struggle. When the West German capitalists invited Thieu, the butcher of Saigon, to a state visit in 1974, 5,000 persons demonstrated against the collusion of the West German government with U.S. aggression in Vietnam.

In the course of this demonstration, the Bonn Rathaus (Town Hall) was occupied and 18 participants were arrested for "especially grave breach of the peace." This charge carries a sentence of 1 to 10 years in prison and a fine of 150,000 German Marks ($75,000).

Because of the immense unpopularity of the Vietnam war among the German masses, the trial was repeatedly postponed by the prosecution. After nearly five years now, the charges have been dropped as part of the sweeping legal and extra-legal attack being launched against communist and democratic forces in Germany.

The upcoming trial must be viewed in connection with the recent efforts by the West German parliament to pass several laws which ban all those calling themselves "Marxist-Leninists from running for public office, issuing publications, or holding government jobs. The government is also threatening to make illegal the use of the title "Marxist-Leninist" and to ban the ML-L parties altogether.

A statement released by the Committee Against the "Thieu-Trial" pointed out: "The charges are a slap in the face of the peoples, nations and states of the third world, for whom the victory of the Vietnamese people and international solidarity meant new strength and encouragement in their struggle against foreign aggression, racist discrimination, imperialism and all forms of dependence, subjugation, and hegemony."

The Committee has called on people to sign an international declaration in solidarity with the 18 defendants. Statements and donations can be mailed to: Thieu-Trial Defendants Support Committee, Postfachkarte 092810 A, 5 Kohl 1, West Germany.

The PCI won much of its favor with the Christian Democrats and up to the recent agreement by actively promoting the government's solution to Italy's crisis-wrecked economy—the austerity program. This program includes a series of tariffs hikes, curbs on wage

250 CELEBRATE KAMPUCHEAN VICTORY

New York City—Some 250 people gathered here April 14 to celebrate the 3rd anniversary of the U.S. defeat in Kampuchea (formerly Cambodia) on Democratic Kampuchean National Day.

The militant program opened with a prolonged applause as the audience stood for the Kampuchean national anthem, "The Glorious Victory of April 17." The composition of the audience reflected the worldwide support for Kampuchea. It included people from Thailand, the Philippines, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, Iran, the Dominican Republic and Haiti, and from several U.S. nationalities.

Among the U.S. groups co-sponsoring the event were the Communist Party (M-L), the Communist Youth Organization, the New York Fight Back, 1 Wor Kuen and the Revolutionary Workers Headquarters.

"Democratic Kampuchea has made great advances against tremendous difficulties in the past three years," declared a representative of the Group of Kampuchean Residents in America. "The whole nation and people have put all their energy and efforts into building and defending the country on the principles of independence, sovereignty and self-reliance."

The statement also paid tribute to the leading role of the Communist Party of Kampuchea, under the leadership of Chairman Pol Pot, in uniting the masses, waging people's war and now in organizing the revolutionary energy of the people in socialist construction.

A slide show presentation gave examples from the Kampuchean people's long history of struggle. It refuted the imperialist slander campaign against the country and its people, showing the great advances that have been made through the cooperative organization of agriculture and industry.

A highlight of the evening was several revolutionary cultural presentations. The Kampuchans, in their national dress, sang several revolutionary songs. A group of Ethiopian students performed an especially popular marching song which outlined the principles of their struggle.

Several solidarity messages were also given throughout the evening. Allan Canfora, a student wounded at the Kent State anti-war protest in May, 1970, said, "The unity between the American and Kampuchean peoples has been sealed in the blood of the students killed at Kent and Jackson State."

The U.S. co-sponsors of the event issued a joint statement which said that "the best contribution we can make in solidarity with Kampuchea is to continue the struggle against imperialism." A similar statement was read by a coalition of third world organizations, stressing that Kampuchea was a great example of "free people" among smaller nations in defeating imperialist hegemonism.

The evening closed with a militant statement by the Kampuchans on the present conflict with Vietnam. "We have no interest in attaining our neighbors," they stated, "We only need time and peace for socialist construction. We want friendly relations with Vietnam, but this can only be on the basis of respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in our internal affairs."

The true history of the Kampuchean revolution!

A speech by Pol Pot, leader of the Kampuchean Communist Party

Translated by the Group of Kampuchean Residents in the U.S. (G.K. Ram)