

FINALLY GOT THE NEWS

ALSC Newsletter of anti-imperialist and anti-racist struggle. Published by the African Liberation Support Committee P.O. Box 2482, Washington, D.C. 20013
Vol. I, No. 1 October, 1974.

GUINEA-B. VICTORIOUS!



On August 26, Portugal and Guinea-Bissau signed an agreement ending four centuries of Portuguese rule in the West African state. The date set for full independence is September 10; however, September 24 is the day Guinea-Bissau people will celebrate independence.

This agreement means independence for a nation of 800,000 inhabitants, most of whom are peasants.

The pact was signed in Algeria in the presence of Algerian president Houari Boumediene. Portuguese Foreign Minister Mario Soares signed for Portugal and Maj. Pedro Pires of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea and the Cape Verde Islands (PAIGC) signed for the people of Guinea-Bissau.

The agreement declares that Portugal would formally recognize the independence of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau as a sovereign state.

Other points of the agreement include the following:

—All Portuguese forces would withdraw from Guinea-Bissau by October 31.

PAIGC militants in Guinea-Bissau. Guinea-Bissau gained independence on September 10, 1974

—The two sides agreed to order an immediate cease-fire in the war that has been fought there for more than 11 years.

—That Portugal and Guinea-Bissau would establish full diplomatic relations after September 10 and thereafter, maintain “a relationship of active cooperation—particularly in the economic, financial, cultural, and technical fields—on a basis of independence, mutual respect, equality, reciprocity of interests and harmonious relations between the citizens of each of the two republics.”

—Also stated was that the two sides recognize the right of self-determination for the Cape Verde Islands, 400 miles off the West African coast. A referendum on the islands at an unspecified date, “in accordance with relevant resolutions of the United Nations.” And

that both Portugal and the PAIGC considered that the end of Portuguese rule on the Cape Verde Islands “constitutes a necessary element of durable peace and sincere cooperation” between the two nations.

The independence of Guinea-Bissau has demonstrated that PAIGC has won the support of the overwhelming majority of all the people of Guinea-Bissau and, as is now being proved, of the Cape Verde Islands as well. Also significant, though far more difficult, they have also won the active participation of thousands of their people in the total liberation of Guinea-Bissau. For example, the PAIGC has more school children going to PAIGC schools in the liberated zones than in the Portuguese enclaves in the cities.

Another example, is that PAIGC is determined that the first gains of liberation

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BLACKS FIGHT RACISM IN BOSTON

For the past 5 weeks the Black community in Boston, Mass. has waged a struggle of determined resistance against the racist attacks of white mobs as well as the Boston Police Department. It is a resistance which has taken many forms—from armed self-defense to organized demonstrations which have gained wide support from a community which has fought with determination for many years for quality education.

The passage of the Racial Imbalance Act in 1965 made schools with greater than 50% Black and Latin students illegal, clearly reflecting the racist view that all-Black learning environments are inherently negative. Since that time the Boston School Committee headed by arch-racist Louise Day Hicks has stalled with compliance by playing upon the racist fears of whites, making all public schools in Boston ineligible for federal funding while schools throughout the city, especially the poorer sections of Roxbury, Dorchester (incl. South Boston), and Mattapan, have steadily deteriorated.

Ever since court-ordered bussing began in mid-September, Black children being bused to South Boston have been subjected to repeated violence by gangs of whites, spear-headed by the most reactionary, backward elements of the white community. The Boston Police, on the other hand, not only have refused to provide adequate protection to Black youth but recently staged a cowardly raid on a Black community center causing considerable damage and writing racist slogans on the walls.

The fact that *all* the public schools in Boston are worsening clearly shows that the real issue confronting Black people—that of quality education—is not being dealt with through forced bussing. Much of the logic behind 'integration is the way toward good schools' has failed, largely due to the crisis of imperialism.

Since the escalation in Vietnam brought ruin to the U.S. economy most services normally provided by the local, state, and federal government have decreased as more and more money has gone to pay the cost of defending U.S. corporate interests around the world. This can be seen in the cutback in federal social services, the rising fares for public transportation, the low wages for city workers, as well as the deteriorating quality of public education. Thus, the amount of money which is needed to make a qualitative improvement in the Boston public schools, will never be forthcoming as long as US imperialism exists, a system which requires priorities favoring profits over people.

So that the masses of people in this country will not see that imperialism is the actual roadblock to quality education, racism is once again used to cloud the issue.



Police, called in to protect Black students from racist lynch mob, attack a Black youth.

And while the poor fight one another for the crumbs, the ruling class and its lackeys benefit by pointing the finger at Black people and away from themselves and the total capitalist system.

In a statement issued this week, the Boston African Liberation Support Committee said,

We support Black people's right to community control of schools. The obvious failures and inabilities of the public school system have encouraged re-consideration of the community school concept including after school programs and liberation schools. At the same time, we support and defend the right of our students to an education in safety in *any* school regardless of location. The majority of Black people work. We are forced to pay taxes, and our taxes support these

schools. Our children therefore have the right to whatever benefits are available.

The recent events take place just a few weeks prior to a major vote to replace the School Committee with a more decentralized form of public school administration. Obviously it is the hope of Hicks and her cohorts that the political mileage gained from the furor will serve to once more retain their control by focusing the attention of the people of South Boston away from their own opportunism. But time is running out on the Hickses and on the imperialist system in whose interests they operate. The struggle against racism and imperialism by all oppressed and exploited people will continue to gain strength, as the Black people of Boston have adequately shown.

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FORD'S ECONOMIC PROGRAM A SHAM

President Ford's new economic program will have about as much bolstering effect on the crumbling economy as a band-aid on spreading cancer.

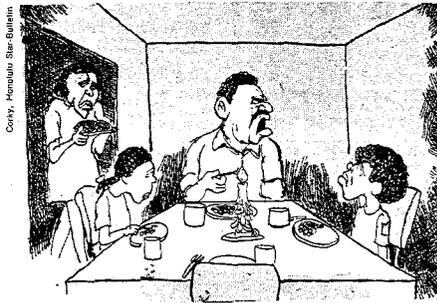
Unveiled amid the hoorah usually reserved by the President for the number one football game of the season, the new economic program, when stripped of fancy phrases and mushy appeals to patriotism, is seen for what it is—a sham program dreamed up by the capitalists to buy time.

Dubbed Whip Inflation Now (WIN), the program is designed to halt the present economic recession—marked by ever increasing unemployment, spiraling food prices, and declining production.

Currently, the national unemployment average hovers at about 5.8 per cent, but for Blacks and other minorities, that figure doubles and even triples. And, youth, especially minority youth have been particularly affected by unemployment. In some cities, the figure for unemployment among minority youth has reached 35 per cent.

Recently, in New York, for example, 3,000 youths showed up to register for an apprenticeship program sponsored by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Yet, only 500 slots were available. 2,000 applications were submitted for 500 slot positions were submitted were turned away—some after waiting in line for two days!

In fact, things are getting so bad that poor people are recalling the hard times of 1929. And, even some economists are



"Oh, stop grumbling and eat your beans! Think of all those poor, starving Wall Street brokers."

whispering of another depression.

What does President Ford and the federal government propose to do about runaway inflation and unemployment? Ford proposes a Community Improvement Corps, (CIC) which would supposedly provide public service jobs for the unemployed. The CIC would create 83,000 jobs and cost \$500 million if the national unemployment rate stayed at six per cent for a year. At an unemployment rate of 6.5 per cent, it would create 208,000 jobs and cost \$1.25 billion for a year.

Though dressed up to sound good, the program has crippling limitations. First, it would only go into effect after the national unemployment rate had reached six per cent and stayed there for three conse-

cutive months. Even though the unemployment rate has reached six percent and among Blacks has already reached and surpassed this six percent figure, no immediate program is proposed for this group.

Second, only persons who have had jobs in the past would be eligible for jobs under the program. This means that young persons seeking their first jobs would not be hired under the program, in spite of the high unemployment of this group.

Third, the maximum yearly salary on such jobs would be \$7,000—hardly a match for tripling cost of living.

Thus, the CIC is little more than a cruel joke on the unemployed, particularly Blacks, other minorities, and youth.

Other provisions of the economic program follow this same trend—placing the brunt of the impact on inflation on the poor and working class and providing special favors for large corporations and the super rich.

But, poor people really didn't expect anything from Ford's economic program. Ford could hardly come up with a solution to the sufferings caused by capitalism within the capitalist system itself. Capitalism can not solve the contradiction between oppressed nationalities and working people on one hand and monopoly capitalists and their servants on the other. The contradiction between the large masses of people and the few people who benefit from capitalism can only be resolved through totally dismantling the capitalist system and smashing the machinery which serves it.

Thus, working people and poor people must organize to fight for their own interests—the capitalist certainly won't do it. Though we recognize that our ultimate solution must be the institution of a system which serves the needs of the masses, we must struggle for short term demands as well.

Conditions for the masses of people under dying capitalism will worsen. Therefore, we must organize around immediate issues such as wage increases, creation of jobs and real income assistance to the unemployed, lifting of taxes from the poor and other measures designed to ease temporarily the burdens of poor and working people.

So, we see Ford's economic program for what it is—another attempt by the capitalists to stay in control and exploit the masses. For we know that Blacks, minorities, the poor and working people can never WIN under capitalism.

SOUTH AFRICA BOOTED OUT OF U. N.

The racist South African regime was booted out of the United Nations September 30 by 98-23 vote (14 absentions) of the General Assembly.

The Assembly rejected the credentials of South Africa on the basis that its government has policies in violation of the U.N. Charter and of repeated U.N. resolutions.

The U.N. Charter condemns the practice of racism and apartheid which is the foundation of the South African regime. Also the U.N. has repeatedly demanded that South Africa give up its illegal control over Namibia, formerly named South West Africa.

The credentials committee started the motion to oust South Africa on September 27. This committee is delegated the responsibility of screening all delegations' credentials and recommend to the Assembly their acceptance or rejection. Traditionally, the U.S., a member of the Committee has never failed to carry a majority of its positions.

However, this time five countries voted for a Tanzanian motion to reject South Africa: Tanzania, China, the USSR, Senegal,

and the Philippines. Against rejection were, the U.S., Belgium, and Costa Rica. Venezuela abstained.

A favorable ruling by new General Assembly President Abdelaziz Bouteflika, acting as the body's parliamentarian and interpreter of its rule of order, made the decision of the credentials committee and General Assembly binding.

Following the vote, a motion was passed by the Assembly, 125-1 (9 absentions), to take the matter to the Security Council. Under U.N. rules, a member state cannot be expelled without the agreement of the Security Council. The drive is certain to be vetoed by either Britain or the U.S., but the third world countries are backing the drive any way as a way of exposing these backers of the South African regime before world opinion.

Efforts by South Africa to color-up their racist policies were also rejected by the U.N. body. For the first time, formerly all white South African delegations in-

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STRUGGLE!

"DEFEAT COLONIALISM IN SOUTHERN AFRICA" "SOLIDARITY WITH T" EDITORIAL

The publication of "Finally Got The News" marks a continuous high tide of struggle for the African Liberation Support Committee and other anti-imperialist and anti-racist forces in the Black Liberation Movement. It also marks a point when we can look back with pride at our accomplishments—the 1972-73-74 African Liberation Days, our "Statement of Principles," and the ALSC conference on "Which Way for the Black Liberation Struggle" which set us on the road to higher unity.

Also at this time, we can witness African National Liberation forces striking tremendous blows against Portuguese colonialism and Western imperialism in Africa. PAIGC, in Guinea-Bissau, has ended the first phase of national liberation in triumphant victory. FRELIMO, in Mozambique, will lead that East African Coast nation to total independence on June 25, 1974. Other areas in Southern Africa—Angola, Nimbabwe, Namibia, and South Africa—African people are waging heroic struggles against colonialism and imperialism. We of ALSC must give staunch and militant support for these liberation movements and all anti-imperialist movements in the third world.

However, even though our struggle and level of unity has reached a higher plateau, there are many problems and pressing questions facing ALSC in particular and the Black Liberation Movement in general. At the Fourth ALSC International Steering Committee meeting, several questions—both theoretical and practical—were raised which must be answered in the near future.

"Finally Got The News" has the primary responsibility of stimulating debate and discussion on these pressing questions and summing up our practical work. Some of these questions are:

1. What does "Black workers take the lead" mean?
2. What should be the correct policy in developing relationships, alliances, and coalitions with whites and other oppressed nationalities?
3. Is there a single working class within the U.S. or are there two distinct working classes (whites and oppressed nationalities)?
4. What is the nature of the contradiction between the Black Bourgeoisie (comprador and national) and what should be the proletarian policy toward them?
5. Is a two stage revolution necessary in the U.S. from national liberation to socialist revolution or are they merged into a single stage?
6. What is the United Front? What is its basis? Is there any validity for a Black United Front in the U.S.?
7. What should be the nature of ALSC's political line? Should it be narrow or broad enough to encompass a wide spectrum of thought?
8. What is male chauvinism? How has it manifested itself in ALSC? How can we eradicate it?
9. Are white workers as counter-revolutionary as the bourgeoisie? What is the revolutionary potential of white

workers (historically and presently)? What is the nature of the contradiction between white workers and monopoly capitalists?

10. What is a colony? Do Blacks in the U.S. represent an internal colony? What are the similarities and differences between the character of oppression of Blacks.
11. What is an anti-imperialist and anti-racist stance?
12. What is anti-imperialist and anti-racist work in the U.S.?

We issue this call for all ALSC locals and participants in the Black Liberation Movement to sum up their local struggles and send those summations to the Newsletter.

**SOLIDARITY
WITH
PUERTO RICO'S
INDEPENDENCE
MOVEMENT
OCT. 27th**

ALSC INTERNAT'L STEERING COMM. REPORT

The ALSC International Steering Committee met in Houston on August 17-18, 1974. In attendance were 85 delegates from 27 local chapters in the U.S.A. and Canada. Resolutions were adopted on the structure of ALSC, programs for ALSC, and ideological questions facing ALSC.

ALSC will have three (3) levels of organizational structure:

1. The International Steering Committee which will make major policy decisions. It will meet once a year to summarize ALSC's work and determine the general focus for the coming year. The composition will be 2 voting representatives from each local chapter in the U.S.A., Canada, and the Caribbean.
2. The National Secretariat (NS) will be responsible for developing an ef-

fective approach to political questions for the specific area it represents. Canada, the Caribbean, and the U.S.A. will each have separate N.S.'s. The N.S. will consist of 8 members; 5 at-large members; 1 administrative secretary; an international representative; and an information director.

3. Local chapters will have more autonomy in developing programs and projects in relationship to the concrete conditions found to exist in their respective areas.

The minimum program of ALSC calls for focusing on importation of South African coal with propaganda and agitational tactics aimed at the Southern Company. The protracted struggle will be waged as an economic and political anti-racist, anti-imperialist struggle against the apartheid

regime of South Africa.

Local chapters are to struggle against and heighten the antagonistic contradictions facing Black people in their respective areas; and to build tactical coalitions with anti-racist, anti-imperialist forces while preserving the Black character of ALSC.

ALSC will continue to sponsor African Liberation Day, its specific character will be decided by the National Secretariat later this year. A newsletter will be published for internal and external distribution. It will focus on revolutionary movements in the world and will serve as a medium to debate ideological positions and summarize local practice.

Ideological questions were addressed that have arisen in the context of ALSC work and practice. A resolution was adopted calling for full discussion, debate, and study of the questions.

ANGOLA, NAMIBIA, S. AFRICA, ZIMBABWE!" THE AFRICAN REVOLUTION!"

WORDS OF LIBERATION

MOZAMBIQUE: PEOPLE'S VICTORY

A new Government took over in Mozambique on September 20, after 500 years of foreign domination. Frelimo appointed the Prime Minister and six other ministers and the remaining three ministerial posts are filled by Portugal's nominees. It will be a transitional Government, leading the country to complete independence on June 25 next year. We are publishing parts of a message to the people of Mozambique of September 20 by the Frelimo President, Ndugu Samora Machel.

Mozambican Women and Men, Frelimo militants and combatants,

THE INVESTITURE of the Transitional Government opens a new phase in our history, the phase of the final march towards independence.

Today, we are assuming leadership in the government of our country in a period of transition which will lead to the proclamation of Mozambique's total and complete independence on June 25, 1975, the anniversary of the founding of Frelimo.

We have inherited a difficult and serious social, economic, financial and cultural situation resulting from centuries of oppression and colonial plunder, aggravated by decades of colonial-fascist domination and repression and further exacerbated by the recent criminal adventure of a small band of racists and reactionaries in the city of Lourenco Marques.

We are faced with a heritage of widespread illiteracy, disease, poverty, and hunger. We see our people in the countryside, living in subhuman conditions of poverty and exploitation. We see destruction, resentment and hatred created by centuries of oppression and instigated by the colonial war of aggression the reactionaries, colonialists, and fascists launched in order to divide and confuse us.

It is thus a complex situation that the Transitional Government has before it, and the tasks it faces, therefore, are difficult. However, the difficulties were even greater a little over a decade ago, when we started our thrust towards national liberation. We do not hide the difficulties, nor do we shut our eyes to them. But nothing can make us forget that we are today entering upon an exalting phase in our history: for the first time, the Mozambican people have a Government of their own, a Government of

their representatives, a Government to serve them.

Thus, the Mozambican people have an instrument both able and prepared to face the serious problems of the present phase: a Government led by Frelimo and which has within it militants seasoned in the tough struggle for national liberation, in political and armed struggle, in clandestine struggle.

Victory

Our people's experience of a State and Government, the experience of all workers has been that State and Government are oppressive structures, hostile forces compelling us to submit and resign ourselves to foreign domination, to the domination of big financial interests.

Under Frelimo's leadership, the Transitional Government has the fundamental task of creating the conditions for People's Democratic Power to be extended to areas which up to now are still under colonial domination. Whereas for the millions of Mozambicans who have established their power in the liberated zones, this is already a reality and a practical experience, the same is not true for the remainder of the country.

This means that we all need to learn what our power is and how to exercise it. We shall all need to know what distinguishes our power from colonial power.

Power belongs to the people. It has been won by the people and it must be exercised and defended by the people.

Before the people's victory, power belonged to colonialism and was the expression of the domination of our countries by companies.

Who ruled? The rulers were those who served the interests of a handful of big exploiters.

Years of rule enabled them to accumulate fortunes through the abuse of power, by theft, large sums given in exchange for favours granted to the companies, rewards for ceding the country's resources and even for selling human beings.

After serving their term as governors, they immediately joined the boards of directors of large enterprises where they received inflated salaries as payment for services rendered.

The government of the exploiter was characterised by privilege, despotic arrogance, favouritism, nepotism and lawlessness. Problems were solved through



the system of string pulling, and such basic rights as the right to work were made to seem like favours from the rulers. Even a woman's dignity had exchanged value for obtaining employment.

This representativeness has been earned in the varied and hard tasks of the politico-military struggle for national liberation. They are all veterans of the people's struggle, seasoned in the toughest school of government: the struggle for national liberation and national reconstruction in the liberated zones.

No one can claim that they are representatives of a race, ethnic group, region or religious belief. They represent the working people, their sacrifices and aspirations, the whole people from the Ruvuma to the Maputo, without distinction as to race, ethnic group or religion. No one fought for a region, race, tribe or religion. We all fought and are still fighting for the same nation, for the single ideal of liberating our people.

The authenticity of the people's representatives in the leadership of the State is more than just an assertion: it must be manifested in the content of government action and in the method of work.

**IMPERIALISM
NO!**

OIL AND IMPERIALISM

Threats by President Ford and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger that paint the Middle East oil producing countries as the villains of the world economic crisis have produced angry reactions from third world countries.

Once again, like during the so-called "energy crisis," Kissinger, at the U.N., used the tactic of posing as a benefactor of the world's poorest states and warned that unless the price of crude petroleum came down, the U.S. would restrict its food exports in an attempt to bully the Arab nations.

This oil crisis, according to Kissinger, has a different twist than the past energy crisis. After the October war, it was a question of Arab boycott of oil sales to the U.S. and other Western countries. This time it is the Arab countries forming "cartels" to hike up oil prices, collect an unusual amount of U.S. dollars, thereby destroying the financial institution of western capitalist society.

Hence, the Ford-Kissinger strategy seems to be first, to threaten to hold back technological assistance and second to gather world opinion against the Mideast oil producing countries as the cause of world financial disorder.

Kissinger is reported to have stated that, unless the world economic problems are not solved and oil prices reduced, there would be a breakup of the political fabric of the west, and possible communist take over in some countries. Italy was used as an example.

Following Kissinger's speech at the UN, President Ford announced in Detroit at the Ninth World Energy Conference that "Exorbitant prices can distort the world economy, run the risk of worldwide depression, and threaten the breakdown of world order and safety."

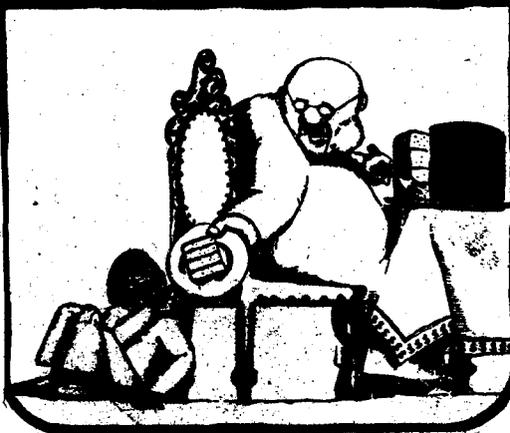
Ford went on to hint at the U.S. willingness to use "gunboat diplomacy" to force oil prices down. He stated that "... Sovereign nations cannot allow their policies to be dictated or their fate decided by artificial rigging and distortion of world economy," and "... Nations have gone to war" over securing natural resources.

The next step in the scheme was to call together the world's largest oil consumers, the United States, Britain, France, West Germany, and Japan to discuss ways of countering the oil prices.

These actions and threats by U.S. imperialism produced sharp reactions from Arab and other third world nations.

In Vienna, the secretariat of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), rebuffed the U.S. by stating, "We know that so-called high prices of crude oil have been arrived at only because we tried to detain windfall profits made by international oil companies—mostly Ameri-

**THE POOR COUNTRIES
ARE BURDENED WITH
UNJUST TERMS OF TRADE.**



can companies—and records show that however high the crude oil prices are, they account at present for no more than 1 or 2 percent of world wide inflation."

The Venezuelan Mines Ministry printed a full page ad in the *Washington Post* condemning the U.S. and calling for the U.S. to first lower manufacturing and technological products to third world countries.

Sayed Nafal, Assistant Secretary General of the Arab League, told newsmen in Cairo that the "American position" could have serious consequence on Arab-American relations and that oil was "a legitimate weapon" for the Arabs to use.

Sheikh Zaki Yamani, Saudi Arab's petroleum Minister, warned the United States against the dangers of "economic imperialism."

In continuing the attack on U.S. oil threats, President Havari Boumediene of Algeria told the United Nations that "certain large industrial countries are launching a veritable offensive against the oil exporting countries." Boumediene emphasized how big industrial nations were using their economic and political power to roll back oil prices and were not afraid that in such a confrontation all mankind might be dragged "to the brink of the abyss."

Two other countries strongly denounced the imperialist attacks on oil producing nations. Chinese Deputy Trade Minister, Char Chuson, pledged Peking's support for the oil states-pricing policies by stating "We look at the price of oil and we find it justified."

In Cuba, Fidel Castro denounced Ford before hundreds of thousands at a celebration of the anniversary of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution. He allu-

ded to the "hundreds of billions of dollars" the United States has spent on its "war budget" and that "In these deplorable conditions imperialistic policies are the roots of inflation which emerged long before the oil price increases."

The third world's militant reaction to the Ford-Kissinger threats point to the real cause of the present economic situation—the crisis of imperialism.

Imperialism develops out of capitalism. And one of its feature characteristic is the domination of society by a few large monopoly and financial capitalist. An example is oil, where the seven sisters—Exxon, Royal Dutch/Shell, Texaco, Gulf, Mobil, British Petroleum and Standard Oil of California—controlled in 1970, 70% of the world's production of crude oil, 70% of the world's tanker capacity to ship crude oil, and 55% of the world's refineries. Also, these same companies have controlling interest in other related energy sources—coal, natural gas, and uranium. These companies profits are extending—that during the 1973/74 energy crisis, they made an 37% increase in profits.

Second, imperialism is in decay. U.S. imperialism is steady losing control of the world wide market and the ability to dictate the prices for raw materials from third world countries.

And third, there is the rising cost of the U.S. war machine to protect their imperialist investments in third world countries. It has been reported that the Pentagon will spend \$143.6 billion just to complete new weapon projects—ships, planes, tanks, and missiles—for 1974. And the military budget for 1974/75 is over \$800 billion. Other sources from the President's Office of Management and Budget and other agencies have stated that these rates would continue to increase 11% annually through 1975, and 8% in 1976.

U.N. General Assembly President Bouteflika exemplified the growing strength of third world countries by stating in his inaugural address, "Practically everywhere in the world there are still trouble spots existing or coming into being attests to the flows and the dangers of an international order which rests exclusively on the will of a few powerful nations and is the off-shot of the nature of their relations."



**U.S. is world's
leading
supplier of
arms**

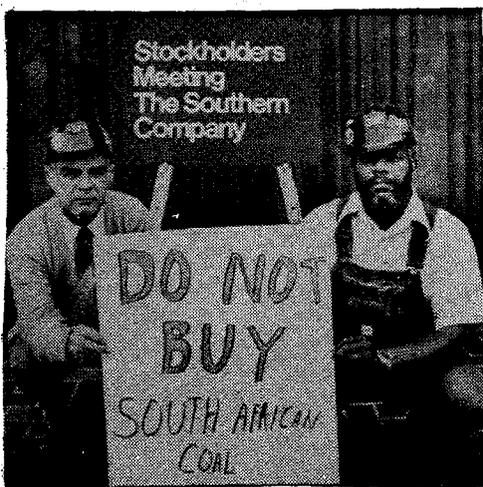
COAL FROM S. AFRICA

Since late Spring, the United Mine Workers Association (UMW) and other concerned people have been involved in a struggle to prevent the importation of coal from South Africa. Beginning with a successful one-day strike last May, the effort to stop the coal shipments continued until a Federal court action halted any further action by the United Mine Workers. Presently, the plans to purchase 25 million tons of low sulfur coal from South Africa are proceeding unimpeded.

The coal is being purchased by the Southern Company, a huge monopoly which owns Gulf Power, Alabama Power, Georgia Power, Mississippi Power, and Southern Electric Generating Company, thereby controlling most of the electric power in the Southeast United States. Faced with strict pollution control standards in Florida, the company decided to import low sulfur coal from South Africa for use in its Panama City and Pensicola plants, beginning with 500,000 tons this year, and increasing to 920,000 tons in 1975 and over one million tons in 1976.

The United Mine Workers Association has opposed this action, primarily because the shipments of South African coal threaten the jobs of coal workers in the United States. UMWA president, Arnold Miller, spoke out strongly against "subsidizing South African conscript labor at the expense of American miners who will lose jobs to Blacks in South Africa working under slave labor conditions." On May 22, the Union brought production to a halt in the rich coal fields surrounding Birmingham as thousands of coal workers reported in "sick" or simply failed to appear at the mines to protest the coal imports. On the same day, hundreds of pickets protested during a Southern Company meeting in Birmingham and expressed willingness to do "just about anything" to stop the coal from entering Alabama. The protest was raised again during a memorial period from August 19-23, when mine workers commemorated the death of 100,000 mine workers in the past century. UMWA leaders also met with elected officials to gain support and attempted to persuade International Longshoreman Association (ILA) officials to call a boycott of the coal shipments. But in spite of their strong stand against the coal, the UMWA rejected any idea of an anti-imperialist base for their struggle and sought to exclude all non-union members from the protests. Since their concern was primarily with the preservation of jobs, the UMWA made no distinction between the South African coal shipments and a shipment from Australia; both were picketed by Union members.

When the appeal to the ILA leadership not to unload the coal failed, a non-union group in Alabama, the Coalition to Stop South Africa Coal, invited Tapsum Mawere, U.S. representative of Z.A.N.U., to come to the docks in Mobile, Alabama where the coal was scheduled to arrive. Mawere spoke to the dock workers, a large number of whom are Black, about repression in Southern Africa, and although the Union leadership was unresponsive, the rank and file was enthusiastic. When the first shipment of South African coal arrived in Mobile on August 25, the dock workers defied ILA leadership and refused to cross UMWA picket lines to unload the coal. Longshoreman from another local were brought in and they, too, stopped working. The boycott was stopped, however, when a Federal judge ordered the men back to work, and another injunction stopped UMWA picket-



ing.

The United Mine Workers plan to continue the fight against South African coal; they have filed suit declaring the importation illegal because of a law prohibiting the import of commodities produced by slave labor. But this action has little chance for success, and the coal is continuing to flow into the United States.

The Atlanta African Liberation Support Committee (ALSC) has suggested several methods to fight the importation of coal:

1. Putting pressure on the ILA to boycott shipments of coal.
2. Circulating petitions opposing importation of South African coal.
3. Holding community forums to educate the masses to provide the correct analysis and information.
4. Demonstrating at the ports receiving shipments of South African coal.
5. Leafleting and propaganda efforts to show the connection between workers in South Africa and the United States.

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whether in the extension of social services or in other ways, shall go to the people of the villages and rural areas which have suffered most from colonialist warfare. In this fashion, they will prevent policies of "export growth," which was the Portuguese policy, that may benefit the few, but cannot possible develop the many. In this method, marked with the influence of slain PAIGC leader Amilcar Cabral, of relying on the masses of the people, while actually aware of being Africans within the framework of a continental community. In this way, the Guinea-Bissau experience can offer something useful to the whole of Africa and other anti-imperialist forces for unity and progress.

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cluded one Black African, one "colored" (mixed race), and one person of Indian ancestry. The three new faces were prominently show cased in the front row of South Africa's bench on the General Assembly floor, while the white delegates sat behind them.

Also, the third world block was not impressed with South African concession on Namibia. The day before the credentials committee vote, the regime in Pretoria announced it had decided to open "inter-racial talks" to "determine the future" of Namibia.

In opposition to these cosmetic changes, the U.N.'s position, passed in a resolution of the General Assembly last December, that the seat of the South African government should be occupied by representatives of the liberation movements.

On the Namibia question, the General Assembly has repeatedly, since 1966, demanded that South Africa give up all interference in Namibia and allow it to become a fully independent state.

There have been reports of widespread police repression against African liberation activities within South Africa. Two demonstrations by Blacks supporting FRELIMO victories in Mozambique were violently broken up by police. Many African workers going on strike in the mines and docks have been brutally driven back to work. For example, on September 30 police opened fire into a crowd, killing two black miners and wounding four others during a strike by 400 Africans at a platinum mine.

Other reports, especially the October 1974 issue of *Esquire* magazine, documents U.S. military aid to South Africa. This program, code name "Tar Baby", lays out a program of arms sales to the racist regime.

Despite the U.S. efforts to downplay its arms sales to South Africa, the *Journal of Commerce of South Africa* reported that the U.S. has decided to sale South Africa helicopters and reconnaissance aircraft in view of the "developments in Angola and Mozambique."

world in struggle

SOUTH VIETNAM

The Thieu regime is becoming increasingly isolated as reporters, Catholics, Buddhists, students, veterans, and other democratic forces are consolidating their unity and staging ever-frequent mass demonstrations against the Thieu regime. Desertions from the army has reached the high rate of 5,000 a week, and the rate is still increasing. Puppet soldiers are dying at the rate of 300 a week, and the liberation forces (NLF) are further consolidating the liberated areas while inflicting defeat after defeat on the battlefield against the puppet regime. The PRG has also stated that there will be no further negotiation until Thieu is overthrown . . . Thieu is reportedly afraid to suppress the new mass movements out of fear that the U.S. Congress may cut-off financial support. The U.S. is also reportedly making vain attempts to control the mass movements in an effort to replace Thieu with a "cleaner" and more acceptable puppet.

US EXPERTS VISIT CHINA

Ten leading American agricultural scientists recently visited the People's Republic of China for four weeks. They reported that China has raised agricultural production and so evenly distributed food that she's protected against the food shortages now affecting most of the Third World. Half of the PRC's fertilizer production is now done by 800 "backyard" factories, each factory producing several thousand tons of fertilizer annually. Dr. N. C. Brady, head of the International Rice Institute in the Phillipines where the much landed "miracle rice" was "discovered," was surprised to find out that China had developed and mass produced "miracle rice" before his Institute was even established. All the evidence notwithstanding, the experts concluded that China faced a severe long run problem of agricultural research and training shortage due to "cultural revolutions" and other political interference. The experts apparently forgot about the uselessness of their experts in neighboring "biggest democracy" India where hundreds are dying of starvation every week. Revolution is obviously very dangerous for the survival of certain types of "experts."

ARGENTINA

Beginning with the death of Juan D. Peron on July 1, 100 political assassinations have been reported in Argentina. The Argentina Anti-Communist Alliance (Triple-A) claims to have killed 21 progressives, with about 30 more leftists remaining on its death list. The Triple-A

assassination squads have used police credentials to enter the homes of their victims. Triple-A bears some strong similarities to right-wing police CIA-connected groups in other parts of Latin America. Hector Sandler, an Argentine congressman, has stated that he thinks Triple-A has CIA connections. Sandler, who is presently living with his wife in the National Congress Building of Argentina, for protection is on the Triple-A death list. Obviously, the exposure of and protest against CIA activities in Chile and other countries will never be sufficient to stop imperialist machinations the world over. Only the complete defeat of imperialism by the oppressed peoples of the world and the workers revolutionary overthrow of monopoly capitalism in the U.S. will finally crush the CIA and its like.

PALESTINIAN STRUGGLE

On October 13, the U.N. General Assembly recognized the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) as "the representative of the Palestinian people," and then invited the PLO to participate in the upcoming U.N. debate on the Palestinian question. The vote was 105-to-4, 20 abstentions and 7 absences. The U.S., Israel, Bolivia, and the Dominican Republic cast

the no votes. Even Jordan was forced to vote yes on a resolution that recognizes the PLO as being the representatives of the Palestinian people, including those on the occupied West Bank. PLO head, Yassir Arafat, accompanied by current heads of the Arab League, non-aligned states (President Boumedienne of Algeria) and the OAU, is expected to represent the PLO at the U.N. debate. The recognition of the PLO is a strong political and moral support by the world's oppressed peoples for their Palestinian compatriots' struggle for the defeat of Zionist aggression and for the liberation of Palestine. It is also an indication of the growing strength of the Third World peoples against imperialism, a trend increasingly reflected in the U.N. political front.



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