By Robert C. Carmichael

liberation. They promote splits among African organizations to create, in this resource-rich and strategic area, new Angolas, where local leaders will depend on Cuban troops and Soviet "aid" to stay in power.

*The Middle East. Control of the Middle East and its vast oil deposits would give the USSR a powerful stronghold on wealthy industrial Western Europe. Desperate being pushed out of Egypt and Somalia, the Soviets have continued to make incursions. Ethiopia and South Yemen struggle the main sea route between Europe and Asia, and local policies partners also run Afghanistan, and ties with Iraq, Libya, and other countries in the area, the Soviets are in an excellent position to take advantage of the continuing struggle of the Pakistanis and Chinese nationals from the country.

Although the Vietnamese claim they are capitalists unable to adjust to socialism, the majority come from the recently liberated South, but from the North, where socialism construction has been on since 1956. The Chinese in Vietnam made a convenient scapegoat for Vietnam's economic difficulties. Also, Vietnam's Soviet sponsors delight in the hardships that resettling and refugees go through. As thousands fled over the border to China, Vietnam began trying to deport the border area, increasing pressure on China. In the last half of 1975 alone, the Chinese report over 700 different incursions by Vietnamese troops, resulting in the death of 300 Chinese soldiers and civilians. Until the Chinese counterattack, the main beneficiary of this ongoing aggression was not Vietnam, but the USSR, which has now fallen under increasing Soviet control. In April, 1979/WORKERS VoICE/9

Following is a Workers Voice interview with George C. Hildebrand, a Southeast Asia scholar and journalist, who is co-author of one of the few books in the English language on Cambodia (today, "Cambodia: Sacrifice and Revolution.") Some comments were added by Stephen Heder, a writer for Time magazine from Cambodia from 1973-75, and currently a student of Southeast Asian affairs. Hildebrand and Heder were in Asia in January and February where they spoke with Kampuchan refugees and visited China, Thailand, and the Thai-Kampuchean border region.

Since the Vietnamese invaded Kampuchea December 25 and marched into the capital, Phnom Penh, January 7, how much do they control? They hold the cities and major highways - not the people. At first the western press was impressed by the Vietnamese attack. But we don't want to be misled by this blitzkrieg. The Kampuchanese chose not to fight where they were weak; they evacuated the cities and fell back on the countryside where they could organize people's war. The Kampuchanese military, largely intact, regrouped in the countryside, many into battalion-sized units.

There's a pretty high level of very heavy, organized resistance going on. The Kampuchanese Revolutionary Army forces have been able to launch attacks in all major parts of the country. They occupied the city of Takeo very close to Vietnam - for almost a week. They attacked the port of Kep along the coast, and the town of Pailin, right in the middle of the country. All of the fighting areas, people's war means you fight everywhere the enemy comes. There are people's militias throughout the country supporting the larger military units.

What do these militias do? Heder: Everybody is organized to do something for the front. The mill workers, construction-age men are all at the front lines, and everybody else is back behind them. They've got their arms. The women and the old people make banana traps and package rice in banana leaves. And then the children load the rice packets on the trucks to be driven off to the front. They go out and put the bamboo spikes they used for their own task.

If the Kampuchanese are waging a peoples' war, how would you describe what the Vietnamese are doing? The Vietnamese launched a massive invasion on a number of different fronts in armored columns with heavy air support. It was very much like an American-style attack - an extremely heavy, modernized conventional war approach. The Vietnamese describe it as a "blooming lotus" approach. You hit hard at the center and then fan out and try to mop up opposition in columns. It's a full transition from peoples' war to conventional war, which mirrors the political transition from being a nation fighting for its independence against U.S. imperialism, to being an aggressor nation trying to attack a neighbor state and take it over.

Who is leading the Kampuchean resistance now? It's a standing military committee of the political committee of the Kampuchean Communist Party. It's under the direction of the Prime Minister and Party Secretary Pol Pot.

So politically and militarily it's a continuation of the Democratic Kampuchea government? It is Democratic Kampuchea. My guess is they've been prepared for an invasion for quite a long time.

What do you know about how Kampuchanese lived under the Pol Pot government from 1975 when it liberated the country from the U.S. and the Lon Non regime until the Vietnamese invasion? American journalists (from the Washington Post and the Philadelphia (cont. on page 10)

Vietnam blitzkrieg bogs down in Kampuchea (Cambodia)

First hand report from S.E. Asia

Kampuchanese troops in Takeo, a battlefield before the big invasion and now.

Kampuchanese civilians pack rice rations in banana leaves to be sent to guerrillas at the front.
BLACKS BURNED BY COLLEGE SPORTS

Dwight Slaughter was robbed. He spent four years at California State University, Los Angeles (CSLA) as a black athlete. He never took a criminology course — he played basketball for the school. "But even journalists who went in who were sympathetic to the Vietnamese said they didn't see guns, except right along the border. They didn't see it as a war between the Americans and the Vietnamese. They said the Vietnamese would drag the Soviet Union into the conflict and precipitate a new world war. It seems that the Vietnamese are running a very tight ship." was a government loan he had taken out to pay for college. "Both the Cuba of the Orient and China outright for the invasion. While the US military in the conflicts breaking down in Vietnam, they've been able to keep the US military out of the fight. "Labor is in the same place. They've had to learn to live with the bitterness of their plight," said former Prime Minister What do they want to gain from that?" is a question of being a strong, as being anti-Soviet and closer to China. They wanted to be independent, but they didn't want to get involved in the war. They didn't think there's any solution but a military conflict to insulate that the Vietnamese are going to give up their independence. "PAPER POLAR BEAR China's leaders speak and act from long years of experience. In the war against Japan, China learned the importance of uniting all who could be united against the main enemy. And China is sure that the preceding World War 2 shows that efforts to appease Germany's rise to prominence with concessions only added to its appetite. "Even if they do something terrible, these people wouldn't dare take action against them, it's a question of being afraid of them."

China-Vietnam

The US government did not attack China outright for the invasion, while criticizing it. American officials linked the American support of China to its refusal to withdraw from Vietnam to a call for Vietnam to leave Kampuchea. But the ruling class revealed something else in its response. Politicians and the media alike fretted that China's "desperate" government would drag the Soviet Union into the conflict and precipitate a new world war. Vietnam's complete victory over the US-backed group in Atlanta, vowing that under no circumstances would the US involve itself militarily in the conflicts breaking out around the world. It's a question of being a strong, as being anti-Soviet and closer to China. They wanted to be independent, but they didn't want to get involved in the war. They didn't think there's any solution but a military conflict to insulate..."