

Getting Together

POLITICAL ORGAN OF I WOR KUEN

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Countries Want Independence, Nations Want Liberation, People Want Revolution

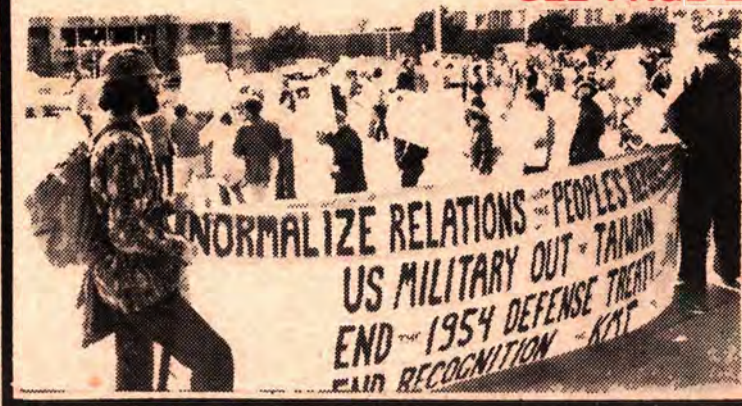
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FEBRUARY 1978

Normalize U.S.-China relations

SEE PAGE 2



February 28, 1947

Commemorate the Taiwan Uprising

February 28 marks the historic signing of the Joint Sino-US Shanghai Communique. This date also marks another important event, the anniversary of the heroic Taiwan Uprising of 1947.

Thirty one years ago, on February 28, the masses all across China's Taiwan Province rose in armed rebellion against the reactionary rule of the Chiang regime. The masses demonstrated their outrage at the brutality of the Chiang clique's rule. The reactionary Kuomintang (KMT) foisted upon the people of Taiwan Province higher taxes, inflation, political repression, and overall misery. As the socialist revolution was nearing complete victory, the masses were outraged at the Chiang clique's willingness to sell out China's national interest by collaborating with the U.S. imperialists over the future of Taiwan.

The actual uprising began when an elderly woman vendor was murdered by Chiang's troops. What began as a massive riot soon escalated to organized armed insurrection against the reactionary Chiang clique. In some regions, Chiang's military and administrative offices were completely occupied by the masses. Many towns and cities in the province were liberated within just a few days. The uprising quickly gained the support of the masses throughout China, including the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party.

Chiang, fearing he would lose

the entire province, launched a most bloody counter offensive against the masses. Thousands were arrested and massacred by the Chiang puppet troops. But however, to this day, the uprising remains a great inspiration to the Taiwan masses' continuing struggle against the Chiang regime and against imperialism.

The masses of Taiwan Province are still oppressed by the Chiang regime and imperialist powers. Several months ago, thousands of people in the Taoyuan County town of Chungli, 50 miles from Taipei, demonstrated in the streets to protest the Chiang clique's corrupt elections. They attacked the police station and hurled rocks through the windows, and set fire to several police cars. In the struggle, many people were injured and a nineteen year old youth was shot in the head by a policeman. Since the protests, the Chiang clique has increased its brutal repression of the masses through political arrests and increased surveillance.

These recent demonstrations show, however, that the militant spirit of the Taiwan Uprising and the masses' hatred of the reactionary Chiang clique and foreign imperialists is a powerful force. In commemorating the 1947 Taiwan Uprising, it is important to also demand the immediate normalization of U.S.-China relations and an end to U.S. recognition of the illegal Chiang regime.

San Francisco and Boston struggles

Masses protest attacks on 3rd world community schools



San Francisco school children protest school "redesign" plan, January 1978 (Getting Together photo)

Mass struggles are breaking out in Boston and San Francisco against the new government plans for reorganization of the public schools. The plans bear similarity in that both claim to be geared toward achieving "racial balance" and improved education in the schools. However, parents, students and teachers in Black, Latino and Asian communities in both cities have loudly protested the plans as discriminatory and unjust to Third World people.

In San Francisco, public hearings around the schools "redesign plan" were held before packed

audiences of angry people. At one hearing at Horace Mann Jr High in the Latino Mission District, crowds of people prevented the superintendent of schools from cutting the meeting short and leaving the room, forcing him to continue the hearing.

Thus and other actions show that the masses will not allow the new school plans to go through.

Boston Roxbury plan attacks Blacks

The Boston school department is proposing to close Roxbury High School. Roxbury High is small and

old, and lacks modern equipment and various programs, but it is the only high school in Boston's Black community, and the masses are defending it for this reason.

The masses are also protesting because the closing of Roxbury High will mean the transfer of many Black students to Charlestown High in a white community at the opposite end of the district. Blacks would be bused across town under Boston's forced busing program, increasing the dispersal of Black students. It would also make it harder for the Black masses to fight for special school programs, and would make the public school system even less accountable to the demands of the Black community.

This is not the first time that Roxbury High and the Black community have been under attack by the school system. A few years ago, plans were made to replace Roxbury High with a new facility, Madison Park High School, which many Blacks looked forward to attending. But when Madison Park opened in September 1977, it was changed into a "magnet school," with specialized programs which draw students citywide. By requiring magnet school enrollment to reflect the racial make up of the whole city, most Blacks from Roxbury were automatically excluded.

Now the current plan to close Roxbury High has met with im-

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Land claims undermined

Court rules Wampanoags not a tribe

Mashpee, Mass. — On January 6, 1978, a Federal jury in Boston decided that the Wampanoag Indians of Mashpee, Massachusetts — a small Cape Cod town — were not a tribe. The judge in the case had ruled earlier that the question of whether or not the Wampanoags constituted a tribe was the key issue in a land claim suit filed by the Native Americans.

This land claim suit, filed over a year ago in U.S. District Court, demands the return of 11,000 acres valued at \$30 million. The suit is based on a law dating back to 1790 that prohibits the transfer of Indian lands without congressional approval. Most of the land under suit is currently owned by real estate developers like the New Seabury Corp., which alone owns 1760 acres. The Native Americans are up against these capitalists and their government



Ellsworth Oakley, Wampanoag chief

and courts in a battle over land, natural resources, and national rights.

Similar suits have been filed by Native Americans in other parts

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The coal miners of Appalachia and the Midwest are steadily advancing their strike activities in spite of intense repression by the capitalist class. The strike by 180,000 members of the United Mine Workers (UMW) against the Bituminous Coal Operators Association (BCOA) is entering its third month and the miners are prepared to stay out as long as it takes to settle a decent contract. The miners realized, from the outset, that they could win their demands only by sustaining a long and bitter strike. (See *Getting Together*, January 1978, Vol IX, No 1).

Strike having big impact

Previous to the strike, the capitalist power companies, among others, stockpiled large quantities of coal with the hopes of by passing the effects of a winter strike. But the impact of the strike is already being felt, as coal production dropped from 14.8 million tons the week before the strike, to the present 5.7 million tons per week. The extremely severe winter storms in the Midwest and East Coast have contri-

buted to the dwindling of stockpiles and the utility companies are now getting worried.

The bourgeois press has tried to downplay the effects of the strike. Recently, the press has been releasing reports almost daily, saying that there has been a "breakthrough" in the contract negotiations and that a "settlement may be reached soon." However, even if the labor bureaucrats, headed by UMW President Arnold Miller, reach a settlement with the BCOA, the strikers have expressed that they will not accept anything

which falls short of a healthy raise, a 100% restoration of their medical and pension funds, increased health benefits, nor will they accept any agreement which will outlaw their right to strike.

Under the expired contract, coal miners' medical and pension benefits were paid into a trust fund based on 80 cents per ton of coal produced and not on the actual needs of the miners. But the coal companies did not even put this money into the trust fund, and before the strike began, they

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EDITORIAL

6th anniversary of Shanghai Communique

Normalize Relations with China now!

February 28, 1978 marks the sixth anniversary of the signing of the Joint Sino-US Shanghai Communique. Another full year has now gone by, but normalization of US relations with the People's Republic of China has yet to be realized due to the stalling on the part of the US government.

The Joint Sino-US Shanghai Communique was signed in 1972 following former US President Nixon's historic trip to China, and as a result of talks between the late Chinese Premier Chou En-lai and Nixon. Due to the weakening of US imperialism and the growing strength of the international and domestic support for China, Nixon was forced to go to China and sign the Shanghai Communique.

In that document, China clearly laid out what is concretely required for full normal diplomatic relations to be established between China and the US: withdrawal of all US troops from Taiwan, abrogation of the US-Taiwan Mutual Defense Treaty, and an end to US recognition of the illegal Chiang regime on Taiwan.

In signing this historic document, the US for the first time recognized one China, and stated on paper that the People's Republic of China is the sole legitimate government of the Chinese people, and that Taiwan is a province of China. This came after many years of US military occupation of China's Taiwan province, US recognition of the reactionary and illegitimate Chiang regime, and twice attempted aggression against China during the US imperialist invasions of Korea and Indochina.

While the US agreed to these things on paper, normalization has yet to materialize. In August, 1977, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance visited China, at which time China reiterated the terms of the Shanghai Communique. However, the US government has still taken no concrete steps to fulfill the agreement and continues its recognition of the Chiang regime.

The US has become increasingly isolated in its refusal to normalize relations with China. A total of 115 countries around the world have established full diplomatic relations with China.

US masses demand normalization

In contrast to the position of the US government, the masses of people in the US have continued to support full normalization of US-China relations according to the terms of the Shanghai Communique. Over the past year, events have shown that the American people are actively and deeply interested in China and that bonds of friendship between the American and Chinese people are continuing to develop.

For example, thousands of people in major cities across the country turned out during recent visits by a soccer team and a peasant painters' delegation from the People's Republic of China. The enthusiastic response to the recent Chinese delegations showed the great desire among the American people to learn about China and have more friendly cultural exchanges.

Over the past year, too, workers, students, intellectuals, businessmen, oppressed nationality people, and people from every part of US society have participated in events, programs, and demonstrations organized to express the desire among the people of the US for normalization. On the occasion of Vance's China trip, demonstrations were held to demand normalization. On the 28th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China, on October 1, 1977, the importance of normalization was brought out in programs held in major cities across the US. In the 1977 national convention of the US China People's Friendship Association, the task of pushing for full normalization of US-China relations was designated as a national organizational priority for the next year.

International situation

The developments in the international situation since the signing of the Shanghai Communique make its immediate implementation all the more pressing and something which we must actively organize to bring about.

Today, due to the increasing contention between the two superpowers, the US and the Soviet Union, for world hegemony, with the Soviet Union on the offensive, the danger of imperialist world war breaking out is increasing. While talking of "peace" and "disarmament," both superpowers are wildly developing and stockpiling weapons, and preparing for war.

At present, both superpowers are pursuing a policy of

hostility toward China. They both back the reactionary Chiang clique and foster hopes of taking over China someday. While the US has its military presence in Taiwan, the Soviet social imperialists have over a million troops along China's border. Normalization of US-China relations would end US military intervention in China's internal affairs and also hinder the other superpower which does not want to see normalization of US-China relations come about.

Normalization would also remove US military presence from Taiwan and the danger of the US using Taiwan for military moves in the event of war. It would bring about favorable conditions for reuniting Taiwan province with the Chinese motherland. Normalization would strengthen the exchange and bonds of friendship between the American and Chinese people as an important part of building the worldwide united front against the superpowers. Normalization will also help to spread the truth about China as a socialist country of the third world. By having more exchange and information about China's accomplishments, it will help to counteract the US slanders of China, and counteract US use of the fascist social-imperialist Soviet Union as an example of the "tyranny of 'socialism'."

Continue to build a broad united front

The masses of people cannot sit back and wait for normalization to become a reality. By now, it is clear that the US ruling class will never normalize relations of its own accord. Within the US ruling class, there are many who oppose normalization. Some sectors of the ruling class wish to appease the Soviet Union by holding back normalization and maintaining a common anti-China front of the two superpowers. In doing so, they foster false hopes that the Soviet Union will shift their war preparations from the center of superpower contention in Europe to attack China instead. Others oppose it because it means the US must withdraw its troops from Taiwan. Overall, the Carter administration has shown its unwillingness to abide by the terms of the Shanghai Communique, especially around the question of withdrawing its troops from Taiwan.

Only a broad movement uniting all who can be united for the demand of immediate normalization of US-China relations can force the US government to implement the Shanghai Communique.

Already China has many friends all over the world and in the US. In the year ahead, we must even more actively unite and mobilize people from all walks of life and all sectors of society who support normalization based on the Shanghai Communique, and raise more strongly the demand for immediate normalization of US-China relations - a demand which is clearly in the interest of the masses of people in the US and around the world.

Implement the Shanghai Communique now! Normalize relations with the People's Republic of China! Long live the friendship of the Chinese and US peoples!



US masses demonstrate for normalization of US-China relations, 1977 (Getting Together photo)

Support Getting Together

Getting Together has been a revolutionary newspaper since 1970. As the political organ of I Wor Kuen, a Marxist-Leninist organization, it is dedicated to developing a revolutionary analysis of concrete conditions and contributing toward building a genuine communist party in the US.

Getting Together encourages its readers to assist in its political tasks by using and contributing to the paper. Also, sustainers of \$5/month or more will greatly help to cover publishing costs.

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Normalization Events

CHICAGO

March and rally, Saturday, February 25, 1978, 12 noon, at the Federal Building, 230 Dearborn. Evening program with speakers and panel discussion, Saturday, February 25, 1978, 7:00 PM, Thorne Hall, Northwestern University Law School. Sponsored by the Coalition for Normalization of US-China Relations.

SACRAMENTO

A program of speakers and a film, Saturday, February 25, 1978, 1:00 PM, at William Land School. Sponsored by the Southside People's Program Committee.

A program with a film and slide show, Friday, February 24, 1978, 7:00 PM, place to be announced. Sponsored by the US-China People's Friendship Assoc.

NEW YORK

A program of speakers and cultural performances on Saturday, February 25, 1978, 1:30 PM, at Public School 124, Confucius Plaza. Sponsored by the Committee to Demand Normalization of Relations Between the US and People's Republic of China.

BOSTON

A program featuring a film, slide show on normalization, speakers and singing, Sunday, February 26, 1978, 1:00 PM, at the Chinatown People's Progressive Assoc., 27 Beach. Sponsored by the Boston Chinatown Committee to Demand Normalization of US-China Relations.

SAN FRANCISCO

Outdoor rally, Sunday, February 26, 1978, 1:00-4:00 PM, at Portsmouth Square, Chinatown. Sponsored by the Committee to Support Normalization of US-China Relations (SF Bay Area).

A conference on normalization with workshops, Saturday, February 25, 1978, beginning at 11:00 AM, Marina Junior High School. Sponsored by the US-China People's Friendship Association.

For other events, contact the local chapter of the US-China People's Friendship Association in your area.



More victories for Arizona undocumented workers



Maricopa farmworkers plant red flags in the fields.

El Mirage, Ariz — Threats of deportations, retaliatory raids by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, court injunctions against picketing — these repressive measures by agribusiness and the government have all failed to halt the struggle of undocumented and non-unionized Mexicano farmworkers in central Arizona. Since November 1, 1977, when 200 mostly undocumented Mexicano citrus workers won their historic strike against Arrowhead Ranch, [see *Getting Together*, Dec 1977], victory has followed victory in the fields of Maricopa County, northwest of Phoenix.

On December 6, 1977, lemon pickers organized by the Maricopa County Organizing Project (MCOP) ended a 46-day strike against Bodine Farms after forcing the ranchers to meet every key demand. Similar settlements took place at Fletcher and Goldmar citrus farms a few days earlier, setting a precedent at three of the largest citrus ranches in the area.

What the citrus workers won

With minor variations from ranch to ranch, the citrus workers won a 40% across-the-board raise in piece rates per bag of fruits picked. The Bodine Farm used to pay 56 cents per bag, but

now must pay 83 cents. With the new agreements, ranchers must also provide blankets for each worker, shower facilities, toilets, gloves and sleeves to protect the pickers. Strikers also won a new accounting procedure that records exactly how much is owed to each worker. Without such records, it was a routine practice for growers to shortchange the workers at the end of each day.

Onion workers strike

Onion workers have also been striking since October 27, 1977. The onion strikes involve 3,000 farmworkers, making it the largest farm labor strike in the history of Arizona. Their target has been the ten biggest onion ranches in the country. Some pay raises have already been won, and the workers are now organizing themselves, stockpiling food and money. They recently went back to work, not because the strike is over, but because they are preparing for an even sharper struggle during the peak onion harvest months of March and April.

These strikes are hitting hard at the agricultural industry in this region, and showing the strength of the unified farmworkers in fighting against their oppression. Crops from this county alone total \$307 million a year, with \$93 million coming from green

onion production. The fields of the Salt River Valley produced over 2.8 million cartons of scalions last year. A carton of onions will sell for over \$10 on the market, while the workers receive no more than \$1.04.

Political and economic struggle

Capitalist growers have amassed billions of dollars from the toil of several generations of Mexicano workers, allotting no more than a bare subsistence to workers and their families. The ranchers have also relied on the brutality of the police and the immigration authorities to intimidate the workers and keep them from struggling.

In order to squeeze superprofits out of the labor of these third world immigrant workers, the capitalists have deprived the Mexicano people of basic rights and equal status in the US. Consequently, the struggle of the farmworkers is directed not only against the immediate conditions on the job, but against the forcible restrictions such as denial of unionization, denial of legal immigration status and the right to speak Spanish, as well as against conditions that force them to send their children to work in the fields instead of to school.

Each strike has meant hardships for the workers and their families — loss of wages, arrests, harassment and threat of total unemployment. Despite this, the citrus and vegetable workers maintained 24-hour pickets and refused to obey the injunctions of the capitalist courts. When negotiations were taking place, onion workers continued to picket, planting red flags around the fields to remind their enemies of their strength.

A worker expressed "When we went marching into the fields together, the police just stood by because we were too many and

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Black and Puerto Rican activists beaten by cops at Brooklyn College

Brooklyn, N.Y. — On January 12, the New York City police, with the approval of the college administration, stormed into Boylan Cafeteria at Brooklyn College and brutally assaulted a Puerto Rican Studies teacher and two of his students. After being beaten unconscious, Richie Perez, Indio Alejandro and Roger Williams were arrested on charges of felonious assault on a police officer and "interfering with governmental administration."

Although very seriously injured, the three were left in a cell for over two hours with no medical care. It was only when other students marched down to the precinct to demand medical attention that they were taken to a hospital, where Alejandro required 20 stitches and Perez needed 7 in order to close their head wounds.

At the hospital, the police harassed and arrested a fourth person for taking pictures of the bloodied head wounds and of the police officers who had removed their badges to avoid identification.

Perez, Alejandro and Williams were singled out for attack because of their long history of revolutionary work in the student movement at Brooklyn College, as well as in Black and Puerto Rican national struggles and communist movement. The three see their assault as part of the national oppression that Third World students face on campus and recognize it as a sign of weakness on the part of the administration.

Afraid of the organized struggles of students, the administration has had to resort to intimidation and vicious attacks in their attempt to squash political activism among students. But Perez, Alejandro and Williams are determined to continue their revolutionary activities.

Already, they have formed a support committee to educate and organize students to fight against police repression and other attacks on Third World and working class students at Brooklyn College and throughout the citywide college campuses. They are rallying support around a number of demands, including the dropping of all charges, the removal of police from campus, an end to the political repression of political activists, and support for current issues in the CUNY (City University of New York) system — "Hands off SEEK, Puerto Rican and Africana Studies, restore open admissions and financial aid, no 'proficiency' (elimination) exams." The committee is submitting articles to school newspapers throughout the city and calling on people to send telegrams and letters to President Kneller of Brooklyn College protesting the beating and supporting the committee's demands.

By organizing and relying on the masses of students, the committee is bound to wage a successful campaign against this latest attack. Their activities are helping to build the organized strength of the student movement on the East Coast.

COMMENTARY:

Which way for the farmers' movement?

The nationwide farmers' "strike" which began last December 14 is still going on. The bourgeois politicians have been unable to settle with the angry farmers, who are refusing to plant, harvest or market their crops until they receive a government promise for 100% parity — a sale price high enough to cover their production costs plus a profit.

The farmers' movement has been directed at the monopoly agribusinesses and the government because farmers see that monopolization of agriculture is rapidly driving non-monopoly farmers out of business. Farmers testify that parity rates on farm products have plummeted from 93% in 1973 to 62% in 1977, now the lowest since the mid-Depression year of 1933. In addition, soaring inflation increases the gap between what the farmers pay to produce the crops and what they receive in the marketplace.

Government rejects farmers' demands

The government has basically remained silent or offered empty solutions to the small and medium sized farmers, who have repeatedly demonstrated in the form of familiar tractorcade picket lines at government offices in Washington, D.C., in President



Farmers ride horseback into California state capital in December, 1977. (Getting Together photo)

Carter's hometown of Plains, Georgia, and at state capitols across the country.

Carter himself has refused the farmers' demand for 100% parity and has tried to avoid meeting with them. He finally met a group of farmers for a half hour in December, but cited the excuse that higher prices to farmers would mean a hike in prices for US farm produce on the international market. Carter claims that increasing US food exports can alleviate everything from the energy

crisis to inflation. He says that if prices go too high, the US will be unable to sell its goods overseas.

The government has offered vague "long range" solutions and stalling tactics, but no answers. The federal government has stressed that farmers should go back to their fields and wait for new proposals. But when January 1978 rolled around, US Secretary of Agriculture Bergland met with farmers again with the same story — the government has no plans,

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Getting Together newspaper presents educational forums on:

The Three Worlds Analysis and Its Significance to the U.S. Revolution



West Coast Forums

Sacramento

Sat. Jan 28, 7:30 p.m.
101 Lillard
Sacramento City College

Los Angeles

Sat. March 4
Time and place to be announced.

San Francisco Bay Area

Sat. Feb. 4, 7:30 p.m.
Frick Jr. High School
2845 64th Ave., Oakland

Forums in other regions to be announced.

Veteran of Hawaii's Kalama Valley struggle

IN MEMORY OF GEORGE SANTOS



George Santos, a pig farmer who refused to give up his land in Kalama Valley, Hawaii, died on January 13, 1978 at the age of 60. George Santos was a strong and fearless man, but his health was never the same since the time his home, farm, and community were bulldozed by the biggest land robber and owner in Hawaii, the Bishop Estate.

The state moved him to the west side of the island, where it was cold, damp and concrete — conditions under which his pigs could not survive. He was not allowed to live there, consequently, his pigs were often stolen or died from the cold climate. After years of struggle, Santos was forced to give up his pig farm.

Kalama Valley was once a farming community of over 200 families, mostly native Hawaiians. In 1970, the Bishop Estate told them to move out and make way for luxury housing. George had seen this happen to the people of Hawaii too many times, and he refused to move.

The Kalama Valley struggle won widespread support throughout Hawaii. On April 21, 1971, supporters from Kokua Kalama, Kokua Hawaii, other organizations, and many individuals moved into Kalama Valley to show their support for the Kalama residents' demand to stay. It was only when the police came with their riot gear on May 11, 1971, that George Santos and his supporters were finally forced to leave his valley.

But the fight did not end that day. George Santos' struggle symbolized the awakening of Hawaii's people to the importance of struggling against their oppression. Soon, "Kalama Valleys" began to spring up all over Hawaii. Each time the corporate landowners and developers tried to destroy another Third World community, they were met with the same fierce resistance that George Santos showed.

The Kalama Valley struggle was a turning point for many people who were deeply angered by this injustice and became determined to end this oppressive capitalist system that had driven George Santos from his land. With George Santos' death, many resolved to carry on his memory by continuing the struggle of which he had been so much a part.

NEW YEAR CELEBRATED IN S.F. JAPANTOWN

San Francisco, CA — On January 21, several hundred people celebrated the 6th annual Oshogatsu Matsuri (New Years Festival) in Japantown. Oshogatsu is a centuries old Japanese celebration that has been recently resurrected by the youth to honor the determination and struggles of the Issei (first generation Japanese in the U.S.) and to learn from the history, culture and common struggles of Japanese people in the U.S.

Over 28 community and student organizations participated by sponsoring colorful booths, selling Japanese food and distributing information. At the same time, Japanese arts and crafts were being taught such as making ribbon fish.

The program for the festival reflected traditional Japanese as well as Asian American culture, including songs by community groups, poetry reading, music and dancing.

The Oshogatsu Matsuri was able to unite many generations of the Japanese community, English and Japanese speaking, in an effort to learn more from their past history and culture.

MOCHITSUKI BRINGS IN NEW YEAR IN L.A. LITTLE TOKYO

Los Angeles, CA — On December 31, 1977, the Little Tokyo People's Rights Organization held a "mochitsuki" in Little Tokyo. The mochitsuki celebration is a traditional gathering where many people take part in pounding sweet rice into a paste which is made into small cakes. It has historically been an occasion to bring together family and friends during the New Year. However, this practice has become less frequent recently as a result of the big capitalists' destruction and dispersal of the Japanese American community.

About 200 people joined in pounding the mochi, Japanese dancing, and in talking of the events and struggles of the past year. The enthusiasm was reflected in the participation by several generations from ages 8 to 80. People from Little Tokyo, from the broader Japanese American communities and various nationalities worked on organizing the event. Together the people reaffirmed their commitment to move forward in struggle and unity in the New Year.

CAPITALISTS USE HOUSING CODES TO DESTROY MINORITY COMMUNITIES

San Francisco, CA — The city government is currently using the excuse of "housing codes violations" to wipe out thousands of low rent housing units and small businesses, primarily in the city's minority communities. The city government has never been concerned with really bringing housing up to code and providing decent living quarters for the masses. The reason they are bringing up the code issue now is to use it as a legal rationale for wrecking homes, evicting tenants and taking over properties.

The city government has housing codes written into law, which on paper require that all housing violations found by city inspectors be brought up to code within a certain period of time. Violations legally range from simple cracked windows and chipped walls to serious life hazards such as faulty electrical wiring and broken stairs. If the owner of the building is unable or unwilling to fix the violations, the city is authorized to take over the building and declare it condemned.



Getting Together photo

Every tenant knows that these codes are not generally enforced, especially in the oppressed nationality communities like Chinatown, the predominantly Black Hunters Point and Western Ad-

dition, and the Latino Mission District, where people live in crumbling and wretched housing. Buildings there have dozens and even hundreds of code violations which have caused discomfort, injury and even death to the tenants — yet the city has never forced the owners to bring them up to code.

Why the sudden interest in the housing codes violations? Does the city now want to make up for past abuses by guaranteeing decent housing for the masses? Of course not. The city is using the violations as a convenient legal means of taking over vast stretches of property in minority communities to be resold to big capitalist developers and converted to more profitable uses.

Impact on Chinatown

Chinatown is an area where the housing codes enforcement is being concentrated. Chinatown, located near the financial district, continued on p 12

Workers fight for union at New Otani

Los Angeles, CA — When the New Otani luxury hotel opened last summer in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo, the management boasted of two things. It bragged about how the hotel would bring jobs to the community and about how these jobs would provide benefits at union scale.

Recently, however, the Hotel management has refused to sign a union contract with Local 11 of the Hotel and Restaurant Union. The New Otani, a multi million dollar "first class" hotel, is cur-

rently the only major hotel in Los Angeles that is non-union. To the 350 workers at the New Otani, who are mostly Third World, the management's actions constitute an outrageous attack aimed at continuing severely oppressive and exploitative management practices in the hotel.

The New Otani has been the focus of struggle in the past. The hotel is part of the East-West Development Corporation's plans to transform Little Tokyo from a historical Japanese American com-

munity into a tourist center profitable to capitalist interests. Last year, over 20 cultural and community groups were forcibly evicted to make way for New Otani facilities. The hotel opened only after a long and bitter struggle.

The efforts of the New Otani management to deny the workers unionization is nothing new in its callous disregard for working and Third World people. There is bound to be more struggle in the future by workers and community people against the New Otani.

GOV'T TACTICS CAN'T STOP SUPPORT FOR CARLOS MONTES

Los Angeles, CA — After a series of government maneuvers, the case of Carlos Montes has been assigned to court for February 24. Montes was arrested in May, 1977 on charges dating back to 1969, when he and nine other Chicanos were framed on charges of firebombing a hotel where former Governor Ronald Reagan was speaking. The other nine were acquitted, but Montes was forced to go underground due to threats on his life by the police.

The courts have changed the date that the pre-trial motions

were to begin, causing a delay of over three months. This is an attempt by the government to weaken the mass support for Montes. However, the Justice for Carlos Montes Committee has not been demoralized by these tactics, but has continued to organize mass pressure to have all charges dropped.

The Committee has participated actively in the local chapter of the Anti-Bakke Decision Coalition, and has sponsored joint demonstrations with other victims of police repression such as the



Getting Together photo

Native American activists, Skyhorse and Mohawk. The Committee has been endorsed by the statewide MEChA's (mass Chicano student organizations) as well as many other Chicano and progressive groups.

Only through mobilizing such mass support will all charges be dropped against Carlos Montes.

Announcements

On Sunday, February 5, there will be a Carlos Montes benefit dance from 4-9 PM at the International Institute, 435 Boyle Avenue, Los Angeles.

On Friday, February 24, there will be a pre trial hearing at which time the defense will move that all charges be dropped. The hearing will be at 9 AM, at Department 127 in the Criminal Courts Building, Temple and Broadway, Los Angeles.

For more information, contact the Justice for Carlos Montes Committee at P O Box 7093, Los Angeles, CA 90022.



Getting Together photo

Atlanta SWAT murders Black tenant

Atlanta, GA — On Wednesday morning, December 28, 1977, Fulton County marshals and the Atlanta SWAT squad brutally attacked the home of two Black men in an attempt to carry out an eviction order. The two men resisted, and as a result, police mur-

dered 45 year old Mahamin Jashua during an hour long assault on the house. The second man, Mujahid Muhammed, defended himself against the shooting and the tear gas. He is now being charged with the murder of a marshal who was also killed dur-



Mujahid Muhammed — unjustly attacked and arrested by police

ing the police attack. Marshals had been to the house 3 weeks earlier to try to serve an eviction order. At that time, the men made it clear that they would not move. This sort of defiance is a direct threat to the state's ability to maintain its control over Black people.

Jashua was known to resist previous incidents of police attack and harassment, so on December 28, when marshals returned, they came with an 8 man SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics) team.

SWAT is notorious in Atlanta's black communities for its role in carrying out police programs which are used to harass and terrorize Black people. Past struggles in these communities against programs like the Stake out and Decoy campaign, have made people well aware of the true nature of the police and their terror tactics. Only a month earlier, in November 1977 another Black man had been murdered while being served one of the 3,000 eviction notices sent out each month in Atlanta.

The presence of SWAT at the home of Muhammed and Jashua can only be seen as a threat and deliberate provocation of violence.

The struggle to defend Mujahid Muhammed is part of the struggle to end violence against all Black people in the form of police repression and forced eviction and dispersal of the Black communities. The unjust murder charges against Mujahid Muhammed must be dropped!

Commemorate Malcolm X

February 21, 1978 is the 13th anniversary of the assassination of the great Black revolutionary leader Malcolm X. Malcolm X was a product of the history of national oppression and resistance to that oppression by Black people in the US. He was a dynamic force in the revolutionary upsurge of the Black liberation movement in the 1960's.



Malcolm X was murdered because his revolutionary stand and dedication to the interests of the Black masses was a direct threat to the systematic oppression of Black people. He was killed while speaking before a large mass audience in New York City's Harlem community. Through his vivid and relentless propagation of the truth about the oppression of Blacks, he was able to arouse millions of Black people to struggle for their liberation.

He sharply advocated that Blacks could not achieve full equality and justice without taking their destiny into their own hands in revolutionary struggle. In his later years, especially after his visits to Africa, Malcolm X began to link the struggles of Blacks in the US to the struggles of third world countries and peoples against the worldwide system of imperialism. With this understanding, he started the Organization of Afro American Unity in 1964 to fight against the oppression of Blacks in the US and to build mutual solidarity with the struggles of third world peoples internationally.

Malcolm X saw the necessity of organizing and relying on the strength of the Black masses to bring about the complete elimination of their oppression, by any means necessary.

Those responsible for the murder of Malcolm X hoped that his death would put an end to the vigorous and militant movement that he spoke for. But his unflinching faith in the Black masses has been borne out in the years since his assassination. His ability to address the true history and conditions of Blacks in this country, and to begin to identify the source of their oppression has contributed for years toward directing the Black liberation movement along a revolutionary path.

Native Americans struggle

YOKUT BURIAL GROUNDS DEFENDED

Newman, Ca — On January 16, trespassing charges were dropped against Faye Roman, Jessie Garcia, Jim Russell, and Chester King, who were arrested for protecting a sacred burial site of the Yokut people located in present-day Newman, California. Three of the four are activists of the American Indian Movement (AIM) and the fourth is an archaeologist.

The dropping of the charges added to the victory scored by Native Americans earlier in January, in which the city of Newman was forced to halt digging on the site and recognize the area as an official burial site.

The four were originally arrested on September 22, 1977, and were accused of trespassing on the Native American burial ground. In reality however, it was the city of Newman which violated the law

and trespassed on the rights of the Native American people.

Native American burial grounds are supposed to be protected by state and federal law. These laws state that when a burial site is on land that is to be built on, efforts must be made to avoid destroying the burial site. In addition, members of the tribe whose burial site is being excavated must be present to supervise any digging that takes place.

The city of Newman ignored the Native Americans' rights and claimed that the Yokut people were "extinct" and therefore none were contacted to oversee the digging. Yet AIM located over 2,000 Yokuts after only a brief search. Even then, the city manager refused to delay digging to arrange a meeting with the Yokut people, and the four were arrested for trespassing.

The repression of the Native American activists continued during a pre-trial hearing which was held in a courtroom filled with supporters of the Native American struggle. First the judge ordered everyone in the courtroom searched, and tried to ban the sacred pipe of the Indian peoples from the courtroom on the grounds that it was a "weapon." The prosecution also refused to drop the charges on the four even after the judge was forced to rule that the area be officially recognized as a Yokut burial site.

However, as a result of the strong support shown for the just action taken by the Native American activists, all charges were finally dropped, and the burial site of the Yokut people has been preserved.

a manner geared solely toward keeping them oppressed and subjugated.

The ruling on the tribal status of the Wampanoags bears out the fact that the government has defined their status according to the interests of the monopoly capitalist ruling class. For example, the court ruled in 1790, when the law prohibiting land transfers was passed, they were not a tribe, in 1870, when the Town of Mashpee was incorporated, they were not a tribe, in 1976, when the suit was filed, they were not a tribe. Yet, the same court has ruled that in 1834, when the state legislature created the Mashpee District to contain the Wampanoags under guardianship, they were a tribe,

Atlanta students commemorate Steve Biko

Atlanta, GA. — "The memory and fighting spirit of Steve Biko lives on. His brutal murder has given strength and determination to the people of South Africa to liberate themselves from all oppression. The flames of revolution burn strong in South Africa, and give inspiration to continue our struggle."

This was part of the Student Government Association's statement at Atlanta Junior College's Steve Biko Night, commemorating the Black student leader who was tortured and murdered by the South African regime for opposing the

apartheid system. The program on January 13, sponsored by the Black and Third World Culture Club, signified the growing support among Afro-Americans for the African liberation struggle.

Lining the walls of the school's lobby were huge flags bearing the African liberation colors — red, black and green. Highlights of the program were the musical groups and poets' tributes to Steve Biko. At one point in the event, the majority of the spirited audience got up and danced along with the African dance groups.

continued on p 12

Court rules against Wampanoags

continued from p 1 of the country, notably in northern Maine by the Passamaquoddy and Penobscot peoples. Native Americans are making use of the law to press forward their demands to restore their lands and put an end to centuries of genocidal oppression.

The jury's decision in this case was based on a 1901 Supreme Court ruling that defined an Indian tribe as "A body of Indians of the same or similar

race, united in a community under one leadership or government and inhabiting a particular, though sometimes ill-defined territory." Lawyers for the Town of Mashpee claimed that the Wampanoags had "weak community leadership" and that their chief was only a "figure-head", and that they had no legitimate claim to the land.

The government has historically imposed its own definitions of the status of Native Americans in

and when the legislature partitioned the land, giving 60 acres to every "freeman" (i.e. non-Indians), they were a tribe.

The court has ruled that the Wampanoags were a tribe when it was a necessary and convenient for the government, and have denied their tribal status to facilitate stealing their land, possessions, and trampling on their rights.

One Wampanoag leader said "We've been a tribe as far back as the 17th century. A tribe

doesn't come into existence then go out of existence." Another leader said, "Win or lose, we know who we are."

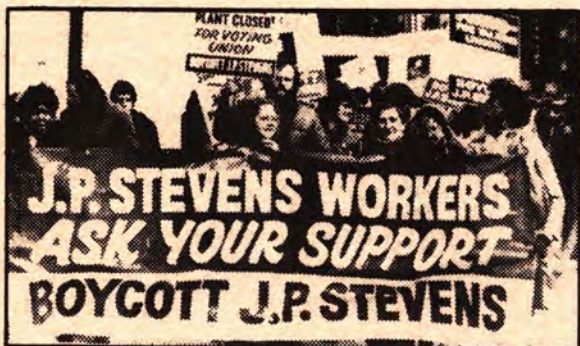
While the ruling on tribal status still leaves the land claim technically unsettled, the legal maneuvering of the courts have set back the struggle of Native Americans in Mashpee and also threaten other land claim suits. But such maneuvers can only work in the short run. The Native American peoples' struggles for land continues in many parts of the US.

LABOR NEWS

COORS STRIKE/BOYCOTT HIT BEER SALES

Since the nationwide boycott of Coors beer was launched in support of the 1,000 striking workers at the Adolph Coors Company in Golden, Colorado, the company has tumbled downhill in their beer sales. The demand for one of the nation's top selling beers has fallen off sharply.

Sales in California, which account for 45% of Coors' sales, were down 15% in September 1977 from September sales of the previous year. The company's share of the national market for beer is now 7.8% lower than it was when the boycott began.

BOYCOTT J.P. STEVENS—
UNIONIZE THE SOUTH!

The struggle for unionization among the textile workers at J.P. Stevens is gaining momentum. J.P. Stevens is the second largest textile company in the U.S., operating 85 textile plants, most of them in the Black Belt South. None of the plants are unionized, despite over 10 years of struggle. By maintaining "open shops" and refusing to negotiate contracts where union elections have been won, J.P. Stevens plays a major role in the continuing oppression of workers, particularly Blacks who make up most of its labor force.

In a recent demonstration of unity, over 1,400 workers from 40 J.P. Stevens plants met in Georgia to reaffirm their resolve to continue to organize at J.P. Stevens. Breaking the textile giant's reactionary stand would be a tremendous step towards winning the basic right to organize for Blacks all over the South.

Support for this significant struggle has been growing, as dozens of labor and community groups have endorsed a boycott of J.P. Stevens products. This support has forced the cancellation of several major contracts with J.P. Stevens. And internationally, labor organizations in Canada, Mexico, France, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand have called for boycotts in their country to show their solidarity with the workers at J.P. Stevens.

UNEMPLOYMENT SOARS

Figures released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, for the month of November, 1977 put "official" unemployment at 6.9% in the U.S. This figure doesn't even include people who have given up looking for work, or those who have been kicked off the unemployment rolls because their meager benefits ran out before they were able to find work.

Some so-called experts are "puzzled" because unemployment has remained around 7% for the past eight months of 1977, even though there has been an increase in the number of employed people. They fail to take into account the growing number of people entering the job market. More women and youth are forced into looking for jobs in order for their families to survive at today's inflated prices. Last November alone, over 896,000 people began looking for work adding to the already millions of unemployed workers.

Despite all government predictions and promises, there is no relief in sight for unemployment under capitalism.

LONGEST AEROSPACE STRIKE ENDS

The longest strike in the history of the aerospace industry ended January 2, when the 8,500 members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers at Lockheed's Palmdale and Burbank, California plants voted to return to work. Five thousand workers returned to work in Marietta, Georgia, and 500 workers at Lockheed's Ontario, California, plant on December 29, 1977.

Despite many hardships, including loss of holiday pay, workers held out for almost three months to fight for a better pension and against the company's attempts to destroy job security.

While the final agreement included pay raises and some better fringe benefits, the main demands around job security and better pension benefits were not met.

The workers are returning to work more determined than ever to strengthen and unify the rank and file to win back their losses in the next contract and fight the company's future attacks. This was the first strike at Lockheed in 15 years, and it will serve notice that the company's attempts to make its millions at the workers' expense will be met with greater and greater resistance.

CHINATOWN TEAMSTER CONTRACT
ENFORCES INEQUALITIES

San Francisco, CA — On January 9, about 250 workers in San Francisco Chinatown's import and export warehouses, retail foodstores, and food-processing factories issued a 72-hour strike deadline to the San Francisco Merchants Association, which represents over 35 different companies in Chinatown. The workers, members of Teamsters local 856, were demanding a new contract that would include a \$3.00 wage increase over three years, and other benefits such as increased vacation pay, more holidays, better pension benefits and better job descriptions. Just a few days later, the employers group and Teamster union leadership signed a sell-out contract. Instead of the \$3.00 wage increase, the new contract stipulates only a \$1.30 wage increase. The majority of other demands were not met.



Same work, less pay
(Getting Together photo)

in Chinatown and serve the bidding of the bosses.

Inequalities for Chinese workers

This recent struggle has aroused deep concern and sympathy among people throughout Chinatown. Just last year, warehouse workers at Sunley Imports, one of the largest import companies in San Francisco Chinatown, went out on strike and won the right to unionize. This set an example for workers in other industries in Chinatown, who have long been denied the right to unionize. Denial of unionization has historically served to keep Chinese and other minority workers in this country in the lowest paying jobs as part of the system of national oppression.

But workers in Chinatown's import warehouses, noodle and other food-processing factories, even where they are unionized, have been forced under a "special contract", where the wage scale is lower than the regular Teamster contract. In Chinatown, workers receive only \$3-4 per hour, whereas the regular wage is \$7.50 for Teamsters.

Thus, it is no accident that the Teamster union leadership sold out the just demands of the workers this time. The union bureaucrats are part of maintaining a system of inequalities for workers.

Workers fight back-door deals

The Chinatown business agent of the Teamsters union, representing the union leadership, systematically blocked the demands of the workers and tried to clamp down on their growing struggle. In late November, 1977, the union held a general meeting supposedly to listen to the demands of the workers for a new contract. At that time, the workers voted to demand a \$3.00 raise and other benefits. During the next few months, the union leadership and employers group held secret meetings and came up with a proposal to raise the workers wages by only \$1.25. The workers rejected this offer and put more pressure on the union. As a result, the union leadership came up with another proposal to raise wages by \$1.30! Finally, the bureaucrats hastily called a meeting and the \$1.30 proposal was jammed through. The meeting lasted only fifteen minutes!

Underhanded tactics exposed

The back-door dealing of the union leadership was just one of the many tactics used against the workers. During the last few

months, the Chinatown business agent of the union refused to listen to any suggestions and opinions of the workers. He refused to call general meetings where the contract negotiations could be discussed democratically. When faced with the militancy of the workers, he would argue from the standpoint of the companies—saying that "business is slow" and "many companies cannot afford to pay the workers any more", therefore, people have to "look at both sides of the story." But, the workers were not fooled by this. As one worker put it, "I see both sides of the story every day. You cannot tell me my boss is not making a profit every day."

The going got tougher and tougher for the union representative as he got exposed as really being an agent acting against the workers' interests. He then pulled out the threat of Teamster violence against the workers and revealed the union leadership's true colors even more. But the workers did not buckle under, and continued to press their demands.

Workers prepare for future struggle

Out of the struggle for a new contract and the eventual sell-out, the workers have learned many things, including the need to organize themselves to struggle against the bosses and the union bureaucrats. During this struggle, workers at different workplaces in Chinatown have begun to seek out other workers and to discuss the conditions in the union and on the job. They learned of shops that do not even pay the workers minimum union wages and learned that contracts were not enforced. Various workers at different places have made pledges to help and support each other, gathering and uniting their forces to press forward the demand for an equal union contract. This struggle as well as the fight for unionization of Chinese workers will be a powerful force in the struggle for full equality and a blow against the system of national oppression.

Support Committee forms
Mandarin workers seize initiative

San Francisco, Ca.— The Chinese workers at the Mandarin Restaurant are more determined than ever to win their struggle for unionization which began seven years ago. Most recently, the waiters, cooks and buspersons joined together to form a Mandarin Support Committee in order to wage a stronger fight inside the restaurant. It will also open up the way for other workers and supporters, particularly from the Chinese community, to join the Mandarin workers in coordinating activities to win the union drive.

The Mandarin workers are at the spearhead of the unionization drive of Chinese workers who have historically been denied the right to unionize. The support committee is an important step in uniting the many struggles of Chinese workers for their rights. The workers and supporters

have set up their own picket lines on weekends to actively inform the public about the terrible working conditions inside the posh and high profit-making Mandarin. They are asking people to boycott the Mandarin to help force the bosses to sign a decent contract. They are also demanding that the management rehire all fired workers.

The support committee can play an important role in strengthening the initiative of the workers in their struggle against the trade union bureaucrats. The union leadership of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders Union, Local 2, headed by Joe Belardi, has given the Mandarin workers nothing but empty promises. The Union has proposed pulling the union-sanctioned picket lines off the Mandarin because they claim to have other "priorities," but time

and again the union rank and file has endorsed and supported the unionizing drive. The union leaders, however, continue their reactionary stance of non-support.

To further strengthen the Mandarin workers' struggle, the Mandarin Support Committee has called a rally and demonstration on Thursday, February 9. They know that it is only a matter of time before the bosses must meet the workers' demands so the workers are seizing the initiative now.

They are asking members of the Chinese community, culinary workers, and other supporters to join the demonstration. A victory in the Mandarin struggle will mean a definite advance in the struggle of all Chinese workers against discrimination and national oppression.

CAPITALISM: Where occupational accidents are no accident

On December 22, 1977, two hours after shift change, a grain elevator exploded at the Continental Grain Co near New Orleans. The blast shattered heavy concrete walls and sent columns of fire spewing from the tops of the enormous silos. Falling debris crushed the building which served as the workers' lunchroom. When the smoke cleared, 34 workers were dead and eleven had to be hospitalized with severe burns.

Less than a week later, another grain elevator blew up at the Farmer's Export Co in Galveston, Texas, near a dock where two ships were being unloaded. The explosion could be heard seventy miles away, and touched off a fire which smoldered for hours. Rescuers had to pick their way through tons of concrete and metal to find the mangled bodies of the workers caught in the blast. There were fourteen deaths and many more serious injuries.

On January 2, 1978, at the Exxon refinery in Benicia, California, a safety device failed and released deadly carbon monoxide gas into a steel tank which was being cleaned by maintenance workers. Three of the workers were killed by the fumes, and eleven others were sent to the hospital in critical condition.

These incidents were dramatic enough to make it into the newspapers. Most industrial accidents do not. Yet they occur so frequently that according to 1976 figures one worker in eleven is victimized by them, amounting to an estimated 14,000 deaths and 2.2 million disabling injuries every year.

The rate of industrial accidents has been climbing steadily — by nearly 30 percent between 1961 and 1970, and still on the rise. Increasing use of forced overtime and speedups by employers has been cited as a major cause. In their drive to maximize profits, employers try to squeeze more and more out of their workers, ignoring their most basic safety needs. In the process, workers are not

merely robbed of the value of what they produce, they are robbed of their health and even their lives.

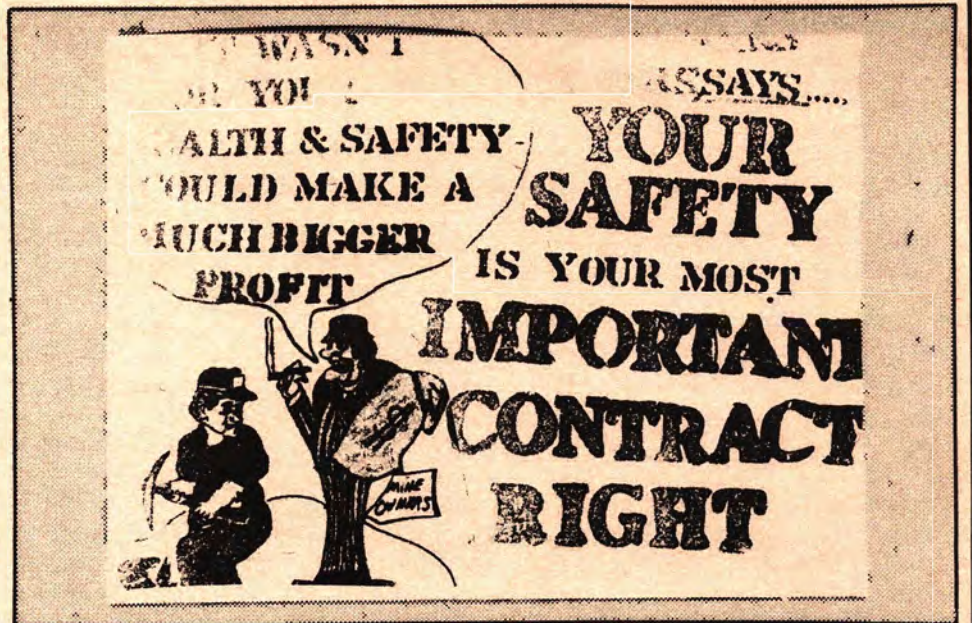
Source of "accidents" is capitalism

One of the easiest ways for capitalists to cut their production costs is to "economize" on maintenance. In countless plants the results are plain to see: Slick spots and piles and debris accumulate on plant floors, maintenance workers, under pressure to get broken machinery back into operation as quickly as possible, are forced to do inadequate patch up jobs which leave the machines more dangerous than ever. Auto workers in Detroit still remember the young Chrysler Corporation jitney driver whose truck, which had faulty brakes, overturned and buried him under five tons of steel.

Such hazards frequently go uncorrected because the capitalists find it cheaper to pay for workmen's compensation coverage than to correct unsafe conditions. A former accountant at Ford



Steelworker lost a hand doing highly dangerous work.



A sign from wall of Stearns County coal miners' strike office showing importance of safety issues and greediness of the bosses (Getting Together photo)

Motor Co. has revealed that at the end of each year he was expected to estimate the cost for the coming year of the premiums on the workmen's compensation policy covering employees injured on the job. This figure was then "balance(d) against the safety department estimates for how much it would cost to make the plant safe. And it always turns out that the workmen's comp expense is less. Therefore they don't spend any money on safety."

When workers themselves try to follow safety procedures they are thwarted time and again by the conditions under which they are forced to work. Long hours, extremes of heat and cold, excessive noise, and poor lighting and ventilation make it impossible for a worker to concentrate on "working safely" at a job which is unsafe to begin with. But the effects of the constant pressure to increase production are worse. "With most safety devices you can't keep up the pace if you're going to use it," says one worker in an auto trim plant. "Many guys say the only time they use the safety tongs instead of their fingers is when the safety man is coming around, because they'll get written up if they don't. As soon as he's gone they will throw them away to get caught up." The consequences of not getting caught up are obvious enough: the capitalists force workers to choose between risking their lives and losing their jobs.

For years capitalists have tried to promote the myth that the "carelessness" of workers is responsible for industrial accidents. The first thing most workers

see when they show up for their jobs are the patronizing "safety notices" plastered all over the plant which imply that if they get hurt they have only themselves to blame. At the Post Office's bulk mail centers, workers who have accidents are subject to disciplinary measures — with the predictable result that they are reluctant to report them. To conceal their own role in causing accidents, employers frequently force injured workers to work on "soft" jobs instead of going home so the company will not have to report them as "lost-time accidents."

But no amount of "safety practices" on the workers' part can protect them when the workplaces themselves are death traps. In fact, the only real protection the workers have lies in their ability to unite and struggle against the capitalists and the deadly workplace conditions the capitalists have created.

Workers' resistance

The past several years have seen a wave of wildcat strikes, particularly in the auto industry, around health and safety issues. Workers at Shell Oil stayed out on strike for months insisting that safety hazards in the refinery where they worked be corrected. Coal miners have a long tradition of refusing to work when their lives were in danger. They have been on strike since early December 1977, in large part because of serious health and safety demands. Struggles like these have shown the tremendous victories that can be won when workers take up the demand for an end to all hazardous working conditions.

Calif. seasonal workers attacked Proposed bill cuts unemployment benefits

Sacramento, CA.—There's been a lot of bitter talk lately among cannery workers about Governor Brown's proposal to increase the requirements for collecting unemployment. Although California state legislators are refusing to discuss the details of the proposal publicly, some things are already clear. Up until now, a person must earn \$750 in the last year to receive unemployment. Now, the Brown proposal says that in addition to earning \$750, a person has to work for ten weeks or more even to receive partial benefits. According to government estimates, this would cut at least 78,000 workers from the state unemployment rolls. Hardest hit would be cannery and construction workers, and farmworkers.

Brown's proposal is particularly aimed at the thousands of Third World workers in California who are forced to work on a seasonal basis in the most low-paying, unskilled jobs in the area. For

example, many Chinese, Black, Chicano and Mexican women have no choice but to work in the sweatshops, restaurants, fields or in the canneries. Their income is essential to the family's survival. Many people try to get jobs in the canneries because the pay is slightly higher than in jobs such as the garment sweatshops. But the work is seasonal — only available when the crops are ready to be harvested. The season usually lasts only two to three months out of a year, and even with this two to three month period, many people cannot find work for the full season.

Each year, workers in the canneries must face shorter seasons. Last year the season was only nine weeks long. Obviously, workers throughout the whole industry would get their unemployment benefits cut off by Brown's proposal.

This latest attack comes as no surprise. Cannery workers are

being bled dry in every other way by the big corporations such as Campbell's Soup and Del Monte who are always finding new ways to increase their profits at the workers' expense. For example, a few years ago, a lot of the canning process was mechanized, which left many workers without jobs. In a typical cannery, the work involved means spending 60-70 hours a week standing in 90-degree heat sorting fruit. In some companies in California, the entire third shift of workers was recently eliminated. The life of the cannery workers steadily worsens as the capitalists make their fortune.

Right now organizing among the cannery workers to oppose the Brown proposal is going on. Workers are spreading the word on the unemployment lines, arranging community meetings, and talking to fellow workers on the job about the proposal.

SAFETY/OVERLOADING GRIEVANCES ATLANTA GM WORKERS ON STRIKE !

Atlanta, GA — 4,900 auto workers walked off the job on January 24, at General Motor's (GM) Lakewood plant in Atlanta. The strike centers around 120 job grievances for work overloading, as well as around disciplinary cases and health and safety conditions.

The Lakewood plant produces Pontiac Grand Prix cars and GMC trucks. For the workers, the strike is long overdue. The present overloading of jobs dates back to the model changes that took place last summer. Every year the company uses model changeovers to force speed-ups and greater workloads on the workers. To top this off, GM recently laid off 200 workers at the Lakewood plant.

Some of the safety problems go back way before the model changeovers. One worker, who operates a forklift in the material department of the truck section, told *Getting Together* that the oil drip pans (to catch oil dripping from the conveyor belt) had not been changed for two years. As a result, oil overflows and drips down on the workers and the floor, creating dangerous conditions.

The worker also pointed out that it would be very easy for a four-ton forklift to skid and overturn, or for a worker to slip and get hit by a forklift. Adding to the danger of accidents is the fact that the back-up lights or the horns don't work on half of the forklifts.

Another worker complained to the company safety man about oil dripping down and hitting him in the eye. All the company man did was to tell him, "don't look up," and walked off.

As with the overloaded jobs, safety grievances have all been ignored.

"You came from your motherland to help us build our country" CHINA'S FOREIGN POLICY IN AFRICA



The spirit of proletarian internationalism manifests itself in every aspect of China's foreign policy today

China is a developing socialist country of the third world. It still faces the arduous tasks of modernization and construction. Nevertheless, China selflessly provides support to third world countries in their struggle to win and defend national independence, maintain state sovereignty, and develop their own national economy.

Ties between China and Africa have deepened year by year. China's aid to Sao Tome and Principe, to Sudan and Mozambique, are just a few examples of China's internationalism in practice.

Friendship between Sao Tome-Principe and China

Sao Tome and Principe is a beautiful island country in north-west Africa. This October, for the first time in its history, Sao Tome and Principe succeeded in growing rice.

Before liberation, the Portu-

guese colonialists claimed that no rice could be grown at all. In order to take great wealth for themselves from the islands, the colonizers converted the country into coffee plantations. The island became dependent on imports and the economy was stunted.

After proclaiming its independence in July, 1975, Sao Tome invited a Chinese agro technical team to help develop food grains. In May, 1976, a state farm was set up where new strains of rice were tested. There, the Chinese teams lived among the people, respected their customs and folkways, and geared their work to local conditions.

One unforgettable instance of deep friendship occurred September 9, 1976, when the Chinese workers were grieved to hear that their leader and teacher Chairman Mao had passed away. The African workers and technicians, who worked shoulder to shoulder with the Chinese, came to console them and share their sorrow. One worker said "Chairman Mao is not only your leader, he is also ours. Our sorrow is as deep as

yours. You followed Chairman Mao's teachings and displayed the spirit of internationalism when you came here from your motherland and dear ones to help us build our country."

Inspired by the concern and encouragement of the local people, the Chinese agricultural personnel worked even harder to complete the project, sharing all they knew about methods of rice cultivation. With only one bulldozer the pioneers reclaimed the wasteland. Tree stumps and huge stones were removed by hand. A Sao Tome woman student led the work in the paddy fields.

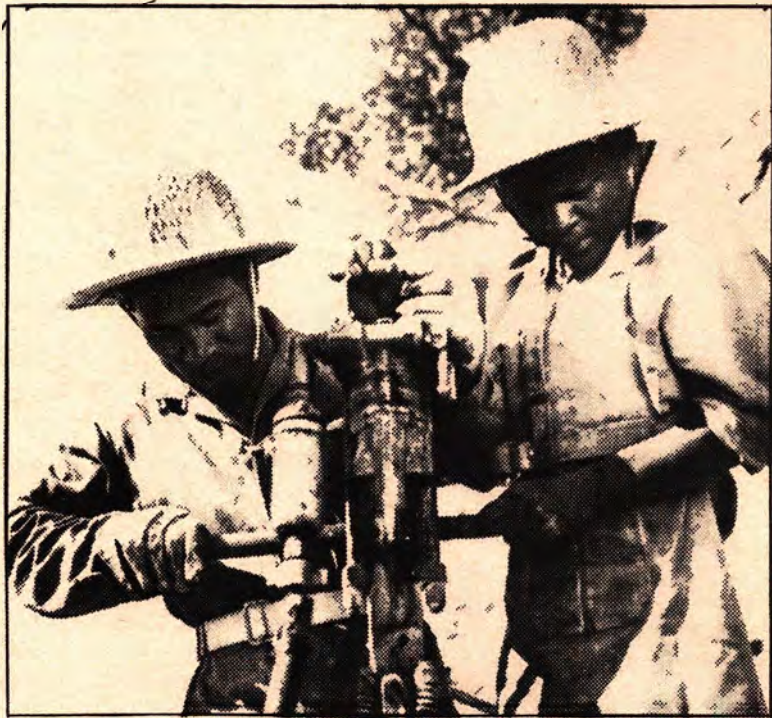
When the Diego Nunes state farm delivered the first rice crop to the state, slogans — "We produce rice ourselves. With our own hands we will build a new motherland" — immediately became popular throughout the country.

Sao Tome and Principe has succeeded in growing what could not be grown and is moving step by step toward self-sufficiency.

Friendship with the Sudan

Four months ago, the Wad-Medani-Gadaref Highway in the Sudan — which the Sudanese now call "Friendship Road" — was opened to traffic. The road was constructed with the help of Chinese workers. Bridge-builders from both countries battled around the clock, often in 100-degree temperatures, to lay the piers before the floods arrived.

Most of the young Sudanese were peasants and herdsmen who had never used machinery. As bridge-construction neared completion, nearly all the machinery was operated independently by the Sudanese workers. This is



The bonds of Chinese-African friendship grow stronger day by day

typical of Chinese aid.

One Sudanese said that, besides linking Wad-Medani to Gadaref, the road linked Khartoum with Peking.

China helps break dependency on foreign capital and isolate the superpowers

China's exchanges with Sao Tome and the Sudan are not exceptions. China is currently helping many African countries build their own factories, bridges, railroads and necessities. In every case, China trains local personnel so that they can take over and manage everything when Chinese technicians leave.

China's practice contrasts sharply with the "aid programs" of the superpowers — who export munitions and capital, plunder the resources of their "allies," poke their noses into internal affairs, seize military bases, provoke conflicts and wars between third world countries, and seek to out-do each other as the world's overlords.

While politically independent, many African countries are still subject to the interference and economic blackmail of the superpowers. In agriculture, for instance, the U.S. and Soviet Union manipulate grain prices on the international market, using food as a weapon to blackmail developing nations. If African countries do not achieve self-sufficiency in food, the superpowers will get a stranglehold on them, their economy will have no firm foundation, and independence will never be guaranteed. China's aid makes it easier for countries like Sao Tome to eliminate dependency on imports and foreign capital step by step.

Continuing Chairman Mao's line in foreign policy

Under the leadership of the Communist Party and Chairman Hua Kuo-feng, China is carrying out Chairman Mao's line in foreign affairs. In his talks with many third world leaders, Chairman Mao related China's positive and negative experiences in the struggle for liberation, but always stressed that this was for reference and that each country must determine the course of its own

struggle.

Today China still opposes great-nation chauvinism and never orders other countries about. China firmly upholds the principle of equality and mutual benefit, strictly respects the sovereignty of every country, attaches no conditions to its aid, and asks for no bases or privileges, and never interferes in the internal affairs of other nations.

Bonds of friendship

"The just struggles of the people of all countries support each other." China has taken Chairman Mao's teachings to heart. Chinese medical teams, for instance, are currently working in Mozambique, where — owing to the plunder of colonialism and imperialism — there is a severe shortage of medicine and doctors.

Last August, the Rhodesian Smith regime wantonly invaded Mozambique and massacred hundreds of people in a Zimbabwean refugee camp. Guided by the slogan, "Save all the Zimbabwean brothers and sisters that can be saved," Chinese and Mozambican medical personnel worked together five days and nights to treat all the wounded.

Holding up a bullet taken from his body, a Zimbabwean said "I shall never forget the wounds that the Smith racist regime inflicted on me, nor the Chinese doctors who have saved my life. I shall take up arms and take revenge for my brothers and sisters."

When a Chinese doctor used mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and saved an infant, a Mozambican doctor from the Tete hospital named the new-born child "China-Mozambique."

The bonds of friendship between China and Africa grow stronger day by day. China has never forgotten that she too was enslaved by colonialism and imperialism, that throughout her struggle for independence, she received support from the proletariat and revolutionary peoples all over the world.

What kind of spirit is this that makes China selflessly adopt the cause of African liberation as her own? It is the spirit of internationalism, the spirit of communism.



Chairman Hua Kuo-feng greets Cameroonian President Ahidjo at Peking airport

Simplified characters make Chinese easier to master

The Chinese government has actively taken up reforming the written language so that more people can learn to read and write. Recently a draft scheme for 853 new simplified characters was published for experimental use. Many of the old characters are very complex, but the new simplified characters have fewer strokes and will be much easier to learn (see illustration).

The written Chinese language has over 50,000 characters and 4500 of these are commonly used. Since 1956, over 3000 of the most commonly used characters have been simplified.

According to directives issued by Chairman Mao, reforming the written language is taken up as an important part of the struggle to make education serve the masses of people and not a select elite.

Chen Yi (1901-972) was a poet and proletarian revolutionary of the older generation in China. With the defeat of the "gang of four," who disparaged his poems and suppressed their publication, the first edition of the *Selected Poems of Chen Yi* was published in May. "Africa" was written during his visit to Africa in 1964.

Africa by Chen Yi

The deserts and snow mountains are awakening,

The oceans and seas surge with the wind of spring

Old colonialism fumbles for new disguises

While the people's heroes are rising,

Knowing their struggle will bring victory

Be on guard — keep the gun in your hands!

Black Africa is becoming red Africa,

Colonialism is weakening throughout the world

Gold and ivory are returning to their owners,

Eagles and kingfishers regain their forest home

In old China, education and literacy was the privilege of a few. Because of the oppression the workers and peasants suffered under the old feudal society and under imperialist domination, few were educated. At the time of China's liberation in 1949, over 80% of the Chinese people could neither read nor write. Since that

time, however, under the dictatorship of the proletariat, great strides have been made. People of all ages have been taught to read and write, and illiteracy has virtually been wiped out!

The simplification of characters is another step towards improving education and communications for the masses of people.

CORRECTION

"China's new wage increase shows superiority of socialism," January, *Getting Together*, p. 14. Line 7 of paragraph 6 should read "there is a difference between someone who works for self gain alone and those who work for the good of the collective and for the revolution, and, as a consequence, are recommended by their co-workers for reward."

- 氹 for 酒 (wine)
- 午 for 舞 (dance)
- 冫 for 雪 (snow)
- 面 for 面 (face)
- 卞 for 鞭 (whip)
- 天 for 天 (little)

Tufts cuts Third World admissions

Boston, Mass. — Tufts Medical School in Boston is in the heart of the Chinese community. It has a student enrollment of about 600, with only a very small percentage of oppressed nationality students. This year, Tufts joined with many other graduate schools who, since the Bakke Decision, have temporarily or permanently eliminated their special admissions programs for Third World students. Recently, the administration effectively cut off the channels for minority admissions through eliminating its Minority Sub-Committee and curtailing student participation in the admissions process as a whole.

Tufts claims that this is just a technical change for legal purposes, and that it won't affect minority admissions. However, the history of Tufts and other schools all over the country show that without minimum quotas and specific programs for minority admissions, Third World students are virtually excluded.

Though it took concerted struggle to win it in the first place, the minority admissions procedure at Tufts has been far from adequate. Now it is necessary to fight to keep and improve it as part of the struggle against the denial of medical training and good medical care to oppressed nationality people.

January 20th protest in S.F. ABDC demo hits Regents' 'Parducci Plan'



ABDC representatives unfurl hundreds of petitions at U.C. Regents meeting in San Francisco.

San Francisco, CA — A spirited demonstration and picket line, organized by the intercampus committee of the Bay Area local of the Anti-Bakke Decision Coalition (ABDC) brought business as usual to an abrupt halt at the January 20 University of California Board of Regents meeting in San Francisco.

In spite of the early hour and poor weather, students from over 15 campuses in the Bay Area, along with 150 oppressed nationality and working people, mobilized to sharpen the struggle against the Regents.

Chanting, "Courts and Regents, you can't hide, we know you're on Bakke's side," the protestors jammed into the Regents meeting, demanding to speak against the Regents' continuing attacks against Third World people. The ABDC raised four demands: 1) No implementation of the Bakke Decision, 2) Abolish the Parducci Plan, 3) UC must admit to past and present discrimination against minorities, and 4) Stop all attacks against

ABDC National Conference plans set

Plans for the National Anti Bakke Decision Coalition (ABDC) Conference are being finalized. As of February 1, the Conference will include representatives from Atlanta, Boston, New York, New Jersey, Chicago, Hawaii, many New England, Mid Atlantic, and Midwestern College campuses, and from all the major areas of the West Coast.

Many national organizations have joined in endorsing and calling for the broadest participation in the February 19 National Anti Bakke Decision Coalition Conference. The endorsers include the Black American Law Students Association (BALSA), the Atlanta National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the National Conference of Black Lawyers, many chapters of the National Lawyers Guild, the Coordinating Commission of the Patriotic Union from New York's Dominican community, Third World Construction Workers in Boston, the Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan (MEChA), over 40 Asian student organizations from throughout the U.S., many Black student organizations, oppressed nationality community organizations, and many rank and file workers and caucuses. Some members of local committees of the National Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision (NCOBD) are also planning to attend the conference.

Conference to plan out nationwide spring demos

The day-long conference will focus on



Sunday, February 19

International Institute 435 South Boyle, Los Angeles, Calif.

Registration: 8:30 a.m.
Program: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

For more information, write ABDC National Office, 558 Capp Street,
San Francisco, CA 94110 or call (415) 648-4280

developing and promoting a unified perspective and plans for the Anti-Bakke Decision struggle.

There will be presentations by workers, students and oppressed nationality organizations on their experiences in building the anti-Bakke struggle and integrating anti-Bakke work to their ongoing work against national oppression. Most importantly, everyone will participate in workshops to decide on the nature and details of the Spring demonstrations presently targeted for April 29.

There will also be workshops on the impact of the Bakke Decision, the national office of ABDC, outreach work, cultural work, and other topics.

Fundraising efforts

Many local chapters of the ABDC have been vigorously building for outreach and fundraising events, such as educational dinners and programs, book and bake

sales, and slide show presentations. Some national organizations have pledged financial help for raising the money for people to be able to attend the Conference. Funds are still urgently needed so that many more people may attend.

All out to Los Angeles on February 19!

Getting Together encourages all groups and individuals who want to build principled unity in the anti-Bakke movement to support and attend the February 19 Conference and help plan and build for massive nationwide demonstrations in the Spring. The National Conference, through bringing together many people, will take another step forward for the mass movement against the Bakke Decision.

UNITE TO SMASH THE BAKKE DECISION!

WEST COAST ASIAN STUDENT CONFERENCE CALLED FOR FEB. 18

On February 18, hundreds of students throughout the Western United States including Hawaii will be participating in a West Coast Asian Student Conference. The Conference will be held at Pasadena City College in Pasadena, California. Over forty Asian student organizations are expected to attend.

The Conference will further expand the California statewide network of Asian student organizations and will lay the basis for establishing a Western Regional Asian Student Organization in the Spring. Participants in the Conference will be sharing their ideas and experiences in starting and building Asian student organizations on their own campuses. The Conference will also discuss and affirm the history of the Asian student movement and its role in the Asian movement within the context of the overall struggles of Third World people against national oppression.

The Conference will also be establishing formal ties to Asian students on the East Coast. There will be a representative from the Intercollegiate Liaison Committee (ICLC) which is a parallel Asian student network of over 10 campuses in the Northeastern U.S. Students from Asian student organizations in the Midwest are also expected to attend.

Smash the Bakke Decision

The Conference also plans to discuss how Asian student organizations can continue to help build the mass movement against the Bakke Decision. At planning meetings for the February 18 Conference, the Asian student organizations resolved to work with the Anti-

Bakke Decision Coalition (ABDC) and do broader outreach among students, tying the anti-Bakke struggle to other campus issues.

Planning and broad outreach

A great deal of groundwork has already been laid for the February 18 West Coast Student Conference. On December 11, 1977, a joint meeting of Asian student organizations in California set up a statewide communications network. Since that time, regional meetings have been organized in northern and southern California. Representatives were elected to a coordinating committee, which has been meeting and has finalized plans for the upcoming Conference.

Asian student organizations have an important role to play

Since 1968, when the first Asian American student organization was formed at the University of California at Berkeley, the Asian student organizations have played an important and constructive role. They have organized and fought for the interests of Asian students, supported and participated in struggles in various Asian communities, united with other Third World student and community organizations and working people of all nationalities in the common struggle against injustice and national oppression. The Asian student organizations have a long history of struggle, and have developed in the course of mass struggle, often playing a leading role. The February 18 Conference will be another significant step forward for the Asian student organizations.

Getting Together photo

Calif. statewide MEChA meeting

Saturday February 18 10 a.m.

California State University, Los Angeles

Highway 10 off San Bernadino Freeway (East)



Pasadena City College
1570 E. Colorado Blvd.
Pasadena, Calif

Saturday 10 a.m.
February 18
Speakers * Workshops
Cultural Presentations
Dance to "Hiroshima"

Krugerrand sales stopped

Over the last year, brokerage firm Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith has been the target of angry mass demonstrations across the country. Protesters called for a ban on the firm's sale of the South African Krugerrand coin in this country. These sales were condemned because they economically and politically benefit the racist Vorster regime in South Africa, at the expense of the masses of Azanian people.

Last month, the nation's largest brokerage firm quietly announced that they had decided to stop selling the gold Krugerrands for "business" reasons. This is ridiculous! Over 3 million of the gold coins have been sold at nearly \$200 apiece, which amounts to hundreds of millions of dollars of bloody profit for the Vorster regime and US brokers. It is plain to see that it is the growing support for the Azanian people in their struggle against apartheid and imperialism that has forced the capitalists to back off in their sales of the Krugerrand!

Korea hails Kampuchea Army Day

January 18, 1978 - Korea extended warm congratulations on the occasion of Kampuchea's 10th Army Day. The founding of the Kampuchean army was an event of great significance. It shattered the reactionary view that "small nations cannot win a war."

The Korean paper, "Rodong Sinmun" pointed out: "Today the Kampuchean people are achieving great successes in the struggle to rehabilitate the economy destroyed by the war. The Kampuchean people and the revolutionary army are reliably defending the gains of the revolution, the security of the country and the present borderline, successfully frustrating the subversive activities and sabotage of the enemies within and without. The peoples and armies of Korea and Kampuchea are comrades-in-arms and brothers who established bonds of friendship in common struggle against the foreign imperialists. Our people wish them new successes in the struggle for creating a new life."

Mexico won't lower gas prices for US

On December 31, 1977, an interim agreement between the US and Mexico for the import of natural gas to the US expired, and no new agreement has been reached to date. The chief obstacle has been US pressure to negotiate a trade price unfair to Mexico. To enforce this demand, the US had withheld a proposed loan of \$580 million from the US Export Import Bank, which was to be used for construction of a natural gas pipeline from the Mexican oilfields to Texas. The US used the loan as a club to pressure Mexico into lowering the price set last June between six US gas-distributing companies and the Mexican petroleum company, PEMEX.

The Mexican government, however, stood firm against the US blackmail. Mexican officials also pointed out that construction of an internal gas network could proceed without the US loan. Mexico saw no reason to accept a price lower than the international market rate, and is prepared to sell the gas elsewhere at a fair price.

A wave of strikes, demonstrations, boycotts, and land seizures, of varying intensity, swept the entire Latin American continent from the Rio Grande to Cape Horn in 1977. The record of 1977 shows that, as part of the third world, Latin America is playing an increasingly strong role in international affairs.

Fighting exploitation and plunder by foreign capital, demanding the recovery of their natural resources seized by imperialism, defending national independence and state sovereignty against the interference by the superpowers, striking for higher wages and improved living conditions, demanding democratic rights - the Latin American masses are at the forefront of the anti-imperialist, anti-hegemonist struggle throughout the continent.

When negotiations took place in 1977 over the Panama Canal Zone, workers, peasants, students, and other social strata carried out large demonstrations throughout Panama, demanding complete sovereignty over the Canal Zone. Slogans and posters, such as "US bases no, full sovereignty si," were posted everywhere in Panama city. When the treaty was signed, the Panamanian masses

Review of 1977: A year of anti-imperialist struggle Masses take the lead in Latin America

launched further struggles for ratification.

In the Caribbean countries, there were demonstrations calling for Puerto Rican independence from US imperialism. Protests and riots took place last month in Bermuda against the hanging of two political prisoners, mass struggles are pounding against the remnants of colonial British rule in the Caribbean.

In South America, Brazilian students initiated four nationwide protests involving more than a hundred thousand people, demanding funds for education, democratic freedoms, and no more repression. The struggle for democratic rights in Nicaragua has also gathered momentum. Over 1,000 workers and students demonstrated in Managua, the capital, December 6, demanding the release of all political prisoners, and supporting the peasant movement in the countryside. 25,000 poured into the streets to

Somalia announces capture of Soviet-backed Cuban mercenaries

On January 25, 1978, Somalia announced the capture of Soviet-backed mercenaries in the Ogaden

Desert Region in the Horn of Africa. The Ogaden city of Harar was bombed by Cuban piloted

Soviet built planes a few weeks ago.

The Soviet social-imperialists have been pouring arms, Soviet military personnel, and Cuban mercenaries into the region since Somalia kicked them out of their country last November. In four months alone, in the largest operation of its kind since the US war of aggression in Indochina, the social-imperialists introduced a billion dollars worth of MIG jet fighters, T-34 and T-55 tanks, large artillery and anti-tank guns, heavy mortars and launchers for Katyusha rockets into Ethiopia.

Within a week's time last December, the Soviets sent six more warships through the Black Sea into the Mediterranean to counter the US naval fleets.

At the end of January, the Turkish government lodged protests against the Soviets for ferrying arms and ammunition to the Horn of Africa over Turkish territory.

Located on the Red Sea, with key oil routes to the Mediterranean area and Europe, the Horn of Africa is of strategic importance to both superpowers in their rivalry for world domination.

Their desperate maneuvers to gain a stronghold in the Horn of Africa has earned the Soviets the just hatred of the Somali and African peoples. As one Somali paper pointed out, "Africa today needs effective assistance but doesn't need arms to kill one another and set off the flames of war among African countries."



Somali masses hail decision to oust Soviet overlords

ETHIOPIAN WOMEN AND STUDENTS IN U.S. 'U.S.-U.S.S.R. OUT OF ETHIOPIA!'

Ethiopian women and students in North America sponsored several events in January in support of the revolutionary struggle in Ethiopia and against escalating Soviet interference there.

On January 9, the EWSG and ESUNA sponsored an Eastern Region demonstration, which included chapters from Canada, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., and the state of Connecticut. Three hundred fifty people braved freezing temperatures to demonstrate at the UN, marching to the Ethiopian Mission to the UN, and then down Fifth Avenue to the Soviet Cultural Mission, chanting slogans such as, "Down with Soviet hegemonism!"

An Ethiopian student in New York pointed out, "Soviet social-imperialism is really getting exposed to the Ethiopian masses. The Ethiopian people are fighting and capturing Soviet and Cuban mercenaries in Ethiopia. In Chicago, 150 people came

out to demonstrate on January 14. They were protesting Soviet interference in Ethiopia, the Soviets' support for the repressive Mengistu regime, and superpower contention in the Horn of Africa. As they marched through crowded downtown streets, one of the main chants heard was "U.S.-U.S.S.R. out of Ethiopia."

An evening program was held in Oakland, California on January 14 by the Western Region of the Ethiopian Women Study Group in North America. It was a night of solidarity with the women fighters within the Ethiopian revolutionary struggle. *Getting Together* gave one of the many solidarity messages, which stressed the importance of women's full participation in every aspect of the Ethiopian revolution, and brought out firm opposition to superpower hegemonism in the African Horn, particularly increased intervention in Ethiopia by Soviet social-imperialism.



Somalia Ousted Soviet Cuban advisers boarding plane

ers from all trades took part in the Colombian strike, and strikers fought heroically when they clashed with troops and armed police. Industry and commerce was paralyzed in Bogota, the capital. Six hundred workers were arrested and others killed or injured. Factories, shops, and schools throughout the country closed down in protest against government repression.

What is taking place in Colombia reflects a trend in many Latin American countries. The industrialized countries, especially the superpowers, are shifting their economic crisis onto the third world, Latin America in particular. This has caused severe damage to the Latin American economy and greater suffering and hardship for the laboring masses. Consequently, not only the number of strikes, but their duration and intensity, has increased. Economic difficulties are sharpening many contradictions in Latin America, especially contradictions between Latin American nations on the one hand and imperialism and the superpowers on the other. In the past year and a half, for instance, Colombian inflation became

protest the assassination of opposition editor, Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, January 10.

A three-week hunger strike of 1300 people, demanding trade union rights and amnesty for all political prisoners, ended in mid-January in La Paz, Bolivia. President Hugo Banzer granted some of the demands after 50,000 tin miners stopped work for 48 hours to support the strikers.

Similar struggles erupted this year in Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador.

Laboring people resist foreign capital

Laboring people of Latin America are pushing the anti-imperialist struggle forward. In the last year, workers directed the spearhead of their struggle more consciously against foreign capital, which has long plundered and exploited the workers of Latin America. Workers in Mexico,

Argentina, and Ecuador staged large-scale strikes against the transnational corporations. Demanding higher wages and shorter work day, 3000 Mexican workers struck the Ford Motor plants, 9000 workers battled Chrysler, GM and Ford in Argentina. In many cases, workers demanded an end to the right of transnationals to operate in their country at all.

In Argentina, railway, petroleum, auto, and textile workers have been on strike on and off since the end of October, protesting long working hours, wage freezes, and arbitrary dismissals. In San Salvador, capital of El Salvador, 1500 workers took over the premises of the Ministry of Labor last November, demanding wage increases.

Workers' strikes are continuing without let up in Colombia, since a general strike - initially over wage increases - broke out on September 14. One million work

continued on p 11

Latin America cont...

rampant, commodity prices rose by 40%, unemployment increased. Demanding higher wages and democratic rights, workers are opposing increased exploitation by foreign monopoly capital

peasants seized 370,000 acres of land previously annexed by the (US) United Fruit Company

Struggle to change the old economic order

Land seizure movement peasantry a vital force

Brutally oppressed and exploited, Latin American peasants are a vital force in the national democratic movement. In the last year, poverty stricken peasants in Honduras, the Dominican Republic, Brazil, and Bolivia waged fierce struggles against foreign plantation owners. The US United Fruit Company and Cerro de Pasco Corporation own over one third of the land in many Latin American countries. 140 million peasants are landless, while another 180 million own only four percent of the total arable land. The land-seizure movement is spreading. In Honduras, several hundred poor

No longer can imperialism do as it pleases in Latin America. US imperialism in particular is worse off than ever in its declining position in Latin America. Various countries, to a varying extent, are nationalizing foreign owned land, mines, and industries. They are also demanding complete sovereignty over their 200 mile marine limit, waging a tit-for-tat struggle to change the old international economic order.

No force can stem the tide of countries wanting independence, nations liberation, peoples revolution. The mass movements especially are a powerful impetus to the national democratic struggle throughout the entire Latin American continent.



Panamanian masses demand full sovereignty over the Canal Zone

**Third World wins allies in Europe
Fighting superpower loan-sharks**

The struggle of third world countries to reduce their dependency on foreign loans is a key part of the struggle to change the old international economic order. As a result of plunder and exploitation by imperialism, many third world countries incurred large foreign debts over the last few decades. This indebtedness is a major obstacle to the development of their national economies today. About \$200 billion in debt weighs like a millstone on the developing nations, whose capital funds are wasted in payment of principal and interest year after year.

As far back as 1964, at a UN Conference on Trade and Development, many developing countries proposed debt re-adjustments: lower interest rates, extended payments, no restrictions on the use of loans, an end to political blackmail by creditor countries. The struggle against imperialist usury deepened in the 1970's. In 1974, third world countries at the UN called for a moratorium on debts, as well as cancellation of debts for nations that have suffered severely from capitalist economic crisis.

The superpowers — the US

and the Soviet Union — opposed these demands. However, oil-producing countries set an excellent example of fair and just settlement of debts by providing non-oil-producing third world countries with interest-free, long-term loans. Mideast creditors asked for no privileges or political concessions.

Superpowers are international loan sharks

Such actions contrast sharply with the superpowers' worldwide system of usury.

The US provides loans on condition that debtor countries open up for US investment. Recipients also must remove restrictions on imports, wrecking their balance of trade, and they must pay prices far above those on the world market for US commodities.

Like the US, the Soviet Union demands high interest rates and short-term payments. The recipients must buy Soviet products and its debtors are sucked into the vicious circle of usury, taking out new loans to pay for the old. The Soviets may postpone the due date, but only in return for a military base here, a government

position there, and, ultimately, political control of the entire country. When the Soviets loan an inch, they collect a mile.

Between 1954 and 1974, 95% of Moscow's economic "aid" was in the form of loans with interest due. Loans extended to India between 1954-74, for instance, totalled \$1.94 billion. For India to clear these older debts, it must repay the Soviets as much as 565.7% of the original! In fact, the people of India have already paid the Soviets more in interest than they received in principal, and they are still in debt.

It is true that the Soviet Union provides loans in the name of socialism and "aid." But its practice is no different from a loan shark who takes advantage of another's hardship — first offering a loan, then putting a lean on the earnings, then on the dwelling, until the debtor becomes a slave for life.

**Changes in the second world
Sweden and the Netherlands
cancel debts to third world**

How do second world countries stand in relationship to the indebtedness of developing nations? Can European capitalist countries play a positive role in the struggle against usury?

In the last few years, second world countries have actually taken stands in sharp contrast to the role of the superpowers. Concerning the just demands of third world countries, Sweden and Holland recently cancelled a number of large debts from the developing countries. Calling on other industrial countries to follow suit,

**VIET NAM - KAMPUCHEA CONFLICT:
IMPORTANCE OF
A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT**

An armed conflict between the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and Democratic Kampuchea (Cambodia) has yet to be resolved. Renewal of fraternal ties between these two countries and ending of the armed conflict is in the interests of both Kampuchea and Viet Nam, as well as the people of the world.

A January 6, 1978 statement from the Ministry of Propaganda and Information of Democratic Kampuchea, issued by radio broadcast, stated the Vietnamese army had invaded Kampuchea, "deeply broken into the territories, dozens of kilometers from the frontier" in a conflict which Kampuchea reports to have been going on since September, 1977.

Both countries have issued recent official statements, commenting on the question of resolving the present conflict through negotiations.

On December 31, 1977, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam stated that "The government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam proposes that the two sides meet as quickly as possible at whatever level, so as to together solve the border issue between the two countries in a spirit of brotherly friendship." A later official statement of January 6, 1978 added that the Vietnamese people and the peoples of Laos and Kampuchea should "strengthen the militant solidarity,

mutual trust, long term cooperation and mutual assistance in all fields in accordance with the principle of complete equality, respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and respect for each other's legitimate interest, so that the three countries, which have been associated with one another in the struggle for national liberation, will be associated with each other forever in the building and defense of their respective countries, for the sake of each country's independence and prosperity."

The Kampuchean government raised in its official statement of January 6, 1978, that such negotiations over the present situation "could be convened only when a favorable atmosphere of mutual confidence is created beforehand, that is, when Viet Nam stops its aggression against Kampuchea, withdraws its army from the territories of Kampuchea." Kampuchea has also stated that it would re-establish diplomatic ties with Viet Nam when such conditions are created. Kampuchea had temporarily severed diplomatic relations with Viet Nam on January 2, 1978.

In an earlier statement on December 31, 1977, Pich Cheang, Ambassador of Democratic Kampuchea to China, stated that, "Democratic Kampuchea is endowed with goodwill and is firmly determined to maintain close and

friendly relations with all countries having common borders with her, and with all countries near or far throughout the world on the strict basis of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity."

The Vietnamese and Kampuchean people have a long history of struggle against common enemies, particularly of fighting as comrades in arms against the vicious aggression by US imperialism. The united struggle of the peoples of Viet Nam, Kampuchea, and Laos won the widespread support and respect of people all over the world, including within the US. It is important for Viet Nam and Kampuchea to resolve their present conflict peacefully and quickly.

Unity is all the more urgent since both superpowers wish to exploit this dispute between two socialist countries of the third world. The Soviet social imperialists, in particular, are seeking to dominate that region, where the US imperialists suffered such a stunning defeat during the Indochinese peoples' wars of national liberation.

It is imperative that both countries be allowed to settle their differences peacefully, without any foreign interference or meddling and in accordance with the aspirations of both the Kampuchean and Vietnamese peoples.

Sweden announced a debt cancellation of over 200 million dollars last October. Holland also wrote off \$9 million in debts, and other northern European countries are taking similar steps.

Such actions on the part of western capitalist countries were unheard of 20 years ago and reflect important changes and realignments in the international situation.

While European countries still exploit and oppress many peoples, they themselves are more and more menaced by the superpowers. The Soviet Union, for instance, now deploys 75% of its armed forces and 90% of its inter-

mediate missiles in Europe. With the growing strength and unity of the third world, countries like Sweden and Holland are compelled by their own interests to form new economic ties on the basis of equality and mutual benefit — to join hands with the third world in a common struggle against hegemonism. Recent debt cancellations demonstrate the ability of the third world to win allies in Europe.

Both superpowers cherish the dream that some day the European countries will bow humbly before them. The recent debt cancellation... continued on p 12

**U.S. annexes
16 Pacific
Islands**



On January 9, the Northern Mariana Islands were officially annexed by the United States imperialists. These 16 islands are strategically located between Guam and Japan in the South Pacific region which the US has dominated for many years. Under US occupation, the oppressed Mariana island people have been heavily exploited, their fish stolen from their waters by foreign powers, and 18,000 acres of their land covered with US military bases.

The Marianas' strategic location is highlighted by their past. During World War II, they served as the base of many US naval operations. One of the islands, Tinian, was the launching pad for the planes which destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan with atom bombs in August, 1945. Recently, a Navy liaison officer summed up

the US imperialists' interests in these territories in this way. "The fact that they're smack dab in the middle of the ocean makes all these islands important."

Before annexation to the US, the Marianas were part of the Pacific Trust Territories held under US control by a United Nations agreement. This agreement was due to expire in 1981. However, with Soviet-US rivalry stepping up globally, the Marianas' military importance to the US imperialists is increased. Furthermore, the Mariana islanders have been demanding control over their fishing and water rights and seeking more political jurisdiction over their own affairs. For these reasons, the US hastily moved to tighten its control over the islands through annexation in order to maintain its military presence in the Pacific.

INDIA'S NEW DEBTS TO SOVIET UNION AND OLD DEBT REPAYMENT
Unit in million US dollars

Fiscal Year	New debt	Old debt repayment	Ratio of new debts to old debt repayment
1968-69	52.5	78.7	1:1.50
1971-72	242.5	437.5	1:1.80
1973-74	17.8	72.7	1:4.08

Protest school closings ...

continued from p 1
mediate and militant protest

San Francisco redesign plan must be defeated

Simultaneously, in San Francisco, a mass struggle is developing against the new schools "redesign plan." A final decision on the plan will be made on February 14, and if implemented, it will have a serious effect on all children in the public schools. The plans call for restructuring the grade levels of all schools, closing many neighborhood schools in the Third World and working class communities, and transforming some existing schools into specialized "alternative" schools similar to Boston's "magnet" schools.

The city government has deliberately kept the plan vague. They distributed copies of the plan only a week before the first public hearings, with only minor summary translations. Even so, certain things about the plan are clear.

For example, redesign will give more weight to racist standards to evaluate students. Under the plan, students will take "proficiency tests" as early as third grade and twice a year during high school. These tests determine whether students are promoted or can graduate from high school, yet are known to be culturally biased against Third World students.

The redesign plan will also disrupt many bi-lingual and multi-cultural programs such as at Washington Irving in Chinatown, by closing the schools or reorganizing them. At the same time, the school board does not guarantee new or expanded programs. While they say such programs will be expanded "wherever possible," they refuse to pinpoint how or where

Past experience shows that school board assurances of "wherever possible" means *never*.

The plan also perpetuates forced busing, the brunt of which is to fall on Third World students. The only neighborhoods that will be exempt from busing are those with at least 4 racial/ethnic groups and no more than 45% of any one racial/ethnic group enrolled in one school. In short, the majority of busing would come from Chinatown, the Latino Mission District, and the Hunters Point Black community because of their high concentration of one nationality or "ethnic group." Throughout the hearings, parents and students angrily denounced unequal and forced busing which already exists and would only increase for them under the new plan.

Mass struggle

Only mass struggle can prevent these plans from being implemented. Already, many have shown their just opposition to Boston's plan to close Roxbury High and San Francisco's "redesign plan."

The city governments anticipate more struggle, and are trying to avoid further confrontations. In San Francisco, on January 31, the school board announced that aspects of the redesign plan were being changed, such as the amount of busing to take place from the Black communities, thereby hoping to make their school plan acceptable to the masses by making some changes here and there while retaining the essence of the plan.

Right now the struggle is just beginning, and there will be obstacles along the way, such as forces within Third World communities who help the city to push the plans through. However, by relying on the masses and building a broad movement, the people can defeat both plans which only serve to enforce inequalities and discrimination in the educational system.

Under such a plan, money-hungry investors can buy run-down buildings, make some improvements, and sell them for a big profit. Or they can buy up whole sections of property and replace decaying housing with expensive condominiums which only the wealthy can afford to move into. Again, the poor and minority tenants will be evicted and displaced, and further dispersed from their communities.

Importance of mass struggle

The city has tried these redevelopment plans before in the Mission District and Haight Ashbury. Mass resistance stopped the plans from being fully implemented. Now that the city is trying basically the same thing in Chinatown, they hope to avoid mass resistance by trying to make the plans sound different and by holding secret meetings so the masses won't find out what they are up to. The city government is also seeking out potential allies from the Chinese community — certain bankers, real estate brokers, and so-called community

ABDC demo ...

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admissions standards for entrance into the UC system, by requiring a higher level of English and math skills and by increasing the emphasis on the racist Scholastic Aptitude Tests (SAT's). By the Regents' own admission, the Parducci Plan would sharply decrease the enrollment of Third

Coal strike ...

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eliminated the health and welfare fund for 820,000 miners and their families. Then during the strike, on January 18, the coal companies announced that pension checks for 80,600 retired miners will not be issued due to "lack of funds" in the pension trust.

Arizona strikes ...

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too strong. It was only when we were few and alone that the cops came after us. Through the strike we began to see our power as organized workers. We used to be afraid of the police and of the power and money of the growers. But now, after confronting their power, we know that it's really the police and the growers who are afraid of us — because for the first time we got together and spoke in one voice.

A representative of the MCOP pointed out that the farmworkers "have brought the two most powerful growers in the area to the bargaining table, and they are no longer afraid of the Border Patrol."

The Maricopa strikes are far from over. There is planning and organizing going on right now for continuing the onion strike and for organizing in other parts of the county in the coming months. Strikes in Maricopa County are initial skirmishes in a protracted struggle of Mexican people against the capitalist system of national oppression and class exploitation.

"leaders" like the Chinese Six Companies. In hopes of getting fat commissions, profits from bank loans, or city government positions, these people serve as ready tools for the monopoly capitalists in pushing the "housing codes enforcement" and redevelopment plans from within the Chinese community.

The masses of people must expose and condemn the housing codes violation enforcement plan as an attack on minority communities. Part of this struggle must be to continue to fight for the International Hotel, which has been a cornerstone in the struggle against capitalist redevelopment and the forced dispersal of Third World communities. The masses must resist demolition of the I-Hotel, for it would only increase the threat of demolition for other residence hotels and housing units throughout the community.

The masses of people must be mobilized to demand decent, affordable housing and to resist all redevelopment attacks and any further dispersal of the oppressed nationality communities.

World students in the University. Just like the Bakke Decision, the plan will intensify national oppression by further closing the doors and excluding oppressed nationality students from higher education.

Throughout the day, the ABDC emphasized the importance to taking up the day-to-day struggles against the current implementation of the Bakke Decision through forms such as the

Strikers fight brutal attacks

As soon as the miners went out, the capitalists responded fiercely by unleashing armed goons and the full repressive mechanism of the state against the miners. On January 6, Mack Lewis, a retired miner, was shot to death by a guard while picketing a scab mine owned by the Diamond Coal Company in Floyd County, Kentucky. The federal government has issued arrest warrants against striking miners for conspiracy and Labor Secretary

Marshall stated that the FBI was also monitoring the strike. In Indiana, state riot troops were used against striking miners.

The strikers, however, refuse to be intimidated and they have been waging a tit-for-tat struggle. They have set up roving pickets, destroyed equipment at mines, dumped coal along roads, and shut down coal loading docks. The angry miners have so far shut down 3,000 coal mines and are prepared to do whatever it takes for as long as it takes to force the BCOA to meet their strike demands.

Farmers' movement ...

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no offers to make, and nothing to say.

Monopoly capitalists have no solutions

While Carter may eventually be forced to grant some concessions under pressure from the militant farmers' movement, the contradictions between the small capitalist farmers and the monopolies and government is not resolvable in any lasting way. First of all, increased export of US food products cannot solve the "energy crisis" nor the "imports crisis", nor any other manifestations of the deep and inherent economic crisis of US monopoly capitalism. In addition, the government's stand against the non-monopoly farmers' demands is aggravating the contradiction between the monopoly capitalists and the non-monopoly farmers.

For the farmers, monopolization of agriculture is irreversible, and has already replaced the once-dominant family farms, from the deep South to the valleys of California and the fields of Hawaii. Many of the farmers themselves are talking about the fact that the days of "free enterprise" in the US are long gone, and that government price supports would be only a temporary solution.

The non-monopoly farmers cannot turn the clocks back to the old days of family farming and "free competition," nor hope to become monopolists themselves. The US has developed according to the laws of capitalism, in which land and capital is concentrated in the hands of

fewer and fewer, while smaller farmers are inevitably eaten up and forced out of business. Even if the government made some temporary concessions to the farmers, such as price supports or allotments of a few more acres, the smaller farmers will not last long against the agribusinesses, which own hundreds of thousands of acres and the food processing industries as well.

Monopoly capitalism can offer no solutions for the small and medium sized farmers in the US today.

Farmers must side with the working class

The non-monopoly farmers have only one alternative — to side with the working class in revolutionary struggle against their common enemy, the monopoly capitalist class.

As the struggle sharpens between these farmers and the government and monopolies, more farmers will see that the working class is their firmest ally. Already, workers in a number of places have honored the farmers' pickets in front of meat processing plants, grain loading areas, and big marketplaces. Many workers sympathize with the struggle of farmers for their livelihood and support their confrontation with the government and the big capitalists.

In addition, with each passing day, more farmers are forced to give up their farms and join the ranks of the working class, where the contradictions with the monopoly capitalists is even sharper.

Under these circumstances, more and more farmers will see the necessity for revolution under working class leadership as the only way to put an end to the abuses they suffer as farmers and the ruthless exploitation of the working class.

Debts cancelled ...

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cellations, however, are one obstacle to their quest for hegemony over Europe and the rest of the world. The US and Soviet Union uphold the old credit system. They oppose new debt moratoriums and cancellations, not only because such measures highlight their own usury, but because they deepen the unity between Europe and the developing nations and isolate the superpowers, who are the world's biggest loan sharks.

Parducci Plan, while maintaining a focus on overturning the formal court ruling in the US Supreme Court. They unified the crowd to intensify and broaden the anti-Bakke movement, and to mobilize for the February 19 ABDC National Conference in Los Angeles. The ABDC is preparing for nationwide Spring demonstrations with April 29 as the common target date for these actions.

Biko nite ...

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of dedication and love for the oppressed masses in Azania. Also brought out was the condemnation of the corrupt Vorster regime, which was responsible for Biko's death.

Another key idea that ran throughout the program was the importance of struggling against national oppression here in the US. This point was crystallized when a member of the Student Government Assoc announced its support for the Atlanta local chapter of the Anti-Bakke Decision Coalition (ABDC) and its actions opposing this racist decision.

These were the words that closed the program: "Let us take his death, a bad thing, and change it into a good thing, by continuing the path that Steve Biko has laid us. Long live the fighting spirit of Steve Biko!"

Housing codes ...

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is prime land for developing San Francisco's big tourist industry and business area. By making sudden and expensive demands on the present owners to repair the housing violations, many smaller landlords will be forced to sell their property to the city or directly to big developers like Four Seas Investment Corporation.

The developers and city government want to transform the face of Chinatown through this process, at the direct expense of the masses. In place of homes will be hotels and tourist attractions. This will produce even more over-crowding in Chinatown, the community which is already the most densely populated in all of San Francisco. Families will have to squeeze into smaller quarters or else be forced to move out of Chinatown.

Outside the heart of Chinatown, a similar code violations enforcement program is in the works. There, property owners will be eligible to get "assistance" loans to improve their properties and bring them up to code. The cost of improvements, insurance and increased property taxes will be passed on to the tenants in the form of skyrocketing rents, since there are no safeguards in the plan for effective rent control and no real relocation possibilities.