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Revolutionary Communist
Party, U.S.A.

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Somoza Going Down: FIVE, FOUR, THREE, TWO . . .

Sandinista guerrillas on outskirts of Managua. Three days later assault on capital began.

Good Riddance, JOHN WAYNE

WARHORSE GOES TO GLUE FACTORY

Cancer finally got John Wayne. Like a thief in the night, it deprived millions of people around the world of the consummate pleasure of doing the job themselves. On the other hand it did kill him. Everything divides into two!

Wayne's whole life on screen and off, was dedicated to the vicious plunder and murder of the masses of people in every part of the globe. He was always ready and more than willing to advance the cause of the U.S. imperialists and help create public opinion for their blood-soaked rule. He personified American imperialism. If John Wayne had been stillborn, America's rulers would have created another one.

But they didn't have to, they had him. And a more perfect symbol of what American imperialism is could not have been found. His career as a professional reactionary started with the making of scores of low-budget westerns in the '30s. He was the rugged stranger in the white hat who wiped out the 1/2 million Indians and "won the West" for the decent, civilized folks. The civilized genocide of the Native

American people was fine to Wayne; "I don't feel we did wrong in taking this country away from them... there were great numbers of people who needed new land, and the Indians were selfishly trying to keep it for themselves." For "selfishly" standing in the way of imperialist expansion, over half the Native American population in the late 1800s was murdered by disease, starvation, and John Wayne-type military aggression. And those who are left today are forced to live in hellhole conditions whether on the reservation or off. The value of a man who could portray this crime as heroic was soon grasped by the men who ran the movie industry, and they began to put more time and money in his films while keeping the message intact. As director John Ford said, "I could see that here was a boy who was working for something—not like most of the other guys, just hanging around to pick up a few fast bucks."

What and whom Wayne was working for was disgustingly clear in World War II. In movies like "Back to Bataan" and

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It's countdown time for Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza. Now it's no longer a question of whether he'll go, but of when and how.

In Managua, the capital city, rebel troops led by the Sandinista Front for National Liberation have carried the fighting to within four blocks of Somoza's concrete bombshelter, called the Bunker. Some of the suburbs have already been liberated, and fierce fighting rages in the city's center. León, the country's second largest city, has been in rebel hands for almost two weeks now. Although Sandinista forces have reportedly been unable to crack the National Guard troops holed up in an armory there, the government troops have remained trapped since a relief column of reinforcements sent out from Managua last week was forced to stop and go back to defend Somoza's fortress. At last count at least 25 other cities and major towns were reportedly held by the rebels.

In many cases the Sandinistas control the outskirts and the roads and the National Guard remains entrenched in the cities. Certainly Somoza's U.S.-trained and supplied troops haven't yet run out of firepower, as was seen on June 13 when National Guard planes bombed and strafed the 48,000 residents of a working-class housing project in Managua, while armored vehicles and troops moved in to try to remove the barricades the rebels had set up to shut down the highway to the airport. But according to reports, the Sandinistas

still are on the offensive. In the capital the National Guard is said to be almost out of food and gasoline.

While the National Guard is surrounded and faces hunger, the masses of people are moving to satisfy a lifetime of hunger. They ransacked the warehouses of United Brands Company (formerly called United Fruit), a Boston-based corporation which is one of the biggest bloodsuckers in Central America, with Chiquita Bananas being just one of its most visible subsidiaries. The country's biggest slaughterhouse which long produced both profits and meat for the rich was seized by Sandinista guerrillas, who distributed the meat to the people. In León, the Sandinistas have set up a food rationing card system.

The big question is just how long Somoza can keep his National Guard together. In addition to the 15,000 regular Guardsmen, the government has called up 10,000 reserves and instituted mandatory emergency military training for all government employees. Reports of an accidental shoot-out between recruits at an infantry school and regular Guardsmen show just how tense and chaotic the situation is within the reactionary armed forces. Meanwhile, the defections have begun. One pilot sent out to bomb Managua just kept going until he landed his plane in neighboring Costa Rica. Other Guardsmen have reportedly gone over to the rebel forces after being captured.

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Special Revolutionary Worker Series

WHAT WENT WRONG WITH VIETNAM?

See Centerfold

Warhorse

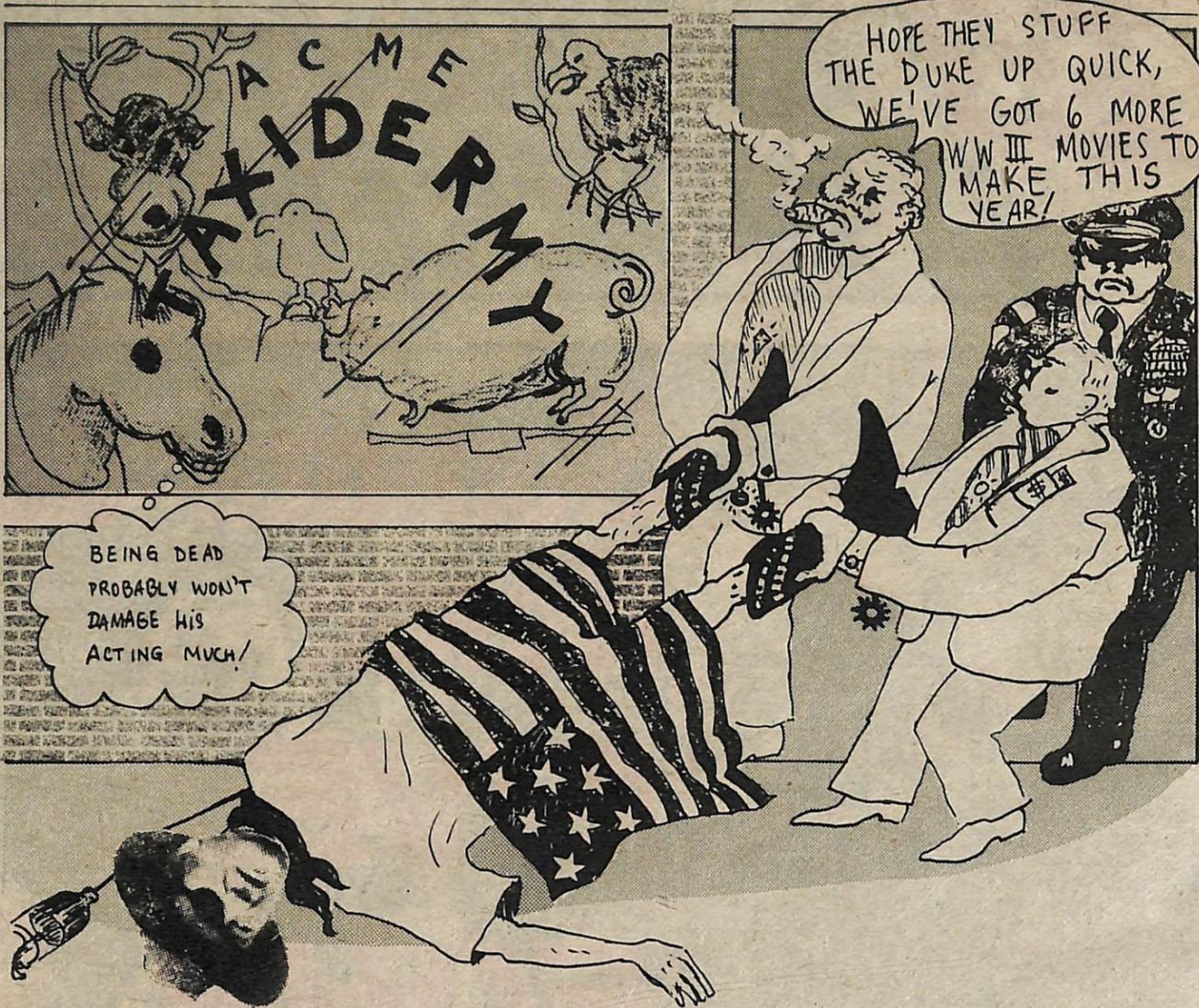
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"They Were Expendable," Wayne was the heroic patriot taking on the "dirty, sneaky Japs" for god and country. When Ford tried to get him assigned to his army unit taking combat pictures in the South Pacific, "I was told by the FDR White House to forget about Duke, that he was too valuable on the home front making war movies..." Wayne was far more valuable at home building up patriotism and national chauvinism for the imperialist conquests to come. He epitomized the tough red, white and blue "superhero" grabbing up everything he could for himself and his country. Just what service Wayne's celluloid brain-washing was rendering became clear when his masters dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

At the end of the war, the U.S. was the top dog in the imperialist world. Public opinion had to be created for the "American century" and John Wayne was the perfect pimp. His movies played a major role in whipping up public sentiment for U.S. domination of the world. Perhaps that had something to do with the fact that in the summer of 1950, eight of the nine first-run movie houses in L.A. were showing John Wayne films. "Sands of Iwo Jima," made in 1949 was one of the best examples of his service to U.S. imperialism after the war. As recently as the mid-1970s, Marine Corps recruiters in Cleveland, for example, reported that enlistments jumped up whenever the movie was shown on television.

Shooting Star, a biography of Wayne, described him meeting troops in Vietnam on an early USO tour: "They remembered him as Sergeant Striker in 'Sands of Iwo Jima.' They had grown up on Wayne's pictures, and here's Striker in person. Some of them just started crying. They couldn't believe it was really him. The Duke would start blubbering, too." When it came to recruiting and encouraging cannon fodder for U.S. imperialism, Wayne was the master. Perhaps that's why General MacArthur told him at an American Legion convention in 1950, "You represent the American serviceman better than the American serviceman himself."

But Wayne didn't confine his zealous dedication to the capitalist cause to on-



screen roles and off-screen USO tours. He had to help clear the field of any opposition, and he took to the bourgeoisie's anti-communist McCarthyite crusade like the rabid dog he was. In 1949 he became the president of the Motion Picture Alliance for the Preservation of American Ideals. As he said, "Our organization was just a group of motion picture people on the right side, not leftists and not commies... when Congress passed some laws making it possible to take a stand against these people... we gave them the facts as we knew them. The only thing our side did that was anything near blacklisting was just running a lot of people out of the business."

By this time, the legend John Wayne was in full gear; his every action and statement was a living testimonial to the vampires he served. His yacht was a

converted U.S. Navy minesweeper. He campaigned and raised funds for Nixon, Ronald Reagan, George Murphy, Barry Goldwater, and Sam Yorty. He said, "The men that give me faith in my country are fellows like Spiro Agnew." He invested in the blood of the African people becoming a mine owner in the Congo.

In 1960 he put up \$1 1/2 million of his own money to make "The Alamo" to "recreate a moment in history that will show this generation of Americans what this country really stands for," as he glorified the American robbery of Mexico's land and the vicious murder and oppression of the Mexican people. He also recognized what this country stood for when it came to Black people: "I've directed two pictures and I gave the Blacks their proper position. I had a Black slave in "The Alamo"... I believe in white supremacy until the Blacks are educated to a point of responsibility."

But by the late '60s the imperialists and their symbol were getting more desperate with every passing day. Despite napalm, massive bombing and 1/2 million soldiers, the Vietnamese people were kicking their ass, while in the U.S., the Black people's movement and the struggle against the war were inflicting heavy damages. Wayne called for shooting any demonstrators who carried the NLF flag, but that wasn't enough: a movie was needed. But there was so much opposition to the war in the U.S., that most of the studios were afraid to make one. So 60 year-old John Wayne led the charge with the "Green Berets." The Pentagon gave him Fort Benning, tanks, helicopters, soldiers, and every weapon they used on

the Vietnamese to make the film.

By this time, Wayne and the system he symbolized had earned the undying hatred of hundreds of millions around the world and in the U.S. Even giving him an Oscar in 1969, ostensibly for "True Grit" but in reality for a lifetime of reaction, could not erase the contempt the masses had for both. Even his prolonged death has been put in service to the U.S. imperialists: his rotting body and drawn out death a portrait of the state of his master's system in microcosm. It was exploited to the hilt to create nostalgia for the good old glorious days of America in its heyday and to create public opinion for the next war. A special gold medal was struck in his honor by act of Congress. He was paraded around as a legend in his own time. The press was full of John Wayne, stories and praises to his "greatness" as famous people, including Jimmy Carter, visited his bedside. At the Academy Awards he presented the best picture award to the "Deer Hunter" in an overt attempt to whip up support for the U.S.' showdown with the Soviet Union looming on the horizon.

And now that Wayne has kicked the bucket we will, no doubt, be treated to an endless stream of already prepared and packaged TV shows, movies, books, and stories on his reactionary life and legend. We will be deluged with John Wayne memorabilia as they seek to squeeze every last drop of bullshit from his memory. John Wayne was, like his U.S. masters will be, reactionary to his last breath. We wish the people could have gotten to you first John—but Good Riddance. ■

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June 9th at Chicago's Lincoln Park.

THOUSANDS ROCK AGAINST RACISM

Saturday, June 9, Lincoln Park, Chicago. It was not a sunny day in the park as people began to gather for the Rock Against Racism concert. The sky was overcast, threatening rain, and steam rose from the last night's puddles still on the ground. But over a thousand people of all nationalities waited impatiently for the Rock Against Racism to start. And as the day went on the crowd swelled as several thousand more came out to take a stand.

They came from the ghettos, from the barrios, from the working class districts of Chicago, from the universities, from the factories. Black, white, Puerto Rican, Chicano, people of all nationalities, young and not so young, some from as far away as Cleveland, Detroit and the coalfields of West Virginia. They were not there just for fun in the sun. As one 45-year old Black worker from the steel mills put it, "This is the first rock concert I've been to in my life, and I came to take a stand against the racist crap that's comin' down on the people."

The people put the lie to a vicious old tune that "Black and white can never get together." They put the lie to the cynical song that the people are not interested in dealing with all the misery that this man-eater system dumps on them—that the masses don't give a damn about politics and changing the world.

D.O.A., a righteous punk band from Vancouver B.C., started things off on the right foot. "This is a Nazi training

camp. We're here to say that we're not gonna stand for this Nazi trash," shouted lead singer Joey Shithead as the band hit the stage. The crowd surged forward, pulled by the hard hitting punk rock sound and what D.O.A. has to say with their music.

*Chicago Police
They're Bloody Fools
Chicago Police
With their stupid rules
Chicago Police
Kick 'em out
Chicago Police
Beat 'em about
I know why I say it today
If I don't
Billy Club haze*

"If the Nazi's show up, well, we should just trash 'em," said Randy Rampage, lead guitar, as a swastika went up in flames on stage.

Unity ran high in the park as D.O.A. blasted out with songs like "World War 3," "Got to Know Who the Enemy Is," and "Rich Bitch." When we told them that the working class women wanted to know what "Rich Bitch" was all about, Joey wrote down the words:

*You got your money
You got your car
You got your bottle at the bar
It doesn't mean that you give a damn
about anyone!!*

"The way I see it," said Joey about why they do political songs, "You just can't avoid it. It's reality. I just can't sing 'baby, baby' anymore." The band definitely set a tone for the concert and



Revolutionary Worker

they did a dynamite job in opening which is a hard thing to do. It was *more than too bad* that they had to start and a lot of people missed them.

The musicians of all nationalities who took a stand with the struggle of the people, giving their time, were right on, and in the weeks before many others who didn't play on Saturday did volunteer benefits and spread the word about Rock Against Racism. Some bands would just like to get up there and pimp off the backs of the people and not say a word against racism or the Nazis and just promote their latest record. We've seen it before, and we'll see it again—there are those who want to use the movement of the people just to build their careers. It makes you sick, but that's what *capitalism* turns people

into. It don't have to be that way.

Saturday's concert had a wide range of sound, from blues to salsa to rock and roll. Jimmy Desmond and Bijou got a rise out of the crowd when they did "God Made Me Do It," an anti-religious song. "The fish-man has been messin' things up for 2000 years," said Desmond. In an intro to another song, he said how racists were just so much "Wasted Space." Lonny Brooks, a righteous R&B band from Chicago really turned on the heat, and had everybody up on their feet, moving to the music. Shouts of Viva Puerto Rico rose over the salsa beat of La Confidencia, as many Puerto Rican people arrived from the Puerto Rican Day celebration in Humboldt Park to join the multinational crowd at the front of the stage where a young Black and Puerto Rican couple were dancing up a storm.

Lookin' For Answers

Overall, the atmosphere was definitely one of lookin' for some answers to some heavy question. Literature tables ringed the outside of the crowd and throughout the day people hung out at the tables, bought books and newspapers and talked. Over 450 copies of the *Revolutionary Worker* were sold. Between acts there were speakers on nuclear power plants, the right to abortion, the struggle of prisoners at Pontiac prison and others. A brother from the Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade really galvanized the sentiments of many there when he talked about the growing struggle of the people for revolution. "We're gonna bring in the '80s in Dolby Quadrophonic!" he said as cheers went up from the crowd.

Overall the Rock Against Racism in Chicago was a good thing. The fact that so many people came out to take a stand against the Nazi garbage that has been running in the sewers of this city and against the "way things are" showed that people want to fight. But there were some problems and some bullshit that sharpened up the question of what Rock Against Racism really means to people and where to go from here. Like in everything else where the people are trying to unite against the enemy, there was struggle—class struggle.

RAR was billed as "an offensive not just against organized racists, but against the whole system of control—schools, police, television—Rock Against Racism can set a new beat for the coming decade..." Ads in a local newspaper, the *Reader* quoted English New Wave Rocker Tom Robinson saying, "We want rebel music, street music, music that breaks down people's fear of one another. Crisis music, now music, music that knows who the enemy is." People came for a concert that would go straight up against the Nazis, racism and the whole way people have to live.

Unfortunately Tom Robinson Band couldn't make it because of a death in Tom's family. Robinson who had been touring the U.S. and actively building for the RAR-Chicago in his concerts would have been a welcome act with

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DOA. from Vancouver, B.C.



Revolutionary Worker

Klan Eats Sheets Behind Decatur Pigs

Decatur, Alabama, Saturday, June 9. It was exactly two weeks after Black people in this city had defended a demonstration with arms against an attack by the Ku Klux Klan. This Saturday, 1500 to 2000 people, Black and white together, poured into these same streets. They marched to reaffirm their hatred for the outrageous conviction of Tommy Lee Hines, a severely retarded Black man who was railroaded into an Alabama prison for 30 years for the framed-up charge of raping three white women. And they marched in open defiance of Klan threats about how Blacks would never again march in Decatur after the shoot-out.

For days, the Klan and the city government had worked hand in glove to intimidate people into staying home from the march. On Monday before the march, the city made up an ordinance requiring permits for marches. They had never had one before. On Tuesday both the Klan and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) applied for permits. The city later announced both were granted Saturday permits. The Klan had one for 10:00 a.m. and SCLC one for 1:00 p.m., thus allowing the Klan to spread their racist poison in advance of the SCLC march and still be free to do their thing in the afternoon.

Meanwhile the mayor of Decatur was scurrying around blaming all the trouble on outsiders and calling on local people to stay at home. And the media blared the news that riot-equipped National Guard troops would be on hand and state troopers were arriving in force to back up the local cops and sheriff deputies. But none of these threats stopped the march. People's hatred for oppression brought them out. And they came. Hundreds from the Decatur community, from Birmingham and from across Alabama, Georgia, and Mississip-

pi and as far away as Kentucky. They came uniting against the vicious frame-up of Tommy Lee Hines and the kind of "justice" it represented. And they came in hatred for the white-robed scum of the land, the KKK, whom they outnumbered 10 to 1.

The crowd had begun to assemble, some were chanting, fists in the air, many were buying 2x2's with red "Free Tommy Lee Hines" flags attached, anxious to get on with the march. Into this marched the leaders of the SCLC, waving the U.S. red, white and blue rag and singing.

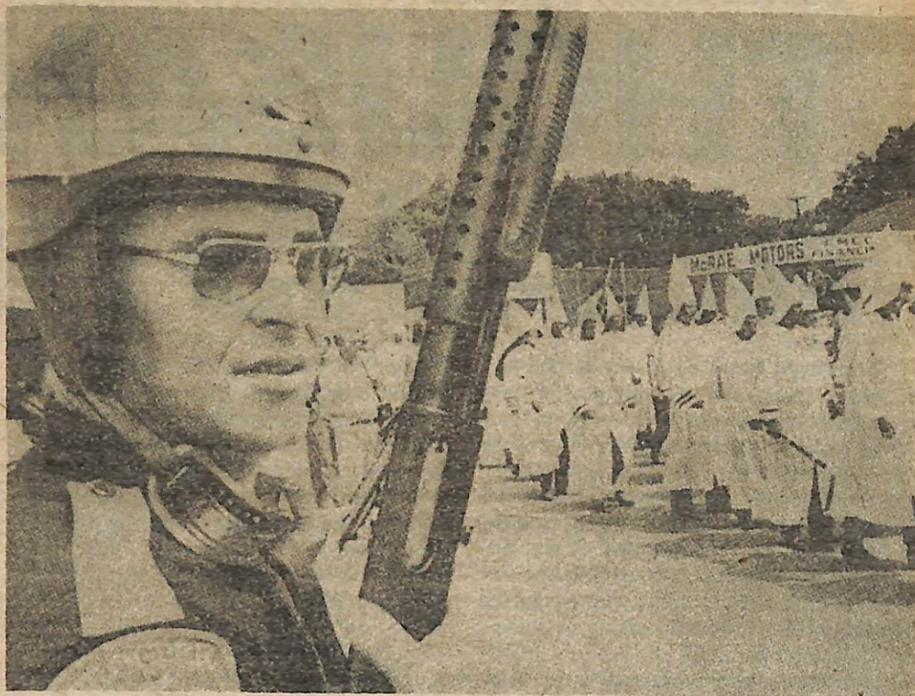
They went to the steps of the church and gave a rap about non-violence and called for everyone with a weapon to step forward and hand it over. "We are armed with the holy armor of god and don't need anything else." Several "amens" came from the crowd. But the overwhelming response was jeers and laughter—people knew what they were marching into—Klansmen armed with iron pipes, clubs and guns and battalions of shotgun-toting pigs and they wanted to take whatever arms they could.

"On Your Knees"

The SCLC leadership then called all men into the church. They had called for marching five abreast with men outside and women and children inside. Perhaps they were now calling the men into the church to lay plans to counter an attack from the Klan?

No! They'd called them inside the church to tell them again to turn in their weapons. "No Black man will lie inside a church," the SCLC leader reported to the press! They said they received 18 pistols and more than 40 knives.

The SCLC's advice on what to do should the pigs or the KKK attack? Roll up into a ball, the men protecting women and children so only their rear



Alabama state troopers guard march route for Klan.

ends would be hit! In response to this treachery, one Black man said, "I ain't gonna stick my ass out there, I'm gonna pull out my baseball bat from under my dashiki and kick some ass." After all this, is it any wonder why the SCLC gets the promotion job it gets from the "authorities of the land" as the "leadership of Black people"?

A contingent called for by the Revolutionary Communist Party marched under a banner of "Free Tommy Lee Hines, the capitalist system is the crime! Down with national oppression." There was a spirit of militance and jubilation as the 2000 marchers started out of the Black ghetto. There was pride in the numbers that had turned out and pride in their strength they were showing by marching into enemy territory ahead.

From the moment they crossed the railroad tracks the march was surrounded. There were cops and troopers

with poised rifles and shotguns. Sharpshooters were on rooftops. The desperate bastards even had tanks. As the march passed by these thugs, many marchers eagerly took up the chant of "put the pigs in the pokey and Tommy on the street."

Near the city hall rally site were a pitiful collection of about 150 robed Ku Klux Klan scum backed by a hundred supporters. This was less than their earlier march. They were even outnumbered by the news reporters scrambling around for pictures and stories. They jeered from the sidewalk, tucked behind four rows of riot cops.

The rally itself, organized by the SCLC, was like a wet blanket on people's desire to stand up against oppression. It was a disgusting display of cowardice in the face of the ugly provocations of the enemy. A parade of political pimps and tired reformists pushed relying on the constitution and on legislation as the cross burners brandished their baseball bats and lead pipes. The SCLC laid it on thick with their call for a "new civil rights movement" originating for the second time in Alabama—a testing ground for a "new Martin Luther King." What with all the disarming of Black people before their enemies that SCLC President Lowery had organized during the day, it was apparent he had himself in mind for the job.

In a front page interview kindly provided by the Birmingham Post Herald after the march, Imperial Lizard Wilkinson lamented, "we frankly don't have the capability to bring the people out that the Negro does right now," adding in typical fashion "we may be smaller in numbers but we are more capable, give me 300 good klansmen and I'll take on a thousand Negroes any day."

The lizard, however, failed to mention how he and his fellow "knights" were sent scurrying with their hoods flying by the Black people of Decatur only 2 weeks earlier. And it's easy to talk when he is backed up by 500 pigs armed to the teeth, has the support of the entire ruling class, and the help of SCLC in disarming the people opposed to his filth. His wild bragging will not prevent him from meeting the same fate as his masters at the hands of the people. As some chanted after the Decatur rally, "Unite White, Black and Brown, Gonna Tear this Rotten System Down." ■

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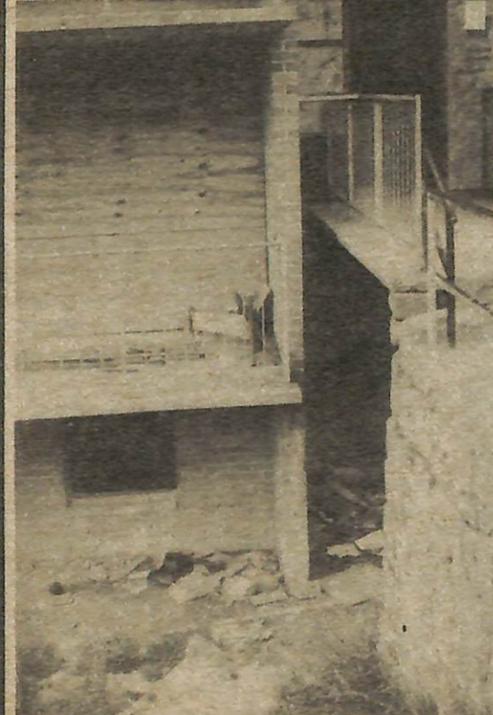
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FIRST ROUND GOES TO EMBASSY 5

Monday morning, 10:00 a.m., June 11—Five revolutionaries are brought to a pretrial hearing in the beginning of their trial before judge June Green in the federal courthouse in Washington, D.C. They come ready to present a political defense to the "crimes" they are charged with—attacking the Chinese Chancellery in D.C. last January with white paint and lead sinkers on the eve of Teng Hsiao-ping's visit to the United States.

Across this hallowed hall of "justice" stands the representative of the U.S. government, head honcho U.S. prosecutor William H. Collins, Jr., ready to present the capitalist class's case against these revolutionaries—"not political," "common criminal," "vandals," "assault with a deadly weapon." In the audience is Mary Ellen Abrecht, prosecuting attorney in the case against the 78 Mao Tsetung Defendants (arrested in a police attack on the mass demonstration held when Teng arrived at the White House). The sides are lining up.

Wednesday morning, 11:00 a.m., 48 hours later—The five revolutionaries walk out of the courthouse. Where are they going, directly to jail? No, they go to celebrate a victory won in the first round of what lies ahead, a long battle not only to win complete victory in this political trial but complete victory in the major battle to free all 78 Mao Tsetung Defendants.

The case against the Embassy 5 began on January 24 when these fighters were arrested immediately following the attack on the Chinese Chancellery. The grand jury returned a total of eight felonies and one misdemeanor against them. As the pretrial motions began on June 11 the prosecution had been forc-

ed to dismiss all but two serious felonies: destruction of property of a foreign government, and assault with a deadly weapon. In addition, the misdemeanor charge of carrying a pistol without a license was leveled against one defendant.

At issue in the hearing on Monday, June 11 was a defense motion to dismiss all charges against the Five because of the destruction of some evidence which was important to the defense in exposing all the contradictions in the government's case. All day Monday, one Secret Service agent after another took the stand like a series of babbling idiots, trying to explain away the mysterious disappearance of the evidence. This evidence pertained to the government's star witness (officer Teriskie, Secret Service agent who cowered in front of the embassy during the incident) and another eyewitness to the incident. First Robert Banocy, Deputy Chief of the Secret Service Foreign Mission branch, testified that the erasure of a tape containing Officer Teriskie's call for help immediately following the action last January was an oversight. Then Secret Service agent Richard Bert took the stand to tell the even more incredible tale of statements crucial to the defense which were missing now because of "housekeeping problems" in the Secret Service Department. When questioned by defense attorneys, agent Bert feebly admitted he had placed these statements into a Secret Service "burn bag" to insure they'd be destroyed permanently. When did he do this? Two weeks previously, when the trial of the Five was originally set to begin.

Not Political?

Next the issue before the court was

the list of questions which the defense had proposed be asked of all prospective jurors. Shuddering at the proposed questions, which were aimed at revealing political prejudices of prospective jurors against revolutionaries and communists, the D.A. and the court began with the position that the trial of the Embassy 5 was "not a political trial." After all, they argued, "The RCP is not on trial here."

Since in federal court only the judge may ask the potential jurors any questions to uncover possible bias, the judge emphatically stated that she refused to ask any questions which might put her in the position of "making political speeches to the jury." One such question (which the D.A. also wanted thrown out) was, "Do you think you would be more likely to find these men guilty because their activities may have embarrassed President Carter or the United States?" "How is this relevant?" sang the D.A. and the judge.

Strange, isn't it? This case was "just criminal, not political," yet a couple of months ago at the bail hearing of the five defendants the prosecutor had argued for \$25,000 bail. As he told it at the time, the actions of the Five had "embarrassed the United States government and the government of China." When this contradiction was brought to light by the defense, the judge ruled that some of the defense questions would be admitted while many more were still ruled improper.

By Tuesday afternoon, layer after layer of the disguise of democracy shrouding this chamber of "justice" had been peeled away. Judge Green found herself walking a thin line between the need to enforce the dictatorship of the capitalist class which stands behind this disguise and the danger of exposing some of the blatant and ugly features of that dictatorship and herself in the bargain. Tuesday afternoon she refused to dismiss all charges, but she did dismiss the charge of assault with a deadly weapon because of the evidence destroyed in the burn bag and the erased tape.

State Department Steps In

Wednesday morning as court opened again, head honcho Collins had been reduced to an embarrassed eyesore in the courtroom. In the hours since court had adjourned on Tuesday, his superiors, including U.S. Attorney Earl Silbert—obviously with THE WORD from the State Department—had attempted to inject some backbone into

his backside.

As the court opened Collins finally noticed what had been going on for some time. The defendants were wearing political T-shirts, and on this day one was wearing a shirt with the slogan, "Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants." "Your honor, this is highly inappropriate. It might influence the jury. I submit that the court should require the defendant to remove his shirt." "Really, your honor," submitted the defense counsel, "I believe his shirt is much more appropriate than no shirt at all." Another round of laughter all around, and the D.A. slinked back to the prosecutor's table.

One of Five Freed

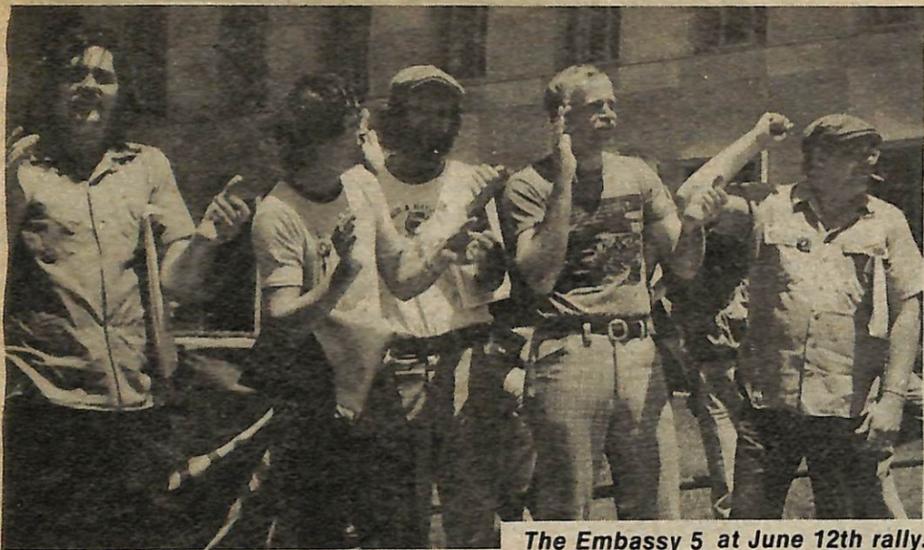
Now the actual trial was about to begin. Trying to gather his much battered wits about him, the D.A. got ready. But the blows hadn't ended. One of the defense attorneys stood up and asked the court to release one of the defendants from the case entirely since there were no longer any indictments against him. There must be some mistake—but no, it was true. In a real blunder by the U.S. government, this defendant's name had been left off the indictment on the charge of destruction of property of a foreign government. Since this was the only remaining charge against all defendants, he was free to go. Sheepishly the D.A. finally admitted this was true. The judge released the defendant and one of the five walked out.

What followed was almost unprecedented. The judge called U.S. Attorney Earl Silbert to the courtroom. There she instructed Silbert and Collins to accept the offer made by the five defendants earlier to plead guilty to a misdemeanor charge. Earl Silbert's eyes almost popped out of his pointed head.

When he was finally able to speak he was reduced to blurring out the government's political motivation. "Your honor, with all due respect to the bench," he began. ("You fool, you cannot do this to your class brothers," pounded in his skull.) "The U.S. government cannot accept such a proposal. These defendants admit that they not only committed these acts but that they premeditatedly planned them. Furthermore, they've shown absolutely no remorse for their actions. In fact, they have publicly stated they are proud of what they did. They are connected with a group, the Committee to Give a Fitting Welcome, which also states it is proud of what they did. This same group planned and carried out another action embarrassing to the U.S. and Chinese governments on January 29. It's not as if this were a case of some drunk stumbling up to a building and tossing rocks through the window. It's not as if this were a case of negligence. Your honor, this is a political case."

The message was clear—in the very

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The Embassy 5 at June 12th rally.

MX Super Missile - New U.S. 'Disarmament' Move

President Carter has given the go-ahead for production and deployment of the MX missile. Eight years on the drawing board, the MX is a multiple warhead nuclear ICBM that is twice as big as anything the U.S. now has in its arsenal. It is designed to deliver over three times the "payload" of the contemporary Trident and Minuteman missiles. ("Payload" is the bourgeoisie's antiseptic term for the amount of slaughter and devastation contained in the tip of each weapon.)

Two hundred MX missiles are scheduled for production, and each one will carry ten separate warheads. One feature of the new MX that has the "warheads" on Capitol Hill excited is its mobility. It is designed to rest on wheels in shallow tunnels about 20 miles long. It can be moved back and

forth easily along the length of the tunnel, stopping at any of 20 fortified launching sites along the way. Thus, in theory, the MX can be used to attack the Soviet Union and at the same time avoid being struck by incoming Soviet missiles.

The decision to go ahead with MX came hot on the heels of the highly touted SALT II "disarmament" agreement; indeed, the MX was negotiated into the SALT accord. No clearer statement of the true meaning of SALT could ever be made. "Arms limitation" means more and deadlier missiles. "Peace accord" means war preparation. "SALT" means Soviet/American Lethal Tool—a lullaby to cover up for World War 3 preparations.

Only in the lexicon of the imperialist warlords (both U.S. and Soviet) is such

doubletalk standard fare. One official spokesman took it to the limit in countering liberal critics of the MX madness; the Soviets are trying to get ahead of us, he said. If we don't move ahead ourselves, if we don't achieve stability, how can we begin to limit and reduce the arms race? Escalation is the only road to disarmament! Brilliant logic—fully worthy of a top-notch hack apologist for the U.S. war machine.

The same convoluted logic gained wide notoriety during the Vietnam war when the U.S. pursued the enlightened and humanitarian policy of, as one officer put it, having to "destroy the village in order to save it." The MX is being created to continue this same policy on a grand scale—to wipe out tens of millions of people in order to "save" them. It is nothing but a vain, last-ditch effort to save their own putrid system and to kill millions trying.

There is less and less talk of "deterrence." It used to be that they spoke of "mutually assured destruction" where U.S. and Soviet missiles were targeted on civilian population centers to dissuade a first strike from either side. Now such talk is going out of style. The strategy most discussed today is for a more "limited" nuclear war. Hit "military targets"—including, of

course, everything from missiles to strategic factories—with sixty to a hundred million casualties on each side, max. "Something we can live with."

The MX is part and parcel of this "more realistic, winnable war" nuclear strategy, and they intend to put it to good use. Air Force Chief of Staff Lew Allen, in the grand tradition of Curtis "Bomb 'em Back to the Stone Age" Lemay, described the areas where the MX is to be deployed (the southwestern states of Utah, Arizona, New Mexico and Nevada) as "sponges" for soaking up Soviet H-bombs. The son of a bitch is dead serious, and he isn't just speaking for himself as he waxes eloquent about the upcoming nuke-out with the Soviets.

But lest anyone doubt that our rulers have our welfare at heart, they will be happy to learn that the government recently completed a \$5 million Environmental Impact Survey to determine the effects of the new MX on the areas where it is scheduled to be located. Just as they are concerned with disarmament, it seems the imperialists are also concerned about preserving our wilderness areas. So concerned, in fact, that they intend to create a vast new wilderness in areas now cluttered with millions of people. ■

"The Enemy is Drowning in People's War" Interview with Kampuchean Deputy Ambassador

Since January, the people of Kampuchea (Cambodia), led by the Communist Party and the government of Democratic Kampuchea, have been waging a determined war of resistance against the Vietnamese aggression and occupation of their country.

From 1970 to 1975, the people of Kampuchea fought a bloody and protracted war for the liberation of their country from U.S. imperialist domination. Through their relentless struggle, which inspired and won the support of millions of Americans and millions around the world, the U.S. imperialists and the puppet Lon Nol regime suffered a humiliating defeat and were expelled from Kampuchea. For the first time in many years, Kampuchea was free of imperialist robbery and exploitation.

The brutal Soviet-backed Vietnamese invasion and occupation of Kampuchea has forced its people once more to take up arms and wage people's war for the liberation of their country, for a free, independent and sovereign Kampuchea. This struggle was the subject of a two-hour interview which the Revolutionary Worker held with Chan Youran, Deputy Ambassador of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations.

The Deputy Ambassador explained the views and policies of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea on the current struggle and also on the events leading up to the present situation.

We believe this interview provides an important part of the information necessary to understand the overall situation in Indochina. Certainly it makes it even clearer that the struggle of the Kampuchean people and government for liberation and independence is continuing strong today and is a just and heroic struggle. Following is a summary of the interview.

Deputy Ambassador Chan Youran began by stressing that the people of Kampuchea "had always hoped, during the War of Resistance against U.S. aggression, that following liberation there would be solidarity and friendship between Vietnam and Kampuchea." He said that Kampuchea had greatly assisted the Vietnamese people in their own struggle for liberation, and that the people of Kampuchea had suffered 1,200,000 casualties out of a total population of seven million during the war against the U.S. between 1970 and 1975.

However, the Deputy Ambassador continued, Vietnam had for many years "dreamt of dominating Kampuchea, Laos, and other countries in Southeast Asia," and that "their strategy is to set up a so-called Indo-Chinese Federation" under their leadership. He maintained that even during the war against U.S. aggression, the Kampuchean government, army and Party were faced not only with fighting the U.S. but parrying constant Vietnamese interference and attempts at subversion.

The Deputy Ambassador said that in April, 1975, when the Kampuchean liberation forces were preparing the great nation-wide offensive which secured the liberation of Kampuchea, the Vietnamese had attempted to prevent this offensive. "They told us, 'You don't need to liberate yourselves; why shed all this unnecessary blood? Wait until we liberate Saigon, then we will liberate Phnom Penh for you.'"

After Liberation

The Deputy Ambassador explained that in June, 1975, following liberation, a delegation headed by Pol Pot, the leader of the Communist Party of Kampuchea and the Prime Minister, went to Hanoi. He said that the delegation had hoped to establish friendly relations of solidarity with Vietnam, but that they met with a cold reception and Vietnam raised a number of demands for ad-

justments of the border. "And while our delegation was still in Hanoi," he said, "Vietnamese troops seized an offshore island, Poulo Wei, which belongs to Kampuchea."

The Deputy Ambassador was asked whether he considered Vietnam's actions to have been instigated by the Soviet Union as part of its drive for influence in the region. He replied, "It is true that the Soviet Union is using Vietnam for this purpose. But Vietnam also has its own strategy for domination of the region. Soviet and Vietnamese interests coincide in this respect."

He pointed to the example of Laos, saying that, "The fate of Laos has already been sealed. It has been swallowed up by Vietnam. There are already sixty thousand soldiers and over a million Vietnamese settling in Laos. Within twenty years, Laos will have ceased to exist as a nation."

Vietnam bitterly opposed any move by Kampuchea to exercise its rights as an independent nation, the Deputy Ambassador said, and protested when Kampuchea opened talks with Thailand, "which were designed to establish peaceful relations based on mutual respect, and to agree on the existing borders." He explained that Vietnam had ambitions also for the domination of Thailand—"and Thailand is well aware of this."

By July 1977, the Deputy Ambassador continued, Vietnam was convinced that the leaders of Kampuchea could not be persuaded to submit to Vietnamese hegemonism so they mounted a large-scale offensive with the objective of over-running Kampuchea. However, they were beaten back then, and again in the spring of 1978.

As a result of these stunning defeats, the Vietnamese leaders devised a new strategy, said the Deputy Ambassador. This was to concentrate an over-powering military strength, win a lightning victory, set up a puppet government, and then withdraw its troops, thus avoiding a long and costly occupation. He said that the Vietnamese hoped to

implement a policy of "Khmerization" of the war, "using Kampuchean to fight Kampuchean," similar to Nixon's "Vietnamization" policy in Vietnam after 1972.

Military Situation

In January 1979, the Vietnamese launched their new offensive. The Deputy Ambassador explained that the leaders of Democratic Kampuchea, in assessing the military situation, "applied the first principle of people's war: Preserve oneself to destroy the enemy." Avoiding a direct confrontation with the Vietnamese army due to their temporary military superiority, the Kampuchean army withdrew west in a fighting retreat, evacuated the major cities, organized guerrilla operations and mobilized the masses of the people to fight a protracted people's war.

The Deputy Ambassador wished to stress that "because of this correct policy on the part of our government, the Vietnamese failed in their strategy for a lightning victory. They have become bogged down. They are drowning in the people's war. Instead of withdrawing their forces, they have had to send in forty thousand more troops—three more divisions in January, three more divisions in March. Their puppet government cannot control the countryside."

The Deputy Ambassador, in response to a question, elaborated on the military strategy employed against the Vietnamese aggressors. "We employ two forms of warfare, combining guerrilla warfare with regular warfare. Our guerrilla forces strike at the enemy separately, all the time, and when an opportunity arises to strike a major blow, our forces come together to crush the enemy." Regular forces also control liberated zones in Kampuchea, the Deputy Ambassador said.

The Deputy Ambassador also said, "I want your readers to be aware of the nature of the war being carried out by Vietnam against my country. It is a war, not only of aggression, but a war

of extermination and annexation. The objective of Vietnam is to destroy, to exterminate my people. In the areas controlled by Vietnam, there is deliberately created famine and starvation. There is plunder and destruction. There is massacre. Women and children are being butchered." The purpose of the "genocidal policy," he said, was to clear the way to swallow up Kampuchea and resettle with Vietnamese.

But, the Deputy Ambassador said, "it will be impossible for Vietnam to achieve its goals. Already they have suffered many crushing defeats. We have confidence in the people's war, in the strength of the masses of Kampuchean people."

Cities Evacuated

The Deputy Ambassador was asked to explain the stringent policies pursued by the Kampuchean government prior to the Vietnamese invasion, such as the massive resettlement of the urban population in the countryside, and the fact that money was not used in the basic economy of Kampuchea. "First of all," he began, "you must remember that Kampuchea had nothing after liberation. The entire country had been destroyed by the war. There was no food, because all the peasants had been forced to leave their land and become refugees in the cities. U.S. bombing destroyed huge areas of the countryside. Before the fall of the U.S. puppet regime, thousands and thousands of tons of rice were airlifted into Phnom Penh every day; when the U.S. left, there was only nine days supply of food in the entire country.

"The question facing us was a question of survival. We had to prevent famine and starvation. Before 1970, Phnom Penh had a population of 60,000. By the time of liberation, because of the refugees, its population had swelled to three million. What would happen if we could not solve the food problem? We would have lost the confidence of the masses. The evacuation of the cities was necessary, in order to restore agricultural production in order to feed the people."

In addition, he said, the leaders of the liberation forces had anticipated this problem, and had begun setting up a system of cooperatives in the liberated areas of the countryside as early as 1973. Thus the population in Phnom Penh was resettled into an already functioning cooperative network.

This evacuation of the cities was so successful in restoring agriculture, the Deputy Ambassador pointed out, that within two years Kampuchea had already begun producing a surplus and was in fact exporting rice once again.

Although Kampuchea had solved the basic question of feeding the population, he pointed out, still the task of reconstruction had barely begun. In this same context—of great scarcity and a "survival economy" centered on agricultural cooperatives—the Deputy Ambassador dealt with the question of money. He said that, in fact, the Kampuchean government had actually printed money to prepare for its use even prior to the fall of Phnom Penh. "But according to the system of cooperatives we have established in Kampuchea, people resort to the system of self-supply and exchange with other cooperatives. The people themselves refused the use of money; they said that direct exchange was easier than money." The Deputy Ambassador also said that "money would certainly be introduced in the future when the need for it arose," on the basis of further reconstruction and the economic development of the country.

Finally, the Deputy Ambassador was asked if there was anything he would like to say directly to the American people.

The Deputy Ambassador replied, "I would like, through your newspaper, to convey my people's sincere gratitude and high appreciation to all American people, personalities, and mass organizations who support our just struggle against Vietnamese aggression. Our arms have always been open to the American people. We once again would like to open them to reinforce the mutual solidarity of our two peoples. We are convinced that through this current struggle our friendship and solidarity will be developed and strengthened forever."

Deputy Ambassador Chan Youran.



LET'S IT BLOW!

PRAIRIE FIRE



Chicago, Sunday, June 10. After Prairie Fire closed their first set with *I don't believe in no peaceful means What we need is civil war We'll make 'em scrape gum off the sidewalks*

And then we'll kick their ass some more ... Overthrow the Government! Overthrow the Government!

the place went up in smoke as people leapt to their feet roaring. During the break Vicki Wong, lead singer in a local Chicago revolutionary band, Thunder Road, put it straight, "It's pretty clear now why a certain kind of people, a certain class of people don't want anybody to hear Prairie Fire. We're saying that we ain't gonna put up with this bullshit and more importantly the people aren't gonna put up with this class of blood-suckers. Prairie Fire's gonna play all over this country—so here they are Rock 'n Revolt, Prairie Fire!"

Prairie Fire had come to Chicago to play the Rock Against Racism concert, but their performance was sabotaged by that certain kind of people that Vicki ran down, depriving thousands from hearing them play. (See page 3). But hundreds, many of whom had been at RAR on Saturday heard them anyway when Prairie Fire played to packed houses Sunday afternoon and Monday night at Kingston Mines and Gaspar's.

Matt Callahan, who writes Prairie Fire's material and is the driving force behind the band spoke from the heart to audiences both nights when he said,

"We came to Chicago all the way from San Francisco to play at Rock Against Racism Saturday, and aside from a few problems we had, we just want to say that Rock Against Racism was outta sight. Rock Against Racism particularly in Chicago represented a real important blow against the rulers of this country who rule on the backs of Black and other minority people and keep us divided and fighting amongst ourselves.

"But we think that there was some bullshit that went down there for the political bands like ourselves and D.O.A. And we don't blame Rock Against Racism for that. We don't blame the people that worked so hard to pull it off and all the people who knew what this was all about. But there are those in this world who are afraid of what we have to say and I think that tonight we're trying to show you what we mean by that."

At both concerts it was standing room only—and not even that on Sunday—as the volcano of sound that is Prairie Fire erupted into the streets outside the Mines like red hot lava, pulling people in to see what the hell was goin' on in there. The multinational crowds of workers, youth, musicians, revolutionaries and many who had never been to a political event in their lives were alternately transfixed, literally riveted to their seats, and unable to keep their feet still.

It was reported that many people had

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To the Editor,

If at all possible, I would like you to publish the enclosed letter. I attended Prairie Fire's Sunday performance in Chicago. I did not realize the depth of their impact on me until 3:00 a.m. this morning when I found myself trying to take some kind of action at my typewriter.

I really want to share my thoughts with your readers.

Even if only a portion of the letter is used it would give me the feeling that I've taken a step toward the movement and towards helping some others like myself who are trying to understand the meaning of Revolutionary Red.

June 13, 1979 3:00 a.m.

I'm a musician from Cleveland and a new subscriber to the *Revolutionary Worker*. I read a review in the *RW* which praised Prairie Fire's first San Francisco concert which featured their new musical line-up. I was apprehensive to say the least. How could such a small ensemble pack the kind of power described in what I felt was probably a biased review?

Half-heartedly I made my way to the Kingston Mines where I had the good fortune to be a part of the cheering crowd who, on June 10, 1979 watched and listened as Prairie Fire unleashed a musical tornado of revolutionary rock. Consequently, neither rock & roll nor I will ever be the same.

Prairie Fire is definitely an ass kicker. The fusing of Rock & Revolt is a powerful musical vehicle pulsating with the rhythm of the working people's struggle and ringing with lyrics that give the only answer to the injustice of the working people's plight: REVOLUTION!

It is hard to believe that the group has been together for only a few months. They work with the precision of a finely tuned watch, filling each minute of their performance with electrifying arrangements.

Each member is an asset to the whole. Matt, a showman in every sense of the word, is an exploding time bomb of energy and rage. He takes his audience to new heights with every song. Sandy's strong voice blasts out against the bourgeoisie who leave her no choice but to be Communist Led. I was riveted to my chair upon hearing the truth spelled out in their song. It seemed so easy for them. The combination of their voices can only be described as deliciously bittersweet. Scott Rosner on drums and Richard Pfeiffer on bass are excellent musicians who knock out rhythms that keep pumping coal into the musical fire taking place on stage. I feel that Greg Coon, the lead guitarist, deserves special kudos. His contribution is a beautiful marriage of musical sensitivity and rebellious abandonment. But undoubtedly, it is together that they are most effective. Together they create a cultural weapon that's gonna shake, and more importantly, wake this country up to the shit that's really goin' down.

Prairie Fire's courage is contagious. If telling the truth is blatant and rambunctious, so be it. Prairie Fire showed me that we don't have to remain helpless against the capitalist monsters who want to keep us suspended like puppets on their filthy strings.

I urge everyone to support the continued growth of Prairie Fire. See them when they're in your area, and if they're not scheduled to come, get a committee together to bring them to your city.

If freedom through Revolution be the food of life, Prairie Fire Rock On!

D.C.H.
Cleveland, Ohio

CPML on Iran

Revolution? How Disruptive!

A recent article in the *Call* (May 28), newspaper of the Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist) (CPML), has provided yet another example of the opposition of these so-called "communists" to the struggle of the Iranian people against U.S. imperialism.

Just a few months ago in the February 12 *Call* on the eve of the insurrection they were yapping about Ayatollah Khomeini in worried tones for his "Islamic and pro-feudalistic program" and "not taking a clear stand" against the Soviets. The CPML was wringing its hands over whether he could "make some kind of compromise with Bakhtiar [the Shah's stand-in]" or whether—horror of horrors—"the country will be propelled into civil war"—in other words into revolution. Quite a stand for so-called "communists."

But now these CPML phony "revolutionaries" are lauding Khomeini to the skies, building him up as the true leader of the Iranian people and telling us "the majority of Iranians support the newly established Islamic Republic." What has happened between now and then? What the CPML has realized is that Khomeini is in, the man with the power. And they are hoping like hell that he will be a force for "stability and unity" in Iran—stability for and unity with the U.S. imperialists, that is, against their Soviet superpower rivals.

While revolutionaries give support to Khomeini to the extent that he opposes imperialism, particularly the U.S. which is the main danger to Iran at this time, the CPML supports him for exactly the opposite reasons. They support him to the extent that he vacillates toward the U.S. and to the extent that he attacks the continuing struggle of the Iranian people who are mobilizing to push the revolution forward and complete its pressing task of kicking the U.S. out lock, stock and barrel.

So now the CPML is bending over backwards to gloss over the contradictory nature of the Khomeini government and its growing attacks on the masses and in particular the Marxist-Leninist forces who are leading the revolution forward. And in the process they are driven to distortion and slander of revolutionary struggle and fabricating support for the backward aspects of the Khomeini government when increasingly there is struggle against them.

Take for example their reportage on May Day in Iran. In a couple of slickly worded sentences they say that "2 million workers participated in mass meetings officially supported by the new government" where they came out to "celebrate the birth of the Islamic state." Evidently we are supposed to believe that this was a massive outpouring of support for Khomeini who "used the occasion to call for the people's help in a crash program of housing..." etc., etc.

Of course there is no mention of the fact that these two million people were organized mainly by the revolutionary Left, that they marched through the streets with guns in hand vowing to carry the revolution forward and raising demands on the Khomeini government to nationalize U.S. enterprises and recognize the right to strike. Not a word about the fact that Khomeini originally opposed May Day as "foreign inspired" or that when he saw he was unable to stop these revolutionary demonstrations he called his own "Islamic May Day", bussing people to a separate rally where he used the occasion to call on workers to "give up the weapon of the strike." And not a hint of the fact that the Khomeini forces allowed and even encouraged right-wing elements to hoist banners which read: "Marxists are agents of the Shah" and "Death to communism". No wonder the CPML waited a whole month before attempting to mention May Day in Iran!

As the Khomeini government increasingly stands in opposition to completing

the anti-imperialist and democratic tasks of the revolution, the more the CPML likes what it sees. Khomeini's failure to nationalize U.S. holdings, his refusal to completely break up the old Imperial Army—these are encouraging signs to the CPML. What does it matter, the Shah or Khomeini, as long as the U.S. retains its hold on Iran? All the better to oppose the Soviets, who according to the twisted logic of the CPML are the "main danger", "the real threat to Iran's independence and sovereignty"!

CPML—Long-Time Fan of the Shah

This concern for "order" and "stability" (of the U.S. brand) is of course nothing new for the CPML. For years they brazenly sucked up to the Shah, upholding this blood-drenched U.S. puppet as a "national leader" of the Iranian people simply because he opposed the Soviets. They attacked anyone who demanded an end to U.S. arms shipments to this murdering dog—the U.S. "policeman of the Middle East". Meanwhile these weapons of repression were viciously used against the Iranian people and others in the Persian Gulf area in the service of U.S. imperialism, which has long been the dominant exploiter there.

As millions took to the streets of Iran in September last year, the *Call* was content to loyally parrot the reactionary line of their revisionist mentors in China—which held that the Shah was a force for "stability" in the Middle East and that Iran's "unstable political situation" was becoming most worrisome. They warmly greeted the visit of the traitor Hua Kuo-feng, who toasted it up with the Shah as fighting raged outside, and hailed his disgusting praise of this butcher: "Let our two countries strengthen our friendship and co-operation, learn from (!) and support each other and advance together triumphantly." Yes, learn from the Shah as the streets of Tehran ran red with the blood of the masses massacred by the troops of this royal dog!

Even as their precious Shah crumbled before their eyes, the CPML still clung desperately to the hope that Iran's "stability" in the camp of the U.S. could still be preserved. As the all-out popular insurrection raged in Tehran, the then current issue of the *Call* complained that "...the possibility (!) of continued unrest and civil war remains. This presents the danger of heightened U.S.-Soviet contention and involvement in Iran, which would result in increased threats to the country's stability and national independence [sic]."

What shameless grovelling before the U.S. imperialists! Those nasty masses, says the CPML, should be satisfied with "stability" and "national independence" under the iron boot heel of the U.S.-backed Shah! How kicking the U.S. out of Iran will only create "heightened U.S.-Soviet" involvement is beyond comprehension. But what these twisted servants of the U.S. really fear here is that, "The Soviet Union, in particular, is trying to take advantage of the upsurge to serve its expansionist aims in the region." So the masses should cool it. Clearly, the CPML would have preferred a "compromise" with the U.S. imperialists—anything but "continued unrest and civil war"!

While it is certainly true that the Soviet imperialists are actively engaged in trying to get a hold of Iran, the CPML is as quick as the U.S. imperialists to raise this as a reason to oppose the revolution. It clearly never crosses the minds of the CPML that the Iranian masses are quite capable of dealing with the Soviet threat when armed with the correct political understanding, just as they did with U.S. imperialism. In fact, the CPML is even forced to admit the widespread opposition to *both* superpowers in the recent demonstrations in Iran where the masses carried pictures of the U.S. flag with the symbol of the Soviet Union superimposed over it.

But now the Shah is gone for good and the CPML has to deal with the

phenomenon of Khomeini—after all he's the man in power. Thus the May 28 issue of the *Call* goes to great lengths to paint all those moving the Iranian revolution forward as acting on behalf of the Soviet Union, distorting the continuing revolutionary struggle as nothing less than a Soviet plot.

We are, for example, told that "Soviet agents have been actively promoting a secessionist movement in the northern territory of Azarbyjan." There can be no doubt that the Soviets have designs in the area, but to say the upsurge of struggle in Azarbyjan is Soviet inspired is a total lie and a vicious slander against the just struggles of the oppressed nationalities for autonomy (not secession) within the Iranian state—an important part of the revolutionary struggle opposed and attacked by the Khomeini government.

Likewise the *Call* hails a reactionary strike stirred up by Khomeini to purge leftists from the editorial board of Iran's largest daily newspaper, *Kayhan*—an action protested by a demonstration of 100,000 outraged Ira-

nians the following day. Those purged were of varying political views but the vast majority were revolutionary and democratic forces. Those who dare to print criticism of Khomeini for his attacks on the revolutionary Left are falsely labeled by the *Call* as "pro-Soviet" who were "printing attacks on the government."

The sheer opportunist depths to which the CPML is sinking are certainly proving to be bottomless. With each new development in the storm that is shaking Iran they have shamelessly trailed in the wake of the struggle, trimming their sails just enough to give the appearance of being "revolutionaries" while steering a course dead to the side of the U.S. At the first sign of a revolutionary wind, they are busily hauling in the sheets, screaming, "Don't rock the boat!"

Curious "communists" these CPMLers, who are always defending the "stability" and present order against "instability", whatever is rising and developing, whatever is revolutionary! And no matter how hard they try to cover their asses with self-serving lip-service against "U.S. interference" their line shines through: rely on the U.S. imperialists to oppose the Soviet imperialists and not—heaven forbid—on the revolutionary struggle against all imperialism. ■

Rock Against Racism Continued from page 3

some right on political content. Patti Smith had also agreed to play, but pulled out when an ad appeared in the *Reader* which violated an agreement she had made with RAR not to advertise her performance. Her band showed up anyway, which was right on, but Patti under pressure from her producer for possible contract violations, did an interview on the radio basically putting down the Rock Against Racism as unnecessary and came off like she wanted to teach RAR a lesson. A lot of people learned something from this, but it wasn't quite what Patti had in mind.

Careerists Rob the People

The same sort of thinking which prompted someone to advertise Patti Smith as a "big draw" to bring people out for Rock Against Racism showed up in other ways, and was very harmful to the people. In fact RAR has some questions to answer from many people who felt that the political bands got pushed aside because some people thought that the masses weren't down for righteous ass-kicking music that took on the system. D.O.A. got pushed to the front of the concert, when the least number of people were sure to be there.

Prairie Fire, a revolutionary band who came all the way specifically to play RAR from San Francisco, (raising their own fare through a benefit concert) got pushed further and further back and off the stage altogether. Prairie Fire originally had a contract to play at 3 o'clock and they were there to play, but they kept getting put off. First they were rescheduled for 8 PM and then other bands who were scheduled to play after them kept getting pushed ahead until they were last.

Then it started to rain before Skafish, a local Chicago band, and Prairie Fire could play. Contrary to what may have appeared as a natural disaster, certain small minded people in influential positions had *no intention* of letting Prairie Fire hit the stage before the park curfew was up—setting Prairie Fire up not to play at all or to take the heat if they played after curfew and the cops moved on the concert.

Toward the end of the concert, as some chants went up calling for Prairie Fire, a line of cops appeared behind the Prairie Fire table, which had been a hub of revolutionary activity and interest all day and which was extra visible with its dummy of a capitalist holding up a Nazi and hanging by the neck.

No, it wasn't the rain that prevented Prairie Fire from playing. But the rain did cover the ass of certain devious people and settled the question of whether or not these fools were going to be able to prevent the masses from hearing Prairie Fire. ■

Those aspiring hot shots who consciously moved to keep the powerful Rock n' Revolt sound of Prairie Fire off the stage robbed the people, because Prairie Fire's music speaks to the hopes and dreams of the working class and oppressed people. It hits hard at the enemy, it speaks to why the masses came out on Saturday, and more—to the need for revolution.

As hundreds found out on Sunday and Monday night, when Prairie Fire played at two Chicago clubs, (see page 7) it was no surprise that certain people did not want Prairie Fire on stage and plotted to keep them off. In culture like in all aspects of society the class struggle rages and as one musician put it, "There are some people who didn't give a damn about Rock or Racism. All they care about is their own careers." Let's face it, promoting revolutionary music is not a real plus for someone who is concerned about their own bourgeois career above all else.

One of the musicians who played on Saturday commented later that night on the fact that the people who came to RAR were down for some heavier political material than what they got for the most part. "It was a good thing, but I'd like to do it again, and next time I'd like to do it *right!*" he said.

The problems that arose have helped to sharpen up some things for those who really want to build the struggle of the people against a common enemy and not their own cushy careers. What is clear is that Rock Against Racism can't be a Jam Productions "Junior." That's not what the people were down for on Saturday, that's not what they want to hear.

And when it comes right down to it, the bourgeoisie could pull out their superstars for Jam Jr. in the park and build public opinion for their stinking system all day long—and they would do it for free—to suck off the energy of the movement of the people against them. If Rock Against Racism is going to be just a jam in the park, then it won't go anywhere, because people who come out hungry for righteous struggle and inspiration will not be satisfied with pablum.

What also got clearer on Saturday was that the thousands of people who came out to Lincoln Park are only the tip of the iceberg as far as the tremendous desire and potential for the masses of people to unite against all the shit that's coming down in this country. And when that force is galvanized in the storms that we can see shaping up, the whole system is gonna rock to its very foundations. As to the high and mighty and all those who want to suck the blood of the people, when the time comes, heads will definitely rock and roll. ■

OIL BOOM TO BLEED MEXICO



"Carter is coming to exchange oil for peanuts." This sign greeted Jimmy Carter as he stepped into Mexico City last February.

Ever since the born-again hyena Jimmy Carter visited Mexico City in February, there has been a constant stream of politicians, businessmen, bankers, senators, governors, mayors and other assorted bloodsuckers flocking to meet with Mexican President Lopez Portillo. Trade commissions admire "Mexico's developing economy"; and law enforcement agencies on both sides of the border have started to coordinate their programs. One big newspaper columnist declared, "The U.S. is finally giving Mexico the attention and respect she deserves."

But the born-again interest in Mexico is not based on "respect" for the Mexican people but on the profits to be made sucking the black gold from Mexican turf. Wildly varying estimates of Mexico's oil reserves have been made, with some figures running as high as 200 billion barrels—30% more than the proven reserves of Saudi Arabia. Such a wealth of natural resources is enough to make any capitalist's mouth water, and there's a lot of slobbering going on. For instance, Los Angeles' "Sister City Commission," which develops preferential trade relations around the world on a city-to-city basis, just discovered a long-lost sister they never knew they had—Mexico City!

The U.S. capitalists tell us that Mexico's oil wealth will solve all her problems, and many problems for the U.S. government also. On May 19, Jimmy Carter declared that the problem of illegal immigrants from Mexico will soon be solved, because Mexico will use its profits from selling oil to create jobs, services and education. (This new found concern of the U.S. bourgeoisie for the would-be unemployed workers in Mexico is really quite touching except for the fact that the godfathers of American industry have grown swollen from exploiting the labor of "illegals" and their main concern has in fact been how to keep them "illegal" so they can exploit them more thoroughly.)

Intensifying Misery

In fact, not only is the discovery of oil not the solution to unemployment and the widespread suffering of the

Mexican people, it is intensifying their misery. Peasants are being driven off their land to make way for oil fields. Rich farm land is plowed under because there's oil beneath it. The fishing industry off the East coast of Mexico is being destroyed by oil spills. Mexico's whole economy is being twisted and distorted far beyond the havoc already wreaked under U.S. imperialist domination.

The problem is not the oil. The problem is imperialism. Oil is an important and valuable natural resource which should and can be used to benefit and enrich the lives of the people. But "development" under the rule of imperialism means Mexico's oil is a tool to further enslave the Mexican people while enriching the U.S. banks and corporations.

"Foreign aid" is the name that the U.S. imperialist octopus gives to one form of strangulation. Petroleos Mexicanos (the state-owned Mexican Petroleum Co., PEMEX) for example, although it is the largest enterprise in Latin America, was already in debt \$6 billion to U.S. banks. The Mexican government has a foreign debt of over \$35 billion and now they are going in hock to the U.S. even further, taking out massive loans to purchase drilling equipment, pipelines, etc. These loans are readily available from U.S. government-run banking agencies as well as private American banks. The Export-Import Bank, for example, voted \$2 billion in loans to Mexico to develop oil and agriculture.

U.S. imperialism benefits from these loans in several ways. One, the loans usually specify they must be spent to purchase U.S.-made equipment. Two, Mexico must pay interest of 7½% on the loans; and three, the crude oil is refined in the U.S. and the finished products resold to Mexico at a huge profit. These "friendly" loans are only one part of the web of domination that the imperialists exercise through various economic and political means, and ultimately through the threat of military intervention.

Distorted Economy

The wrenching and wrecking this

does on Mexico's economy is clear. Her agriculture is being distorted to meet the needs of the imperialists. For example, Mexico has announced a 25% reduction in production of basic food crops such as wheat, corn and rice, but a 6% increase in land planted for quick-cash and industrial crops such as sugar,

coffee and cotton. While the Mexican people starve, the U.S. companies will have a ready supply of low-priced raw materials.

Both the U.S. and Mexican governments make a big deal about investment in agricultural development, but only the richest and most profitable farm land is being developed, while vast acreage of less-fertile soil is being left idle, and much is still mired in a very backward and undeveloped state. Meat, eggs, milk and poultry have virtually disappeared from the diet of millions of Mexican people. Food prices have skyrocketed, as food and grains have been imported at high prices, primarily from the U.S. Wheat imports alone rose 30% in 1979.

Unemployment is soaring, as peasants are driven off the land, Farm workers are laid-off at idle farms. Over 1000 people arrive in Mexico City every day looking for work. Even more make the treacherous journey across the border, hoping to find work.

Continued on page 12



As Soon As We Can Do It!

We're not just talking about a small group of people making revolution. We're talking about millions getting prepared, organized, educated and united to pick up arms to do away with this degenerate system.

Aren't you sick of slaving at a job only to make enough to scrape by or going from one unemployment line to another and getting slapped in the face each time? Aren't you sick and tired of being ripped off every time you turn around? Aren't you sick of discrimination and the way it degrades and abuses millions every day? Can you stand for one more murdering dog in a police uniform getting away with "justifiable homicide"? Aren't you sickened and enraged at the prospect of world war as the rulers of the U.S. and their rivals in Russia prepare to send millions off to kill and be killed to see which super-thief will grab control of the world? Don't you feel in your gut that there must be a better way than this; that mankind must be capable of something far higher than the cesspool they have us chained in?

Then you've got to stand with revolution. Band-aid reforms won't do when the whole world needs to be turned right side up.

If you stand with revolution, then you've got to stand with the Revolutionary Communist Party, the only force seriously working for revolution in this country. Nothing is so vital to our class as this Party to provide leadership through the storms that will pound this planet as the imperialist crisis deepens and world war looms larger. To meet the growing demands of the struggle, counter each attack from the rulers of this country and take on the monumental tasks ahead—spread this newspaper and other Party literature among the thousands and millions, to raise bail and defense funds for Party members and supporters facing charges, and to build for a mass, revolutionary May Day next year; for all this and more, the RCP calls on you to step forward in the battle to raise one million dollars. The next few months will be crucial in winning this battle. None of us has much money, but what more important goal can we contribute our time, energy and money to than the destruction of this rotting system and all forms of dog-eat-dog existence.

Give what you can but also and very importantly the Party calls on you to raise funds among friends and family. We are also taking this campaign to celebrities and other well-to-do people, calling on them to stand with those who want and need revolution and the Party that's working for it every day.

Write us with any ideas and suggestions. We're calling on people to not only donate money, but to write in their own words statements of support for this drive that can be used to win more people to support it.

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This System Is Doomed Let's Finish It Off!

Speech by Bob Avakian, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Party at May Day rally, May 5, 1979 in Washington D.C. Includes historic call for revolutionary May Day demonstrations on May 1st, 1980.

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For almost fifteen years, Vietnam was a storm center of revolutionary struggle against U.S. imperialism. And for more than thirty years, years of almost constant war, it was a battleground against colonialism, and neo-colonialism. The heroic Vietnamese people fought against one imperialist power after another and finally drove out their bloody oppressors—the U.S. imperialists.

The final victory of the Vietnamese people against the U.S. in 1975 was a time of celebration and joy around the world. The war had dealt a body blow to U.S. imperialism.

Yet today, Vietnam has come to represent something very different than it did in prior times. Having driven out the U.S., the Vietnamese leaders have turned to embrace Soviet social-imperialism. Having defeated the armies of the U.S., the Vietnamese now send their own army marauding into neighboring Kampuchea (Cambodia), and their aircraft to deepen the craters dug mercilessly by American B-52's.

It is crucial to come to a correct understanding of events in Indochina today as well as the process by which this set-back to the world revolution has taken place. Great storms are forming on the horizon. World war is rapidly approaching. The ability of the revolutionary forces to rise to the necessary

tasks of the coming years requires a scientific and sober assessment of political forces not only in this country, but around the world.

Some defend the actions of the new Vietnamese ruling class. Failing to see beyond their noses, they refuse to recognize the coming imperialist war and the present movement of governments to line up behind one or the other superpower. States in the Soviet orbit appear to be struggling against U.S. imperialism, therefore, what they do must be progressive and just. Such people fail to inquire—for what reason is the struggle being waged?

But still more poisonous in their effect within this country are the lies told by our own rulers about the "lessons" of Vietnam. Millions are spent hiring hack writers and producing movies like the Deer Hunter to turn truth upside down. They try to make use of today's reactionary state of affairs in Vietnam to remove the brand of war criminal which was righteously stamped on their hides by the anti-war movement. Speaking to those who were involved or inspired by that movement they say: "Your efforts were wasted, your ideals misplaced." Vietnam's national war against the U.S., according to them, was just plain reactionary, or, at "best", doomed to fail and fall into another big power's grip.

War Against U.S. Imperialism

WHAT WE WITH VI

Part 1: Once Again

Those who pessimistically accept this line make a terrible mistake. Nothing that has happened in Vietnam can cleanse the blood from the U.S. imperialists' hands, nor can it change the fact that wars of national liberation, like the war in Vietnam, weaken the common enemy of all the world's people—imperialism. It only means the struggle has to be still more revolutionary, more thorough in its targeting of all imperialism.

Starting with this issue, the Revolutionary Worker will publish a series of articles which will analyze and summarize the struggle in Vietnam and show the reason for its ultimate defeat—from within. This series is based on an even more comprehensive analysis to appear soon in Revolution, the monthly magazine published by the Revolutionary Communist Party.

In short, the struggle in Vietnam failed to advance beyond the stage of an anti-imperialist, bourgeois democratic revolution. Its principal leaders, including Ho Chi Minh, never embraced the outlook and ideology of the working class—Marxism-Leninism. In essence, they remained revolutionary nationalists, not communists. While they did mobilize the masses in progressive wars of national liberation, a nationalist and bourgeois political line prevailed throughout the history of the struggle. This was the internal basis for the events which followed the defeat of the U.S. Once the U.S. domination of half their country was defeated, the new Vietnamese rulers quickly capitulated to another imperialist, the Soviet Union.

This series of articles will address key questions concerning the history of the leadership in the Vietnamese struggle, its conciliation with Khrushchev's revisionism coming from the Soviet Union in the 1950s and early '60s, and how its bourgeois views affected everything from economic construction to aspects of their military strategy against U.S. imperialism. This first article deals particularly with events since the U.S. withdrawal—most importantly the consolidation of Vietnam into the Soviet orbit.

The Soviet Union has swung its weight around inside Vietnam for some time. During the war against the U.S., it supplied the Vietnamese both militarily and economically and used this to gain influence. But these ties to the Soviet Union were not what overall defined the struggle by the Vietnamese against the U.S., despite the intentions of the Soviet Union during the war or despite the rantings of the U.S. imperialists that the Vietnamese were nothing but Soviet dupes. While the seeds of future events clearly existed for years, it was only after the U.S. was thrown out that the complete consolidation of Vietnam into the Soviet bloc took place.

The present position of the Vietnamese rulers in relation to the Soviets has rapidly accelerated in the past four years. Starkly clear today is the full blossoming of a revisionist line and the willingness of the Vietnamese rulers to become a tool of imperialism—the very system they had fought when they came up against the French and the U.S.

The overall motives of the Soviets in Vietnam are strategic and political, more than economic. Southeast Asia as a whole, and Indochina in particular, are extremely important areas for the Soviets in their contention with the U.S. And Vietnam occupies a key position in the Soviet's strategy as things develop toward war.

Economic Domination

However, it is helpful to first illustrate some of the economic ties by which the Soviets have bound the Vietnamese.

The Soviets seized on the difficulties the Vietnamese faced as a result of years of massive U.S. bombing. Internally, the Vietnamese economy was in turmoil and the Soviets, with the agreement of the Vietnamese leaders, moved quickly to consolidate their influence. In the months following the war close to \$1 billion in "aid", most of it from the Soviets and the rest from their Eastern European bloc, flowed into the coffers of the new Vietnamese rulers.

At the end of 1975, Vietnam and the Soviet Union concluded an economic agreement which provided for Soviet participation in future economic planning of Vietnam. A five year plan for economic development was announced in 1976 and it has been estimated that the Vietnamese envisioned upwards of 60% of this plan to be financed by foreign countries. The principal



Above: Woman liberation fighter loads artillery piece.
Below: NLF troops receive warm welcome as they march into Cam Ranh.

NOT WRONG VIETNAM?

in Imperialism's Grip

"donor" was far and away the Soviet Union.

While it would be logical to assume that a great deal of emphasis would be placed on the development of agriculture, particularly rice to feed the people, this was not the case. Instead, heavy industry was seen as the key link and to the extent that attention was paid to agriculture, it largely went toward the growing of cash crops for export. This is far from the socialist policy of self-reliance. In fact, in agriculture, it is in many ways similar to the old plantation economy developed under Western imperialism—only rubber, the main old plantation product, is not so profitable any more in the world market.

In the course of the five-year plan, the Soviets were to be involved in the construction of some 40 industrial projects, like a coal mine with a 2 1/2 million ton per year output as well as the expansion of another large mine. It was no accident that the five year plan had called for increasing coal production by 100%—by far a larger leap than that projected for any other sphere of the economy, because coal is Vietnam's biggest export and Eastern Europe, along with the Soviets, are Vietnam's biggest "customers."

In other words, what was being solidified was a typical neo-colonial setup with capital invested by the imperialist Soviet Union and raw materials extracted from Vietnam—all under the signboard of "friendship between fraternal socialist countries."

Vietnam's new rulers had hitched their wagon to the Soviets and as in every country dominated by imperialism, the economy became lopsided and deformed. In 1977, natural disasters hit Vietnam and that same year a severe food shortage developed and 1 1/2 million tons of grain were imported. While the Vietnamese leaders have blamed this on nature, the real disaster has been the rule of these new compradors (meaning native capitalists dependent on foreign capital) and their Soviet masters.

Any doubt of Vietnam's connection to the Soviet Union was dispelled in June when Vietnam officially joined the Council of Mutual Economic Assistance (Comecon). Comecon is the instrument by which the Soviets maintain Eastern Europe and other Soviet bloc countries.

Of course, true to their bourgeois nature, the new Vietnamese rulers left the door wide open to any other imperialist who sought to sink his claws into the hides of the Vietnamese people.

After the defeat of the U.S. they inherited from the South and retained membership in the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank—all agencies of U.S. imperialism and tools of imperialist oppression of underdeveloped countries. Vietnam has received upwards of \$400 million in loans from these banks.

In the spring of 1977, the new Vietnamese rulers formulated a "foreign investment code" which provided for joint enterprises and wholly-owned foreign projects in industries which were oriented toward exports. Big tax concessions were guaranteed, as was the right to extract and repatriate any profits from the enterprises. The Vietnamese even assured foreign capitalists that the business would not be nationalized for 10 to 15 years.

It is not wrong in principle for a socialist country whose economy has been torn by revolution and war to make certain concessions to foreign capitalists, if the intention behind this granting of concessions is to lay the basis for a stronger socialist economy in the future. But as events have shown, this was not the case in Vietnam. Rather

Top: Le Duan arm-in-arm with Brezhnev.

Bottom: Invasion forces overrun Phnom Penh.



Locked in the Soviet Grip—Invasion of Cambodia

than self-reliance, the Vietnamese have relied increasingly on imperialism—Western and—ultimately—Soviet.

Soviet Strategic Aims

The fact that Western powers are economically penetrating into Vietnam does not mean the Soviets don't dominate. The Soviets tolerate or encourage this in many countries they dominate. It is part and parcel of the anti-socialist lines they push on economic development. They even beckon Western investment in the Soviet Union itself, though in this case it is often more motivated by Soviet strategic considerations—as in the case of wooing the Japanese to come into Siberia for gas and oil.

The Soviets are not mainly seeking economic gain from Vietnam. This is also true in the case of Cuba. This has led some people to challenge the idea that the Soviets have an imperialist relation to Vietnam (and Cuba). But this is foolish and shortsighted. Imperialists often subordinate their immediate profit in any particular country to their overall policies. After all, when the U.S. was dominating south Vietnam, it spent far more in military costs defending it than they ever could have hoped to pull out in profits. What was at stake was far more strategic and military interests. The same is true with the Soviets in Vietnam today.

As noted earlier, Indochina is extremely important to the Soviets. It occupies a strategic position in relationship to all of Southeast Asia and in particular to China, which the Soviets are trying to encircle. This has been all the more significant since revisionist China has officially enlisted in the U.S. war bloc.

The Vietnamese army—an army of over one million troops not counting division strength militias for each of Vietnam's 500 provinces—is needless to say a valuable tool in the hands of the Soviets. And the Vietnamese rulers have proved more than willing to do the Soviets bidding in Southeast Asia.

Vietnam signed an agreement with Laos in 1977 which sealed its domination of that country. The treaty legitimized the presence of 30,000 Vietnamese troops in Laos. And late last year, the Vietnamese mounted a reactionary invasion of Kampuchea (Cambodia) enstalling a puppet regime and forcing the government of Pol Pot out of the cities and into rural areas of Kampuchea to wage people's war.

Clearly the ambitions of the Soviets have neatly coincided with designs of the Vietnamese rulers themselves, who have their own plans for being the local dominant power in Indochina. These plans obviously include ideas of economic domination and even a kind of economic division of labor, organizing the Laotian and Kampuchean economies along lines favorable to Vietnam. This big-power thinking is part and parcel to the same anti-socialist line that leads the Vietnamese leaders away from releasing and relying on the conscious activism of the Vietnamese people in developing the country. Instead of self-reliance they rely on foreign imperialism, on subordinating other countries, and on oppressing and exploiting people in Vietnam itself.

Soviet Military Presence

Last November a treaty "of friendship" was signed between the Soviets and the Vietnamese, which, it soon became clear, amounted to a military agreement. Massive amounts of military equipment have been sent to Vietnam. This has been particularly true during and after the war with China earlier this year. At the height of the war, a task force of Soviet naval vessels entered Vietnamese waters.

Over the past months, Soviet technicians have been placed in Danang to maintain and refuel long range Soviet reconnaissance air craft. In March, several hundred Soviet "maritime workers and experts" arrived in Vietnam to work at Cam Ranh Bay, a naval port built by the U.S. and obviously now functioning as a Soviet Naval Base.

In addition to all this, the Soviets have taken over old Air America routes out of Laos. (This was a notorious CIA front which operated during the U.S. war.) They have constructed two electronic eavesdropping complexes in Laos and have set up a radar tracking system in Kampuchea. Soviet pilots shuttle Vietnamese troops between Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea in Soviet transports.

In light of these developments, most of which even the Vietnamese admit to be true, can there be any doubt that the new rulers of Vietnam have sold out the country to yet another imperialist power?

What has happened in Vietnam is not simply a case of "revolution gone bad." What has happened is that a successful war of national liberation was

waged against the U.S. imperialists, but that the class that in reality led this struggle was the national bourgeoisie and not the proletariat.

Shortly after the U.S. withdrew, the Vietnamese yakked quite a bit about "maintaining independence" from foreign powers. Some have described these men as such "fierce nationalists" that any alignment like today's between the Vietnamese and the Soviets was unthinkable. But, in fact, it's exactly the fact that the outlook was nationalism, not communism, which sealed their fate.

This, nevertheless, did not prevent the Vietnamese from defeating a very powerful imperialist enemy—U.S. imperialism—and thus playing a big and progressive role on a world scale for quite a few years. But it has prevented the Vietnamese struggle from thoroughly completing the anti-imperialist democratic stage of revolution. Instead they have fallen back into imperialism's grip—the clutches of Soviet social-imperialism.

The politics of the Vietnamese leaders are those of national capitalists—a class which has proven itself time and again incapable of carrying the struggle through to the end. In a colonial country, it is oppressed by and will even tend to resist big foreign capitalists. But given leadership, it will ultimately capitulate and break under the weight of one imperialist power or another. And genuine socialism is out of the question unless the proletariat leads, unless there is a Party guided by the ideology representing the proletariat's historic interests—Marxism-Leninism, Mao Tsetung Thought. These two stages of revolution are both distinct and interrelated. The leadership of the proletariat is necessary in both stages and also the key link between them.

Summing up experience in the democratic stage of revolution in another colonial country, China, Mao Tsetung wrote in 1937,

...it is history's verdict that China's bourgeois-democratic revolution against imperialism and feudalism is a task that can be completed, not under the leadership of the bourgeoisie, but only under that of the proletariat. What is more, it is possible to overcome the bourgeoisie's inherent vacillation and lack of thoroughness and to prevent the

Continued on page 13

Capitalism Dumps Load on Truckers

Across the country independent truckers have taken action to galvanize support for a nationwide strike called for June 9. In Gary, Indiana 300 rigs blocked the freeway to protest the 25-gallon limit on diesel fuel purchases. In North Dakota 100 truckers shut down most of the fuel stops. In Seattle, Washington the trucks convoyed through rush-hour traffic, causing a mile-long traffic jam. In some cases police have moved in and impounded trucks which were blocking fuel pumps and have arrested the drivers. In California there were reports of shooting and rock-throwing at trucks refusing to honor the strike. These and other militant protests reflect the anger that's widespread among the truckers.

For the independent truckers, the soaring fuel prices pushed them over the edge. For many the situation has meant the difference between breaking even and going broke. Since January 1, diesel fuel has risen from 60¢ to \$1.00 a gallon—and most trucks only get 3 to 4 miles a gallon. Many see the strike as a last-ditch effort to stay in business—"If you're not making any money driving, you're not losing any striking," as one trucker put it.

The truckers' desperate situation arises out of the workings of the capitalist system which is running them off the road. They are caught in a vise between rising operating costs and low freight rates which they cannot escape. They are increasingly unable to compete with the big trucking companies. The only future they have under this system is hardship and bankruptcy.

The first round of fuel hikes in 1974 wiped out thousands of small truckers. It sparked a militant two-month nationwide truckers' strike. To those who survived, it has gotten harder to scrape together a living—even doing 70 hours a week behind the wheel. Over the last three years, operating costs have risen 30%, but the freight rates have risen minimally and in some cases have gone down. Truck tractors that sold for \$28,000 in 1969 now cost more than \$60,000. License fees are enormous. In

California, basic tags go for nearly \$2,000 and these must be supplemented with stickers for every state they travel in. Bank payments on a big tractor often run \$1500 a month, and the banks wait like vultures for the truckers to fall behind on their payments. Add to this repairs and insurance. Said one older trucker who, after 30 years, finally sold his own truck and went to work as a driver for a big company: "I put more than 5 million miles on the six trucks I owned since 1945 and yet ain't got a goddamn thing to show for it."

Contradictory Position

Ripped off at the fuel pump, up to their ears in debt, the independents are also getting squeezed by the big trucking companies. As a start, the big trucking companies have the advantage of size and capital so as to buy fuel in bulk, get insurance at fleet rates, and set up their own terminals complete with mechanics. On top of this they are given the choice routes and cargo according to Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) regulations, leaving the independents to scramble for what is left over—primarily produce and non-processed foods. Some of the rates for produce are only 50¢ a mile, more than half of which gets eaten up by gas costs. Even when an independent can secure temporary rights to haul some regulated cargo, he must pay a 10% broker's fee, putting him at a distinct disadvantage to the company truck line.

At every turn the system is tightening the screws on the independent trucker. The truckers realize they are getting crushed, but they don't thoroughly understand why, and there is debate among them over how to solve their problem. As small businessmen, they occupy a contradictory position in society between the working class and the capitalists, and this influences how they think. On the one hand they are hard-working people being crushed by the system. This forces them to fight the monopolies to survive, and in many cases, like today and the '74 shutdown, to wage this fight collectively. On the

other hand they are businessmen who must make a profit to keep from going under. This is the basis for many to think that they have a stake in making this system work. This goes right along with trying to get "their government" to represent them, and reducing mass actions like those in this strike to lobbying tactics.

Most of the truckers recognize the government and the big companies as their enemy. A number of reactionaries are putting out the garbage that it's going to take cutting off the food supplies to force the masses of people into supporting the truckers. But the main demand of this strike is to roll back fuel prices, a demand which the working class supports, for it is aimed squarely at the oil companies. Different groups are jockeying for leadership of the strike, and there is no clear-cut set of demands around which the truckers nationwide are united. The truckers themselves have a spectrum of demands that includes lifting the 55 m.p.h. speed limit, guaranteeing fuel supplies, and standardizing weight and length limits on rates (to avoid being fined when going between states with different limits). All the truckers are concerned about the low freight rates, and there is sharp debate over whether they should be raised unilaterally or deregulated and allowed to float with competition.

Deregulation

Regulation of the shipping industry goes back to the 1930s when the economy ground to a halt and thousands of truckers went bankrupt. The capitalists realized that as long as the trucking system was in a shambles they could not realize their profits in industry and agriculture. So they enacted legislation governed by the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) to protect routes and rates to a certain degree and turn the truckers a measure of profit in order to keep the trucking industry operating. Today the Independent Truckers Association is going to Congress to lift these ICC regulations. This puts them in some very revealing

company. Jimmy Carter, Alfred Kahn, and other spokesmen for the ruling class are calling for the same thing. Could it be that these politicians are looking out for the little guy? Hardly. The capitalists want to drive down trucking rates so they won't have to allocate so much of their profits to shipping. Carter's latest proposal and the one most likely to be enacted would allow freight rates to float up 3%—and down 20%.

One shipping executive of Consolidated Freightways, the largest trucking firm in the country, told the *Revolutionary Worker*, "Publicly we are against deregulation [there will be a drop in return for all big trucking firms at least in the early stages of deregulation—ed.], but between you and me Consolidated Freightways will do very well in a deregulated economy." Sure they will. They're going to gobble up the independents as they are crushed one by one. The so-called spokesmen for the truckers who are pushing deregulation are delivering the truckers right into the jaws of their enemy. Many truckers recognize this and angrily denounce this cutthroat scheme cloaked in hollow phrases about the glory of free enterprise.

The truckers' dream of keeping out of the working class and making it has collided with the reality that the majority of them are destined for ruin at the hands of the capitalists. They've tried to escape the rat race of factory life with a boss on their backs—only to replace it with a frantic scramble for loads and a bank breathing down their necks. The small businesses they've sweated and saved for are being ripped out from under them. There is no escape from the laws of capitalism, and history cannot be turned back to the days before giant monopolies ruled. The only way out of this mess for the truckers lies not in fighting to make capitalism work but in uniting with the working class and masses of people against the capitalists and everything they stand for. ■

Cincy Black Pigs

Spokesmen for the Master

The fuse continues to burn down on the powderkeg of Cincinnati's Black community. Anger burns deep over the recent vicious shootings of Blacks by the police—four dead in eight months, two more crippled, another beaten to death in jail. Four cops have bit the dust as people righteously fought back, refusing to submit to the terrorism of these killers in blue. Despite frantic attempts to halt the growing prospect of open rebellion, the city rulers have been unable to deal with the situation.

Enter the Black Police Association, the Sentinels, who try to put on a dashiki over their guns and clubs and "talk tough" in an effort to get people to put their faith and trust in these Black cops and—above all—to cool it. According to these "champions" of Black people, "Blacks are non-violent and pro-police," and if you're thinking of rebelling, the Sentinels have other advice: "What we need is a militant, organized Black electorate."

The Sentinels' Wendell Young claims that, "When the Black people and the Black police get together, we Black people will get all we need and more." Young is being put forward by himself and others as a superhero, willing to put his ass and his job on the line. He made this statement at a meeting called to organize a march led by the Sentinels. All the speakers spoke to the growing numbers of Blacks being murdered by the police and addressed the overall oppression Black people are subjected to. Their answer? Put "more Black faces in high places."

Wendell Young took the podium. He spoke of the '60s, sounding militant

and almost revolutionary as he shouted out the names of Malcolm X and H. Rap Brown and Stokely Carmichael. "But," he said, "we don't want the '60s again. We must be cool and calm, we must use our heads. The system can work," he promised, "but you must get behind your Black police. If you don't, don't come running to me whining and sniveling about being shot down and harassed by the police. The problem lies in the fact that white cops are racist, but Black cops will not shoot or arrest Black people, our friends and neighbors."

Three days later a march was held, led by the Sentinels. Then the 1200 participants attended the City Council meeting. Tables were set up for voter registration at all the doorways. City Councilmen began their B.S. about how .357 magnums and dum-dum bullets are really not all that different from weaponry the cops have now. Members of the Sentinels stood up, not to protest this trash but to quiet the people down who were shouting out and booing.

Finally the Black cops took the stage. Four of them. Again leading up to Wendell Young. Again they took a militant posture, spoke things people are dying to have said publicly, like how could a man climbing a fence somehow manage to turn around and reach for a weapon (the cops' description of why they were forced to kill their latest victim, George Thomas). Young said, "We don't want police to act as judge, jury and executioner," and "We would like to believe that after a man is arrested he will be safe."

Of course Young neglected to remind

people that both he and the Sentinels have come out publicly for all the new weaponry, shotguns in the front seats, dum-dums, .357's, and some marched with the other pigs for these demands.

He neglected to explain just where the Sentinels were as far back as July when the cops unleashed a reign of terror on the Black community. Or where they were when 16-year-old Herman Beasley was murdered in cold blood. Yes, and he neglected to explain how only a week before, two Black cops had said if they were in the same situation that Beasley's murderer was in they would have done the very same thing.

The Sentinels claim that Black cops will not attack the Black people. Then what were they doing in the '60s right here in Cincinnati when they were lined up in riot gear busting heads and throwing people through windows? As one woman said, "They make friends with the people because they're Black. Some people think they can be trusted, but all they do is set people up for arrests." One of these "humane Black cops" now sitting on a blue ribbon panel, himself beat and arrested a Black woman minister a few years back.

In the face of rebellion—even daily resistance by the people to oppression—if these cops don't use every violent means at their disposal to smash it, then they won't be cops any more. After all, that is the job of the cops, be they Black, white, Chicano or whatever. A cop is a cop.

Wendell Young begged people not to listen to "those who would induce you to violence." This lying hypocrite preparing to arm himself to the teeth, warning Black people not to listen to communists, is in service to the ruling class.

After the meeting, one of Cincinnati's retired councilmen, Charles Taft (a member of the big-time capitalist Taft family which includes former President William H. Taft of

Teapot Dome scandal fame), was heard to say, "Boy, those Sentinels are really great." And indeed they are to the ruling class, who are desperate to find ways to cool out the struggle and use anyone they can to mislead it. ■

Mexico

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The Mexican government has run a big public-relations campaign in its press over the last several months to convince the people that it is resisting foreign intervention, and that it will use oil profits to develop an independent economy and serve the needs of the people. But facts prove how hollow these fine-sounding phrases really are. Last fall, the Mexican government repealed the law that previously had limited foreign ownership of Mexican companies to 49% in order to "stimulate investment." U.S. companies are in Mexico, involved in every aspect of oil exploration and drilling just as they are in the Persian Gulf countries; only in Mexico, they are officially described as "PEMEX employees" to disguise the truth from the people.

The situation facing the people in Mexico is similar to Iran before the overthrow of the Shah and to the "under-developed" countries of the world that are allowed to develop only in ways that will satisfy the profit hunger of U.S. or other imperialists' capital. U.S. Congressman Bob Wilson recently stated in Mexico City that the U.S. and Mexican governments should work together to "prevent another Iran in Mexico." But the workings of the imperialist system have already created "another Iran," not only in Mexico but in countries like it all over the world. The Mexican people, like the people of Iran, will do the rest. ■

Authorities After Walla Walla Prisoners Cold Blooded Revenge

Seattle. The authorities at Walla Walla State Penitentiary are out for revenge. Only a month ago three courageous inmates seized ten hostages, demanding a press conference to expose the wretched conditions in the prison. Outside in the prison yard 500 prisoners rallied in support, braving the clubs and tear gas of the guards with rocks, bricks and bonfires.

The state officials, naturally, have ignored all the demands raised by the prisoners. Instead they spent all their energy ramming a bill through the legislature to build even more of their dungeons, and on exacting retribution from the three prisoners who sparked this uprising.

But the officials, and their capitalist masters, are caught in a bind. While they are hell-bent on persecuting the three, Shane Green, Carl Harp and Clyde Washburn, they know that if they carry out their revenge in public the sparks of protest will flare up again.

And so, behind the walls of the prison, the authorities are giving us yet another lesson in how low they will

stoop in their quest to protect capitalist dictatorship.

First, the guards began putting cigarette butts and pills into the food of the three inmates, forcing the prisoners to refuse to eat until they could be sure their food was safe to eat. Eventually word of this seeped out of the prison and the prison officials were forced to back off on this front.

Meanwhile, the three have been cut off from all direct contact with outside media, their mail has been censored and their visits restricted. Then they proceeded to hold the first hearing on charges of "hostage-taking"—a special law designed to suppress prison rebellions. This hearing was a truly shining example of capitalist justice.

The hearing, originally scheduled for 4:00 p.m. in Walla Walla Superior Court, was held an hour ahead of schedule inside the walls of the penitentiary. In a letter to the *Revolutionary Worker* Carl Harp describes what happened.

"At approximately 3:00 p.m. we were taken one at a time dressed in

street clothes and in chains to the Washington State Penitentiary Parole Board Room. In the room were guards with night sticks, detectives, and other people whom I did not know (one claimed to Green he was a judge and another the Prosecutor). No one introduced themselves to us. Guns were also present and they locked the door and told me to sit down. The first thing I asked was, "Is this a Nazi Tribunal?" and, "Where is my lawyer?" I was ignored and someone I did not know began reading my charges. Then another person read me my rights. I started to leave and Sgt. Cook raised his stick up and I was told to sit down. (Clyde was shoved back in his chair and Green was chained to his.) I was appointed a lawyer and told that this was not an arraignment and I did not have to make any plea here. (Clyde and Green were told it was.) I told them I had the right to a lawyer at all hearings and a public hearing, and would not answer any questions. None of us had ever seen or experienced anything like this hearing—it was frightening...

"Nothing else has been so frightening other than our surrender May 9, 1979 when we had to walk from the C & P Building, that we took over, to segregation all without cover, under guns."

And if the message wasn't clear enough already, a guard named Brooks made it clear the next day when he said, "You three motherfuckers are gonna die right here in this unit."

But the three are not backing down. Instead they have vowed to use the trial to expose the inhuman conditions that sparked the rebellion. If the state gets around to holding the kangaroo-court trial of the three they will only find their terroristic tactics and their snakepit jails exposed all the more.

The letter from Harp continues, "We are still fighting and our trial hopefully will be a victory even if we are convicted. I don't expect to get to trial because the Prison Administration doesn't want it. The people today talked about 10 years if we are convicted and Habitual Criminal Charges on us all—I already have four consecutive life terms for refusing to plead guilty to crimes I did not do. Sick, aren't they... but no matter—my cause is my life no matter what happens. They can do all they please to us, with us, but others will come to take our places and the Revolution, the struggle for Justice will go on." ■

Nicaragua

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Somoza doesn't have a leg to stand on except the Guard that's being shot out from under him. His troops destroyed the headquarters of *La Prensa*, the chief opposition newspaper. Last year's Somoza-ordered murder of Pedro Chamorro, the paper's editor and key figure in the opposition to Somoza that arose from within Nicaragua's capitalist class itself, helped light the fuse for an explosion that has been building in intensity ever since. Now, with the Guard attack of last week, Chamorro's son surely expressed the sentiments of many of his father's colleagues when he said that it all proved that the only way to deal with Somoza was by violence.

Somoza has been a loyal lackey of the U.S. ever since the Marines put his father in power in 1927. The millions of dollars that have gone through his hands thanks to various U.S. agencies and banks are testimony to the fact that his rule allowed them to suck out far more than that from Nicaragua. But now, he complains, the U.S. is abandoning him. "I would like to have the backing of the United States to stop this guerrilla warfare," he complained in a live TV interview June 13. "What I need is a good relationship with the United States."

But if Somoza can't do the job, then U.S. imperialism doesn't need him. As

documents seized by the Sandinistas from the U.S. Embassy read, "Even a Somoza victory would still make his replacement necessary so that a less tainted pro-U.S. successor could gain political security and international support." In asking for the Organization of American States to help the U.S. recruit an appropriate replacement for Somoza, U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance said June 13, "We have told President Somoza we believe that a political solution is necessary to resolve the problem... [Otherwise] polarization will continue and the chances of a radical solution to the problem are great." In other words, the U.S. would rather see Somoza resign than get overthrown, because his resignation would present better conditions for the continuation of U.S. domination.

Of course, Somoza argues the opposite. On government radio May 23 he compared himself to the Shah of Iran. Referring to the pressures from the U.S., other Latin governments and his own ruling class that he resign, he said, "They believe that if I resign, the ideological struggle will be all over. But I just want to remind them that the Shah of Iran resigned for the same reason, and still today Iran is not stabilized."

Somoza is right about one thing—people in Iran, Nicaragua or anywhere else who have tasted freedom with guns in their hands won't be easily "stabilized" until their revolutionary interests have been thoroughly satisfied. ■

Embassy 5

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sacred halls of bourgeois justice, a chief mouthpiece for that justice was choking on his own vile arguments ("no politics, just criminals") of a few days before.

With law book in hand, feeble weapon against the class struggle raging in the world in defense of revolution, U.S. Attorney Silbert registered his protest for the record and his determination on behalf of the class he represents not to let the battle end here. But the Five walked out of the courtroom proudly admitting to the misdemeanor charge of having "willingly, with intent to harass, incite, coerce, threaten or intimidate" made a political statement against the treachery and sellout represented by Teng's visit to the U.S.

What had happened on these three wild days in the courtroom? Clearly, with judges, D.A.'s and U.S. attorneys going at each other, there had been a fight in the enemy camp. The lower level cogs in the wheels of capitalist "justice," the judge and D.A. Collins, wanted this case to be over with. Their plans to make this a "non-political" trial were obviously going to be blown to the wind. They were about to get

planted on the hot seat in a very political trial—and one, worse yet, where some hanky panky on higher levels had already been exposed. All the political actions involved in this case, from the original incident right on down to the many telegrams sent to the prosecutor's office and the rally held in the courthouse—all this was weighing on their minds.

But under the capitalist system, it's not lower-level legal types that call the shots, any more than cases are decided on the "blind scales of justice." The big boys put their political foot down. More was at stake. These revolutionaries had to be made to pay for the political damage they had done. And they had to be made to pay to help grease the way to railroad the Mao Tsetung 78. The enemy had to regroup and try again.

And try they will. The judge's ruling is quite likely to be overturned. The D.A. will try to re-indict the one defendant who got dropped from the case. But a victory has certainly been won in round one. Eight serious felonies—punishable by life imprisonment—got reduced to a handful of misdemeanors. And, still more, the political nature of this attack by the capitalist class was brought to light. ■

Prairie Fire

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a sleep problem in the days following the concerts. A Black woman from Chicago told her friend that Tuesday morning was the first time she got to work on time, "not because I wanted to go to work, but I just couldn't sleep, I was so inspired. This is turning my life around."

People who came to "check it out" found themselves thinking wild thoughts about becoming revolutionaries. And almost everybody agreed on one thing: it was a *mind-blower*. When Matt says "We make people dream dreams they never thought they could dream," he's not kidding. They should post a sign at the door, "Come as you are, leave armed and dangerous!"

What is it that makes you feel shook up, somehow transformed, like you've made some kind of radical rupture or are on the verge of one hell of a new way of looking at the world? It has to be said: the Prairie Fire experience is profound. Prairie Fire is hard driving Rock & Roll that puts out an incredible

range of mood and tempo, that makes you think hard, makes you laugh, and damn near tears your guts out.

What pulls it altogether is a kind of revolutionary energy that comes through in their music, their act and the lyrics to Matt's songs that combine to fire you with the desire, as one woman put it, "To go out and do something." They take you into the future, and you come back to the present with a real feeling about what you've got to do.

Have you looked into the sky after a storm has gone?

Look the next time.

The clearness lifts your eyes to the brilliance of the sun.

And it's life time, yes it's life time.

Powerful the fury, violent the storm, Fresh and alive is the new world being born.

And there's a storm brewing...

Let It Blow!

They mean it. As one punk rocker who heard them play at Gaspar's and talked to Matt and the band afterwards put it, "They're not posing up there, they're for real."

Prairie Fire. Let It Blow! ■

Vietnam

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miscarriage of the revolution only by bringing the perseverance and thoroughness of the proletariat in the democratic revolution into full play. Is the proletariat to follow the bourgeoisie, or is the bourgeoisie to follow the proletariat? This question of responsibility for leadership in the Chinese revolution is the linchpin upon which the success or failure of the revolution depends." ("The Tasks of the Chinese Communist Party in the Period of Resistance to Japan")

In countries like Vietnam and China when revisionists come to power, not only will there be no socialism, but any gains made during the democratic stage of the revolution will be reversed. The lesson our own rulers would like us to believe about the struggle in Vietnam is that any struggle against them is useless. But the real lesson is that the struggle against them and their like must be more thorough, more revolutionary, and truly based on a communist outlook, and led by a Party which embodies and concretely applies that outlook—Marxism-Leninism, Mao Tsetung Thought. ■

Contribute to the Prisoners Revolutionary Literature Fund

The Revolutionary Communist Party receives many letters and requests for literature from prisoners in the hell-hole torture chambers from Attica to San Quentin. There are thousands more brothers and sisters behind bars who have refused to be beaten down and corrupted in the dungeons of the capitalist class and who thirst for and need the *Revolutionary Worker* and other revolutionary literature. To help make possible getting the Voice of the Revolutionary Communist Party as well as other Party literature and books on Marxism-Leninism, Mao Tsetung Thought behind the prison walls, the *Revolutionary Worker* is establishing a special fund. Contributions should be sent to:

Prisoners Revolutionary Literature Fund
Box 3486, Merchandise Mart
Chicago, IL 60654

