The Bait—Natural Resources and Cash

Merger Mania

War on Wall Street

Credit Drain Kills Small Business, Jobs

CPC Reverses Verdict 7

ATLANTA: Day 728

Credit drain is making it even harder for smaller monopolies, not to mention small businesses, to borrow. Even at today's high interest rates, they just can't get loans. On July 15, Fernando J. St. Germain, Rhode Island Democrat and Chairman of the House Banking Committee, demanded that the Federal Reserve pressure banks to stop opening huge credit lines to oil companies so readily. Opening credit lines wholesale allows the oil companies to play an “international game of Monopoly,” he said. Meanwhile, housing and small business “are at near-collapse because of a severe shortage of credit.”

The plight of small business has a direct effect on workers. Various sources differ on how to define small businesses. Some say these are generally those with annual sales of $100 million or less. Others use the number of employees as a gauge. But all agree that small business accounts for more than half of the nation's jobs.

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CPC Reverses Verdict 7

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The Bidding War

May 8: Dome Petroleum bids for 14 million shares of Conoco at $65 per share, and reserves the right to buy up to 22 million shares. Top Conoco officials advise stockholders not to sell. Nevertheless, Dome is flooded with offers—a record $4.8 million shares, over 50% of Conoco's outstanding stocks.

May 29: Seagram makes private offer to Conoco to buy 35% of the company.

June 1: Dome trades the 22 million shares it acquired and $245 million in cash in exchange for Conoco's 53% ownership of the Hudson Bay Oil and Gas Co., a Canadian energy firm.

June 17: Conoco rejects two more bids by Seagram, and the next day Seagram begins buying up Conoco stock on the open market. Seagram spends $7.7 million for 143,000 shares.

June 25: The Board of Directors of Conoco and Cities Service, the 20th ranked U.S. oil company, agree to a merger. Seagram announces that it will pay $73 a share for 40.7% of Conoco, a total of $2.6 billion. Cities Service pulls out of the merger talks.

June 30: Conoco rejects Seagram's offer and files a $1 billion suit against the liquor company. Three days later Seagram files a countersuit.

July 6: Du Pont agrees to buy Conoco. Du Pont will pay $87.50 per share for 40% of Conoco's outstanding stock. Du Pont will swap its own stock for the remaining 60% of Conoco at a ratio of 1.6 shares of Du Pont to each Conoco share. The total deal amounts to a record $7.3 billion.

July 12: Seagram raises its bid to $3.77 billion for 51% of Conoco at a rate of $85 per share. Du Pont counters by offering a $7.5 billion deal—$95 per share for 40% and a stock trade of 1.7 to 1 for the rest.

July 16: Mobil bids $7.7 billion for Conoco. It will pay $90 per share for 51% and trade Mobil stock for the other 49% at a ratio equivalent in worth to $90 per share.

"Gone Fishing"

During the publication dates of August 12-18, 1981, and August 19-25, 1981, members of the Workers Viewpoint staff will be on vacation. We will resume with publication date August 26-September 1, 1981.

WORKERS VIEWPOINT

Workers Viewpoint is the weekly newspaper of the Communist Workers Party.

Workers Viewpoint welcomes contributions on all topics. WV will respond to every contributor. Written materials should be submitted hyped, double-spaced on 8'/2" X 11" paper. Material can be returned only if accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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Send all correspondence to:

Workers Viewpoint
GPO Box 2252
New York, N.Y. 10116
or call (212) 732-4309

6,000 demonstrated at New York's Lincoln Center on July 18, 1981, to protest budget cuts on the arts.
Poison the Medfly
Not Our Children

Michelle Wong

Despite the fact that the Reagan administration "held a gun to his head," with the threat of a quarantine on California's $4.3 billion crop, Gov. Jerry Brown reversed his previous stand on aerial spraying of residential Santa Clara Valley with his government's $1.85 million in 575,000. The federal government refused to take the blame, denying the use of Money. M. "To keep Jerry Brown busy spraying this in Washington's lap."

Thus, the state gave in to the great pressure could wobble and wobble. State offi- cials, left without the guarantees that there would not be a quarantine. Developed by the National Institute of Health, the pesticide Malathion is to be sprayed over 177 square miles at least six times 6-1 days later. The Philippine helicopters had to be kept secret for fear of sabotage. Callers were told that "what might happen." Also, Sevin metabolizes in trace amounts through the liver. This 76-year-old woman lives in New York University, was amazed that the state officials "didn't have the staff's advice to print warning labels that pregnant women avoid exposure to Sevin. A N.J. study of elevated childhood leukemia in Rutherford noted that significantly more of its vic­ tims resided near to Sevin and Malathion.

Other serious questions are ignored:

What happens when pesticides combine with other pollutants in the air, and find their way into the people's diets? Also, Sevin metabolizes in trace amounts through the liver. This 76-year-old woman lives in New York University, was amazed that the state officials "didn't have the staff's advice to print warning labels that pregnant women avoid exposure to Sevin. A N.J. study of elevated childhood leukemia in Rutherford noted that significantly more of its vic­ tims resided near to Sevin and Malathion.

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What! Detroiters Vote Themselves a Tax Increase

Glen Janken

lying in the face of a nationwide tax revolt, Detroit voters turned out June 23 and voted themselves a one percent income tax increase on both residents and non-residents working in Detroit. Permission for the city to vote on increasing its taxes was granted by the State Legislature in Lansing only on the condition that the tax would become operative if the mayor succeeded in getting wage and benefit concessions from city workers. Several years of rapidly escalating budget deficits required the city to do something. This tax plan was the first step in the ruling class' plan to make Detroit somewhat solvent. Mayor Coleman Young in particular campaigned hard for a Yes vote, the victory all but sealing another term as mayor for him. But in a longer term perspective he also sealed his fate with the kiss of death.

History of the Crisis

The factors that brought on Detroit's budget crisis are fundamentally the same ones breaking urban fiscal stability throughout the north and northeast. These great cities and their hardworking population gave birth to modern America. The tremendous industrial foundation that at one time made the U.S. the most productive nation in the world with the highest standard of living was rooted in these cities. Then, in an incredible display of waste and destruction, the huge plants were abandoned, the machinery machines lost to rust and disrepair, and the workers shafted as capital fled to the suburbs and the south and southwest. This occurred over a period of two or three decades. Not, mind you, because these plants and people weren't productive. I spent a year and a half working at Dodge Main, watching that monster spit out 135 cars an hour from two assembly lines. Nor was it because they weren't profitable, because they were. But they weren't profitable enough. And the law of capital is like a leech that sucks as hard as it can, but only until something juicier comes along, leaving the otherwise once healthy victim to wither and die. With business goes population and taxes and before you know it the gap between expenses and revenues is too large for simple deficit spending to cover and bankruptcy looms as the logical outcome of a dying city.

Detroit, although it has its particularities due to its single-industry nature (79% of the economy is auto or auto-related), in many ways provides us with a very "pure" example of this process. This is because, according to Lazard Freres (Felix Rohatyn's organization, financial advisors to the city), Detroit is an exceptionally well-managed city without the disastrous accounting mess that characterized New York, without the overreliance on short-term bonds that triggered the New York bankruptcy, and without the mixing of revenue sources and expenditures that got Cleveland in so much trouble.

Detroit's population has dropped steadily since 1950. In that time more than a half-million people have left. From 1970 to 1980 alone the city lost more than 300,000. It was the only metropolitan area in the whole state with an absolute loss in population. Much of the reason can be seen in the change in the economy. In the manufacturing sector, the basis of Detroit's economy, in 1940 manufacturing was over 48% of the area's economy, with 31% of the labor force directly employed making automobiles. By 1970 those shares had declined to 37% and 18% respectively. With the many plant closings in the last 10 years those figures are also way out-dated, but they show the long-term trend. Between 1958 and 1972 the city lost 73,000 jobs. That does not include the thousands lost in the last three years. This is the same trend seen in virtually all the great industrial cities of the north and northeast.

The result of this industrial shift is a very weak tax base, one that has been weakening for quite some time. In fact, only 25% of Detroit's annual budget is supported by taxes. Forty percent comes from the state and federal governments; the rest from other local revenue-producing sources. This support from the state and federal governments caved in as Reagan moved into office and the state treasury dried up for many of the same reasons the city's did. Consequently, although expenditures rose about equal to the rate of inflation from 1977-80, revenues were way too low and the current budget crisis resulted. Last year's deficit was $119 million; this year's projected deficit is $132 million. Without further revenue sources or expenditure reductions, the projected accumulated deficit in 1985 is $1 billion.

Combine this with the steady decline in the economic base of the city. Aside from the auto industry, no one can remember the days when Detroit was a major cyclical upturn. Today, however, the long-run outlook for the industry is more serious...The economic outlook for Detroit during the 1981-85 period...forecasts: a slow recovery from the recession; a continuing population decline at an annual rate of 1.4 percent; an annual compound rate of 3.1%; a slow decrease in unemployment from 16% in 1980 to 10.4% in 1985; much lower levels of housing activity than during the 1970's and continuing double digit interest rates for at least two more years. Therefore, we believe that Detroit's future financial plans cannot be based on the 'return of the good old days.'

Accordingly, in August of 1980, Moody's lowered Detroit's municipal bond rating below investment grade, preventing from jobs the city from borrowing to meet its deficit and kicking off the current scramble to balance the city budget.

In response, Mayor Young assembled a committee of 26 people representing workers views and worked out a program that would make a go of it: the "R.ids the Greedy, NOT the Needy!"

Program

DECENT JOBS OR INCOME, NOW!

Tougher laws to stop plant closings.
No layoffs or wage cuts for city workers.
Freeze mortgage foreclosures and repossession for unemployed workers.
Extend unemployment benefits until a union wage job is found.

CUT THE GREEDY, NOT THE NEE DY!

Tax Big Banks and Corporations to eliminate the budget deficit.
Roll back utility rates and outlaw shutoffs.
Enact rent control.
Revoke tax abatements.

Page 4 WORKERS VIEWPOINT, July 29-August 4, 1981
their concern is making Detroit a

down plants and taken jobs from

raising the ruling coalition in Detroit, put

three-pronged plan to cut city expenses

in Detroit. Of the 26 people, 16 of them

municipal debt financing is one of

and corporate presidents firmly in con­

In Detroit this is especially glaring.

in Detroit. (In the report they

Black citizens to save the city from the

lack of chances for nearly half a million dollars of

In their campaign, the Secrest Report

that Vote Yes means jobs. The most

of the beneficiaries of the last decade

The Secrest Report clearly states that their intention is not to solve the prob­

city's capital projects are in the

was relatively better serviced before.

while working class, they all voted

they were going to vote yes. (Since the vote they have agreed to a two-year wage freeze in return for a

owing yes votes were "the city goes

in the city, The Detroit City Council President, Earma

participates in the budget wrangling agreed on at least

plan through. If they could get the

municipal debt financing. The Secrest Report

other business organizations. Some of the

are marked for payment of the debt service to

safety" enough investment to allow the

1) Raise the income tax one percent on

Detroit residents and non-residents working in

in the city.)

to be paid. And they want to be sure

The highest turnouts were in the black

enemies. So were the mainly white

awful thing happened in the last few years, the vast

paid to tend to these patients. The Secrest Report

working downtown, they surely can't be

there to help cover the deficit — if their entire

in the last decade, mainly because they

most likely to be tax examiners. The Secrest Report

be part of a larger move to make the

vote no primarily because of economic conditions.

The Secrest Report is at least trying to

the one percent increase in corpo­

that were immediately painted with a

The 40 percent of the city's white

The theme of their campaign was

decident in the city's campaign to vote yes. The largest
turnout was in the black precincts. The Secrest Report

to the city unions for wage and benefit concessions, and as a

the name of "saving" the city. Mayor

them under the guidance of Felix

bankers and all constantly pounded in the

the returns are tax free. Oftentimes (in this proposal)

Mason is particularly interested in the

the city is especially glaring. Among other things, close to 50% of

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make tens of thousands of dollars a

are marked for payment of the debt service to

a safe" enough investment to allow the

in Detroit. (In the report they

through tax abatements to business.

throughout the underlying cause of the city's financial crisis. Furthermore,

and corporate presidents firmly in con­

the Secrest Report

inclusion of reducing bus service and in­

Many of the beneficiaries of the last decade

in oil, and used a richly-painted black

$10,000 out of his personal campaign

from local and national sources.

The Secrest Report

In the face of a nation

itself. (In the report they included a one percent increase in cor­

the bank unions and the city, were the major source of work the city finances is improving ser­

second, and most crucial measure was

the city's major black and the sheer

the bankruptcy court, and all constantly pounded in the

Making their black/white issue was

40 percent of the city's white

1981 Page 5

and jobs to those who've lost them.

most of the beneficiaries of the last decade

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are considered the enemy. Even if they

the tax increase isn't "will the city go

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Linda Roberts, a Poletown resident

common comments on why people

Another point was that the Secrest Report

Executive Vice President of the

the Secrest Report

considers' hands. The Secrest Report

in the spirit of opposition to higher taxes. My neighbors in the predominately white working class

the Secrest Report

of the beneficiaries of the last decade

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in Detroit. (In the report they

in Detroit. (In the report they

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the Secrest Report

Conservative and moderate</p>

(Continued from page 14)

and made it an issue which the Secrest Report did not address:"

sharply painted in racial terms: the ci­

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the Secrest Report

the city's mayor there is also some

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In the face of a nation

the Secrest Report

In the face of a nation

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Reagan Cuts Devastating

The national executive council of AFGE has estimated that 100,000 federal jobs will be lost in the immediate future as a result of the Reagan budget cuts. In the Department of Health and Human Resources, 6,000 jobs are slated to be cut. In the Department of Education another 1,000 are expected to be eliminated in the next four years. "It's not even 'attrition,'" explained one worker. "Attrition is like changing the occupancy in a motel room. Reagan's cuts is like burning down the whole motel." Some 1,216,000 workers face the possibility of losing their jobs under the Reagan plan, according to the AFL-CIO News. Pay raises for federal workers would also be limited to 4.8 percent.

Unemployment benefits are to be kept to the standard 26 weeks with an additional 13 weeks eliminated. Workers on workers' compensation also face the removal of the requirement for 45 days pay. The cuts in education would deprive 1.3 million college students of loans needed to attend school. Housing cuts would force 10 million Americans, 40 percent of them elderly people on limited income, to swallow higher rents. In any way imaginable the cuts will bring hardship and suffering to every poor or working American.

Thatcher Now, Reagan Later

In keynote speech at the rally, Ken Blalock, National President of AFGE, blasted the Reagan economic program of supply-side economics. "If you help the rich, if you starve the poor and if you suppress the workers, then you make things so bad that we're grateful for whatever crumbs that falls off their table that we'll stay in line. This is what supply-side economics is all about." Paul Sims, an AFGE vice-president from Philadelphia urged the crowd, "to get damned mad in order to let the President know that you're not going to take it the way he wishes to dish it out," Hammering home the point made by several other speakers that there is no Reagan mandate, he continued, "The American voters did not give a mandate to President Reagan to reduce Social Security benefits. Can someone imagine for those who have worked for so many years and now are subjected to having to wait many years more to get a low pitance of social security. We gave him no mandate to cut food stamps for the hungry. It's ironic that in this country of ours there are youngsters starving every day."

A representative from the AFL-CIO Labor Council for the Washington area emphasized that this was just the beginning of the fight against the Reagan cuts. "It is very fitting that government workers who for years have been the silent majority of the workforce, who have been the sleeping giants, lead that demonstration on September 19. You have taken the first step today and come September 19 you are going to be out at the forefront of the fight."

Harold Roof, president of one of the largest AFGE locals in Maryland said, "Anyone who has opposed the Reagan Administration has been opened for attack. The air traffic controllers have threatened to walk out, a basic American principle. They have been threatened by the Secretary of Transportation with jail. We're going to bust your union, we're going to fire you, he says. The postal workers have been told the same thing. I live in the freest country in the world and yet if I strike, the government says I'll put you in jail. We're referred to as ter- rorist?"

On the recent events in England he said, "They did a comparison in the paper yesterday that Thatcher economics is very similar to Reagan economics. Mr. Reagan better take a good look at what's happening in England because I'm telling you it's going to be here. The people are going to take to the streets. And they're going to bring down these buildings. They're worried about whether you're going on strike. They'd better worry about these buildings."

Building Fighting Unions

When asked what was the key to the coalition's successful organizing against the cuts, an AFGE official explained that the group moved swiftly and decisively to fight the cuts. "In January when we started talking about organizing the coalition we knew from our work in the Coalition for Human Dignity (a local coalition that rallied together to fight cuts proposed by D.C.'s Mayor Barry last year) that we can't wait an inch and discussions on what we're going to do. We had to respond immediately. I think that is what drew other groups to either work with or support us... Because of that we've got a lot of prestige and respect and as a result the local AFL-CIO labor council has approached us to help build for Solidarity Unions." "The other things were our ability to maintain a correct principle of democracy and our work with the media. We've always tried to get all groups to participate as fully as possible. We've fought to build a true labor-community alliance... while with the media we've been able to cultivate solid ties with them over the years." "But of course again the key is the fact that we responded immediately and militantly. Without that we would never have been in the position we are today."
t took Khruschev three years after Stalin's
death to muster enough political and
organizational power to come out with a full­
blown denunciation of his predecessor. It
took the Communist Party of China leaders
close to five years to pass a similar verdict on
Mao. Of course, Khruschev revisionism did
not start with the 20th Congress of the Com­
munist Party of the Soviet Union. The event was merely
the formal consolidation of that view and its representatives in the Party leadership hierarchy. In the same way, the Sixth Plenary of the Central Com­mittee of the 11th Congress of the CPC held June 27 to June 29 in Peking was hardly the beginning of Chinese revisionism.

Its significance, in the negative sense, is also the formal consolidation of this system of views and leadership.

Perhaps there is no more appropriate description of the recent event marking the 60th anniversary of the CPC than a comparison to the 20th Congress of the CPSU. The difference, if there were any, was not in substance, but in style. Compared with Khruschev's crude denunciation of Stalin, the CPC's unanimously­adopted document, the Resolution on Certain Ques­
tions in the History of our Party Since the Founding of the People's Republic of China, is mild and con­siderate. Yet despite its carefully chosen words, and its pretense of comprehensiveness, the document could not cover its revisionist essence. It only shows the maturity of the revisionists and their compromise to China's political reality.

The Resolution is a Compromised Document

Immediately following the coup to purge the "Gang of Four," the CPC leaders embarked upon a course to totally reverse Mao's past lines and policies, and implicitly denounce Mao totally. This was done not only because of real line differences with Mao, but also as justification for their drastic acts in seizing power. However, their overanxious efforts, denounc­ing the last three decades as years of darkness, led to several unpleasant political consequences.

One was the Chinese people's overall crisis of con­fidence in socialism and particularly in the present party leadership, who clearly were perceived as contributing heavily to the 30 years of darkness. This general crisis of confidence gave a new lease on life to the bourgeois democrats, who began openly calling for an end to the one-party system, an end to the dictator­ship of the proletariat, an end to the socialist system, and of course, abandonment of Marxism-Leninism. So the revisionist denunciation of Mao backfired to the point where it threatened the current leadership's own legitimacy. Within the party hierarchy, the wholesale denunciation also threatened the legitimacy of people like Hua Guo-Feng, who came to power on Mao's words, and those in the army who became pro­minent through the Cultural Revolution, as well as the millions of genuine rank-and-file party members—those who from direct experience knew that the last 30 years were heavenly compared to the pre-Revolution years.

As a result, even though it is reported that the pre­sent leadership would have liked to avoid dealing in their lifetimes with an issue so controversial as an evaluation of Mao, they had to. It was necessary, if not to unite the party organizationally to carry out the four modernizations, at least to reestablish their authority and legitimacy to the Chinese people, and to end the opposition's challenge once and for all. It is in this context that Chen Yun, a member of the Standing Committee of the Poliburo, strongly urged for an ear­ly sum-up, saying, "It is better to clarify these prob­lems by our generation than by the next one.... If we don't do that, the next generation would include us in it." (Cheng Ming Magazine, 11/80, p. 16, published in Hong Kong, in Chinese).

Before the CPC leadership agreed to undertake an evaluation of Mao, the balance was tipping towards total denunciation. The party press for a while even dropped the mention of Mao Zedong Thought altogether. Thus when Deng Xiaoping took over supervision of the sum-up, a major debate was around the definition of Mao Zedong Thought and whether to uphold it or not. One of the top theoreticians purged during the Cultural Revolution, Lu Ting Yi, reportedly did not consider Mao's thought as a coherent political system of thinking. On the other hand, Deng considered Mao's thought the product of the collective wisdom of the party leaders and the Chinese masses. This system of thinking, developed in the Seventh Congress, peaked before 1957 and declined steadily since that time. After that assessment, the attack on Mao was toned down a bit. But not until Huang Kecheng, a top-ranking army man, came out with an
fact, except for the few years after the revolution Mao made mistake after mistake. Listing his mistakes, the document states, “From the summer of 1950 onwards, we were over-hasty in pressing on with agricultural co-opera-tive and the transformation of private handicraft and commercial establishment… Following the basic completion of the transformation of capitalist industry and commerce in 1956, we failed to do a proper job in employing and handling some of the former industrialists and businessmen.” Then in 1957, the scope of the anti-rightist campaign was even more broad. From 1958 to 1961, the Great Leap Forward and the movement for rural people’s commune was rash and wasteful. The purging of Peng Teh Huai and the struggle against right opportunism in the party in 1959 was unjustified. The Socialist Education Movement unfolded between 1963 and 1965 was off the wall. All these were wrong because of Mao’s wrong theoretical assumption that “contradiction between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie remained the principal contradiction in our society,” and “problems differing in nature were all treated as forms of class struggle or its reflection inside the party.” Logically, on this premise, the Cultural Revolution was certainly wrong and unnecessary. That is exactly what the Resolution said. “The cultural revolution was defined as a struggle against the revisionist line or the capitalist road. There were no grounds at all for this definition. It led to the confusing of right and wrong on a series of basic political and economic policies. Many things denounced as revisionist or capitalist during the ‘cultural revolution’ were actually Marxist and socialist principles.”

The only thing considered positive during that period was the results of the period 1957 based on the Soviet model of economic construction, the economic entrenchment period between 1962 and 1965 (presumably carried out under Liu Shao-chi’s leadership), and everything since the coup against the Gang of Four. No word was mentioned about the near economic collapse of 1978-79 when Deng Xiaoping was the supreme leader in the party and state, responsible for all major decisions such as the import of Boshan Steel. The only hint of any problem at all during the last few years was when they tried to shift the blame to Hu Xue Peng, making him the scapegoat for everybody’s mistakes, saying, “He also had his share of responsibility for impetuously seeking quick results in economic work and for continuing certain other ‘left’ policies.”

The Resolution is Metaphysical and Ahistorical

Methodologically, the Resolution is a metaphysical, ahistorical and opportunistic. It is metaphysical because while upholding the general ac-curateness of history, the main thing, it negates every concrete action. In doing so, it separates the cause and effect. After reading such a sum-up, any logical-minded person cannot but ask, “How can a period be in the main good if everything that was done then was wrong?” Truth is highly concrete. General truth lies in the particular. This is a basic principle of Marxism. Expectations will certainly separate the two and still not see any contradiction. So while the CPC leaders said that “none of these successes can be attributed in any way to the cultural revolution,” they cannot explain what was responsible for the four-fold increase in fixed industrial assets from 1957 to 1966, and the 27-fold increase from 1952 to 1980, gains which they admit. During the same period, the output of electricity increase 41 times, engineering industry 54 times, and agriculture 100 times. The principle is ahistorical because it separates the great accomplishment directly resulting from the defeat of the revisionist lines advanced by Liu Shao-chi’s Gang of Four, which the Resolution upheld. Liu’s Maoist lines that advocate the state of the whole people, not the dictatorship of the proletariat; lines that advocate not capitalist collectivization of the countryside but capitalist spontaneous development of the productive forces. There had been no mention of these if these revisionist lines had prevailed, there wouldn’t even be the 10 great achievements to speak of. In short, this ahistorical separation of cause and effect, the Resolution upholds Mao’s lines of priority on agriculture, light and heavy industry in economic construction, and simultaneously defines the Great Leap Forward, when Mao’s line was clearly a direct product of lessons from the Great Leap Forward. So, clearly the intention of affirming the 10 great accomplishments was not to uphold Mao’s contribution, but an opportunity to promote those achievements for self-promotion.

Reversing the Nine Polemics

Throughout the Resolution made many errors in methodology, there is a very consistent view on what is not revisionism. It is clear not only in the open defense of Liu Shao-chi’s lines, but also in the Resolution, the 1949 Resolu­tion does not defend the correctness of the nine polemics. The only mention of this major event in the history of the international communist movement is the following statement: “Soviet leaders started a polemic against revisionism in the Soviet Union.” As a result, the Resolution turned the arguments between the two Parties on matters of principle into a conflict between the two nations, and Asia, defying China politically, economically and militarily. So we were forced to wage a just struggle against the big-nation chauvinism of the Soviet Union.

There is not a single word to suggest that the Soviet Union was revisionist in any way. Linking the struggle against the Soviet Union to the Cultural Revolution, the document further said, “In these circumstances, a campaign to prevent and combat revisionism inside the country was launched, which spread the error of broadening the scope of class struggle in the party, so that normal differences among comrades inside the Party came to be regarded as manifestations of the revisionists’ line of the struggle between the two lines.” With the stroke of a pen, the present CPC leadership not only reversed the verdict on Chinese revisionism which necessitated the Cultural Revolution, but on Soviet revisionism as well.

Implications of the Sixth Plenary Resolution for CPC’s Foreign Policies

Despite its self-contradictory statements and its pretense of objectivity, the reversal of Chinese revi­sionism and the nine polemics (and consequently Soviet revisionism) is the most significant political judgment in the Resolution. It has tremendous implications for China’s domestic and foreign policies.

By this ahistorical separation of cause and effect, the nine polemics had prevailed, there wouldn’t be the nine polemics as they were stated. But in May 1980, Chinese newspapers reported that the Academy of Social Science in China had held many forums to discuss the anti-revisionist struggle of the early 60’s and the evaluation of the nine polemics. It is reported that those forums came to the preliminary conclusion that there was nothing wrong with “peaceful coexistence and peaceful competition” because Lenin talked about them. As far as peaceful transition goes, the forums said that from the standpoint of the objective development of history, under the circumstances where the Chinese people do not exist in advanced capitalist countries, there is nothing wrong with communists participating in parliamentary elections. The struggle against the revisionists towards revolutions abroad, the starting point is to do a good job at home and oppose ‘revisionism’ at home. In the past China gave huge amounts of aid to Vietnam and Albania but the result was just the opposite. It is a perfect lesson. The charges of the nine polemics of attacking the Soviet Union for agreeing to peaceful coexistence with the United States and other western countries, establishment of diplomatic relations with Yugoslavia was wrong. (reported in 70’s, 7/80, 4/80, a monthly magazine published in Beijing, a monthly magazine published in Shanghai). The sum-up of these forums was clearly one-sided. The fact is, the nine polemics never opposed communist parties in their own countries, nor peaceful coexistence with countries of different economic systems such as the United States. Nor did it advisable the concept of “revisionism” as it is not doing a good job at home. The nine polemics were written in struggle against the Soviet Union’s then-total abolishing of these aspects in order to negate
In August 1977, after long years of hostility, Tito of Yugoslavia came to visit China. During his visit, the CPC did not call him "comrade," nor was he complimented on his contribution to his country. Then in August 1978, Hua Kuo Feng reciprocated with a visit to Yugoslavia. During that visit, Hua and Tito called each other "comrade." Party-to-party relations were reestablished. Returning to China, Hua called on Chinese peasants to learn from Yugoslavia's experience. When Tito died, he was hailed as a great Marxist-Leninist in CPC's press. Following the recognition of Tito, Enrico Berlinguer, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Italy visited China in April 1980, and the relationship between the two parties which had been defunct since 1962 was reestablished. The CPC further expressed the wish to establish state-to-state relations with capitalist countries. This policy of no criticism against these parties went beyond the wording of the Resolution, it is clear that this was not a preliminary sum-up but a consolidated view of the CPC's desire to improve relations with other parties which had been defunct since 1962. It was further expressed in the Polish Workers Party which was the close political ally of the Soviet Union in Eastern Europe and there is no conflict of interest between the CPC and those parties.

On July 6, a few days after the conclusion of the Sixth Plenary session, Foreign Minister Huang Hua went to India. It was the first state visit since 1962 between the two countries, China did not stop negotiating with the Soviet Union until that country invaded Afghanistan. The last negotiations to improve the relationship between the two countries were held in Moscow in September 1980. And according to the February 25, 1981 issue of Business Week, the two countries were reported to have reached some agreement on the navigation right on the border. Then on July 6, People's Daily indirectly called for resolution of the border question with the Soviet Union, saying that China is willing to resolve all border questions with neighboring countries through negotiations. The paper further said although the present 7,000 mile-long border between China and the Soviet Union was created by unequal treaties under the Czar, China does not demand return of all the lost land. It also said that since 1949, China had resolved border disputes with all her neighbors except the Soviet Union, India and Vietnam (cf. East Times, 7/9/81, published in San Francisco, in Chinese). Though the article did not explicitly call for negotiations with the Soviet Union, the message was clear.

All these and previous attempts are good moves. The existing of tension on the border and the establishing of state-to-state relations with capitalist countries will help create a relatively peaceful environment for Chinas to carry on its economic construction. This will enable China to further reduce its defense spending and allocate more resources to develop the productive forces. There is nothing inherently revisionist about these moves. But it is wrong, just as Khruschev was wrong, to subordinate all other fronts to the state-to-state front, and impose China's need for peaceful relations with the imperialists on other third world countries and on people within advanced capitalist countries. In practice, the CPC has sold out many national liberation and workers' struggles around the world, just as Khruschev did. There were many examples even before the Sixth Plenary. In 1979, at the peak of the Iranian revolution, Deng Xiaoping, who also went to France, followed. The Friendship Treaty with Japan was signed in August 1978 and in October and November of 1979, Hua Kuo Feng traveled to France, West Germany, England and Italy. Only a few months ago, China concluded a five-state visit to the Southeast Asian countries. Attention to the state-to-state front is correct in England and Italy. Only a few months ago, China concluded a five-state visit to the Southeast Asian countries. At the time of the election of Seaga over Manley. On El Salvador, the Chinese aid to liberation movements. China took this policy so far that during the peak of the anti-draft movement in 1980, the Chinese aid to liberation movements. Peaceful coexistence not only with western capitalist countries, but also with countries with which it has had border problems in the past. As far as the relationship with the Soviet Union is concerned, the ongoing open hostility between the two countries, China did not stop negotiating with the Soviet Union until that country invaded Afghanistan. The last negotiations to improve the relationship between the two countries were held in Moscow in September 1980. And according to the February 25, 1981 issue of Business Week, the two countries were reported to have reached some agreement on the navigation right on the border. Then on July 6, People's Daily indirectly called for resolution of the border question with the Soviet Union, saying that China is willing to resolve all border questions with neighboring countries through negotiations. The paper further said although the present 7,000 mile-long border between China and the Soviet Union was created by unequal treaties under the Czar, China does not demand return of all the lost land. It also said that since 1949, China had resolved border disputes with all her neighbors except the Soviet Union, India and Vietnam. (cf. East Times, 7/9/81, published in San Francisco, in Chinese). Though the article did not explicitly call for negotiations with the Soviet Union, the message was clear.

Deng Xiaoping, Chairman of the Military Commission of the Central Committee
tradiations between the imperialists and between the Soviet Union and the imperialists, tending to rely more on the seeming strength of the United States as the main force to deter the hegemonic aspects of the Soviet Union’s foreign policy. This is China’s foreign policy strategy, which comes directly from wholesale rejection of the correctness of the nine polemics. If there were any remaining inconsistency on this question, the Sixth Plenary has made it the line guiding China’s practice.

Implications for China’s Domestic Policy

Similar to the effect on foreign policy, the Resolution’s impact on China’s domestic policy will be to consolidate what is already practiced. After the big mess in Boshan Steel, agriculture will once again be the foundation of China’s economy. There will be more decentralization of authority to local enterprise, with emphasis on scientific management of those enterprises. There will be more reliance on market forces to supplement planning to regulate production, increase in the number of private plots and free markets, and encouragement of small private business to supplement the publicly-owned economy as well as ease the unemployment problem. Central planning will be maintained, but not as rigid as before. While there is nothing wrong with introducing these new measures as a means to raise the level of productive forces, there is a problem in the CPC leadership’s absolutizing the “step-by-step” approach to economic construction. The Resolution criticized the past policies of “prolonged ‘left’ mistakes” which led to “concomitant collapse” of the masses under the pretext of safeguarding unity and stability should a Poland situation ever happen in China. This fear of campaigns, movements, and any disruption of order is so pervasive among the CPC revisionists that even though they still call for the “whole Party to (make) diligent study of Marxist theories, to strengthen and improve ideological and political work” and “to educate the people and youth in the Marxist morality,” there will not be any significant qualitative development of the people’s consciousness from these piecemeal ecletic attempts. The same call has been made by the CPSU for the long time, and they are still plagued by widespread problems of low morale, sluggish work attitudes and other racial phenomena contrary to the country’s socialist economic base. The problem is not that CPSU did not understand the masses to study, but that it was done routinely, as a matter of fact. This routinism, based on their fear of any need for periodic mass movements and campaigns from below takes the revolutionary soul out of Marxism. Marxism is a living science, not a dead dogma. This is the reason for which the Line had to become the total revisionist program of the CPC. The election of Hu Yubang as chairman of the CPC, Deng as chairman of the Military Commission of the Central Committee, and Zhao Ziyang as premier of the State Council indicate that the hard-core revisionists have full command of the state, party, and army. This is despite the fact that one-sides of some of the movements he led.

Consolidation of Revisionist Leadership

The Sixth Plenary not only means the consolidation of a full-blown revisionist program for the CPC. The election of Hu Yubang as chairman of the CPC, Deng as chairman of the Military Commission of the Central Committee, and Zhao Ziyang as premier of the State Council indicate that the hard-core revisionists have full command of the state, party, and army. This is despite the fact that the revisionists leadership is nevertheless genuine. Attempting to rectify the one-sidedness of the Cultural Revolution, however, the CPC leadership went overboard. Just as they rejected possible leaps because of certain mistakes in the Great Leap Forward, the CPC leadership simultaneously threw out the concept of mass campaigns and lifted the ban on private plots and free markets, and out with the bath water in its rejection of mass movements. Fully convinced that these organizations are enough to resolve whatever contradictions that may occur in the society, the leaders concluded in the resolution that “the kind of chaotic situation that obtained in the ‘cultural revolution’ must never be allowed to happen again in any sphere.” It is as if class struggle is dependent on man’s will and the party can determine the forms of class struggle in all circumstances. A direct implication of this line will be direct suppression of the masses under the pretext of safeguarding unity and stability should a Poland situation ever happen in China. This fear of movements, campaigns, and any disruption of order is so pervasive among the CPC revisionists that even though they still call for the “whole Party to (make) diligent study of Marxist theories, to strengthen and improve ideological and political work” and “to educate the people and youth in the Marxist morality,” there will not be any significant qualitative development of the people’s consciousness from these piecemeal ecletic attempts. The same call has been made by the CPSU for the long time, and they are still plagued by widespread problems of low morale, sluggish work attitudes and other racial phenomena contrary to the country’s socialist economic base. The problem is not that CPSU did not understand the masses to study, but that it was done routinely, as a matter of fact. This routinism, based on their fear of any need for periodic mass movements and campaigns from below takes the revolutionary soul out of Marxism. Marxism is a living science, not a dead dogma. This is the reason for which the Line had to become the total revisionist program of the CPC.
The Heritage of The Hunger Strikers

Sally Campbell

Since March 1, a hunger strike has been carried out by prisoners of Long Kesh concentration camp in the north of Ireland. Six have died, eight have taken their places, and hundreds more stand ready to fill their shoes if necessary. Their deaths have focused world attention on an issue, a war and an issue that Britain, and its ally the United States, would rather keep off in a remote corner of the world, forever clouded in misleading news reports. They would have us believe that it is a sectarian war being fought between “Catholic/Protestant extremists,” that the government of Northern Ireland represents the wishes of the people, and other campaigns meant to undermine the awakening mass sentiment of oppressed and progressive people around the world.

In order to recognize how the issue of religion is used by the British imperialists as an excuse to colonize and subject the Irish people, one must have a sense of the last 800 years. The twenty-six counties of the south have nominal independence, but politically they are still bound to England in many ways. The northern six counties still carry on the battle against English imperialism; it is her last colony, and they mean to leave her with none.

The following article traces the first conquests of Ireland by the English in search of land, and the various attempts to settle the country after the Reformation at the expense of the Irish people. In addition, we will discuss the rise of the secret societies, which led England to partition Ireland and most importantly, allegiance. For the next three centuries the clans were driven into the hills with their cattle by private armies, coming down again to find their lands seized. But with a lack of settlers from England, the clans eventually became the tenants once again.

Then came decrees forbidding the renting of land to any Irish who refused to accept English dress, speech, and most importantly, allegiance. For the next three centuries the clans were driven into the hills with their cattle by private armies, coming down again to find their lands seized. But with a lack of settlers from England, the clans eventually became the tenants once again.

Conquest by Bandits

The Norman Conquest in 1170 was the first English invasion. Prior to this, the Irish lived under a clan system with a chief at the head of each clan. King Henry II was granted the title Lord of Ireland by Pope Adrian IV in 1155, but it was not until an Irish clan chief came to him swearing loyalty that he had an opportunity to enforce his claim. The chief had been deposed and came to England to seek help in getting his title back. A number of illegitimate sons of feudal lords became the officers of Henry’s “army”; the rank and file were assorted mercenaries and ruffians. They invaded Ireland, but were not Henry’s idea of an occupation force, so he followed with a second army. He brought with him a Papal Legate, calling on all the clergy (of the Irish Catholic Church) to submit to Papal authority. They in turn got all the clan chiefs to do so. Henry then set to doing out walled cities with new castles to his most loyal men. Clan chiefs became feudal landlords in the countryside. At this point, less than a third of Ireland had been conquered.

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And Then Came Cromwell

With the Tudor/Stuart Conquest beginning in 1485, the stakes were raised, and England began to take more genocidal methods against the Irish. The Anglo-Irish joined forces with native Irish and fought England. Although England still had a foothold in the walled towns, who carried on a monopoly trade with her, it had far from subjugated the Irish people.

Planting Ireland

With the war over and a Treaty of Limerick in 1651, the conquest was at an end. But the planters of Ulster were not done. It was decided that the best way of destroying the Irish was to destroy their culture and replace it with English culture. The English settlers assimilated the Irish culture and intermarried, the decrees were largely unenforceable. This became a sore point with the crown. The Anglo-Irish joined forces with native Irish and fought England. Though England still had a foothold in the walled towns, who carried on a monopoly trade with her, it had far from subjugated the Irish people.

Nicaragua Has Won! El Salvador Will Win!

On July 19, while 500,000 citizens rallied in Nicaragua, 3,000 people marched in New York City to celebrate the second anniversary of the Nicaraguan revolution. Speakers told of the achievements of the Sandinista government and the dangers posed by U.S. imperialism to Central America, particularly El Salvador. The rally was also addressed by representatives of the Nicaraguan Sandinistas: a representative of the Grenada revolution; Rev. Herbert Daughtry of the National Black United Front, and many others. The rally was sponsored by Casa Nicaragua, Casa El Salvador, CISPES and the Committee in Solidarity with the People of Guatemala.
Mythology and mysticism are reactionary modes of thought, when applied to the problems of today.

**Movies: Fantasy is Reality**

Films like Raiders, Dragonslayer, Superman, and Clash have revived the adventure genre so popular during the depression and the war years of the '40s. All films deal with the noble themes of love, honor, and bravery. Two, Raiders and Superman, have been touted as Best Picture nominees. All of these films are quality productions with themes grounded in mythology and mysticism.

Fascist Goebbels, the head of propaganda in Germany under the Nazis admitted:

"I do not in the least want an art which proves its National Socialist (Nazi) character merely by the display of Nazi emblems and symbols but rather, an art which expresses its attitude through its National Socialist character and through raising National Socialist problems. These problems will penetrate the hearts of the German and other peoples more effectively the less ostentatiously they are handled. Overall, it is a fundamental characteristic of efficacy that it never appears as intended. At the moment that propaganda is recognized as such it becomes ineffective. However, the moment that propaganda, message, bent, or attitude as such play in the background and appear to people only as storyline, action, or side-effect then will they become effective in every respect... I have no time for faceless style or message-less art. All art has a message. Art has an aim, a goal, a direction... Thus I don't want art for the sake of the message but to insert the message into the overall design..."

This is particularly true with excellent films like Raiders and Superman. In the Clash of the Titans the extraordinary work of Harryhausen makes monsters Kraken and Medusa (actually small models used in stop-motion model animation) seem real. They help continued on page 14.
In the United States, like other advanced capitalist countries, there's a fairly broad differential in wages. The main reason is the level of class struggle in each industry. Workers in the basic industries essential to capitalist development and survival have been the best organized and most militant in fighting for higher wages.

Their victories have pushed the average level of wages beyond mere subsistence to include owning a house, a car and a comfortable living for their families. Their expectations have also risen in relation to the higher development of the cultural level of society. For example, working class parents expect to be able to send their kids to college. Fifty years ago, this wasn't even a dream.

But the wages of some workers, primarily women, are depressed below even subsistence living. Nationally, the wages of women are 59 percent those of men. Government statistics show that 31 percent of all families headed by single women have incomes that fall below their "poverty level."

Several factors have kept the wages of women among the lowest. The main economic factor is that women have historically been relegated to the army of surplus of labor — the ranks of the unemployed. Because capitalism is constantly expanding and contracting in relation to crisis and recovery — goods produced that workers can't afford to buy — there's always too many workers and too few jobs. The capitalists use the reserve army of labor to create competition for jobs, especially in the most unskilled and marginal sectors of the economy.

In the past, these jobs were the only ones women could get and the majority of them were unemployed. Also, the wages of those who did work were used to augment family income. Under these conditions, the contradiction is that women's labor wasn't that sharp. But today it's a whole new story.

**Equal Pay — Revolutionary Demand**

Capitalism is facing its most severe crisis and it's on a worldwide scale. The basic industries have come to a standstill and millions of auto, steel, construction workers have been laid off — many permanently. The sectors now vital to keep capitalism going are service and finance, the areas where women workers are concentrated. That's why their wage demands and their struggle for organization take on historical importance for the whole working class.

Comparable worth can't reform the wage system or take from the capitalists the wealth the working class is entitled to. But as a demand to raise the wages of women, it can serve revolution to unite and inspire the working class to end the wage system, the rule of the capitalist class altogether.

The San Jose strike is an advanced lesson in this struggle and it also sends a message to unions and the women's movement that workingwomen want to fight. Women's organizations have come to a standstill and millions of auto, steel, construction workers have been laid off — many permanently. The sectors now vital to keep capitalism going are service and finance, the areas where women workers are concentrated. That's why their wage demands and their struggle for organization take on historical importance for the whole working class.

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Women at Work

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Women as percent of total economically active popula­tion by occupation category

Defending the Freedom of Information Act

David Armstrong

When I was writing a book on the alternative capitalist government of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Central Intelligence Agency, among others, spied on and illegally disrupted grassroots media and movements over the past 30 years. Without the FOIA, writers and private citizens cannot undo the damage done in every field you can imagine (and probably some you can't) would not have found such damned data on the powers that be.

Now, the Act—which requires federal agencies to turn over records of their activities, subject to key restrictions—is threatened with dismantlement. The FBI and the CIA are lobbying hard to be almost entirely exempt from the act and the Department of State is considering the possibility. General William French Smith has issued an order permitting agencies to withhold info if the agencies, in their discretion, think it would interfere with their ability to function smoothly.

I think one can safely assume that bureaucrats and spooks who have been burned by FOIA disclosures before will find plenty of reasons to make sure there are no more like Richard Nixon's incriminating Watergate tapes, for example, and reports of government drug experimentation on unwilling soldiers and civilians, and the CIA's use of spy satellites to snoop on domestic antiwar demonstrations. All were exposed through the FOIA.

Political activists and friends of civil liberties are beginning to realize just how serious the threats to the act really are. As a result, they are rallying around the FOIA. No fewer than 146 organizations joined on May 23 — the 15th anniversary of passage of the Act — to defend the statute, which the newly-formed Task Force calls "unique in the laws of all nations." The militant leverage involving that even much is costing the government time and money. And there's a certain irony in that argument. If Washington hadn't spied so extensively and illegally on its own people, the war would not be there to work over. Indeed, this seems a strange complaint for an administration supposedly dedicated to washing Big Government out of our lives. It is a crucial if barely adequate check on this country's intelligence establishment — political activists and friends of civil liberties really are. As a result, they are rallying around the FOIA. No fewer than 146 organizations joined on May 23 — the 15th anniversary of passage of the Act — to defend the statute, which the newly-formed Task Force calls "unique in the laws of all nations." The militant leverage involving that even much is costing the government time and money. And there's a certain irony in that argument. If Washington hadn't spied so extensively and illegally on its own people, the war would not be there to work over. Indeed, this seems a strange complaint for an administration supposedly dedicated to washing Big Government out of our lives. It is a crucial if barely adequate check on this country's intelligence establishment —

The Freedom of Information Act must be defended and strengthened, for in defending the Act, we are defending our way of thought and action. You can write the FOIA Task Force at 201 Mass. Ave., N.E., Suite 316, Washington, D.C. 20003. The telephone number is (202) 547-4705.

...Hunger Strikers

continued from page 5

In 1692 several acts, together known as the witchcraft laws, were passed by the Roman Catholic Church precisely to give the King of England control over the clergy. It was that heritage for which Cromwell's invasion was the conflagration of land from just about everywhere, in varying degrees, which he could then sell to the entire population with "alien lands." The 54,000 Irish refugees joined the soldiers who served in "the Armies of Continental Kings." Slaves of orphans from the last 11 years of war were turned into the soldiers of the West Indies and the Carolinas, at such a profit the agents came back and kidnapped even more, even from England.

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LETTERS TO THE CWP

Bush Loves the Marcos Dictatorship

Dear Comrades,

With nine years of martial rule and repression behind him, Marcos easily won the June 16 elections in the Philippines — for another six years of suffering for 48 million Filipinos.

The Reagan administration added insult to injury when Vice-President Bush offered this incredible praise of a brutal regime which Amnesty International and world opinion regards as one of the world's worst violators of human rights: "We love your adherence to democratic principles and to the democratic processes...." If this is not cynical or unintentionally mocking, then it is just another proof of how U.S. policy makers place the interest of corporate profits and strategic military bases far above that of human welfare, both those of the American and Filipino peoples.

Newsweek (July 13) noted that "Iran and Nicaragua showed the danger of adherence to democratic principles and to the democratic processes...." If this is not cynical or unintentionally mocking, then it is just another proof of how U.S. policy makers place the interest of corporate profits and strategic military bases far above that of human welfare, both those of the American and Filipino peoples.

In solidarity,
San Juan, Chairperson Coordinating Committee
UGNAYAN (Alliance for Philippine National Democracy)
Box 101, Mansfield Depot, Ct. 06251

From El Salvador to Greensboro
The U.S. Gov't Backs Right Wing Death Squads

Nov. 3, 1979 — U.S. Treasury agent Bernard Butkovich and police informer Edward Dawson organized a Klan-Nazi terror squad that assassinated five anti-Klan demonstrators in Greensboro, N.C.

March 27, 1981 — U.S. backed security forces slaughtered 1,500 El Salvadoran refugees. The U.S. government has pumped millions of dollars to the military junta which has murdered over 10,000 people.

From El Salvador to Greensboro the list of crimes against the people is growing. Miami, Atlanta, Buffalo, Three Mile Island, Love Canal are warning signs to all that what has been forced on people thousands of miles away is beginning to happen at home. Just as the El Salvadoran people fight daily against government repression so must the American people.

In solidarity,
San Juan, Chairperson Coordinating Committee
UGNAYAN (Alliance for Philippine National Democracy)
Box 101, Mansfield Depot, Ct. 06251

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Read the True Story of the Greensboro Massacre. This dramatic eyewitness account of the Nov. 3, 1979 murders details the government's involvement in right wing death squads and the shocking court verdict which freed Klan/Nazi murderers.

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WORKERS VIEWPOINT
(GPO BOX 2256, NY, NY 10116)
5,000 Say 'I Care Reagan Doesn't'!

The 5,000 demonstrators outside McCormick Place were organized by the Illinois Coalition Against Reagan Economics (ICARE) into 48 squads. Ten represented cities throughout Illinois, and the other 38 were issue-oriented and carried signs such as "I CARE about disabled, Reagan doesn't," and "I CARE about unions, Reagan doesn't!"

Rallying at Grant Park, they listened to speeches by U.S. Congressman and secretary of the Congressional Black Caucus, Harold Washington, who was cheered when he declared that "we will not tolerate these budget cuts." Dick Simpson, ICARE chairperson, described the coalition's programs for opposing the budget cuts, "We will institute new governments in Illinois and in America. In due course we are going to elect a new governor, a new state legislature, a new Congress, and a new President."


"People Are Ready to Take This Country Back!"

A dozen handicapped people in wheelchairs led the demonstrators on the mile-long march to McCormick Place. The route took the 5,000 in broken streamlets across Lake Shore Drive during rush hour traffic, past Soldiers Field Stadium and onto a footbridge over other lanes of traffic. According to one demonstrator, the police kept marchers off the footbridge until a procession of limousines passed under. Believing that Reagan was in the area, many chanted, "We're fired up, we ain't taking no more!"

"The Reagan campaign said there would be no cuts in Social Security. Now he plans to cut Social Security by billions, trying to balance the budget on the backs of older people, students and the disabled." He said that Social Security would not be in trouble if the baby boom generation was employed, if Reagan had a jobs program. Relying upon Congress, he continued, "We can defeat Reagan and Stockman in their cuts. Give Congress backbone. People across the country are ready to defeat him."

The next speaker also spoke out for participation in electoral politics. He criticized the Democrats for not providing an alternative candidate, a "real representative," and chastised the protesters for not voting against Reagan, or not voting at all. The demonstrators showed restlessness and dissatisfaction with the repeated theme of "write your congressmen," however, and the speaker, Ken Blaylock, president of the American Federation of Government Employees and international vice president of the AFL-CIO, took a more militant stand.

"People are ready to take this country back," he said. The crowd showed more interest. "The poor in this country can overturn this country," Applause and cheering. He went on: "We're here to build a coalition. This is a beginning. You're either with us or against us, there's no in-between. We're in a better position to overthrow the government than the communists in El Salvador."

"When they come for your brother, stand. When they come for your sister, stand. Let them know when they hit one of us, they hit all of us." Strengths and Weaknesses

While the Chicago demonstration was five times larger than the June 21 demonstration in Columbus, Ohio, it, too, received little attention from the bourgeois press. Reagan's announcement of a woman appointee to the Supreme Court dominated the news. Pre-empting and blacking out news coverage of anti-government demonstrations are old tricks that will flop in the 80's. Participating organizations, like the NAACP, Coalition of Black Trade Unions, AFGE, International Association of Machinists, AFL-CIO and other such broad forces can take the news directly to memberships numbering in the millions. Their participating also has legitimacy and importance for the bourgeois press, helping to break through news blockades.

The demonstration focused on Stockman and Reagan, and did not explain why the budget cuts, tax cuts and militarization are happening now. This analysis must be provided to direct the masses towards the only solution to the economic crisis, socialism. It is significant that speakers received the most applause and best response when they spoke of overthrowing the government and taking back the country.

The broadness of the demonstrations, representing dozens of mass organizations, and uniting them in the fight against Reagan's economic recovery program, are major triumphs for ICARE. Their coalition embodies the organizational abilities vital to helping form the broad alliances needed for all-rounded preparation in the 80's.