is only the excuse for raising prices, not the reason. The public has been led to believe that there is an oil shortage, when in reality there is an immediate surplus. The government is well aware of this. But in spite of revelations by Sen. O'Mahoney (D-Wyo.), Chairman of the Senate anti-Trust and Monopolies subcommittee, the government so far refuses to act.

\$100 MILLION GRAVY

N. J. Rathbone, president of Standard Oil of New Jersey, is so confident of the government's co-

## Captured Algerian Freedom Fighters



Pictured above are six Algerian fighters for independence from French imperialism after their arrest along with 14 others on Feb. 22. The raid came after weeks of systematic terrorization of the city of Algiers by French police. (See editorial on French Premier Mollet's visit to U.S., page 3.)

## New Trial for Morton Sobell Argued Before Appeals Court

By Myra Tanner Weiss

MARCH 5 — The U.S. Court of Appeals in New York City today heard the arguments of Morton Sobell's lawyers for a new hearing. The court has not yet reached a decision on the motions. Sobell is now serving a 30-year prison term in Alcatraz for conviction in the "espionage" trial of 1951 that resulted in the execution of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg.

The argument for Sobell was made by his attorneys, Donner and Perlin, with the assistance of Dr. Luis Sanchez Ponton, former Minister of Education in Mexico and a noted authority on international law. Dr. Sanchez Ponton informed the court of the nature of Mexican law in relation to deportation, and told of his own investigation of evidence.

GOVT ON TRIAL

Marshall Perlin, one of Sobell's lawyers, charged that the prosecution in Sobell's original trial in 1951 "knowingly" and "wilfully" used "perjured testimony," against the defendant Sobell, suppressed evidence and made "misrepresentations" to the trial court. Thus, although it was

Morton Sobell whose freedom was at stake in the appeal, the integrity of the government's conduct of its case was actually at issue in today's proceedings.

This was evident when one of the three appeals judges, Harold R. Medina, pointed out the seriousness of the charges against the government. In addition, U.S. Attorney, Paul Williams, for the government, agreed that if there were perjury in the prosecution's case, the decision of the lower court should be reversed.

Yet nowhere in Williams' answering argument, did he deny any of the facts presented in the Sobell brief that prove an abduction of Morton Sobell and his family took place in Mexico. Williams denied the perjury charge on the government never claimed Sobell was "deported pursuant to the extradition treaty." The government only maintained that Sobell was "deported from Mexico."

"They [Sobell's lawyers] always equate deportation and extradition," complained Williams. And he gave the literal translation from the Latin of the word "deport," i.e., to "carry from, or

off." The U.S. Attorney should have gone on to complete the dictionary definition. This would include: "to be in modern law, the removal from a country, of an alien considered inimical to the public welfare or not lawfully there." This would imply some legal consideration by the deporting government.

The prosecution could have proved itself innocent of the "serious charges" made by Sobell simply by obtaining evidence of legal action on the part of Mexico. Williams asserted to the Court that "this was a legal deportation." However, no such evidence was introduced. On the entire record of the case the sole claim to "deportation" is based on U.S. government records, made by an official at Laredo, Texas. But the U.S. government was not the "deporting" authority. If the action were legal as Williams maintained, there must be evidence of that legal action in the hands of the Mexican government. Why couldn't the U.S. Attorney obtain such evidence? It is necessary to conclude that none exists.

And if the prosecution under the direction of Irving Saypol in 1950 kidnaped Sobell, made it appear that he was forced to return to the United States and lied about it in court, isn't it also conceivable that the sole witness against Sobell, Max Elitcher, who was shivering in fear of being prosecuted himself on an earlier, admitted perjury, also lied? If the representatives of a

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## Governor Refuses to Veto Bill as 10,000 Unionists Demonstrate at Capitol

By Harry Ring

Ten thousand rank-and-file Indiana unionists massed inside the state capitol in Indianapolis March 2 in an unsuccessful, last-minute effort to block passage of a state "right-to-work" law. With the announcement by Gov. Harold Hadley of his flat refusal to veto the union-busting statute, Indiana became the first major industrial state to outlaw the union shop. Passage of the measure came in the union-baiting atmosphere currently sparked by the Congressional probe ostensibly aimed at labor "racketeering."

The mass demonstration was called by the leadership of the AFL after the state Senate had adopted the measure by a vote of 27 to 23. The House passed the bill last week by a vote of 54 to 22. Leaders of the CIO did not join in the call for the mass demonstration which aimed at forcing a veto of the bill by the governor. However it is reported that many CIO unionists joined the demonstration.

18th STATE

Jamming the corridors of the capitol, the demonstrators chanted slogans and carried banners and placards. Among the signs were: "Hoosiers want union life lines, not state bread lines;" "Thanks for legalized slavery;" and "I am against the Right to Work for Nothing Bill."

Indiana is now the 18th state to ban the closed shop. The other states include Iowa, Nebraska, North and South Dakota in the North plus 13 Southern states. Passage of the Indiana bill is the worst setback for labor thus far in the fight to preserve the union shop. Indiana is the nation's third largest producer of steel, autos and auto parts. There are an estimated 600,000 union members in the state.

The defeat assumes even

graver significance in that it springs from a stepped-up nationwide campaign for the extension of the reactionary "right-to-work" laws. Strong pressure is now being built up to ram a similar measure through the Delaware legislature. Union officials have expressed concern about the possibility of the spread of similar anti-labor legislation to Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maryland.

In voting for the Indiana law, members of the legislature said that they were motivated by the recent incident in a Princeton, Ind. Machinists strike where an infant was wounded by gunfire allegedly aimed at her father who was scabbing in the strike. The real setting for their action was pegged by A. H. Raskin, labor editor of the New York Times, in a March 4 article which describes the Indiana action as part of a nation-wide campaign "to outlaw the union shop by state action." Passage of the Indiana bill, Raskin says, "is spurring farm and employer groups to more intensive action."

CONGRESSIONAL PROBE

"Their hopes of fresh breakthroughs, he continues, "are built partly on their first success in an industrial state and partly on the belief that the Senate investigation into labor racketeering will build up receptivity to curbs on union power."

The accuracy of Raskin's estimate of the real meaning of the Congressional labor "probers" was underscored by the March 3 declarations of two of the committee

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## The "Soundproof" Indiana Legislature

An Editorial

Both houses of the Indiana legislature were in session when 10,000 unionists massed in the corridors of the capitol building chanting their opposition to the union-wrecking bill which had just been passed. But, the press reports, "the lawmakers were not disturbed by the din. The chambers of both bodies are soundproof."

That "sound barrier" could have been broken. The voice of Indiana labor would have been heard in those chambers if it had its own elected representatives inside and was not compelled to try to make its voice heard only from the outside. The need for such labor representation exists today in every state legislature to combat the continuing spread of anti-labor legislation. And most pressing of all, is the need for such representation in Congress. Federal legislation is urgently required to block the growing "state's rights" movement to cripple the unions.

But so long as labor is without its own voice in Congress there is little prospect for such legislation. As the March 4 New York Times reports: "Union officials make no secret of their belief that the Congressional climate is not conducive to any move for federal legislation to shut the door to state rule over union security."

This openly anti-labor climate has existed since the passage of Taft-Hartley in 1947. It is an outgrowth of the failure of the 1946 drive of Big Business to break the unions on the picketlines. That attack was repelled by the magnificent solidarity of the striking workers in basic industry who made clear that American unionism could not be broken on the picketline. But with the turn to accomplish this aim politically labor was unprepared for the attack, and the consequent progress of the legislative anti-union drive has been substantial.

The strategy of labor's officialdom to counter the attack by electing Big Business politicians in the Democratic Party has failed. If labor is to preserve the hard-won gains of the picketline it must forge the necessary political weapon — an independent labor party.



MORTON SOBELL





