Instead of building a coalition based on action, the movement of many people around the demand of immediate withdrawal of all U.S. forces from Southeast Asia, PCPJ attempted to pose as a leading organization in the Black struggle as well as an antiwar organization. But those who agreed with PCPJ on the basis of opposition to the war did not necessarily agree with its vague, ineffectual program for "fighting racism." For example, there are many forces in the antiwar movement who believe that a program for the right to self-determination of Blacks, Chicanos and Puerto Ricans would only succeed in derailing the antiwar movement by narrowing it and deflecting it from its central job of organizing mass actions against the war. The result of PCPJ's "multi-issue" strategy was that the only time it was able to mobilize any significant forces was in the Bay Area, where it had been working with antiwar actions called by NPAC.

The left should look to the attempt to draw African-Americans and Ruben Berrios of Puerto Rico, its vague, ineffectual program for "fighting racism," to organize massive demonstrations around the tent for the trade unions themselves. The left should look not to the union bureaucracy for leadership, but by a whole program designed for general strikes or labor marches are clearly directed in the unions by union members. In fact, such a left wing will surely be characterized not only by its opposition to the war but by a whole program designed to facilitate the participation of the union membership in the struggles of the union and in politics in general, a program to fight inflation, unemployment, the war, and for the formation of an independent labor party. It will be necessary not only to involve many of the forces currently active in the antiwar movement since it will be built in the unions by union members. In fact, such a left wing will surely be directed against some of the same labor officials who currently support the antiwar movement. Thus it is in no way an argument against the involvement of labor officials in the antiwar movement. It is important that all forces opposed to the war be represented in the antiwar movement in order to build the broadest, most massive action against the war.

Another reason for soliciting support from labor officials is that the majority of union members still look to the union leaders for guidance. Labor officials have come to realize that because of these illusions, endorsements from labor officials help provide opportunities to go to union meetings and function as a program to organize masses of people around the antiwar convention meeting in Cleveland Dec. 3-5.

Unions and the antiwar movement

Davidson's logic leads in a similar direction if applied to the need to draw labor into the antiwar struggle. The way to involve trade unionists in the antiwar movement is by showing how the war is contrary to their interests and is responsible for deepening the inflation. The antiwar movement cannot lead the struggle of the trade unions or any section of the union movement—that's the job of the unions themselves. Such an attempt would only succeed in derailing the antiwar movement by narrowing it and deflecting it from its central job of organizing mass actions against the war.

Without question the problems facing American workers cry out for the building of a left wing in the unions who can mobilize the rank and file in support of their own interests against the capitalist class. Such a class-struggle left wing will be characterized not only by its opposition to the war, but by a whole program designed to facilitate the participation of the union membership in the struggles of the union and in politics in general, a program to fight inflation, unemployment, the war, and for the formation of an independent labor party. It will be necessary not only to involve many of the forces currently active in the antiwar movement since it will be built in the unions by union members. In fact, such a left wing will surely be directed against some of the same labor officials who currently support the antiwar movement.

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The following resolution directed to the people of the United States was adopted at the eighth national assembly of the Movement for Puerto Rican Independence (MPI) on Nov. 19-21. The translation is by The Militant.

Companeros y Companeras, comrades, I bring revolutionary greetings from the Socialists Workers Party, which is struggling in the United States within the heart of the monster, Yankee imperialism.

The founding of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party at this eighth assembly of the Puerto Rican Independence Movement (MPI) has enormous significance for the struggles of all the peoples of the Americas. The founding of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party means that the people of Puerto Rico, when its working masses and all its allies, prepare to take power, they will have the indispensable tool for transforming society and for founding the socialist republic of a free and sovereign Puerto Rico.

I also wish to let you know that within the heart of the monster you have allies. Not only that part of the Puerto Rican people who have been exiled but also the masses of Black people who are fighting for liberation; the youth who are rejecting the materialist and alienating world and seeking a world and society with justice; the masses of Chicanos who are organizing and fighting for their national liberation; and the movement against the war in Indochina, which will not rest until all the troops of imperialism are withdrawn from Vietnam and the heroic Vietnamese people have achieved their right to sovereignty. There are also other sectors awakening and beginning to challenge the power of the bourgeoisie in the United States.

Long live the Puerto Rican Socialist Party!