

CLASS STRUGGLE

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VAUXHALLS: COURT INJUNCTION BANS PICKETING

Threats, intimidation and state repression are the order of the day in the bosses' confrontation of workers on strike. British Leyland boss, lately knighted Sir Michael Edwardes, says to Leyland workers vote "Yes" for a 25,000 cut in jobs "or else". *Sunday Times* and *Times* National Graphical Association (NGA) strikers were told "agree" or Times Publishers faces total closure. There are many examples of such threats and the spinelessness and treachery of the opportunist union misleaders is showing up more and more as they cave in in the face of them. The Confederation of Engineering Unions has overruled Leyland shop stewards and called for a "Yes" vote in

CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACIST LAWS LAUNCHED

A campaign was launched on October 20th to stop the Tory Government's proposed changes in immigration and nationality laws and to demand the repeal of the 1971 Immigration Act. The campaign is organising a demonstration in London on November 25th.

The initiative for the campaign came from the President of the Indian Workers' Association (Great Britain), Avatar Jouhl. It follows the correct policy developed in the IWA(GB) under the leadership of the late General Secretary, Comrade Jagmohan Joshi, of "uniting all those who can be unified" against racism.

"In the post-war era", an IWA(GB) statement says, "both Labour and Tory Governments have passed successive acts that made immigration control stricter and altered the rights of British nationals at the same time. Proposed nationality changes in the Green Paper (1977, produced by the Callaghan Government) and the present Government's proposals to alter the rules and procedures governing the entry of Commonwealth citizens to the United Kingdom indicate the extent to which the state is prepared to drop considerations of democracy, human rights and international law in order to keep black people out."

The initiative was supported by the Standing Conference of Pakistani Organisations, the West Indian Standing Conference, Bangladesh Workers' Association, Kashmiri Workers' Association, and other Indian and national minority organisations. Many political organisations, trade unions and anti-racist groups have sponsored the campaign. Even the Labour Party and some Labour MPs have given their support which must be utilised at this time, despite the racist nature of the Labour Party.

The October 20th conference also agreed to support the struggle of the people of Southall against police repression and to support a call from the Bradford Asian Youth Movement for a nationwide march.

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Edwardes' ballot. What despicable collaboration with the capitalist class this is.

8,000 workers at Vauxhall's plant at Ellesmere Port on Merseyside have been on strike for eight weeks as we go to press. They are striking for a 25% pay claim. True, Vauxhall workers at Luton and Dunstable voted in favour of the company's 17% package offer, but the Ellesmere Port workers in taking their action are continuing the struggle for all Vauxhall workers. The response of the company bosses is predictable. They have threatened to shut up shop at Ellesmere Port and in a cynical move to split workers on Merseyside and isolate the Vauxhall workers, a company boss interviewed on television lamented that the strike is giving Merseyside a bad image and causing capitalism to invest elsewhere. The message is "lie down and be good wage slaves and we capitalists might let you work for us." We must expect this of the capitalists but not from our so-called leaders.

VAUXHALL PICKETS HIT BY COURT INJUNCTION

Vauxhall workers have used new forms of struggle in order to succeed in bringing the bosses to heel. In order to win support from the public and

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Class Struggle price rise

Class Struggle is not a business run for the purpose of profit. It exists to serve the working class. This is its aim. But *Class Struggle* also has to be produced in the real world.

Like everyone else in Britain *Class Struggle* has to put up with constantly rising costs. Not only have the costs of the material themselves and of distribution gone up, but big increases in Value Added Tax have also added to our bills.

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put pressure on Vauxhall care sales, showroom picketing was launched. Warnings against the Vauxhall bosses using sub-standard parts to maintain production during the strike have been made by TGWU shop stewards. This is, of course, so-called secondary picketing and the bosses-reaction has been frantic as it is when ever workers use effective means of struggle. This is "unfair practice" or "unreasonable" they shout. The main Vauxhall dealers on Merseyside quickly took out an injunction against the leaders of the strike, convenor John Farrell and deputy convenor Anthony Woodley, as well as against union officials. Clearly showing once again the class nature of the law courts and the state, Justice Bush took only one hour before granting a seven day interim injunction. A week previously, pickets were called off at east coast ports after a similar injunction was granted.

Defiance of the court order by pickets now involves the threat of prison, not for secondary picketing - which is not yet illegal - but for contempt of court. From this, it is clear, that the capitalist state already has powers for attacking picketing. What the bosses want is a strengthening of the police's power to attack pickets without preliminary civil action for a court injunction.

CLASS STRUGGLE SHARPENS TO RESIST CAPITALIST ATTACKS

In order to crush the workers' anti-capitalist strike struggle, the state is resorting to more open repression. The treachery and misleadership of the opportunists has served the bosses well. The class collaborationist propaganda of the "social contract" and "concordat" gave the capitalists years of "class peace". It continues to disorganise, split and undermine the workers' struggle by channelling it into harmless anti-Tory parliamentary lobbying. But now, when strikes have become the most widespread since the 1926 General Strike, the capitalists cannot rely on this alone. The state and the law is being invoked more to take the weapons of legal organisation and struggle out of the workers' hands. The opportunists cringe at the thought of going against the law, but when during the Heath Government the five dockers defied an injunction to ban their picketing of a container port and were sent to prison, the response of the mass of trade unions was magnificent and the Heath Government was forced to release them. This is the militant spirit of class struggle which is ready to fight by new means if necessary and doesn't fear the threat of capitalist reaction.

From our postbag



The Editor - CS,
c/o New Era Books,
203 Seven Sisters Rd
London N4.

Dear Editor

I was interested in reading the articles in *Class Struggle* (Vol.3 No.21) on the health cuts in London hospitals. I would like to give information on one specific London hospital.

The Western Hospital in Seagrave Road, Fulham is to be closed on December 12th. It was built as an infectious diseases hospital, but as immunisations have controlled diphtheria, polio and other serious infectious diseases during the 1960's it was broadened into a chest hospital and later some wards for old people.

Two air-conditioned wards were specially built for chest patients in the early 60's but within 5 years the land that they were on was sold off to save money! So the closure is just the final cut.

The Western Hospital is very suitable for the geriatric patients as it has some beautiful grounds where the old people can get some exercise. They are to be moved to the West London Hospital which is on a main road, with no grounds at all - so the only exercise they will get will be walking up and down hospital corridors!

The few infectious patients left will be distributed throughout the London area where they can find a bed for them. That is going to be hard to do as no infectious patients are now allowed to be put in a hospital with research departments.

There has been very little fight-back from the staff as the run-down of the hospital has been going on for so long. Demoralisation set in a long time ago.

Local people are upset by the closure as the dedication of the staff have been recognised by them over the years.

G.A.

Dear Editor,

The proposal of Southampton Council to set up "special accomodation" for prostitutes has made me really angry. Prostitution is a symptom of an oppressive society. Why do women become prostitutes in the first place? Usually because they have not enough money to live. A lot are young girls who have run away from home and who can't find any other way of surviving. Once they have started it is difficult to get out.

This proposal is actually going to make it even harder for the girls to get out of prostitution as their address is going to make it almost impossible to get the few available jobs. If they do succeed will the Council evict them?

In Hamburg prostitution is legal. The Council there also run brothels and as the prostitutes are registered it is almost impossible for the girls to change their lives. When you see some of the older women selling themselves for less than £1 and seeing what abuse they have to put up with, you realise just how disgusting Southampton Council's proposal is.

I do sympathise with some of the families who live in the area, having to put up with abuse, kerb-crawling etc but until attitudes to women change, and poverty does not force women into prostitution ordinary people are going to suffer.

Southampton Council are trying to turn themselves into a bunch of pimps!

J.Liverpool

MONTHLY DISCUSSION MEETINGS ON
**THE FIGHT AGAINST
BRITISH IMPERIALISM**

- | date | subject |
|------------------|--|
| October 26th... | British imperialism in the world |
| November 23rd... | British imperialism & the 3rd world |
| December 14th... | British imperialism in Ireland |
| January 11th... | British imperialism, the superpowers and the struggle for independence |
| February 8th... | British capitalism in crisis |
| March 7th..... | Imperialism and the working class |
| April 4th..... | Imperialism and racism |
| May 16th..... | The British imperialist state |

Day: Fridays Time: 7.30pm

place: THE ROEBUCK PUB, TOTTENHAM COURT RD. LONDON, W1

Organised by the Revolutionary Communist League of Britain. c/o New Era Books, 203, Seven Sisters Rd, N4.

STAFF WORKERS' STRIKE AT FORDS

800 staff workers, including foremen and general, at Ford's Halewood plants held a token 48-hour strike recently. This was their immediate response to the company's 12% pay offer. Their claim, including longer holidays and a shorter working week, is for a 40% increase. A further important point in their claim is for a cost-of-living clause to compensate them for the rampant inflation expected during the next 12 months.

Usually Ford staff workers negotiate their pay deal when the 57,000 production workers have concluded their pay struggle. This was the case last year when they settled soon after the production workers' 9-week strike which broke a gaping hole in the Labour Government's 5% wage controls. Because of that strike the anniversary date in their current agreement was put back to November 24th, forcing the staff workers to take on Fords first.

Meanwhile, the unions representing the production workers announced their claim. This is for a 30% increase which would make the basic rate for most workers £100 per week, an increase of £23. Last year they won a £6.52 increase (9.6%). Other points in the claim are longer holidays, shorter working week, extra payment for line workers, and better pensions with retirement at 60.

Both these claims are made in the context of booming profits here in Britain for the US based transnational. 1977 saw profits double from the previous year to a record £246 millions. This was followed in 1978 by £242 millions, which was despite a 6-week strike at Halewood early in the year and the 9-week national strike in the autumn. So far in 1979 Fords have taken advantage of the severe crisis faced by their rivals here in Britain and expect to grab one third of the home car market. The Ford Cortina and the Escort have been the 2 best selling cars here all year. The knowledge of a highly profitable Ford Motor Company can only give greater confidence to all sections of workers to struggle to see their just claims met.

£60,000 for horseplay

At all costs the pleasures of our Royal family must be saved for the nation. So the state-owned British Leyland, crippled by the capitalist crisis, is to sponsor Princess Anne's husband's horseplay to the tune of £60,000.

Don't worry that Leyland is about to put 25,000 workers on the dole, or that they are paying him to advertise the Range Rover, which even the rich can't get hold of, because of its nine-month waiting list. Don't worry that working class kids are being deprived of sports facilities (let alone health and educational facilities, etc) by Government cutbacks. The working class must make sacrifices, but the rich must have their show-jumping.

Poor Mark Phillips needs our help. He's got a £100,000 stable to run, complete with heated horse horses' swimming bath. The farm the Queen gave him is only worth £1,000,000. The poor twit can't run it properly. Local farmers say he could get at least £50,000 a year out of it. But then, he has only done a 10-month course in agriculture, and jumping over fences doesn't get the fields ploughed and harvested.

A WORKER'S NOTEBOOK

■ ON OCTOBER 26TH, FIELD MARSHALL SIR GERALD Templer former Chief of the Imperial General Staff died at the age of 84. He was praised by the imperialists for his activities in Malaya in 1951-1954. The exploits for which he is praised include a ban on all progressive political parties, torture and shooting of anyone suspected of aiding the Communist Party of Malaya and the herding of 1/2 million people behind barbed wire into "strategic hamlets". 400,000 troops were despatched to suppress the people's anti-imperialist struggle.

In 1952 after a British officer had been shot by guerrillas, Templer, personally imposed a 22 hour curfew on a near by village, reduced the rice ration and closed the bus service for two weeks before "information was forthcoming".

It is for this kind of colonial oppression that the imperialist praise their servants and lackeys. But as Mao Zedong said to die for the fascists and reactionaries "is lighter than a feather".

■ THE DHSS IS CIRCULARISING HOSPITALS WITH ADVICE on coping with strikes this winter - advice such as stopping pay to workers taking action short of striking. They are so busy blaming their long waiting lists on last winter's disputes they carefully ignore the cutbacks made to NHS services over the last few years. Of course waiting lists are getting longer. Waiting lists are getting longer with hospitals closing, wards understaffed, specialities underfinanced. Latest cuts in the Merton, Sutton and Wandsworth area include four hospitals, and the closing of many special units. At St Benedicts hospital, Tooting, a one day strike by ancillary workers has already taken place in protest. Workers won't be fooled by smoke screens - they know who is attacking the NHS and who is working for it.

■ IN A BOURGEOIS DEMOCRACY (DEMOCRACY FOR THE RULING class and dictatorship for the workers) the whole apparatus of law and order is weighted heavily against the interests of the working class. Fair trials are few and far between. Which is why a recent BBC programme on jury vetting came under attack by the state. The magistrate who is presiding over the current "Anarchists trial" at the Old Bailey, Judge King-Hamilton, referred the programme to the Director of Public Prosecutions saying that if the jury saw the BBC programme they might believe the allegations about "telephone intercepts, in depth investigations into their private lives and so forth". None of which, according to Judge King-Hamilton were true. And yet, according to the programme, jury vetting began in 1975, there has so far been 28 "authorised" vetted trials and in the famous ABC "secrets" trial it was discovered that the foreman of one "vetted" jury was an ex-member of the SAS. The practice of "vetting" juries is clearly a covert attempt by the state to intensify its dictatorship over the working class.

■ A DISABLED SPORTSWOMAN, MRS MAGGIE JONES HAS been banned from appearing in next year's paraplegic olympics by the British Paraplegic Sports Society. Her offence? She distributed anti-apartheid leaflets to other participants at a recent European championship meeting. The leaflet which caused offence dealt with health care in South Africa. Mrs Jones said, "only countries with good health care are able to participate in disabled sport, because it is in these countries that there are good wheelchairs and good prostheses. It seemed relevant to point out the differing standards of health care in South Africa - one doctor to 400 whites and one doctor to 40,000 blacks". Officially, Mrs Jones was banned for "bringing politics into sport". In other words, she was banned for exposing South Africa as a fascist country, Politics, as everyone knows, is inseparable from sport, especially so in the case of South Africa because sport in South Africa is exactly the mirror of its fascist system of apartheid.

IMMIGRATION ACTS: RACIST SNOWBALL

The 1971 Immigration Act is the latest in a series of racist laws starting in 1962. Although some Labour MPs and Labour Party members say they now oppose the 1971 Act, we must judge them by their deeds, not their words.

In 1962, the Tory Commonwealth Immigrants Act abolished the right of Commonwealth citizens to free entry. In the boom years of the 1950s, British imperialism needed a huge supply of surplus labour. When the boom ended, they wanted to pick and choose. So the Act introduced a system of work vouchers. "A" vouchers for those with a specific job to come to "B" vouchers for those with a recognised skill that was in short supply and "C" vouchers for all others.

CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

CONT'D FROM P1

The campaign has issued two slogans:

"Stop the Tory immigration proposals and the British Nationality Act"

"Repeal the 1971 Immigration Act"

IMMIGRATION CONTROL IS RACIST

People come to work in Britain from the Indian sub-continent, the West Indies and parts of Africa because these were once British colonies. British imperialism controlled these nations' economies in their own interests, used their labour forces cheaply, grabbed their raw materials, and sold British manufactures to them expensively. Even after political independence, former British colonies are still under the thumb of imperialism. British imperialism has had to take a back seat to the US and Soviet superpowers now, but it still grabs its share.

Continued imperialist plunder and domination through neo-colonial dependence prevents those, now formerly independent, countries from building self-reliant economies. Recently, the Pakistan Finance Minister said, "The balance of trade in manufactures between the industrialised countries and the developing countries remains overwhelmingly in favour of the industrialised countries. The surplus of the industrialised countries in this trade increased from £8,000 million in 1963, to £50,000 million in 1977 and is continuing to increase."

It is the poverty and unemployment produced by this plunder which forces people to emigrate. Why else should they leave their homes, families and familiar cultures to come to a cold, inhospitable Britain to face racism and hostility at every turn?

The Labour and Tory bourgeois politicians pretend that they are cutting and stopping immigration to "improve race relations". The truth is the opposite. They use immigration controls to spread racism. Through them they put out the myth that the presence of black people in Britain causes unemployment, bad housing etc. Evils that are really caused by the capitalist system. They do this to incite divisions between the white and black workers to set up a scapegoat for the white workers to blame instead of uniting with black workers to fight the real enemy, capitalism and imperialism.

Immigration controls and propaganda promoting and justifying them are spearheading the spreading of racism in Britain today. All immigration controls under imperialism are racist and must be opposed.

The Labour Opposition in 1962 opposed the Act strongly. But when they came to power in 1965, they not only implemented it, they strengthened it. They reduced all vouchers from 20,000 a year to 8,500. These were only "A" and "B" vouchers; "C" vouchers had ceased to be granted at all.

In 1968, the Labour Government rushed through another Commonwealth Immigrants Act. This removed the right of free entry even for British passport holders, unless they or their parents were born here. So the basis for the racist category of "patrial" in the 1971 Act was laid by Labour in 1968. The Act was specifically aimed at keeping Asian UK passport holders from Kenya out. *The Times* wrote, "The Labour Party now has a new ideology. It does not any longer profess to believe in the equality of man. It does not even believe in the equality of British citizens. It believes in the equality of white British citizens."

The 1971 Act entrenched and extended the '62 and '68 Acts. It confined the "right of abode" to citizens of the UK or colonies who were patrial. The two most important categories of patrial were:

1. Citizens who had citizenship through birth, adoption, naturalisation or registration in the UK
OR one of whose parents had citizenship by birth in the UK
OR one of whose grandparents had such citizenship at the time of the birth of the parent.
2. Citizens who had been ordinarily resident in the UK for more than 5 years.

Anyone without "right of abode" through patriality needed permission to enter the country. This was a clear racial category, because all but a tiny number of "patrials" would be whites from Australia, Canada and New Zealand. Recently a Maori married to a UK-born woman needed permission to enter for a visit.

The 1971 Act also turned black workers from the Commonwealth into short-term contract labour. The vouchers under the 1962 Act had given the holder the right to settle. Under the 1971 Act entry was subject to annual work-permit. Renewal could be refused, and this was mainly up to the employer. So employers could threaten national minority workers with the refusal of renewal of their work-permits, as was done in the Garners' Steak House strike.

The Act also increased the powers of the police to arrest and detain suspected "illegal immigrants" without warrant, and gave the Home Secretary the power of instant repatriation, without recourse to a court.

The 1974-1979 Labour Government did nothing to soften the 1971 Act, let alone repeal it. In fact they used it to launch attacks on national minorities at least as harsh as those of their Tory predecessors.

In the next issue of *CS* we will deal with Thatcher's planned immigration controls, increasing state repression of national minorities, and the likely threat of a legally entrenched second-class citizenship, with some form of repatriation.

IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES ATTACK BLACK COMMUNITIES

Immigration of working adults (primary immigration) from the Third World was mainly stopped in 1968, with a few loopholes plugged in 1971. Today the laws are used mainly to harass families of immigrants already here, immigrants returning to Britain from holiday etc, and the national minority communities in Britain.

RETURNING IMMIGRANTS & RESIDENT MINORITY COMMUNITIES

4 weeks ago *Class Struggle* cited glaring cases of harassment, detention and discrimination at ports of entry, and of blanket raids on black communities by the "Illegal Immigration Intelligence Unit". Abdul Azad, the teenager detained in Risley as an "illegal immigrant" after the police had been called to investigate his mother's murder, has been eventually freed. The Home Office stated this was on "compassionate grounds", but the real reason was the strong support campaign mounted by his community. Any contact with the police can lead to detention as an "illegal", like the Ghanaian who reported a burglary of his home. Both he and his 8-month pregnant wife were detained. In 1978 a black schoolboy, born in Britain, was stopped by police on his way to school and asked for his passport. Since he wasn't carrying it, he was taken to the police station and detained for 1½ hours.

DEPENDANTS

Up to now the state has paid lip-service to the

right of families to join their breadwinners in this country. In practice it has used every method available to destroy this right. Home Office officials in Asian countries use confusing interviews, humiliating tests and bureaucratic delays to keep queues of dependants waiting endlessly.

BBC Radio 4 gave an example on October 23rd. A man from Bangladesh, legally resident in Britain for many years, works as a dishwasher in an exclusive London club. He sought to bring his wife and 7 children to join him. British immigration officials in Dacca summoned the family. They made the arduous 200 mile journey with his brother. They had an elaborate interview, through an interpreter, and the children were subjected to medical examination. This included X-rays on their joints. Accepted medical opinion is that such X-rays should not be made except in case of disease. And, as evidence of age, they are inconclusive.

At the end of this process, the official decreed that the man's wife was in fact his brother's wife, his elder son was his brother, and the other children were not his! 2 years ago the man went to Bangladesh to have another go himself. This time his own passport was taken away, and he was told he was an illegal immigrant!

Eventually, after much trouble and expense, his passport was restored, and entry certificates were granted to his wife and 5 of the children. The official announced that one child was not his, because some one in his village had purportedly said so, and another was not his, because the official did not think the child's date of birth corresponded with a date of conception when the man was in Bangladesh! All the man can do now is to wait for a lengthy appeal process, in the hope that his family can be re-united.

Both our bourgeois political leaders, and the Pope, talk about the importance of family life. But it only applies if you're white! What they really believe is the racist slogan "Let them be re-united in their own country". Well, we've got news for them. For the national minorities who live here, this is their country, and they intend to stay.

WHY THE OPPORTUNISTS MADE A U-TURN

The Labour Party has followed an identical policy to the Tories in repressing national minorities in Britain through immigration controls and racist attacks by the state.

Up until recently, the so-called left wing in this country have been unwilling to oppose this oppression openly. The Anti-Nazi League leadership supported by the Labourites, the revisionist "Communist" Party of Great Britain, and assorted Trotskites like Socialist Workers' Party, and International Marxist Group, try to divert the struggle away from the racist state. Until recently their policy was to attack only the National Front and other open fascists. They deny the fact that it is imperialism which is the economic basis of racism and that the racist state is the greater enemy hiding behind the open fascist parties.

On the other hand, black and national minority organisations, like the Indian Workers' Association (IWA,GB), the Bangladesh Workers' Association, and many others, reflected the real concerns of the people and stood firmly against the racist state. So did many local anti-racist organisations, in-

cluding local ANL groups. Real communists have always taken this stand.

Now the ANL leadership has changed its line, and opposes immigration controls and state racism. That is good. (The IMG is reported to have gone overboard and said it will have nothing to do with any actions to oppose the National Front. That is pure childishness.)

Undoubtedly a major reason for this U-turn by the ANL leaders and its backers is their experience of actual events, such as the vicious police attacks in Southall, the spirited resistance of support groups from the black communities for victims of state racism like George Lindo, the Virk brothers, Abdul Azad and the Ahmeds. Better late than never.

But it is very significant that this U-turn took place when the Labour Government was replaced by the Tories! When Labour was in power, they covered up state racism and attacked only the Nazis. Now the Tories are in power, it is "safe" for them to attack state racism.

ZANU SPOKESMAN REVEALS BRITISH INTENTION

On Friday, October 26th, *Class Struggle* held an exclusive interview with comrade Eddison Zvobgo, the information spokesman of the ZANU delegation (part of the Patriotic Front) at the Constitutional Conference on "Rhodesia" which is continuing in London.

CLASS STRUGGLE: Do you have any comments on the continuing raids by the Rhodesian racists on neighbouring Zambia and Mozambique?

EDDISON ZVOBGO: Last time they tried to attack our transit positions in Mozambique it was a disaster for General Walls. We brought down eight planes and annihilated more than 200 troops. General Walls confirms it. They had their nose bruised and won't try again for some time. Most of the Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army (ZANLA) is now fighting in Zimbabwe, so going into Mozambique is not really the point.

As well as trying to attack the liberation forces they also kill lots of civilians in the neighbouring countries. This has been a deliberate part of their overall strategy.

CS: At the recent Commonwealth Conference in Lusaka do you think Mrs Thatcher made any break with Britain's past imperialist approaches to Zimbabwe?

EDDISON ZVOBGO: No she did not! What she tried to do was to use the Commonwealth to get rid of the "Rhodesia problem." Britain wants to get out of Rhodesia. The same as it did in Cyprus and Palestine leaving years of trouble for the people to solve. If Britain desires genuine liberation then obviously it should bring in UN participation as she did in the past.

CS: What is the basis for the British Government favouring one side in the present negotiations?

EDDISON ZVOBGO: That is obviously in the nature of imperialism. Imperialism needed a black mouth through which to speak. But as Ian Smith said yesterday, their black stooges are not as intelligent as us. The black Uncle Toms cannot afford to have positions different from their masters.

CS: Will the Zimbabwean people have confidence in the outcome of the proposed elections?

EDDISON ZVOBGO: That will depend on the actual regulations affecting the freedom and fairness of the elections. What matters with us is what the conditions would actually be on the ground.

CS: Why does the Patriotic Front insist on outside supervision of elections?

EDDISON ZVOBGO: Because if you are going to have a free and fair election and you have the Patriotic Front and the other forces you have to recognise that neither party can have dominating influence. Let some third party take part in supervising the elections. We have suggested the United Nations. The British Government went to the United Nations in 1965 over sanctions and they went to the UN last year about the appointment of General Prem Chand. So why don't they want to go now?

CS: Why does the Patriotic Front think it right to take part in the present negotiations despite the British Chairman's discrimination in favour of the Muzorewa regime?

EDDISON ZVOBGO: Because we believe it would be irresponsible not to participate in discussions. If you are involved in struggle you must hold yourself open to any possibilities of solving the struggle peacefully.

The Constitutional Conference is a British initiative on behalf of its settlers in Rhodesia.

Our initiative is the armed struggle.

But if the British Government's initiative raises the possibility of a peaceful solution which is fair, then we are ready to discuss it.

CS: How does ZANU intend to ensure the Zimbabwean people get the unrestricted right to their own land?

EDDISON ZVOBGO: We intend to seize it!

Compensation will be at the discretion of the state. We would look at each claim although we have indicated we would find it very difficult to pay large amounts of compensation. We believe that the other side has understood these points and accepts the need to come forward itself with appropriate proposals for compensation from its own funds.

CS: Is the aim of ZANU to continue the fight against British imperialism and its agents through to a Zimbabwe completely free of all dominating powers?

EDDISON ZVOBGO: We strongly deny any reports that we allow Russians or Cubans to operate among us. We said in 1963 "We are our own liberators"! Ours is a liberation struggle waged by the people.

The neighbouring countries help us as immediate rear bases for our struggle. The outer rear base is of course the working class of the world.

CS: Are there any other points you would like to

EDITOR'S NOTE

The present British Government, like the last Labour one, is going all out to present itself as an impartial arbiter between the Smith/Muzorewa regime and the Patriotic Front. This farcical pretence is exploded by the simple fact that Carrington, the British Foreign Secretary has a considerable interest in Rio Tinto Zinc and was a director of RTZ until he was made a Minister. RTZ is one of the principal imperialist companies operating in Zimbabwe. Carrington's particular interest and commitment to continued imperialist oppression of Zimbabwe is just a symptom of the general interest of the British imperialist ruling class, of which he is a representative.

Carrington's proposal for a new election supervised by a supposedly "independent" Britain is ridiculous. As is his proposal that before the election "Rhodesia" will be policed by the present racist "security" forces, under the control of a British appointee!

As Eddison Zvobgo asks, why won't the British Government accept UN directed election? Obviously Carrington and his class do not want "free and fair elections". Why?-because they know who would win.

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

BY CLASS STRUGGLE

stress at this point in time?

EDDISON ZVOBGO: About the elections, only the Patriotic Front has come forward with proposals on how the elections can be free and fair. We submitted two documents this morning.

I would like you to demand that Carrington and his puppets accept the challenge to come forward with a plan that is any more free and fair.

These people don't want to come forward with a plan because they want to rig the elections. The Patriotic Front would win free and fair elections hands down!

TURKISH COMMUNIST LEADER ARRESTED



The martial law authorities have arrested comrade Dogu Perincek, Chairman of the Workers and Peasants Party of Turkey (TIKP). He was detained on September 20th in Ankara. The pretext was an outspoken article by Perincek in the daily newspaper *Aydinlik*. In it he condemned prison authorities for the brutal treatment of political prisoners.

Perincek's detention is the latest episode of oppression directed against progressives and patriots in Turkey. It takes place against the background of mounting fascist and social-fascist (pro-Soviet) terrorism which has claimed over 2,000 lives in two years. Political violence instigated by the superpowers came to a head during the recent General Election. The Ecevit Government, which leaned heavily towards Soviet imperialism was defeated. The new Government headed by Demirel is said to be backed by US imperialism.

TIKP has consistently exposed superpower subversion and designs on Turkey, a country of crucial strategic importance. The Party has fought for national independence, democratic rights, a peaceful solution of the Cyprus problem and for friendship with Greece.

The working and progressive people of Turkey demand the immediate release of Perincek.

RELEASE DOGU PERINCEK NOW!

MANIFESTO ★

The Manifesto of the RCLB puts forward the stand of Marxism-Leninism on the major questions facing the working class, both internationally and nationally. It points out that our central task today is to rebuild the revolutionary Communist Party. The Manifesto is the founding document of the RCLB. Available from New Era Books, Price 37p (inc p&p)

The RCLB has members in London Birmingham Bristol Leeds Liverpool Manchester Newcastle Yeovil

To contact the RCLB, write to: c/o New Era Books.

INTERNATIONAL NOTES



IRAN: Marvellous news from Iran. At its Fourth Congress the Revolutionary Organisation (Sazemaneh Enghelab) and the Marxist-Leninist Organisation of Iran (Proletaire) have united. Their Joint Statement of 10.9.79 stated, "The protracted struggle of the Marxist-Leninists for the creation of the Communist Party of Iran has entered a new phase following the victory of the anti-imperialist and anti-autocratic revolution of Iran led by Imam Khomeini. The conditions for active ideological struggle and practical and theoretical co-operation have become ever more favourable and the question of the creation of the Party has been transformed into the necessity of the day". The two organisations, which have over 15 years of heroic struggle behind them, have united in the course of principled discussions and joint work. They stress that the fundamental tenets of unity are - defence of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought; defence of the Iranian anti-imperialist revolution and the cause of "Great National Unity"; the creation of the Party; the struggle against right and left revisionism; and defence of the theory of the three worlds in the struggle against the superpowers and for the cause of independence, freedom and liberation of the world's peoples.

At the same time the Preparatory Committee for the Establishment of the Communist Party of Iran was established with two other communist organisations.

KOREA: During a dinner party on the night of Friday October 26th, the south Korean dictator Pak Jung Hi (Park Chung Hee) was "accidentally" shot by the Director of the Korean Central Intelligence Agency, Kim Jae Kyu. It was hotly denied that this incident was in any way linked with the army coup d'etat which overthrew the south Korean Government or with the expulsion of Pak's main opposition number Kim Young Sam, from the Parliament the week previously.

The US Defence Department ordered its 38,000 troops and airforce actually in south Korea on to an "alert" status, and had the cheek to tell the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) not to interfere in Korea's internal affairs.

USA: The US House of Representatives has voted down a measure to require 18-year old males to register for draft. There were several draft bills for discussion. This autumn the main difference between them being when registration for the draft would start, not if it would.

There have been widespread demonstrations against these bills under slogans such as "Hell no: we won't go!" and opposition to the possibility of draft has been growing in the states particularly among youth.

The President is still required to submit a report in January on the needs and methods of draft registration.

Senate has not yet voted on the bills and is further removed from public pressure than the House of Representatives. So the mass movement against the draft continues.

KAMPUCHEA: On September 21st, 60 Vietnamese troops stationed at Kang Va, in Battambang province shot their officers and escaped. 11 joined the guerilla resistance. In the confusion Khymer conscripts seized weapons and ammunition.

JAMAICA: Over the past month there have been massive demonstrations protesting against government policies, high unemployment and the increasing Cuban influence in Jamaica.

VIETNAMESE DIPLOMAT'S LIES EXPOSED

Dear Editor,

Through the pages of *Class Struggle* we have been made acutely aware of Vietnamese expansionism and aggression in South East Asia, especially the brutal invasion of Kampuchea. With the Fleet Street barons and the television spreading malicious and horrendous lies about what is really happening, *Class Struggle* is one of the few publications telling the truth. Your article which tore the lies of Pilger of the *Daily Mirror* to pieces was very good.

Recently, one of our study group heard that the Vietnamese Charge D'Affairs was coming to this area to address a few meetings. These were organised by with the help and support of members of the 'Communist' Party of Great Britain and the 'Communist' Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist), to try to justify the oppressive and aggressive policies of the Vietnamese authorities. We decided that we should attend these meetings to expose the Vietnamese lies and give some support to our Kampuchean brothers and sisters fighting for their national independence.

At the meeting, the Charge D'Affairs tried to win the sympathy of the audience by talking of the heroic struggle of the Vietnamese peoples against French and then US imperialism, but after that his tone suddenly changed completely. He changed from being assured and confident to being jittery and aggressive.

He tried to make out that the Boat people were being allowed to leave Vietnam because of "humanitarian" reasons, and completely whitewashed the situation. He reserved some special venom for China, accusing her of inciting ethnic Chinese (HOA) into leaving Vietnam. He ignored completely the withdrawal of food ration cards to many national minority peoples, the forced assimilation of Hoa people into Vietnamese citizenship, and the cold, hunger and starvation faced by those forced into the "New Economic Zones" to reclaim land for their oppressors. He ignored the 1,000,000 people who have fled Vietnam to other countries, or the 400,000 who have drowned in the process, such was their fear of staying in Vietnam today. He greatly angered some members of the audience through his arrogant and even racist attitude towards Chinese and other national minorities.

It was on Kampuchea that his racism really revealed itself. He launched a massive slanderous attack on the Government of Democratic Kampuchea that even the CIA would have difficulty surpassing. It was so full of lies, inaccuracies and absurdities that it was pure fantasy. He accused Pol Pot of exterminating 3,000,000 people at a time when international studies of the Kampuchean population found it surprisingly increasing. Of course he also trotted out all the other lies so clearly exposed in a recent edition of *Class Struggle*.

He even stated that the reason the Vietnamese invaded Kampuchea was that Kampuchea was set to invade Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) and the whole of south Vietnam! This was laughable. He openly admitted that 100,000 Vietnamese troops crossed the border on December 25th and occupied Phnom Penh on January 7th. Hanoi only admitted it had troops in Kampuchea in late March, and then tried to cover it up by saying that they had signed an agreement with their puppet Heng Samrin on February 18th which allowed Vietnamese troops into the country. Yet here was a "diplomat" admitting that the troops invaded (his words) in December!

He even stated that the Soviet invasion of

Czechoslovakia in 1968 and the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea in 1978 amounted to the same thing!

At first, when he was asked why 200,000 Vietnamese troops were in Kampuchea he stated that it was in internal affair between the "two countries." But being further pressed he started becoming very aggressive, shouting wildly "We could have invaded in 1975, but we didn't. We could have invaded in 1976. We could have invaded in 1977, we could have invaded in 1978." They did. Apart from this he could give no answer.

The audience were taken aback by his aggressive racist attitude towards Kampuchea, and he lost a great deal of support, except to the hacks of the 'C'PGB and 'CPB(M-L)'. He admitted that there were 200,000 Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea and then went on to say that there were also 50,000 troops in neighbouring Laos. He then tried to deny that Vietnam was intent on building an Indo-Chinese Federation of Laos and Kampuchea under Vietnamese control. He was defeated by his own admissions.

At the first of the meetings the Charge D'Affairs tried to paint a picture of Kampuchea being under Chinese domination. While there has been no evidence at all of any Chinese troops, he said there were 20,000 Chinese in Kampuchea. A day later, the story had changed and he noted that the Vietnamese were about to reveal evidence of an occupation force of 60,000 Chinese in Kampuchea. This reminds us of the "concentration camp" that the Vietnamese constructed when they had occupied Phnom Penh for six months months, trying to claim that Pol Pot had built it. We can expect a few more Vietnamese lies before the end of the year.

It seems incredible that the Vietnamese can refer to the Khmer Rouge as a small insignificant bandit force and then have the nerve to admit that they have 200,000 troops fighting them! From their own "facts" and information they went into Kampuchea with 100,000 troops expecting a lightning victory, but have now been embroiled in the sea of a popular people's war.

Judging from this Vietnamese diplomat's experience, the Vietnamese authorities are becoming very worried about the situation, losing face and friends daily. We all learnt a great deal from attending this meeting, showing up the Vietnamese aggression and discrediting the lies of the Charge D'Affairs. At the end we handed a leaflet out presenting our case.

It was very clear that the 'CPB(M-L)' claiming to be a revolutionary organisation, through its support of Vietnamese aggression is showing itself to be nothing more than a "left" appendage of the revisionist 'Communist' Party and a supporter of Soviet social imperialism in the world today.

Finally, the Charge D'Affairs quoted Ho Chi Minh the great leader of the Vietnamese liberation struggle against US imperialism, "Nothing is more precious than a people's freedom and independence."

Victory to the Kampuchean people's struggle against Vietnamese imperialism!

Comradely greetings
Members of a *Class Struggle* Study Group
Newcastle.

Please send contributions to *Class Struggle* about the struggles going on in your factory, place of work or locality. This helps to strengthen the paper and make it topical. c/o Editor, New Era Books, 203 Seven Sisters Rd, London N4.