CAMPAIGN '80 UNDERWAY

ARE YOU READY TO FIGHT TO DEFEND THIS THRONE?

The 1980 presidential election campaign has gotten underway with interest in it at record lows. Predictions from some sources are that voter turnout in November could be as low as 30% of all those eligible. Every poll such as Time magazine's latest one indicate deep-seated dissatisfaction with the whole election con game. According to Time, 55% of those polled say they are not "personally interested or excited about any of the candidates," with only 11% reporting "genuine enthusiasm" for Reagan, 9% for Carter and 6% for Anderson. And the same article quotes Warren Miller of CBS News' election and survey unit and a member of the American Political Science Association as commenting, "We are really seeing a loss of respect for this state of affairs and it is more tragic than ever attempting to turn the growing disgust and anger about the election around, or at least keep it within safer bounds. The biggest candidate is becoming the election itself, with covers on news magazines reading "VOTE" and "THE U.S. VOTER: Wary-Worried-Waiting," and TV, radio and newspapers trying from every angle to stimulate interest in the campaign and get people to the polls.

Ironically, it is the "free elections" which are producing such cynicism and disgust that are supposed to stir our souls to defend the U.S. in a war. This very "sacred right to choose," the quintessence of "our democratic traditions," the culmination of "our precious freedoms that no one else in the world enjoys," is supposed to be what makes it all worthwhile for youth to be drafted into the Army and soon to be dragged off to war to defend and protect it. The old line of "in America at least you have a job and the highest standard of living in the world," no longer has the same ring to it. More, the only thing they have to offer are hollow and empty appeals to defend America, the "cornerstone of freedom" where we have the right to vote for which decrepit mouthpiece of the super-rich we want to hear drone on, mouthing warmongering gibberish from the White House or Congress. This is sup-

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September 11 marks a sad anniversary for the people of Chile and an infamous date in the history of U.S. imperialism. On Sept. 11, 1973, as a three-year campaign planned in the White House and orchestrated by the CIA came to a climax, as U.S. warships maneuvered off Chile's coastline, the hand of American imperialism unleashed Chile's armed forces. The Presidential Palace in Santiago was surrounded by tanks, President Allende murdered, and a ferocious military repression launched against Chile's workers, peasants and other forces whose struggle threatened U.S. interests.

It was on this anniversary, Sept. 11, 1980, that the fascist military junta which came to power through that coup seven years ago shamelessly held a phony national "plebiscite" to obtain the stamp of popular approval on the military regime's proposed constitution, which would allow junta head Gen. Augusto Pinochet to remain in office until 1989, or 1997 if the regime deems it desirable. The military regime had announced that anyone not voting would be jailed and struck which would be kept to enforce this edict. To deal with the fact that the junta itself had destroyed the voter registration lists, it was announced that voters' hands would be marked with indelible ink—supposedly to prevent people from voting twice, but obviously meant in this case to allow the police to check up on who didn't vote at all.

In the face of this situation in which whether people
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voted yes or no was irrelevant and the only question was whether the government would emerge strengthened or weakened from the blood and tears of the people.

This was the main thrust of the government decision to hold a plebiscite on the contrary the junta's announce of the results, giving the impression of victory while there are hopes that this will be a "good show" in Chile Sept. It will allow far more open support for the junta's program by the American business community. Chile as among the best places for what is politely called "investment opportunities." But there is an ugly persistent "image problem" which plagues the Pinochet regime. Just as the American government indulged in this, they made repeated efforts to wipe the blood off. Most notorious was a phony referendum conducted in January, 1978, seeking a "yes" to the government's condemnation of a UN expose of mass murder and torture in 1976. The regime apparently thought people would forget the beginning of a new wave of struggle that has grown in strength, organization and determination.

This week's plebiscite, with its so-called opportunity to vote "no" to fascism, represented yet another such political maneuver by the junta. What prevents these efforts from being nothing but a sick joke depends only on the determination and strength of the people. American who conveniently confessed to being a certain minority of "no" votes, another number and blank spread out as a justification for the "yes" victory. Once again, once that Pinochet and his gang will not give up the power that has given them so much monetary profit and personal gain. If the people are not scared, many of the people led by the proletarians, they won't go of their own accord.

3) For the dictatorship, people who don't vote com- mit the most serious crime. This is exactly the way that we have to defend our people against the masses won't play his game. A massive abstention would be a very hard blow to his aspirations. With this and the fact that the fascist proletariat and people must choose the battlefield that most suits their interests and their own rules in this struggle. In this way they can maintain their independence, increase their fighting capacity, heighten their morale, fight back and hit the dictatorship with a closed fist. For this reason in this analysis of the situation, the REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST PARTY of Chile calls on all social forces who oppose the dictator- ship or struggle against it to unite and coordinate their organizations and struggle to mobilize to FLAT- LY REJECT THE PLEBISCITE BY REFUSING TO PARTICIPATE IN IT.

This is a clear call to the Chilean people and pro- laboralist the July 15 plebiscite in a more "plebiscite" by ABSTAINING. Far from what might be imagined, abstain- ing does not mean paying home silly waiting for what has been promised (a yes majority of 51% votes, a certain minority of "no" votes, another number and blank spread out as a justification for the "yes" victory. Once again, once that Pinochet and his gang will not give up the power that has given them so much monetary profit and personal gain. If the people are not scared, many of the people led by the proletarians, they won't go of their own accord.

The outcry against the coup which arose from every corner of the world is a sign of the self-awareness of the masses. This in the midst of the successful holding of a plebiscite was whether the government would emerge strengthened or weakened from the blood and tears of the people. The spirits of the people's government in every corner of the world is a sign of the self-awareness of the masses. This in the midst of the successful holding of a plebiscite and the people's government in every corner of the world is a sign of the self-awareness of the masses. This in the midst of the successful holding of a plebiscite and the people's government in every corner of the world is a sign of the self-awareness of the masses. This in the midst of the successful holding of a plebiscite...