

OBREROS EN MARCHA

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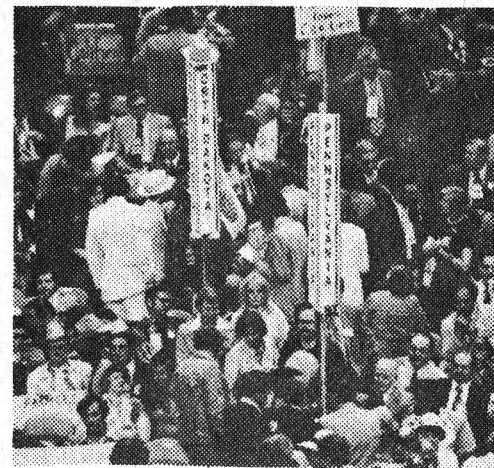
AUGUST 1976

POLITICAL ORGAN OF EL COMITE-MINP

ARGENTINA SANTUCHO

"A
REVOLUTIONARY
HAS DIED
LONG LIVE
THE REVOLUTION"

(See Editorial pg. 2,6&9)



**DEMOCRATIC
PARTY
CONVENTION**
P.4

**PUERTO RICO
AT THE U.N.**

pg. 3

SANTUCHO

On the afternoon of July 19, 1976 in Buenos Aires, Argentina the Secretary General of the PRT (Revolutionary Workers Party) and commander in chief of ERP (Revolutionary People's Army), Mario Roberto Santucho was killed in combat against the forces of the military dictatorship of Jorge Videla. It is also reported that among the losses suffered by ERP were three other members of the organization's political bureau, Jose Benito Urteaga, Domingo Mena and Enriquez Gorriaran Merlo.

The death of Santucho, and the other compañeros, saddens revolutionaries in Argentina, Latin America and other parts of the world. Moreover, if all the reports are true, the ERP and the peoples of Argentina have suffered a severe blow in their long and courageous struggles against military dictatorship and U.S. imperialism. The death of Santucho - true revolutionary and hero of the working class and oppressed masses in Argentina - is indeed a significant loss to revolutionaries and progressive peoples throughout Latin America. Faithful student of Lenin, his deeds transcend the narrow frontiers of a nation, and to an extent, a continent. Like Miguel Enriquez before him in Chile, Santucho represented the new wave of Latin American fighters who in creatively applying the science of Marxism-Leninism, and in particular the principles of Proletarian Internationalism, to the concrete reality of Latin America, have taken the path of planting the seeds that will bring down the barriers of isolation and separation among Latin American nations suffering the common fetters of U.S. imperialism.

Along with Enriquez and Inti Peredo of Bolivia, comrades who have also lost their lives in the struggle against imperialism and neocolonialism, Santucho was creator and leader of the Revolutionary Coordinating Council (Junta). Perhaps, the first serious attempt of uniting the Bolivarian concept of "one great motherland" with the science of Marxism-Leninism. Like Enriquez and Peredo, Santucho waged determined struggle not only against the local ruling classes and U.S. imperialism, but principly defended the fundamentals of Marxism-Leninism against those advocates of reformism and narrow nationalism.

In honoring his memory in these editorial pages of our publication - Obreros En Marcha - we recognize that his loss, and that of other leading cadres, has been an undeniably severe loss to ERP-PRT. Nevertheless, we recognize that he leaves behind an organization of revolutionaries steeled in the heat of battle, who will continue the revolutionary struggle against the military dictatorship and U.S. imperialism. Indeed, just a month prior to his death the ERP-PRT published the following:

"All wars demand inevitable and immense sacrifices. To negate this reality to the people would be a serious error. The revolutionary war being waged by the vanguard detachments of the masses, war into which increased number of our people - both men and women - are daily joining and which extends and broadens itself with the force of a hurricane, will place the people of Argentina before long and difficult trials, it will demand great efforts, it will cost many lives and lasting sufferings. This is the price of freedom and dignity; it is the quota of blood and pains which peoples must be able to face along the path of liberation against a cruel and merciless enemy." From the June 1976 editorial of El Combatiente, Political Organ of ERP-PRT

It is this understanding among the ranks of ERP-PRT which in honoring Santucho leads us to raise the slogan which among Latin Americans has so much significance and which so often has been raised in the historical struggle against U.S. imperialism and its loyal servants - "a revolutionary has died, long live the revolution."

CENTRAL COMMITTEE EL COMITÉ-MINP

Note from the Editor - due to its significance and recent developments and in an attempt to bring to the U.S. a better understanding of the Latin American revolutionary struggle, a process of so much significance to revolutionary and progressive forces in this country, we dedicate this edition of OEM to the struggle being waged by revolutionaries and the Argentinian masses against military dictatorship and U.S. imperialism. Argentina serves as an example and reflects the reality of Latin America, particularly the Southern Cone (Argentina, Bolivia, Chile and Uruguay), where the North American imperialist and the dominant classes are incapable of maintaining their control in the "old way" and now substitute them with brutal military dictatorships

Continued on Page I2

EDITORIAL

PUERTO RICO AT THE U.N.

The colonial case of Puerto Rico will be discussed once again in the upcoming sessions of the United Nations' Decolonization Committee. In this month of August, this Committee will discuss a resolution which if approved will reaffirm the right of the Puerto Rican people to independence and self-determination, and calling for the United States government to recognize this right and abandon the island. Should the Decolonization Committee approve the resolution, it will then decide whether or not to move toward discussing the case within the UN General Assembly during its meeting in September.

The discussions of the colonial status of Puerto Rico in this international forum represents a victory for the national liberation forces of the island. After 30 years, the efforts of the Puerto Rican national liberation movement have defeated the attempts of the U.S. government whose pressures and obstacles have as their main objective to prevent any open discussion in the international arena on the political reality of the Puerto Rican people which is characterized by over 78 years of imperialist exploitation. If as a result of the discussions at both the Decolonization Committee and the General Assembly the UN defines Puerto Rico as a colony, the U.S. will have the moral obligation of taking all necessary steps to guarantee the decolonization of Puerto Rico and will be furthered discredited in world opinion. Should the U.S. refuse to implement this possible UN decision, it will underline, even further, the imperialist character of the U.S. government, principal enemy of all freedom loving peoples of the world. Moreover, a U.S. refusal will not only discredit the U.S. but will broaden the support of the Puerto Rican struggle for national liberation, a factor of great importance in the relationship of power in the struggle.

1975 -- A SETBACK

The upcoming discussions of the colonial status of Puerto Rico comes after a temporary setback suffered during last year's sessions of the Decolonization Committee during which the U.S. was able to postpone a vote on the resolution through the use of economic and political threats to a number of governments and nations represented within the Committee. Yet as recent history shows, the correlation of forces in the international arena continue to become more favorable toward Puerto Rico and national liberation movements and subsequently less favorable toward the imperialist forces. The last two decades, and in particular the last few years, have witnessed and experienced the development of social revolutions in which a number of nations have after valiant struggles achieved independence and national sovereignty. It is precisely these liberated countries which have themselves experienced the fetters of imperialism and colonialism which today lead the support movement. Within this context, Revolutionary Cuba has

Continue on page 12

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DEMOCRATIC PARTY CONVENTION

In the essentially two party system of government that characterizes U.S. bourgeois democracy, both the Democrats and Republicans are undisputed representatives-flunkies and loyal functionaries of the rich and propertied classes who in fact are the real possessors of political power in this country. Of these two parties, the Democrats have in recent history undertaken special efforts to appear as liberals and progressives and have donned the costumes and masquerade as defenders and fighters of the people's interests and needs. This was clearly seen in the recent party convention as the Democrats attempted to portray itself as the "defender of the littleman", friend of the poor and working class, of the "minorities" etc. and the deliverer of the nation from the "evils of Watergate", inflation, unemployment, the economic crisis etc.

From July 12-16 the Democratic Party held its National Convention in New York City. At this gathering, the party nominated its presidential and Vice Presidential candidates for



the upcoming elections. With few surprises, the convention chose Jimmy Carter of Georgia and Senator Walter Mondale of Minnesota as the Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates for the Party. Barring any unforeseeable circumstances, these two nominees stand to be elected to their respective national offices this upcoming November. But the work of the convention extended beyond the nomination of the national standard bearers, the convention also adopted a Party platform which is supposed to guide the party's work during the next four years.

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY "PLATFORM" WHAT LIES BEHIND THE FAÇADE?

A complete detailed analysis of the Party's platform is beyond the limitations of this article, however, we will discuss important aspects of some of the major issues of concern to

the working class, the oppressed nationalities and broad sectors of the people, and the stand taken by the Democratic Party

During the present economic crisis an extremely thorny issue for both Democrats and Republicans has been the state of the nation's economy, with inflation and unemployment continuing to soar to greater heights. With the Republicans presently in power, the Democrats are pointing to the failures of the Republicans as the basis for the continuing rise in inflation and unemployment and are attempting in the process to capitalize in the mass dissatisfaction among the people.

In its Platform, the Democratic Party is calling for "economic planning, controls, special effects and measures to curb inflation, and a program to achieve full employment". With these stands, the Democrats search for the votes of the broad masses dissatisfied with the state of affairs of the nation. Therefore, the question of full employment is being given particular attention with propaganda being directed to the working class and unemployed people in the U.S. "Full employment", at a time when even the most conservative estimates place the number of unemployed at over 8 millions, would be sufficient reason for many to rally around and support the electionary efforts of the democrats. However, hidden behind this "promise" of full employment is first of all the interpretation of "full" which to the democratic party means that 3% of the nation's labor force would remain jobless. Moreover, the Democrats proposal of "full employment" is to be realized through government sponsored work projects, the majority of which will be jobs of an unproductive nature dependent on continued government fundings, subject to elimination at the first sign of "economic crisis", or when the government (whether Democrats or Republicans) decides to end such funding.

Further, the Democrats "fail" to explain the real reasons for the high level of unemployment, i.e. the contradictions of a society that with the most advanced machinery and technology utilizes these not for the benefit of the whole society but for the benefit of a few who dispose of these advancements as they see fit; a small group which is motivated by personal gain and an insatiable thirst for profits. In fact, while millions are unemployed the few monopoly capitalists and capitalists continue to enjoy their profits while the above mentioned advancements, made by man, are utilized against society. Indeed through technology, less workers are utilized to produce the same if not more than before which wears down machineries beyond the safety level. Moreover, the "extra" workers that find themselves in the street jobless are utilized as a threat to those who are "fortunate enough" to have a job and although living under the constant threat of unemployment. Unsurprisingly, the Democratic Party in its platform also "fails" to explain that the problem of unemployment in a capitalist society cannot be abolished through reforms and band aids that is to be expected from an instrument of the rich. It can only be eradicated with the construction of a society which organizes and plans production to serve the needs of all of society; where

machinery and technology, and all the productive forces of humanity, will be utilized so as to allow all citizens to work and spend a greater time of their daily lives in other human endeavors. We must not be fooled by the promises of "full employment" by the Democratic Party. We must take up the only struggle which can put an end to unemployment and all oppressive conditions of life being endured by the people, namely the struggle for socialism, where as demonstrated in socialist nations unemployment is the word of the past. The rhetoric of the Democratic Party on full employment is just that rhetoric - empty talk for votes.

THE DEMOCRATS ON HEALTH Just as employment, another major concern of the people is the question of health particularly in a society possessing such an immense wealth of scientific knowledge and resources. But as other resources in this capitalist society, these are utilized not for the benefits of society but of big business under the direction of the American Medical Association (AMA) and the giant



pharmaceutical industry for whom the AMA acts as a "Board of Trustees". In this regard, in an effort to present a solution to the needs of the poor and working people who daily find themselves unable to afford the high cost of medicine and medical treatment, the Democrats offer a "comprehensive system of universal coverage" whose vagueness and obvious shortcomings, in so far as it does not guarantee proper medical treatments for all in society, are designed to disguise the reality of "health as a business" which is the nature assumed by medicine, and its related fields, in capitalist society in which the majority suffers unnecessarily because they cannot afford the necessary health care. The Democrats seek to cover up the ugliness of such a contradiction while maintaining a system which produces and perpetuates ill health intact. When it comes to prescribing a solution to meet the desperate health needs of the working class and oppressed nationalities the poor and broad majority of the people who most need

quality health services and can least afford it, the democrats are prescribing two aspirins while a radical and immediate operation is needed.

EDUCATION AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS

The question of education in the Democratic Party Platform is no different than in the other areas of concern for the poor and working people in this country. Yet, except for a few words on busing the Democrats say little about such an important question to broad sectors of society, and, even in busing, the Democrats encourage that other means of desegregating the nation's schools be sought and implemented, though, it maintains support for it as a "judicial tool of last resort." However, this side steps the issue, for busing in some cases may achieve integration and may be useful as a means of guaranteeing the rights of oppressed minorities. But it does not serve as a guarantee to equal and quality education. This objective cannot be met by busing or small increases in funding for education. These liberal reforms fall far too short of the real needs of the people. In contrast, if we look at the socialist countries, even among the smallest like Cuba (where illiteracy existed at an extremely high level), illiteracy, like unemployment, is a thing of the past. In these societies, training for the entire population has been implemented in order to apply their technical and intellectual skills for the benefit of the whole society.

The women's rights question was dismissed by the Democratic Party with a declared support for the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). Nowhere do they refer to the inequalities and injustices perpetrated against women in capitalist society. Yet the reality of woman's oppression cannot be dismissed with meek reforms which fall short of even its "best intended purposes," nor can laws, decrees, or amendments end the injustices of oppressed sectors of society as demonstrated by the oppressive reality of Blacks, Chicanos, Native Americans, Puerto Ricans, Asians etc. Only by struggling against all forms of oppression can this be accomplished.

Finally on the issue of foreign policy the Democratic Party, as all other parties in the capitalist system, demonstrates its imperialist character. However, it attempts to camouflage its nature in subtleties. Nevertheless, the Democrats unite with the Republicans on such questions as support for the Zionist State of Israel, arms sales, SALT (Strategic Arms Limitations), and the need for the CIA, a large military budget, etc. Like "a wolf in a sheep's clothing" the Democrats speak of the need to "trim" the military budget but also the need of a "strong" military force.

In just this limited view of these few issues and the stand of the Democratic Party, it becomes increasingly clear that like all parties of the rich and propertied, its principal interest and function is to defend and protect the profit system-capitalism and not to uphold the interest of the people. With its reforms and liberal measures the Democrats only pretend to continue injecting life and maintaining a system which is destined to perish. Aspirins in the forms of reforms are not sufficient, the cancer must be removed. The Democratic Party is an integral part of this disease.

Seen for what they really are, loyal servants of the ruling class, the capitalist class and the entire electoral process of this country must be exposed as nothing more than a hoax, a mockery-nothing but a facade of "democracy" masking the lack of true democracy. At every election we are like slaves. We are asked not to choose freedom from slavery but which master we prefer to be whipped by.

ARGENTINA

THE HOUR OF THE GENERALS

The recent death of Mario Roberto Santucho, Secretary General of ERP-PRT, as well as the hundreds of wanton murders and acts of terrorism by the military dictatorship of General Jorge Videla have forced the U.S. government, and the media, to begin to present to the North American people aspects of the reign of terror prevailing in Argentina today. The murders by the military of Catholic priests, political exiles, and other foreigners residing in Argentina has brought protests and denunciation of the regime by governments and nations of varied ideologies and social systems, from socialist nations to capitalist countries like West Germany.

As in neighboring Chile, the "excesses" of the military dictatorship and as consequence of the pressure of world opinion, sectors of the ruling class in the U.S. have been forced to mildly express discontent with the murderous regime. After years of silence on the existence of military rule in Argentina, the New York Times recently recognized the existence of organized right wing terrorism in that Latin American nation. In its July 28 edition, the Times in discussing the existence of government sanctioned terrorists states: Thousands of people have been arrested for questioning by a variety of military and police intelligence services, which often appear to be working without central coordination. Many of the arrested are held in jails or undisclosed detention centers without official acknowledgement. The bullet-riddled bodies of some who disappeared have turned up in ditches or empty lots.

The line where official responsibility for arrests ends and where the "black operations" begin is difficult to draw. Uncontrolled armed groups can take people from their homes without police interference and later dump their bodies in isolated places. The victims have included political exiles from other Latin American countries living here and five Roman Catholic priests.

Further on the article reads, "Union activity has also been suspended and military "interventors" have been appointed for the General Confederation of Labor and 35 major unions." Yet, in recognizing these "excesses", significantly in moments in which the armed opposition has suffered a severe blow, the Times in complicity with, and representing the interest of the U.S. ruling class, includes only as an aside that the military dictatorship is "opening up its oil fields to foreign investment" (read U.S. investment - ed) Moreover, the Times conveniently fails to discuss U.S. policies toward Argentina and the role it has played in bringing about military rule to the country.

The present military dictatorship, headed by General Videla, is perhaps the cruelest in recent Argentinian history, in essence, representing the culmination of U.S. imperialist policies not only toward Argentina but toward Latin America in general. As in other countries in Latin America - Chile, Uruguay, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, Nicaragua, Guatemala - Military dictatorships impose their reigns of terror with the full support of the



U.S. government. Historically, the U.S. has supported military regimes throughout Latin America in order to "safeguard" its political and economic interests, overthrowing and changing governments whenever these threaten U.S. interests and control by showing any degree of independence. Argentina is no exception to this historical fact. For over a decade now, military rule has been the characteristic of Argentinian society. Fully supported by the U.S. government, these military dictatorships protect U.S. finance interests whose intervention have their origins in the post World War II period and the first Peron government.

PERON AND ARGENTINA

A military coup in 1943 brought to power the anti-oligarchic (large landowners) sector of the Argentinian armed forces. This ultimately led to the government of Juan Domingo Peron which is elected under a program of national independence and social justice. The Peron government received the support of the military, and with its program of reforms and social justice, the Peron government guaranteed the support of the working class and the impoverished masses of Argentina. At the same time, the election and acceptance of Peron's program coincided with a political and economic moment, both national and international, beneficial to Argentina's economic interests. As a large producer of grains and cattle the post-war period would benefit Argentina's international trades, particularly with war ravaged Europe who was in desperate need of those goods produced by Argentina. The balance of trade in favor of Argentina would mark a period of economic growth for the country and of prestige for the Peron government - in essence a coalition government of

the military and developing industrial capitalists which gained broad popular support by its program of social reform and worker participation in the economy. During this period the working class of Argentina which achieved great gains and an economic level never experienced before, understandably fully supported the Peron government while, of great significance and future consequence, was controlled by it.

While the international situation maintained the level of the Post War period, the Peron government and broad sectors of Argentina achieved great gains. The international crisis of capitalism in 1949, as well as the subsequent stability in the capitalist world would greatly affect conditions in Argentina, and as result unmask the bourgeois-nationalist character of Peron's government. The "restructure" of Europe and the solidifying of the U.S. (itself a large producer of grain and cattle and a determiner of world prices in these goods) as the center of the capitalist world, deteriorated the balance of trade established by Argentina during the post war period. This situation limited economic growth, both in exports and industry, provoked rampant inflation, and with the industrial capitalists and land owners demanding to maintain their "accustomed" level of profits the conditions were translated into socio-economic crisis. These sectors demanded greater sacrifices and exploitation of the masses, demanding that the Peron government limit its programs of social reform and eliminate the gains achieved by the working class during the post war period. The situation confronted by the Peron government was thus, either give in to the pressures of the industrialists and landowners or place the future of his government and Argentina in the hands of those who with their support kept him in power, the workers and masses of Argentina. The support of these sectors to the Peron government were made clear during the 1951 elections when Peron was re-elected by a plurality of over 2,000,000 votes over his opponents Frondizi & Balbin, representatives of the medium and urban bourgeoisie. If Peron chose the second alternative, industry would be nationalized, the Agrarian Reform would be instituted and the workers would participate in the government, in short, a social revolution. But Peron, showing his true colors, chose the first alternative as the representative of the bourgeoisie which he was.

1955 - THE HOUR OF THE GENERALS

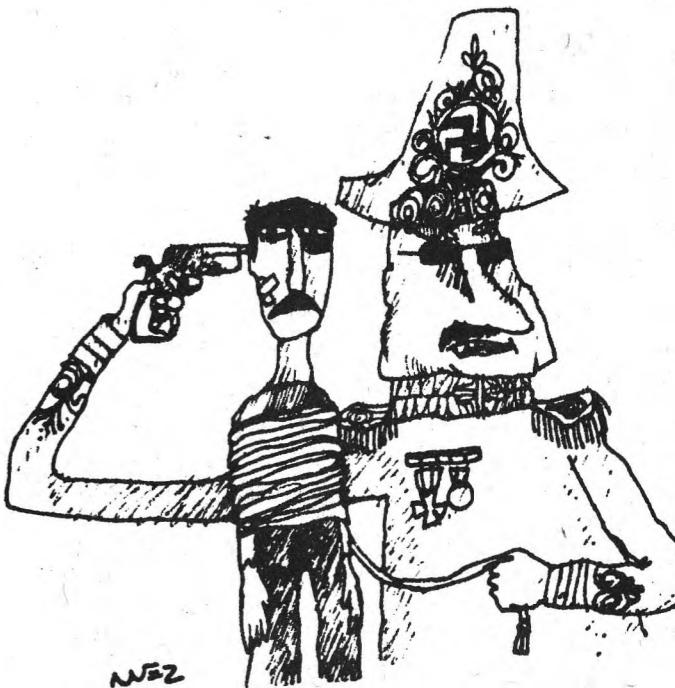
Impatient with the pace taken by Peron to implement their demands, the bourgeoisie unleashed a military coup and in 1955 Peron was removed from government and forced into exile. General Aramburu assumed power after the coup of 55 and immediately proceeded to implement its so-called Prebisch Plan. Which consisted of eliminating those industries with little profits and high concentration of workers, freezing wages, and most significantly the stimulation of foreign investment in Argentina, particularly U.S. capital.

The workers of Argentina, who during the Peron period had surrendered their independence as a class to the Peron program, courageously resisted the attacks of the military and the capitalists. This surrender of

independence to Peron's government would be a costly error for the Argentinian working class who although it confronted the military government in armed battle and mass mobilizations was unprepared for this type of struggle. Nevertheless, the constant struggles and mass oppositions to the military rule forced the military to convene elections which in 1958 brought to power the civilian government of Frondizi.

Campaigning under a "progressive" program Frondizi and his party, the Partido Union Civica Radical, represented the interests of the medium and petty bourgeois sectors, incapable afraid of confronting the military and the industrial bourgeoisie and landowners who continue to open the Argentinian economy to U.S. capital. Between 1955-1963 U.S. investment in Argentina increased from 447 million dollars to 829 million. Many North American companies would open plants in the country in various industries, from machinery, automobiles to chemical products. In order to guarantee their control over Argentinian society, the military proceeded to eliminate, by murder and imprisonment, hundreds of labor leaders as well as many of Peron's followers.

The continuous mass resistance to these tactics led the military to remove Frondizi and call for new elections which in 1963 brought Arturo Illia from the Radical Party to the Presidency. Illia proceeded to implement a timid economic plan, limiting foreign investment, in order to confront rampant inflation which had devalued the Argentinian peso from 28 pesos to the dollar to 140 pesos to the dollar. Illia's plan was in clear opposition to U.S. capital which had increased its investments even further in Argentina. In 1966 the military decided to assume and maintain direct control over the government in Argentina. General Organa assumed power and eliminated in the process all civil rights, such as public demonstrations, workers rallies and protests illegalized unions and communist formations, established censorships etc. Moreover, the military rule of Organa increased foreign investment which resulted in an almost absolute dependency on U.S. capital.



1969 - "EL CORDOBAZO"

The dictatorship of Organia did not eliminate the resistance of the Argentinian masses. On the contrary, it assumed a qualitatively different form as popular armed uprisings took place in the cities of Rosario, Cordoba, Santa Fe and Tucuman. Raising barricades, taking over plants and



universities, the people of Argentina struggled in pitched battles against the army and police. These battles popularly known in Argentina and Latin America as El Cordobazo brought to an end the Organia regime. The comrades from ERP (The People Revolutionary Army) have described the period as such:

"..from May 1966 on, the anti-dictatorial struggle of the Argentinian people acquired considerable strength and effectiveness. The appearance of armed urban guerrilla in the class struggle, as an organized and effective force capable of striking hard blows on the regime and its personnel, gave a new twist to the people's struggle. It began to open a thin road toward

workers and people's power, to show the possibility of finding a way out of the entanglement created by the bourgeoisie through deceit and violence, entanglement in which the bourgeoisie has encircled our people through various decades. The flame of popular war as strategy toward the seizure of power, as the road toward national and social revolution of the people of Argentina, was ignited in this period, and although weakly, it began to burn, now without interruption. For the first time an authentic possibility of moving toward the solution of the grave problems affecting our nation and our people, presented itself to the eyes of the Argentinian workers. This filled the masses with hope and enthusiasm, and the level of the people's struggle acquired a depth and firmness never seen before, bringing panic to the bourgeoisie."

Poder Burges, Poder Revolucionario
Roberto Mario Santucho - E.R.P.-P.R.T.

As a result of El Cordobazo, the military dictatorship removed Gen. Organia and replaced him with General Levingston who at the time was on assignment in Washington D.C. Obviously returning with specific orders from the kings of finance from the North, Levingston, receiving increased military aid from the U.S. intensified military repression in Argentina while simultaneously developing right wing terrorist forces, which in the model of the infamous Phoenix Plan in Vietnam, proceed to selectively murder popular leaders and labor representatives. Yet, this was to no avail as neither military repression nor terrorism was able to suppress the increasing resistance to military rule. Levingston was then

Continued on Page 10



ERP - ORGANIZE TO STRUGGLE

Since its formation over 10 years ago, the PRT has developed as a Marxist Leninist organization, organized throughout the country, with several thousand active members. During the last four years, the PRT has organized the ERP (People's Revolutionary Army) as its armed vanguard, which from clandestinity has carried out military actions in the urban centers as well as a guerrilla front in the province of Tucuman. The following is a translation of an article published by ERP in June of 1976 in its official organ "EL COMBATIENTE" detailing the tactics to follow in this period of intense attacks by the military forces of Jorge Videla.

The armed forces of the bourgeoisie and their dictatorial regime have intensified their repressive actions in their ferocious aim to destroy the mass movement, to drown in blood the just struggles of the workers and to mortally wound the revolutionary organizations in every corner of Argentina.

Thousands of prisoners crowd the jails and detention centers, while the kidnappings and murders of labor leaders and activists, of leftist militants and freedom fighters and socialism are commonplace within the political reality of the country. It is a desperate attempt, leading towards inevitable failure, to counteract the offensive of the working masses, and to behead their vanguard organizations so as to impose a policy of hunger and terror. The military, last fortress of the decadent system of capitalist exploitation, does not vacillate in confronting the people with its war machinery, they are fully conscious that in them rests the only viable alternative left for the bourgeoisie to maintain their privileges as the ruling class. As a result, because of its decisive character, the enemy multiplies its moves, doubles its attacks, is guided by a blind hatred, resorts to the most criminal and savage tactics, and lets itself be dominated by irrationality and repressive hysteria. And thus, it transforms itself into a dangerous beast, an enraged animal that attacks with a frenzy, that stampedes all that opposes it, even if each attack brings it closer to the final defeat.

ATTACK AND NOT BE ATTACKED—

The Argentinian people, tempered in hundreds of battles, in possession of invaluable experiences of struggle, out of whose womb have been born the solid bases for a revolutionary army and party composed of its best offsprings, is suffering the wave of terror and crime with which the murderous army wants to destroy them. Under the brunt of this repression, the masses have not given up; they are not infested with cowardice, nor are they in retreat. The spirit of rebelliousness and dissatisfaction is widespread and grows daily. The feeling of rejection is unanimous and it wins over workers and employees, poor peasants and intellectuals, and all the exploited and oppressed people. The spirit of struggle, the desire to struggle is staunchly maintained, and it has manifested itself through sabotage, in the lack of collaboration, and in isolated strikes. But the people have not been mobilized as a block, they have not reacted massively, they have not accepted an open battle, a desperate battle of



life or death in a territory favorable for the enemy and favorable to their forces. And they have not done it to test their maturity their political consciousness. They have not done it because their degree of organization, of political and military organization, is not yet strong enough to undergo a struggle of that nature, a struggle of a decisive character, where the enemy has no margin of withdrawal, since withdrawal in the midst of a crisis of the system, of the failure of every other option, is synonymous to defeat.

They have not done it because their class instinct indicates that this is an essentially prolonged struggle in which victory will be achieved step by step, blow by blow, as the result of successive confrontations, accumulating greater strengths each time, and progressively weakening the enemy. Nevertheless, the people have not stopped struggling: the sabotage at the point of production, the passive resistance, strikes, and demonstrations against the military presence in the factories proves this.

To synthesize, the people have avoided a direct, massive and immediate confrontation. Spontaneously in some cases, following revolutionary teachings in others; they have rejected the traditional methods of open struggle and will progressively undertake clandestine struggle.

At the same time, and with more hopes than ever and

Continue on page 11

ARGENTINA (cont.)

replaced by yet another General Lanusse, who also was incapable of slowing the struggles of the masses and its armed organizations, particularly the REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCES (FAR), MONTONEROS and ERP/PRT

RETURN OF PERON AND THE GREAT NATIONAL AGREEMENT

Unable to suppress the growing resistance of the masses and their leading organizations, and, in fact, being in the retreat the military regime played its trump card: elections and the possible return of Peron who was still idolized by the strong Peronist movement, large sectors of the working class, and by armed organizations such as the MONTONEROS who still recognized Peron as a revolutionary. Under its GAN Plan (Great National Accord) the military dictatorship proposed to Peron holding national elections and guaranteed his safe return to Argentina, with the only conditions being that he disarm the revolutionary sector of the Peronist movement. Supposedly voicing his opposition to the proposal, Peron selected Hector Campora as his representative in Argentina, who under a "progressive" program, which made concessions to the revolutionary sector of the Peron government, was unable to unite the Peronist movement under the FREJULI Front (Justicialist Liberation Front). The Campora campaign led to the overwhelming victory of FREJULI in the 1973 elections. Under Campora the government implemented its concessions to the revolutionary sector of the Peronist movement. Among these was the gradual institution of general amnesty for the guerrillas and the re-establishing of diplomatic relations with socialist countries.

The reformist character of the Campora government served to create enthusiasm among the masses and to a certain extent to divert these from the path taken as result of El Cordobazo. Soon after Campora's election, he resigned the presidency preparing the way for the return of Peron to power. On the 20th of June of 1973 Peron returned to Argentina and that same day as the masses of people went to the airport to welcome him a contingent of revolutionary Peronist was ambushed along the way by the right wing forces within the Peronist movement. The massacre left dozens dead and wounded and unmasked the reactionary character of powerful sectors within the FREJULI front.

The aging leader of his movement, Peron, died soon after his return to power and the presidency passed in 1974 to his inept wife Isabel with the real power of government lying in the military and the Peronist Minister of Social Welfare Jose Lopez Rega whom among his characteristics is an admitted admiration for Hitler and Mussolini. Under Lopez Rega's direction, the plan of "complete extermination" of the guerrillas and "subversives within the Peronist Movement" was placed in effect. Incapable of carrying this plan to success, due to the growth and support of the armed revolutionary movements by the peoples of Argentina, Lopez Rega was expelled from the country by the military who proceed to remove Isabel from the presidency and once again assume direct control over Argentinian society. This time under the leadership of Jorge Videla perhaps the most blood thirsty of all the military regimes in recent Argentinian history.

GRAVE CONSEQUENCES OF PERONISM AND THE POLITICS OF REFORMISM

Above we have presented aspects of the historical developments which have led to the present conditions in Argentina. Far from categoric statements this admitted partial descriptions of important factors in Argentinian society nevertheless serve as basis for a necessary analysis of the forces involved in the struggle for national and social revolution in Argentina, and to a certain extent Latin America. At this time, based on our limited knowledge about that experience we recognize that in a historical moment, Peron, and his movement, Peronism, represented a progressive movement with anti-imperialist characteristics. It united the working class which played a pivotal in the struggle against the oligarchy, these were significant accomplishments of Peronism that served as basis for the development of real class consciousness among the Argentinian masses. Nevertheless Peronism attempted to conciliate class contradictions both within the Peronist movement and within Argentinian society, in this respect Peronism was in essence a populist movement whose origins rest on bourgeois ideology. The social and economic reforms implemented during Peron's first terms in power brought the almost total support of the working class to his government which proceeded to establish organizational forms among the labor movement which is positive in that it guaranteed the unity of the working class also guaranteed the control of the labor movement by the Peronist government whose program did not include changes in the capitalist forms of production. This control by Peron, the dependency on parliament for the gains of the masses, coupled with the established "alliance" with the military and sectors of the bourgeoisie, and the efforts of U.S. imperialism have proven to be costly to the working class and impoverished masses of Argentina. Yet the lessons of history have not been lost on the peoples of Argentina, including the revolutionary sector of the Peronist movement, the courageous struggle being waged in Argentina particularly since 1969, and the growth and popular support for its armed vanguards such as the MONTONEROS and the Marxist-Leninist ERP-PRT attest to this reality.

On August 22, 1972 in a military prison near the town of Trelew, Argentina, 15 prisoners were murdered by the military forces of Argentina. The victims were all members of three revolutionary organizations in Argentina - ERP, FAR, and MONTONEROS - , the event is known as the "Trelew Massacre".

Honoring their memory, and all the combatants that have fallen in the struggle for Argentina's liberation, the anti-imperialist organization - MASA - will show the films,

LA PATRIA FUSILADA AND MIGUEL ENRIQUEZ

There will also be a discussion on the present situation of Argentina

DATE: Saturday, August 21, 1976

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

PLACE: CASA DE LAS AMERICAS

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ERP (cont.)

greater combative fervor, they open their hearts and minds to the revolutionaries, trust their word and their actions, and await from them the principles of organization so as to take on a long and difficult road to victory: prolonged resistance.

REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITY

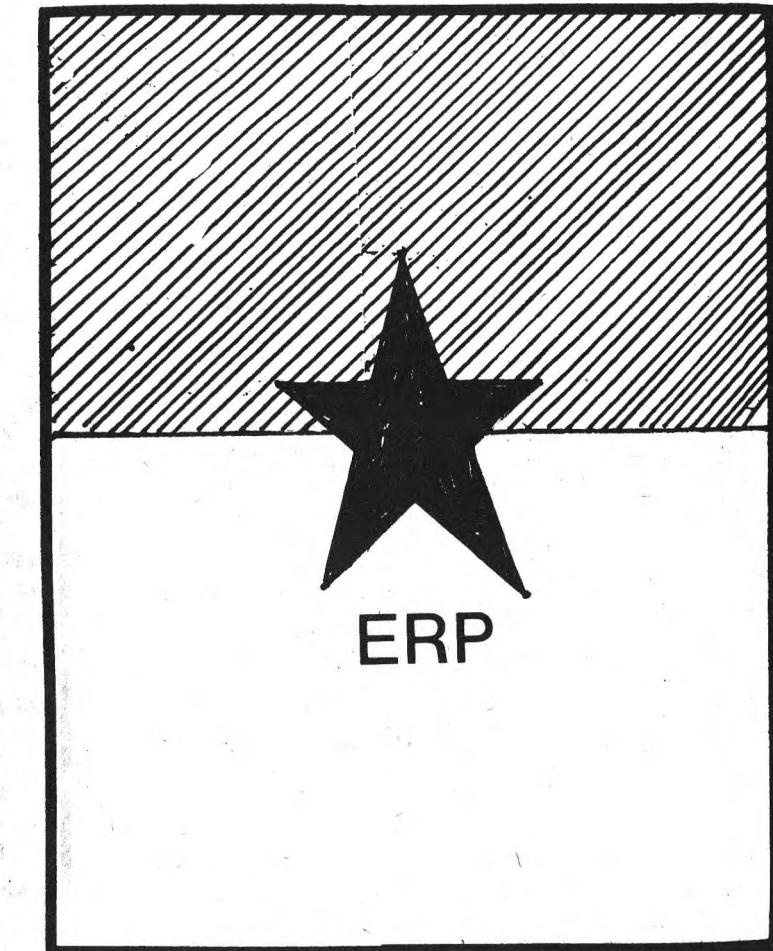
Within that framework, the presence and activity of revolutionaries among the masses constitutes the basic element and of fundamental importance to guarantee the development and acceleration of the process of struggle we are currently undergoing.

ORGANIZE, ORGANIZE, ORGANIZE is the slogan of the moment. Organize the economic struggle, organize the political struggle and organize the military struggle, organize from the bottom, from the base, the workers and popular resistance through clandestine commissions and committees, organize the new fighters and activists, who full of faith and vigour are making up for those who were lost due to repression; organize the vanguard incorporating the best elements to the party; organize the just revolutionary violence of the masses in self-defense and in the units of its guerrilla army. This is the gigantic task that awaits the revolutionaries and the demand of the masses.

It is a complex task, requiring efforts and sacrifices, energy and determination. But the perspectives to carry it forward are justifiable, scientific and correct. Politics -revolutionary politics- is the pivot around which popular expectations rotate. It is the guiding thread that amasses the will to resist of thousands and millions of Argentinians. This is the thirst of the masses for politics. There is a craving in the masses for the organizational proposals and for the denunciations by the revolutionaries; there is trust in the guerrilla forces; there is the desire to struggle and there is the need to organize to fight. This political uprise is clearly expressed in the extraordinary welcome for revolutionary propaganda agitation and revolutionary action by the people. Each newspaper, each leaflet that goes into a factory finds dozens of passionate readers; each armed action is received with joy, with live proof of sympathy and allegiance. It is in the continuity and extension of the revolutionary activity, in the strength, energy and consolidation of the party and Popular Army, that we find the key to the triumph of the proletarian cause. The ideology of the working class, the ideology of the exploited is transformed into a powerful material force when it is adopted by the masses, is united to organization, and the teachings of Marxism-Leninism. And it is through organization that the revolutionaries will achieve a faster and more efficient accumulation of forces, will achieve the channeling of the rebellion and the hatred of the masses into powerful mobilizations, into a new and more formidable uprise of the struggles, into a quicker general mobilization for the war. Revolutionary activity in a fertile soil, with the masses ready for struggle, is the motor that regulates the rhythm of unchained process of war in Argentina. When the counter revolutionary armed forces forcefully took power in 1966, the masses, lacking effective revolutionary direction and after heroic open reactions that were smashed by the military, such as sugar strikes in Tucuman, the struggle of the dock workers in Buenos Aires etc, they needed two years to react massively

and begin an un-interrupted offensive; today, confronted with a more ferocious and bloody dictatorship than before, this period will be substantially abbreviated. Why? Because our people have matured in the heat of the great anti-dictatorial struggles and those it lived previously, they have gained strength and knowledge, experience and trust, and further more because now our people have the tools of struggle which although incipient, are a solid base for firm development; it counts with a Party of struggle endowed with the correct political line, of a guerrilla army still small but strong, that operates in the cities and countryside and surrounded by the love and active support of the masses.

To unite closely with the masses, double the armed and non-armed propaganda, show a firm and continuous agitation, antagonize the enemy with the audacity and hurt him in his most vulnerable areas with efficiency and veracity, organize the resistance and unite the scattered and isolated forces are unpostponable tasks that are of utmost importance to begin carrying out now, to shorten the periods between the next outburst of the open struggle of the masses and the anti-dictatorial outburst that will inevitably occur. To hold on to the masses, live with them, learn from them, blend with them. This is the first and primary condition for the execution of the historical mission of all revolutionaries. Only so will we be able to prepare ourselves and prepare the people for a prolonged effort.



SANTUCHO (cont.)

Argentina), donde el imperialismo Norteamericano y las clases dominantes son incapaz de mantener su dominio en la "vieja forma" y substituyen estas con brutales dictaduras militares intentando destruir el creciente avance de la ola revolucionaria y el proceso concientizante entre las masas oprimidas de la America Latina. Ademas, enfocamos en la Argentina como ejemplo del desarrollo de esa nueva ola de revolucionarios Latino Americanos cuyas formaciones reflejan lo mas alto de la moral revolucionaria, integridad, compromiso de lucha, y pensamientos internacionalistas que deben ser internalizados y emulados por todo revolucionario.

P.R. EN LA O.U cont.

dos decadas, en particular los ultimos años, se han desarrollado una serie de revoluciones sociales a traves de las cuales un creciente numero de naciones han logrado su independencia y soberania despues de largas y heroicas luchas. Son precisamente estas naciones soberanas, quienes en epochas previas sufrieron bajo el yugo imperialista, las que en estos momentos dirigen el movimiento de apoyo y solidaridad con Puerto Rico. Dentro de este contexto, la Cuba Revolucionaria en función dirigente de este movimiento reafirma una vez mas los lazos históricos que unen al pueblo Cubano con la hermana isla de Puerto Rico.

La incorporación de estas naciones, y a su lado las naciones socialistas quienes consequentemente han apoyado las luchas de las colonias por su liberación, han transformado radicalmente el panorama internacional en beneficio de la lucha de liberacion nacional de Puerto Rico. Estas naciones muy bien pueden constituir un pilar de apoyo a la lucha por la liberacion nacional y el socialismo en Puerto Rico.

LA ONU -- LIMITACIONES HISTORICAS

Al reconocer la importancia de este foro internacional, al igual que la de cualquier otro foro internacional, tambien debemos reconocer sus limitaciones, evitando en el proceso caer en ilusiones y evitar las graves consecuencias que como resultado se puedan dar. Como en previas ocasiones, señalamos una vez mas el caso de la Republica Dominicana, el Congo, Biafra, Vietnam, las colonias Portuguesas Chile Palestina, etc. En cada una de estas situaciones las fuerzas imperialistas violaron todo tipo de "leyes internacionales" y "censuras", en particular aquellas de las Naciones Unidas. Al respecto, el elevar las luchas diplomaticas que se están llevando acabo en la ONU a niveles estratégicos, y como consecuencia, poner fe en la "legalidad internacional" segun han expresado algunos dentro del movimiento de liberación nacional, es obviar las leyes de la historia y las lecciones que nos ofrecen aquellos pueblos que han logrado su liberación nacional. Ejemplos claros a seguir nos los ofrecen las luchas de los pueblos de Indo-China, y mas reciente aun, el pueblo de Angola; la liberación de Puerto Rico será lograda como resultado del esfuerzo decidido de su pueblo bajo la dirección de su vanguardia revolucionaria en movilización militante hacia resolver las contradicciones internas (a nivel nacional) con el apoyo de movimientos progresistas y revolucionarios de otros pueblos. Entendiendo que las victorias diplomáticas en la esfera internacional permiten que se amplien las campañas de agitación y propaganda, tanto a nivel nacional como internacional, el movimiento de liberación nacional no debe hacerse ilusiones ni intentar substituir la diplomacia por revolución.

TODOS A LA ONU

Reconociendo los elementos positivos y negativos de la ONU, nuestro movimiento, EL COMITE-MINP, apoya y se une a los esfuerzos que sectores del movimiento de liberación nacional, con el apoyo de otras fuerzas progresistas y revolucionarias en los E.U., desarrollan para exponer el status colonial de Puerto Rico y en denuncia del imperialismo yanki. Ademas, una delegación de nuestro movimiento proyecta visitar representantes del Comité de Descolonización durante las próximas semanas con el objetivo de discutir con ellos el caso de Puerto Rico y las proximas discusiones de dicho comité. Hacemos un llamamiento a nuestros amigos y simpatizantes, al igual que a todas las fuerzas progresistas en los E.U. para que apoyen los esfuerzos de movilización y apoyo del movimiento de liberación nacional de Puerto Rico, y que se unan bajo la consigna de "GUERRA Y MUERTE AL IMPERIALISMO".