

Peoples'



Tribune

"The Communist's ideal should not be a trade-union secretary, but a tribune of the people, able to react to every manifestation of tyranny and oppression." Lenin

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MAY 1969

MAY DAY 1969

No Jobs for Black and Brown Workers

FEWER APPRENTICESHIPS FOR BLACK AND BROWN WORKERS IN CALIFORNIA

If a worker is interested in getting a decent job, making more money or improving his working conditions or job security, he must increase the number of technical skills he has to offer. For most workers the only practical way to get such training is through some form of on-the-job training. To get training for many jobs such as carpenter, pipe-fitter, mason, etc., a worker must gain admission to and complete an apprenticeship program.

THE FACTS

A recent study conducted by the California Department of Industrial Relations shows that on Jan. 1, 1968, there were about 20,600 workers in apprenticeship programs in the state of California. Of this 20,600 only 1600 were Mexican-Americans and just 515 were Negroes. These figures show that from 1965 to 1968 the number of black workers in apprenticeship programs dropped 14% while the proportion of Mexican Americans dropped 17%. All the figures for 1968 are not in yet, but the same trend continued during the year.

From the time of the Watts Rebellion until now the government and the big corporations have made thousands of promises about creating new job opportunities for minority workers. These promises placed a lot of weight on the importance of apprenticeship programs. The facts show that these promises are hollow. Examples: Only 2.5% of Californians' 26,000 apprentices were Negroes in Jan. 1, 1968 compared to 2.9% on Jan. 1, 1965. Only 3.1% of the apprentices were Mexican Americans compared to 9.9% three years earlier. Twenty-six of the states' 58 counties have no Negro apprentices at all. While 29 have no Mexican American apprentices. Fifteen crafts have no black apprentices at all, and nine others have less than 1%. In San Francisco black workers make up only 6.9% of the city's apprentices, but they make up more than 14% of the total population. With a few exceptions the apprenticeship programs in which black and



May 1 or May Day started in 1886 in Chicago and other cities of the U.S. as a day of general strike and struggle for the 8 hour day. It soon became international in scope and workers round the world poured out of their factories to make political demands for their class. During its 80 odd year existence May Day came to mean the day when workers and revolutionaries throughout the world review the preceding year's struggle against capitalism and imperialism and map out the coming year's war against exploitation and oppression.

May Day 1969 finds the revolutionary movement in the world and in the U.S. in an excellent situation. Hopefully May Day 1970 will find the working class of the U.S. in a position to demonstrate its real strength and join together large sections of black, brown and white workers around the common goals of an end to imperialist racist oppression and capitalist exploitation.

The following is an attempt to point out what we feel is the pressing problems of the revolutionary movement in California and particularly L.A.

Today in the U.S. the working class is face to face with fascist reality. No longer can anyone sit back and discuss the fascist danger. Black school kids are being attacked in the streets by armed cops for demanding a meaningful education, as in the Carver High (Junior) incident in L.A. and in Chicago at Crane High School.

Wilmington Delaware has been under martial law for almost a year, with the National Guard patrolling the streets. Students at Harvard, no less, have been attacked by cops, for demanding an end to the militaristic program of ROTC. The big craft unions have become as one Harvard professor aptly put it, "an integral part of the military-industrial complex."

New York City and Chicago police authorities made hundreds of "preventive arrests" to avoid disturbances on the anniversary of the killing of Dr. Martin Luther King. Black and brown workers are being shot down in the streets, by police departments who have orders to shoot to kill. It's hard to find any worker, especially working class youth who hasn't been to jail or been harassed or beaten by the cops.

Tens of millions of people are going hungry while the imperialist chiefman Nixon, cuts back on almost all aspects of welfare programs while he puts forth a \$8 thousand million (dollar) program for ABM.

The control over the people by the state is growing day by day. The courts are handing down stiff sentences to all political dissenters. The jails are overflowing with working class "criminals", particularly the black and brown minorities. As inflation mounts and the taxes keep rising, the corporations with the aid of the state and the courts are attacking

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Revisionism vs. Revolution

Everyone can see that today the revolutionary working class movement is again on the rise. Millions of people are questioning the possibility of peacefully changing capitalist imperialism. Millions more are actively organizing to struggle with imperialism, especially American imperialism. Tens of millions of people throughout Africa, Asia and Latin America are taking up arms to liberate their nations, free their class and establish democracy.

WHICH ROAD FOR REVOLUTIONARIES?

The great question facing the millions who are fighting for democracy is this: Which road to take? The road of Marxism-Leninism which is summed up as the thought of Mao Tse Tung, or the opposite road, revisionism? This question is basic. Every person who calls himself a revolutionist is in one of two camps. If he is in the category of Marxism-Leninism he sides with the forces of revolution headed by the great Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of China. Even if the person considers himself a revolutionary and is in the camp headed by the Soviet Union, opposes China and Leninism he is objectively a revisionist-objectively a counter-revolutionary.

MARKISM-LENINISM IN CHINA

The working class state of Peoples China has held tightly to Marxism-Leninism. They overthrew the old colonial China. They educated the masses of Chinese peasants. They developed a modern industry and agriculture. They created the world's most powerful Army. They defeated the American imperialists in Korea, proving that a former colonial colored people could defeat the powerful imperialists. By hard work, political unity and a Marxist-Leninist line, the masses fought and won the Cultural Revolution. The Cultural Revolution was the second stage of the Chinese workers revolution. It was a general mass counter attack against the counter revolutionaries who were trying to seize power. The result was that a great deal of state power was taken over by the masses of people, and socialism has been advanced to an entirely new stage.

SOVIET REVISIONISM

On the other hand, the Soviet State was seized by revisionists. This was done by an armed Coup shortly after the death of Stalin. Under the revisionists, the Soviet Union was transformed from a revolutionary state into a counter revolutionary state. The goal of these revisionists was to enter into partnership with the imperialist USA. They believe that these two powerful states could exploit the whole world and none would dare oppose them. (How quickly they forgot the lessons of Hitler and Tojo). The crimes of the revisionists in control of the Soviet Union have been many and bloody. They betrayed the revolution in Iran, they assisted in overthrowing the peoples government in Iraq. They betrayed the revolutionary state of The Congo and assisted in the murder of Lumumba. They assisted in overthrowing the Indonesian Government and slaughtering the revolutionaries. They assist India in attacking China.

They assist The USA in attempting to subject China. They limit the arms shipments to Vietnam, and have forced the Vietnamese to deal with the fascist regime in Saigon. Everywhere, the Soviet Union talks revolution, but they oppose revolution. They talk against US imperialism but actually are smuggling up tighter and tighter with them.

BETRAYAL OF CPUSA

Here in the USA, the Communist Party is a reflection of the leadership of the Soviet Union. From the early 1920's until the early 1950's the communist party of USA was the vanguard of the working class. It was the main party of the Negro people. It was the leading force in the struggle to organize the Unions. The present wave of struggle of the Negro people has as its base the great struggles of the 1930's led by the CP. The Scottsborough Case opened the path for truly mass struggles. The National Negro Congress, led by black Communists raised and popularized the slogan 'Self-determination for the Negro people'. In the past, Millions of black and white workers have loved and defended the CP USA, as the party of revolution. After the 16th Convention of the Party (1952), the revisionists gained control of the Party. They set about transforming the Party from revolution to counter revolution. The very first step was to transform it from a party of the workers to a party of the middle class. The Party has deceived millions of black and white workers by supporting and popularizing the integration fraud. They presented the butchers Kennedy and Johnson as 'good' and 'peaceful' men. At the basis of all the betrayal is the policy of class collaboration. Very simply that policy is to find 'common ground' and 'common interests' between the masters and the slaves, between the workers and the capitalists, between the colonials and the imperialists. In order to carry out this policy, the revisionists everywhere back middle class liberals and oppose black and white workers leading the struggle for peace and democracy and Socialism.

THE ROOTS OF BETRAYAL

How is it possible for such a world wide betrayal to take place? The answer lies in the fact that the betrayal was made from within the Communist and workers parties. These parties has a real revolutionary history and was trusted by millions to lead them in the struggle. The change from Marxism-Leninism to revisionism did not 'just happen'. Nor did it happen all at once. It is absolutely necessary that the masses of people understand what revisionism is, where it comes from and what are the tactics to be used to defeat it. Without such knowledge, the revolutionary movement in America cannot go forward.

THE SOCIAL ROOTS OF REVISIONISM

No person thinks 'his own' thoughts. We get our thoughts and understanding from other people and the world around us. Therefore all thoughts follow class lines: To fight or beg?

To work or cheat our way? To organize or go it alone? To fight for equality for all, or for privilege for a few? To struggle for or against exploitation? These questions, and all questions and therefore all political policies are based in class thinking.

MARKISM-LENINISM--HEART OF THE WORKING CLASS

Marxism-Leninism is the very heart of working class thinking. Marxism-Leninism gathers together all the experiences of the workers, sums it up and gives it back to the workers as theory. Marxism-Leninism is objective, scientific, and yet it is partisan on the side of the workers. It is hostile to any attempts to reconcile or find common interests between the workers and the capitalists who exploit them. Marxism-Leninism proves that 'revolutions are the locomotives of history' and that history cannot go forward without progressive classes overthrow-

ing reactionary classes. Marxism-Leninism is the science and art of revolution, of the liberation of the oppressed nations and peoples. It is the science of the construction of a world without war and exploitation.

WORKERS SURROUNDED BY ENEMIES

If the working class lived in a vacuum, then there would be no danger of corrupting the policies and ideology of the working class. Every worker and every workers movement would have a wholesome and pure outlook. The working class does not live in a vacuum. The class and its political movements are surrounded by enemy classes is much more powerful than the propaganda of the working class. This is true because the propaganda of the enemy is much older and therefore much more familiar to the people. Enemy propaganda is better organized, more wide spread and more deeply entrenched. Therefore, we must realize that enemy propaganda has quite an effect on the workers, especially in the times of relative class peace. Also, millions of small business men, professionals and farmers are being ruined financially and are forced into the working class. When these elements enter the working class, they bring with them all the capitalist thought and ideology they had in their former lives. Furthermore, careerists-professional disrupters, professional scabs are constant-

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The political paper of the
California Communist League

May Day

strikes and efforts to organize workers throughout the country.

In foreign policy Nixon is ruthlessly pursuing the war of aggression in Vietnam. He is aggressively carrying out the imperialist policy of economic enslavement of the colonies and semi-colonies. He is pushing forward the design of the American imperialists and Soviet revisionists to divide the world into 2 spheres of influence and isolate Socialist China.

On this May Day we can also look over the past year and see the unmistakable signs of a growing world revolutionary movement.

The heroic Vietnamese people are steadily pounding at the U.S. aggressor troops. Revolutionary China is erecting a great wall of steel against Soviet revisionist invasion of Chinese territory and defeating revisionism on all fronts. The revolutionary forces are developing with tremendous force in almost every corner of the world. In India, Pakistan, Thailand, Palestine, Italy and many other developed and colonial countries, the people are taking to the streets and dealing blows to their own reactionary authorities and the American Imperialists, in spite of the fact that in most of these countries the revisionist communist parties are pushing for "peaceful transition".

In the U.S. we are witnessing perhaps the largest radicalization and political awakening of the masses of the people since the thirties.

The black liberation movement is vigorously pushing forward, both in ideological and political awareness. The student movement is reaching the point which will separate the "reformers" from the revolutionaries. The breath of anti-war sentiment is rapidly broadening and its roots are sinking deeply into the working class. The labor movement is simmering at the bottom and in places is breaking through the legal and moral stranglehold the bureaucratic union leadership has on it.

In short the spontaneous struggle against imperialism is erupting and rearing its head in almost all aspects of American political and economic life, particularly around the imperialist war and its accompanying militarization of society and the national colonial question, both in the Negro nation itself and in the minorit areas in the north and west.

The California Communist League believes that the coming year will be decisive in establishing Marxism-Leninism as the guiding thought of these spontaneous movements of the masses against the growing fascist repression.

We feel that this can be done only by the difficult and arduous task of bringing together the scattered groups of revolutionaries and Marxist-Leninist, on the basis of principled unity and a common struggle against the imperialists.

Long Live May Day

Long Live Marxism-Leninism--
the Thought of Mao-Tse-Tung

Long Live The American
Proletarian Revolution

SOVIET UNION attacks CHINA

CCL CONDEMNS BACK STABBING VIOLATIONS OF CHINA BORDER

Troops from the Soviet Union have violated Chinese territory and killed Chinese soldiers on many occasions since 1964. Recently, these illegal border crossings have become major armed attacks by thousands of Soviet troops.

On March 2nd a large scale attack was launched against the Chinese people in Hulin County, Heilung Kiang Province, China. This attack violated the commonly recognized border between the USSR and China. Since March 2 the phony leaders of the Soviet Union have hit China with several major attacks. The Peoples' Liberation Army has fought back bravely and severe losses were suffered by the Soviet invaders.

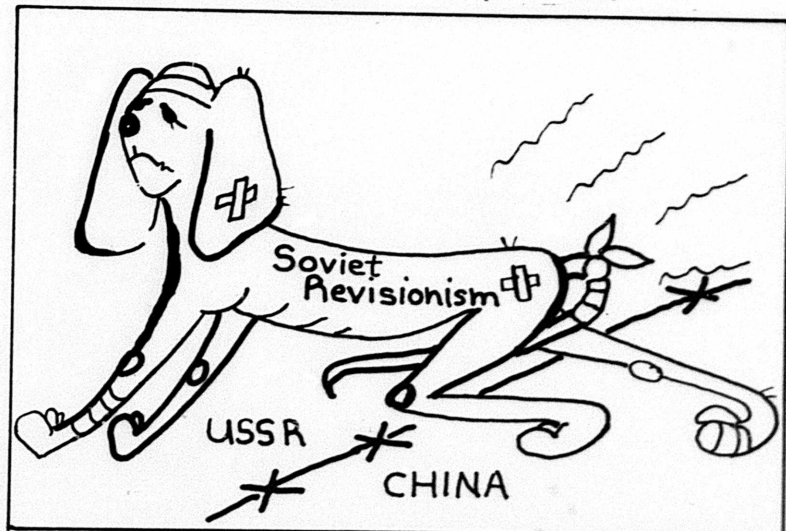
These armed attacks plus other acts of aggression and provocation against the Chinese people have been carried out on a growing scale. The ruling renegade clique of the Soviet Union ordered these attacks for several reasons. They want the masses of the Soviet Union to fear the Chinese people. The Soviet revisionists must attempt this trick in order to deceive the Soviet masses and keep them from uniting with the Chinese people and the revolutionary peoples of the world. Soviet revisionists attacked China in an attempt to hide their own sell-out of all revolutionary principles. These rulers also want to hide the fact that they have restored capitalism and fattened the old roots of class privilege in the Soviet Union. They have attacked in the East to divert attention from their social imperialist attacks and rotten communist parties in the West. But most importantly, this small ruling gang wants to cover the obvious fact that they have joined with United States imperialism in opposing genuine revolutionary movements throughout the world.

Together the two giant counter-revolutionary snakes of the world are plotting the encirclement and destruction of the great Chinese revolution. They are working together in trying to force the brave workers and peasants of Vietnam to lay down their arms and surrender their freedom. Everywhere the mad dogs of the U.S. and the Soviet Union are competing in the race to oppress and exploit the toiling masses of the world.

The ruling bandits in both the United States and the Soviet Union must be ranked one - two in the world counter-revolutionary league. Along with their imperialist competitors (like Germany and Japan) they have very few cards left to play; they are in deep trouble and they know it. That's why they are falling back on their heavy stuff. With each passing day they are forced to attack more violently the revolutionary struggles that are breaking out in almost every country of the world.

The U.S. imperialists and their Soviet clique are both under fire from the outside and the inside. It is only a matter of time before the developing economic crisis and the Negro Liberation Struggle will produce open class warfare and cripple ruling class power in the United States. In the Soviet Union the deception of the masses cannot continue much longer. The working people of the USSR have a very great and recent history of revolutionary struggle. They have not forgotten the meaning of democracy nor the power of collective struggle. The desire to return power to the people of the Soviet Union is spreading.

The days of the counter-revolution are numbered. Indeed, Chairman Mao Tse Tung has pointed out that "the time is not far off when all the aggressors in the world will be buried together with their running dogs. There is no escape for them."



SOVIET AGGRESSOR, RUNNING DOG OF U.S. IMPERIALISTS
LICKS ITS WOUNDS AS THE COURAGEOUS CHINESE PEOPLE'S
ARMY DEFEATS THE LIES OF THE SOVIET REVISIONISTS

Southern Calif. Union Struggles

In the Southern California area there has been four major strikes; the Delano grape strike, Herald Examiner strike, the Harvey strike, and the recently settled oil strike. Each strike is an example of the growing contradiction between the collusion of big industry and government on one hand and the working class elements that make up the strikes, particularly the national minority workers on the other hand. As each strike is settled to almost the complete advantage of the ruling class, we must study the reasons why strikes are not being won against the growing offensive of big business against labor. We must look at the way in which the companies use all of the oppressive tools created by this fast growing fascist state against labor. This article brings forward some of the tactical reasons why the working class is losing its battle to gain better economic conditions under the present union structure.

DELANO GRAPE STRIKE

For over three and one half years the migrant farm workers of Southern California, primarily Mexican-Americans, have waged a strike against the California grape growers. Nine wine companies have submitted to union contracts, but the majority of table grape growers are still holding out. One of the biggest reasons why the strike is not and can not be won is because of the type of leadership in control of the strike. These leaders and the head organizers were trained, and sponsored by the California Migrant Ministry. Their role was exclusively reformist and opportunist; they advocated a non-violent approach, a boycott, coated thickly with a religious cover. Caesar Chavez leader of the strike stated after his 25 day fast, "I undertook this fast because my heart was filled with grief and pain for the sufferings of farm workers. The Fast was first for me and then for all of us in this union. It was a fast for non-violence and a call to sacrifice." He goes on "I am convinced that the truest act of courage, the strongest act of manliness is to sacrifice ourselves for others in a totally non-violent struggle for justice. To be a man is to suffer for others. God help us be men." With this type of "militant leadership" what kind of goals or political struggle can be waged against an enemy that uses violence for settling all its problems today.

This type of leadership can only lead to one concession after another for the grape strikers and other union members. The leadership interest has never been that of attacking this state, or getting at the root cause of the farm workers problems. The very people they have turned to for help RFA, AFL-CIO, etc. are the ones who support the growers with legislation, money, police, national guards and the rest of

the state apparatus. The leadership merger with the AFL-CIO put the strike in the hands of the professional hatchetmen for the state. The farm workers have turned to the very people who help keep them enslaved.

If these crimes of the leadership are not enough you have only to look at the strike three years ago, see who struggled in it then, and then look at it today. In the first six months many militants, Communists, and other left wing elements manned the picket lines, raised money and food, and got arrested from L.A. to San Francisco, only to be purged by the pure all-American leadership. It seems that whenever the liberals are in trouble they ask the left for help and when they get their heads above water they push the left out of the scene. Although there are negative sides to the Delano strike, there are also some positive and important things that have come from the strike. It has helped to teach many workers who the real enemy is. It has developed some basic understanding in the need for organizing, and uniting with other movements that are fighting against the same enemy. In addition it has shown us the development of an open fascist labor front organization.

This open fascist labor organization is made up of John Birch Society members and the Growers Association. They have united to set up fake unions, that represent the interest of the ruling class. These unions are used against the Farm workers strikes, and serve the growers by recruiting membership and then have them work the fields that are being struck. The organizing of scabs, and recruiting of laborers to be scabs into a labor organization show us clearly how far the Growers can and are willing to go. It is important for us to follow the development of this type of Fascist labor organization.


HERALD EXAMINER STRIKE

The appearance of an open fascist labor organization goes right along with the fascist like lockout being conducted in Los Angeles by Hearst and the Herald Examiner. Hearst one of the most reactionary members of the ruling class, has launched an

offensive against the working class. He is so secure in his position because he knows that the Federal, state and local governments are going to let him do things the way he wants. Within the plant the bosses have used 'working management', and scab labor protected by the police to keep the paper coming out daily. The police and courts also have their role in defeating the strike; the courts pass the injunctions and the cops escort the scabs, in the lockout tactic. The union leadership has refused for 16 months to take any type of action other than TV, radio, and small two-man picket lines in trying to force Hearst to the negotiation tables. Instead of taking militant action and believing in the strength that can come from the workers themselves, the union leadership has turned to the "good public relations image, of clean cup Americans who would never think of closing down a mans business." But even the more conservative leadership will call for the "left" when he knows that the strike is all but lost. Report a leading member of the strike committee has now gone to the left wing groups in L.A. for help, but its too little and too late. The leaderships refusal to break injunctions or to take any type of militant action has been a large contributing factor in breaking of the Guild and the locals on strike.

The Herald strike gives us a good lesson in the division of the working class. Today most of the scabs in the plants are national minorities. Hearst has recruited from Watts, Texas, and other minority people to work the plant. When the strikers approached these scabs to try and explain what the strike was all about they had a difficult time explaining why there are only a few Negroes in the union out of 2000 members. The scabs walked right on by the picketers into the plants. If we look at the eleven locals on strike we will see that the union leadership, and rank in file support the excluding of the national minorities. The Anglo workers have come to believe that the blacks,

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CHINA

Books & Periodicals

**QUOTATIONS FROM
MAO TSE-TUNG**

MILITARY WRITINGS

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and brown threaten their jobs, therefore they have excluded them from the union and work in the industry. Now that they are on strike and these minority people are scabbing on them they have realized to a degree the mistake they have made. Hearst sat back and helped the unions keep the minorities out of the plants, and then when he needed them he went into the community and showed these people how the union was the real enemy, and that it was alright to scab on the union.

HARVEY ALUMINUM STRIKE, TORRANCE CALIFORNIA

The corrupt labor leadership seems to effect all of the major strikes in the area. A classical example is the Harvey strike in Torrance. The leadership of the union has called less than three meetings for the membership in the four months the strike has been on. They have kept ninety per-cent of the membership ignorant of what the strike is all about. The issues that the union is demanding have not even been published or distributed to the membership. The membership can not find out even the basis for the strike. They call the president of the local and she says that she doesn't have time to talk, and if they want to find out something come to the next meeting. When they did have the two meetings for the membership either the hall was too small or arranged so that over half of the membership could not hear or see what was going on. This type of disorganization can only aid Harvey and the company. It seems that the leaders of the union are working in the best interests of the employers. The most obvious fault of the union leadership is their disorganization and refusal to inform the membership on what is happening.

The courts have forced the union to accept an injunction which limits the number of picketers to two on each gate. They have also given heavy sentences to anyone found disrupting production at the plant. The union leadership has reacted to these injunctions and sentences by warning the membership to 'act right or else'. Three years ago when an injunction was issued against the Harvey strikers for about the same reasons, a group of two hundred rank and filers ignored the injunction and set up mass picket lines that kept the scabs from entering the plant. Although the police came out to beat heads and jail a large

number of men and women the company knew that these workers meant business. The main issue then and now is wages and working conditions. Harvey is the fifth largest Aluminum producer in the country, yet they pay 50 cents to a dollar below the top four aluminum plants.

A particularly interesting aspect of the Harvey strike is the use of scabs. In all striking plants scabs are usually recruited from the black or brown communities. In the Harvey plant management has done much of their recruiting of scabs from the Cuba refugees. Most of the

women scabs are either Cuban, Mexican or Negro. These non-English speaking employees know little about an aluminum plant, and in turn the injury rate is high. Harvey doesn't care about injuries only production.

It is not all one side, the rank in file is not standing still. While the leadership is tied in closely with the company many different forms of fight back have taken place around the Harvey strike. In the past months the rank and file has begun to fight back. The fightback has come in the form of beating scabs, also numerous fire bombings of scab homes in the Harbor area have been reported. The militancy of the workers is of a high caliber, but their disorganization which stems from the union leaderships disorganization leaves the membership with little to fight with. If fighting Harvey and the corrupt leadership was not enough, the courts, police and scabs make a pretty tight case for the employers insuring their victory.

OIL STRIKE

In reviewing the Oil strike that was recently settled we can see many strikers beginning to see the relationship between Labor and Capital. The big companies are on the one hand trying to make a large profit off the working man, and the laborers on the other hand are demanding a better wage and better working conditions. The oil industry is one of the richest in the world. The American Oil interest controls between 60 and 80% of the oil in the world. From Egypt to Latin America, and down into Africa, American interest in oil is the dominating force. With this reserve of capital the Oil companies can afford to wage an active battle to break organized labor. The strikers were only asking for a 73 cents increase over a three year period. The strikers were up against not only money but the whole American system that represents big business has lined up along side their bosses: Richfield, Texaco, Shell, Gulf, Mobile and the rest of the rich capitalist clique. The main tactic these companies have employed has been buying off the union leadership, dividing the industry, forcing locals to sign separate contracts, the use of cops, and finally getting injunctions limiting the amount of picketers on the line. An example of how effective the companies were in this past strike was when all the unions went out together, but after two weeks, more than half the locals had gone back to work and so put the burden of the fight on the remaining locals. Shell and Texaco here in L.A. area lasted the longest. The employer gave the first locals that went back nearly all of their demands, after the employer had divided the locals by putting some of them back to work, then went to work wearing down the other locals. The Shell strikers were the last to go back to work but went back under the same contract that they had before the strike.

The Texaco strikers here in the Harbor area did produce one important development. The Texaco plant had 600 workers.

When they went on strike only one returned to scab while the strike was on. From the beginning and before the strike the membership was dissatisfied with the leadership. The strike brought these feelings to a head and certain members pushed for a rank and file committee to help conduct the strike. By the end of the strike the official leaders were just "figure heads" and the real power was in the hands of the committee. When the employer tried to divide the workers by calling only the black workers and offering them 73 cents plus, to come back to work, the committee contacted all the members of the local, and in turn stopped the attempted division of the workers. Although most of the oil locals did not get much from the strike, some of the locals like Texaco learned a good lesson from the strike. One Texaco striker said, "We now know who our friends are and who we have to get rid of in this local, we're going to do a house cleaning when this strike is over."

These strikes can be important lessons to the working class for they show us the many tactics used by this state against labor.

In summarizing this article it becomes clear that there are certain similarities between all of the strikes. It seems that the two main tactics that are being used against the labouring masses by the Capitalist class are: 1. The reactionary union leadership, and 2. the unions help divide the working class, mainly through dividing the national minorities from the Anglo-American workers. Finally we have to see the different forms of fightback of the strikers against the corrupt labor leadership and the capitalist class.

Throughout this article we can see that in each of the strikes the union leadership plays a positive role only for the employers. The leadership in each strike has been the biggest factor holding back the union from achieving any type of victory against the employer. We ask ourselves why these leaders act the way they do. The answer lies in the fact that the trade union leadership today does not represent the working man's point of view or interest, but is tied in tightly with the capitalist class. What is the difference between a big businessman or executive and a big shot labor leader? There is little difference, they both drive big cars and have body guards, they live next to each other in the best part of town, they both get to travel at will, and they make their fortune off the organizations they represent, whether it be General Motors or AFL. The labor leadership is the most reactionary section of the working class movement. They are opportunist and out to make it off labor. If we were to stop here we would be leaving out the most important role of the big labor leader, and that is tying up labor for the ruling class. Meany, Reuther, Hall and the other big labor officials are the "labor Lieutenants" for this fascist state. They support the American wars of Imperialistic aggression against the peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and all they ask in return is a little

bigger piece of the pie. They support the U.S. in their super exploitation of the colonials and semi-colonial people, and aid in condemning any fightback of the people's liberation armies of the world.

These Labor leaders are the links between the labor movement and the ruling class. General Motors, or Standard Oil lives the orders, and these Labor Lieutenants crack the whips over the heads of the working class. It is obvious in all these strikes from the international to the local labor leadership the main concern is lining their pockets with gold.

The second most obvious trend in all four of these strikes is the question of the employer trying to divide the working class based on their race or nationality.

At one time it was enough to separate the workers based on skill or trade, but today we see again the separation of workers based on race and nationality. It seems that every time the capitalists exhaust all other means of dividing the working class they go back to the question of race. In the Harvey, Herald and Oil strikes we saw the attempt to use brown workers against white workers, and black workers against brown and white workers. This is as old as the labor movement itself. William Sylvia shows very clearly in his appeal for bringing Negroes into the National Labor Union in 1903, how the capitalists have always used race or nationality, as tactics to divide the working class. Here is a quote from his speech to they body, "Negroes are four million strong and a greater proportion of them labor with their hands than can be counted from among the same number of any people in the world. Can we afford to reject their proffered co-operation and make them enemies? By committing such an act of folly we would inflict greater injury upon the cause of labor reform than the combined efforts of capital could accomplish...So capitalist North and South would foment discord between the Whites and blacks and hurl one against the other as interest and occasion might require to maintain their ascendancy and continue the reign of oppression." It was shown clearly in 1903 and it is shown clearly in 1969 the tactic of dividing the working class by race or nationality has been the ace in the hole for the capitalist class. In future articles we will deal with this question in more detail.

Finally the question of the fightback of the working class must be considered. Throughout this article we have seen how the bosses and union leadership have tried to stifle any type of real struggle by the rank and file, but we have also seen in each of these strikes a certain kind of fight back. In the Harvey strike and Herald strike there has been numerous cases of terrorism against the company and the scabs, and a out-and-out defiance of the leadership. In the oil strike at Texaco a spontaneous organization of the rank-and-file into a committee was formed to combat the union leadership. In one form or another the working class finds ways of fighting back. Although this fight back is at a low level of organization it does indicate a growing dissatisfac-

tion with the corrupt labor leadership. It is important to note that as this Fascist labor front becomes more and more exposed and these traitorist leaders of the trade unions are labeled for what they are, the fightback of the working class will take on a new character which will begin to reorganize the working class into a broader type working class organization.

This is just the first in a series of articles on the question of labor. In the future we will try to deal with the different aspects of where the labor movement is at, and where it is going. Also, we will try to bring you up to date on strikes in the Los Angeles area.

REVISIONISM Cont. from page 2

ly being sent into the working class to disrupt and disorganize. These are the three main sources of revisionism. So we see, that revisionism isn't a wrong kind of working class politics. Revisionism is enemy politics that is smuggled into the working class movement. It is the conscious attempt of the enemy to revise Marxist-Leninism and turn it into a form of liberal capitalist politics.

REVISIONISM IS COUNTER-REVOLUTION

Once inside the working class, revisionism is presented as an ideology of the workers. Of course, this is not true. The revolution of October 1917 smashed forever the non-Marxist ideologies that develop within the working class. The enemy does not give up. Instead of openly fighting Marxism, they are making the effort to 'revivify' Marxism. They pretend to 'bring it up to date' to 'make it conform to the atomic age' etc. There is never a revisionism in favor of the workers. It is always in favor of capitalist class. Revisionism tries to tear the revolutionary rule out of Marxism-Leninism. It is the most dangerous form of counter revolution because it hides behind the mask of revolution. Revisionism has emerged as the vanguard of the counter revolutionary imperialists. As such it must be fought against. Within the United States the Communist Party is the main revisionist, counter revolutionary organization.

In the following issues of the PEOPLES TRIBUNE we will examine some of the most important attacks this class has made on revolutionary theory. We are convinced that real revolutionary theory is the prime consideration today for the growing revolutionary struggles as well as the individual workers who want to fight in a more effective way for their class.

(Cont. from page 1)

brown workers are fairly represented and those occupations that are low paying, dangerous or heavy. A few occupations with 10% or more blacks and brown workers in apprenticeship programs are cement masons, cooks and bakers, metal platers and truck mechanics. Some apprenticeship programs with 1% or less black and brown workers enrolled are auto-bartmen, millwrights, steel fabricators, tile setters, etc. Indeed, the facts show that the monopoly corporations and the government they control, have no intention of allowing a fair shake for minority workers when it comes to apprenticeship programs.

THE DISAPPEARING APPRENTICESHIP - A SIGN OF THE TIMES

The number of black and brown workers in apprenticeship programs is likely to get smaller in the next few years. There are powerful forces at work that are keeping minority workers out of apprenticeship programs. These forces are created by a capitalist system that can't produce a living for the world's people and the desperate struggle of the capitalist ruling classes to stay alive when they should be dead and buried.

In America for example, the big corporations must constantly produce more goods while increasing the productivity of their plants. This means that bigger and better machines must be invented and put to use every year. One result of this situation is unemployment. More computers and new machines mean fewer jobs. In America, fewer jobs mean increased competition

among the workers. Increased competition means white workers in and minority workers out.

This division of blacks and browns against whites is possible because the rulers (the monopoly capitalists) of America promote the idea that white skin is better than black. The rulers have sold this idea and they have held the Negro "Black Belt" Nation in chains. The black minority and to a certain extent the brown workers are also chained by their cultural and color ties with the Negro Nation. The chains of white revisionism have confined the minority workers to the lowest position on the social and economic ladder.

There are other forces that all to the general situation of forced unemployment and the oppression of the Negro Nation and the black and brown minorities. Inflation of the economy like we see in America today always leads to overproduction and eventually, an economic slow-down or complete collapse. This means that millions of American workers (including a large number of white workers) are likely to be out on the street in the next few years. Negro and minority workers will be the first to feel the pressure of this economic dry rot.

A wide range view of the situation in America shows that disappearing apprenticeships for minority workers are only a tiny sign of the times of a growing struggle between the people who own and control the wealth and the workers who produce that wealth. In the class struggle the forces that wipe out apprenticeships for minority workers also create voices demanding more apprenticeships for racist union leaders. The forces that oppress the Negro Nation force Negro and minority workers struggling for liberation. The forces that produce mass unemployment and lousy working conditions bring the opportunity for class conscious unity. Unity of blacks, browns, and whites against U.S. Imperialism. Unity in the continued revolutionary struggle for Negro liberation and Socialism in America.

Crisis in Education

The school crisis, symbolized by the events at Carver Jr. High School, contains many lessons for revolutionaries, for the Negro Peoples Liberation Movement, and for the working class as a whole.

First of all, what happened at Carver Jr. High was not simply an indication of a crisis of the school system, but a crisis of American capitalist society. This crisis is caused by the fact that the ruling class cannot rule in the same old way. For a century, the basic tactics of class rule in America was to cover and camouflage the fact that class rule existed. This was accomplished by having a series of 'buffer' organizations standing between the masses and the naked power of the state (that is, the police, courts, the Army, etc.). Before the Watts uprising of 1965, the peoples' movements wore themselves out in the struggle against these buffers. For example, after World War II, the movements to oust Senator Bilbo, the struggles against Eastland & Co, the fight against the 'Dixiecrats', the struggles against the Klu Klux Klan and so forth. Later in the 1950's and early 60's new enemies had to be fought—Bill Connor of Alabama—the Joan Bircan Society, a variety of fascist political groupings—the House of Un-American Activities Committee etc. Except in periods of very sharp struggle, the police attempted to maintain the picture of merely enforcing the law. On the other hand, the established reform organizations represented the only channel for protest. By going through a chain of commands, the militancy of the people was sapped. No matter which way they turned, this series of buffers prevented the people from coming to grips with the main enemy—the state. 1965, put an end to that. The powerful upsurge of the people in Watts compelled the rulers to pull off their masks and commit every weapon they possessed. By throwing in the Army, the courts and every other organ of violence, the role of the 'buffers' was done away with. The Klan, the Birchers, the fascist senators, the individual 'bad cops'—all were pushed aside the confrontation between the power of the masses and the organized power of the ruling class. More importantly, the buffers represented by the reformist groupings—the N.A.A.C.P., the Urban League, the various reform political groupings were also swept away as effective forces. In the arena were only two combatants—the state and the people. Since 1965, the government has gone all out to build new groupings to carry out the old tasks. It is obvious that reformism as the main method of struggle for the Negro people—and eventually for the working class as a whole is done with. This is proved by the fact that a detachment of cops attacked Jr. High School children in a manner that would have made Hitlers Storm Troops jealous.

The physical attacks by the cops on the school children opened the door for the emergence of political truths of class education. After the attacks on Negro children,

has come the attack on education as a whole. School construction is being curtailed, elementary school classes are being cut to half day. The formerly inadequate education has become a real joke. Schools are fast becoming state sponsored baby-sitting institutions. No teacher, no matter how dedicated, can teach an enlarged class of pre-teenagers anything in four hour sessions. It is the historical tendency of class education. Who needs workers children—especially black workers children, with a knowledge of the physical and spiritual world around us? Certainly not the capitalists. They need a new generation of slaves who are taught to respect authority. Who know enough language and physical science of work and have been taught enough 'political science' to believe that present order of society is the 'best of all possible worlds'. More than that, they need an educational process

that will not stimulate and inspire the young people. The ruling class wants to bring up a generation of workers who are taught to be self-centered. Who grasp for material possessions, who ape the ruling class. A generation that will place self-interest—and therefore the interests of capitalism, above the interests of the people. They want a generation of young men and women stultified on dope, disoriented by exaggerated appeals to sexuality. In short the goal of American class education is to raise up a generation of docile, hard working, spend-thrift toilers.

The capitalist class hasn't really reckoned with the high value that the workers, and especially the Negro workers place on real education. Not the type of education that is being dished out, but an education that aides in the struggle for equality and democracy. Therefore, we see, that the spontaneous outbreaks by students at all levels of school is really an expression of the entire communities. This is the real lesson of the struggle of Carver Jr. High. Once again, it was proved that again saw that the unorganized masses can be mobilized for a fight more quickly than the organized groupings. The basic truth of mass struggles was again pointed up. This is that organized groups must constantly be on guard that tactical differences between groups are not raised to the level of strategy or principle. Only one consideration can determine the course of a fight once the fight is begun. That consideration is to fight the enemy. This enemy—more trained, more experienced, more heavily armed and absolutely ruthless, can only be successfully fought if tactical differences are subordinated to the question of principles—fight that enemy.

Finally, the struggle at Carver showed that in the fight for a decent education for workers children, many teachers, black and white, will play an important role. The movement must be morally

stronger than the enemy, it must be politically solid and militant enough so that the teachers will not feel that they are left out on a limb. Of fundamental importance is the necessity of getting community workers involved in the leadership of the struggle. The workers have learned the value and technique of organization in Union struggles. As a class they have the stability to carry out a long fight. Most importantly, they are not in a position to sell out.

The struggles around the schools are bound to erupt again soon. The California Communist League believes that great progress can be made if every action is action against the enemy. The End

IN DEFENCE OF LUMUMBA

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Sergeant Mobutu, the all powerful ruler of the Kinshasa Republic of the Congo, thanks to the backing of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency has obviously succeed in buttressing his power, during this first round, helped along by the obvious and increasing weaknesses of the Congolese revolutionary movement and the support of those—some of them well intentioned—who consider Mobutu a temporary solution to the Congolese problem, which has cost so many tens of thousands of lives, beginning long before February 13, 1961, the date of Patrice Lumumba's assassination by troops at the service of the United Nations, with the direct participation of Moise Tshombe and Joseph Mobutu.

Leopoldville has adopted the name of Kinshasa, and Lumumba, martyr of the African Revolution, has been declared a national hero of the Congo by no less a person than Mobutu, one of his murderers. The latter has also established a political party and begun a grass-roots campaign of political activities in neighborhoods, plantations and factories peopled or staffed by the Congolese masses, and it certainly must be admitted that he has succeeded in confusing a considerable segment of the people, abetted by the lack of real, effective, practical and steady opposition on the part of the revolutionary movement.

The period 1964-65 was a time of glorious struggle for the Congolese people. Then the National Council of Liberation sustained three zones of operation, where thousands of Congolese patriots, organized into guerrilla units, fought against Tshombe's rule. At that time the second zone of operations, the Eastern Front, was commanded by Laurent Kavila, aided by Massengo as Chief of Staff. By the beginning of

1966, however, the Eastern Front had been completely broken up. The offensive launched by Tshombe's troops, backed by South African and Belgian mercenaries under the command of the blood-thirsty Mike Hoare, had not been repelled. And this was not essentially because of their military superiority, but rather because of the vacillations of those who, when they should have been at the heads of their fighting columns, risking their lives for their country's liberation, placidly gave battle from their city headquarters, enjoying the benefits of an urban life entailing no risks, mapping out "strategies," although they were no experts in strategy. Such were Laurent Kavila, whose command post was located in a well-furnished apartment in Kigoma (in the Republic of Tanzania), and Massengo, who is not known to have personally lead a single action against the imperialist troops in the East.

There can be no doubt that the patriots on the Eastern Front fought bravely and resolutely at the beginning. Proofs of this were the attacks in mid-1965 on the Front de Force Garrison and on the School for Special Anti-Guerrilla Troops, where the guerrillas gave innumerable signs of their fearlessness and where dozens fell, and not only the sons of the Congo itself but of other peoples as well, who there had made a solemn internationalist pledge to defend the principles of Lumumba unto death. However, the scant participation of the leaders in the daily course of the war gave rise to a lack of ideology, of combat discipline-affected adversely by tribal and religious prejudices - of readiness for daily sacrifice and death in the majority of the combatants. These were even promised a monthly wage, as though they were part of a professional army and not revolutionary combatants fighting not only for their own liberation but also for the liberation of Africa from one of the most loathsome neocolonialisms ever known. An outstanding casualty was the loss of Comrade Mitudidi in an accident on Lake Tanganyika. He was a complete revolutionary fully aware of the movement, following Gbenye's and Kansas' unquestionable failure of nerve.

The first zone of operations was the only one to stand up after 1966. Only a few months ago, however, its commander in chief, Pierre Mulele, legendary guerrilla, failing to recall the experience of Lumumba, the martyr placed his confidence in forces which were not exactly those of the people in arms and

Mulele was assassinated by Mobutu, who had received a direct order to do so from a high ranking U.S. official when the ruler was on a stopover in Morocco on his way back to Leopoldville.

Clearly Pierre Mulele, who had diminished the grandeur of his revolutionary stature in returning to Leopoldville, was then abandoning the necessary path, the only one which can first curb and then destroy forever, not only Mobutu but everything his rule of puppets and brass hats represents. The war cannot be waged against the figure of Mobutu. Certain re-

volutionaries, once more indulging in "naivete," even tried to make contact with the mercenary forces of Katanga (which in 1967 were fighting against Mobutu), failing to understand that even if this government got backing and succeed in staying in power with the aid of the U.S. Government and the direct participation of the Yankee Green Berets, the Katanga mercenaries also represented imperialism, and that the objective of both the mercenaries and Mobutu was the same - namely, to guarantee the exploitation of the country's vast wealth by imperialism, the true and fundamental enemy of the Congolese people and of humanity in general.

It is impossible to combat or destroy the strongholds of imperialism in the Congo while so-called revolutionaries such as Zenon Matimba -- who returned to Leopoldville with Melele and chose to ignore the fate of the latter-- continue to encourage divisionism within the movement itself, splits based on questions of international politics and completely unrelated to the advancement of the Congolese peoples' liberation struggle, or while there are theoreticians such as Nima, who committed himself to leadership of the revolutionary movement and then, after only three days on march to lend moral and material support to the combatants of the Front (headed at the time by Mulele, abandoned his men and once more chose the safety of life in a friendly capital. Following the political programs worked out by Botcheley and Kasimbura (both of whom have been reported dead on the Eastern front as a result of internal strife), which are based fundamentally on the organization of a political party to head up the struggle they themselves were unable to wage, will not be conducive to success.

Seeds of hatred and divisionism have been planted, and the fruit they have borne has been only the strengthening of Mobutu's position. And those responsible can be found in the ranks of the revolutionary movement itself.

Today, eight years after the death of Lumumba, there is only one way to defend the principles for which he died in the cause of African liberation.

Placing our faith in Mobutu, abandoning the revolutionaries of the Congo because of internal differences, because of political weaknesses and indecision, will never get us onto the road of the Congolese Revolution.

Certain revolutionary groups, not affiliated with any Congolese party or organization are prepared to renew and advance the liberation struggle. The CNL under the leadership of Gaston Soumialot has once more stated that it is prepared to advance the armed struggle. Thus, most of the leaders of that organization have left Cairo. Moreover, rumors seem to indicate that Kavila has once again taken up the revolutionary struggle, after having lived comfortably for the past two years in various capitals of East Africa. In addition, certain CNL spokesmen have stated that the Eastern Front has held on and that it is making progress in organization.

To those who are prepared over and above all other considerations to offer up their lives as a contribution to victory we wish to stress our readiness to stand side by side with them, and we send them our encouragement and militant support, but we urge the fulfillment of one absolutely necessary condition - namely, that they stand up for, put into practice and prove their conscientious dedication to the revolutionary cause, that the writings and trips to African capitals cease, as well as the expressions of demoralization at the lack of support from those who historically should be lending it and that they fully promote and utilize that great invincible force represented by their people. They must become sufficient unto them-

selves by facing up to these issues and growing greater in resisting difficulties. The memory of Lumumba is to be defended in direct and determined confrontation with imperialism in the fight unto victory or death.

.. A Zapata
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DEFEAT THE AMERICAN IMPERIALISTS