Strike Wave in Puerto Rico

SAN JUAN, P.R.—January 28—Over 200 angry workers of the Communication Authority marched to the Capitol here protesting a merging between that agency and the telephone Authority, which will mean the loss of their jobs. The workers are demanding that their jobs be guaranteed. The in-dependent Telephone Workers Union announced its support to those workers represented by the Em-ployees Union of the Communication Authority. The Telephone Union said that it won’t allow one single firing or transfer against the Communication workers.

ANGOLAN WORKERS BETRAYED

LUANDA, Angola, Jan. 10—The Portuguese government has signed an agreement with the three liberation movements in Angola—FNLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola), FNLA (Front for the Liberation of Angola) and UNITA (Union for the Total Independence of Angola). The agreement calls for a 10-month transition period in which a constituent assembly will be elected. In the meantime, a form of provisional government ex-isting of the Portuguese government and the three liberation movements will ‘ensure’ this transition. In this provisional government the Portuguese government is in charge of ‘defence and security’ and will also lead the ministries of Economy, Communications, Transport and Public Works. It is also expected that some of the Portuguese govern-ment officials will remain in office as Angolans after the independence. The three organizations will each provide 8,000 soldiers, making a total of 24,000 to be matched by another 24,000 by the Portuguese forces.

THAT THIS ‘INDEPENDENCE’ IS a sham is obvious. But worst of all is that it is an outright betrayal of the Angolan people who suffered for so long under Portuguese colonialism. As was pointed out in Oct. 13, Nov. 13, 14): this betrayal is possible because of nationalism and revisionism. The corrupt leadership of these three so-called liberation movements have manipulated themselves into the inheritance of the Portuguese colonial apparatus for development of their own elite class.

They are succeeding because they have won the people to the idea that ‘independence’ means a government run by ‘Angolans’ regardless of class. In addition, the left, who know something about classes, have been misled by world revisionism, especially of the Chinese and Soviet varieties, with the two-stage and New democracy bullshit into supporting this nationalist trap. Today, the ex-plotted masses of Angolan have simply the same masters in new clothes, and worst of all, with the rivalry of these three ‘liberation’ cultures, there is a possibility of unleashing vicious tribal politics which might culminate in the murder of millions of workers and peasants as happened in Nigeria.

The leadership of revolutionary communists is needed now more than ever. The masses of Angolan people must begin to organize to seize state power and establish the DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT—SOCIALISM. Only in this way can the new parasites from immersing themselves into another fruitless war; only in this way will they stop from selling them out anymore and only in this way will they stop oppression once and for all. No new democracy system of more exploitation will solve the problems of imperialist and colonialist domination and no first stage of new nationalist-capitalism will defeat imperialism. STATE POWER TO THE WORKERS AND PEASANT. Develop the party for this struggle—A REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST PARTY. Masses of Angolan people must DISCARD NATIONALISM.

Israeli Workers Feel Crunch as

Bosss Began Economic Terror

This is the first of a two part article.

TILL AVIV, Jan. 28—In recent months, Israeli workers have been hit by a double whammy—the world economic crisis and the Zionist state cutting the screws on the workers to support the massive imperialist military machine. The Israeli bosses have begun a real campaign of terror against the workers. Newspapers proclaim “Living standards will decline 3 per cent in 1974”—and then scream that workers must “moderate” their demands so that “the war effort won’t be hurt.” 1974 wasn’t so hot, either—wages went up 23 per cent, but then prices shot up 37 per cent (so workers ended up losing 5 per cent).

Unemployment is starting to soar, too. Even the government is willing to admit that unemployment will reach 5.5 per cent this year (it’s now 3.3 per cent)—but then they tell us that 5.5 per cent unemployment is “really” full employment. One treasury official had the nerve to say that 5.5 per cent unemployment means “people will be changing jobs a lot, but there won’t really be any unem-ployment.”

And there is a special treat in store for the Palestinian workers from the territories occupied in 1967. 100,000 Palestinians from the occupied territories were working in Israel before the Oc-tober 73 war. They got extra low wages—half the wage of Israeli workers doing the same job, ac-cording to government statistics. Further, they have to make incredibly long trips from home to work—many have to commute 2 hours each way to work—because of the new policy of using the Arabs out of the Jewish towns. And of course unions—or any kind of demonstration—are illegal for Palestinians; Israel cops use violence and kidnap demonstration by Palestinians and then expel the leaders to Jordan. And now comes the economic crisis. Naturally the old racists like Gavriel Goren have raised this as an excuse for firing the Palestinian workers first—most of the Palestinians are hired on a day basis, so there is no struggle demonstration. Plus, most of the Palestinians worked in the construc-tion industry, and it has been hardest hit by the crisis.

(continued next week.)