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# The \$40 Million Contract Against Trotskyism

## Workers League Political Committee Statement

The Federal Government has declared that it is prepared to spend \$40 million to protect the ring of FBI agents working inside the Socialist Workers Party.

U.S. Attorney Robert Fiske Jr. told a federal appeals court last week that the Government would rather concede a legal suit filed by lawyers of the SWP and pay damages than hand over the files of 18 FBI agents working inside that organization.

Fiske stated that the names of more than 100 agents appear in the files of the 18 FBI informers.

"We would rather lose the case than turn over the files of these informants," Fiske asserted before the

three-judge panel of the appeals court which is reviewing the contempt of court citation issued against Attorney General Griffin Bell for defying a legal order to release the 18 files last summer.



Joseph Hansen



Griffin Bell

Fiske declared that the exposure of FBI agents working inside the SWP would cause "incalculable harm to the nation's ability to protect itself."

Fiske revealed that the Government had already made a "very reasonable proposal" to accept liability for any damages that the Socialist Workers Party could prove they had suffered in the loss of members and revenues, but that Judge Griesa, who issued the contempt order against Bell, had rejected the proposal as "unworkable."

The offer made by the Government is without precedent in the legal history of the American judiciary, not to mention the annals of the revolutionary socialist movement.

The American ruling class has never handed over a dime, let alone \$40 million, to a working class organization which posed a threat to capitalism.

The U.S. Government regularly excludes foreigners from entering this country even as tourists if it obtains evidence that they may have belonged to a communist organization

as long as 40 years ago. But this very Government has now publicly declared that it is prepared to hand over millions of dollars to the SWP, which claims to be Trotskyist, in order to maintain the secrecy of its informers inside that organization.

There is only one explanation for the Government's decision: the FBI agents who are being protected have successfully penetrated the leadership of the Socialist Workers Party and are in effective control of this organization.

The Government's all-out defense of its informers indisputably confirms the evidence compiled by the International Committee of the Fourth International proving that the most important of the FBI agents inside the SWP is Joseph Hansen, the chief leader of this spy-infested party.

(Continued on back page)

## 01 ys Since the Assassination of Comrade Tom Henehan



# WILL NO ARRESTS

Weeks after the death of Tom Henehan, the number of political murders in the United States has increased.

Two men have been arrested for the shooting of Henehan on October 15, 1978, at the Workers League Social Club in New York City. They are identified as Angel Torres, 34, and...

On the night of the killing, the police arrested another leading member of the Workers League, Jacques Vielot, 45, who was gravely wounded. The man who shot Vielot, identified as Angel Torres, 34, has not been arrested.

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was, in the words of one of the detectives, "just another senseless killing." This has been the line used by the police to justify the fact that no investigation is taking place and that the conspiracy behind the assassination of Comrade Henehan is being covered up.

The murder of Comrade Tom Henehan was an attack on the entire working class and the fact that the murderers remain on the loose is a danger and an insult to the entire labor movement. His murder was an inseparable part of the growing wave of ruling class violence against the working class and its organizations.

The Workers League will fight indefatigably to expose every detail of the planning and execution of the assassination of Tom Henehan.

We call on all workers and youth to support this historically crucial fight.

# \$75,000 Emergency Fund

Total — \$1,698.75

There has been very little change on the fund. It is high time to sound the alarm.

We know that with the holidays coming up, this will mean great sacrifices. But, comrades and readers, you have always come through. By January 15, we must have the full \$50,000 and by March, complete the fund at \$75,000.00.

Make the biggest possible turn out. Organize activities and speak to your co-workers. Raise everything you can to ensure the continued publication of your paper — the "Bulletin."

## TROTSKYISM...

(Continued from page 1)

Since August 1977, the International Committee has been publishing evidence establishing that Hansen has been working for the FBI as an informer inside the Trotskyist movement since 1940.

Official State Department and FBI archives obtained by the International Committee through the Freedom of Information Act prove that Hansen's recruitment as an agent was personally supervised by the late director of the FBI, J. Edgar Hoover.

It was Hoover who arranged Hansen's meeting with the FBI director in New York City, B.E. Sackett, after Hansen requested that he be placed in touch with a Government official "to whom confidential information could be imparted with impunity."

Hoover was anxious to recruit Hansen into the service of the FBI not only because he had worked in Mexico as a secretary to Leon Trotsky, but also, and more importantly, because information obtained by the FBI indicated that Hansen had, in fact, been in association with the Soviet secret police prior to Trotsky's assassination.

Documents recently obtained by the International Committee (and published on September 29, 1978) directly implicate Hansen in the conspiracy to assassinate the Bolshevik leader.

Documents also show that Hansen has been the leader of a high-level intelligence-gathering operation working within the SWP that supplies information and advice to both the FBI and the CIA.

The fact that the Government would even consider conceding the case to the SWP proves that what is at stake is the preservation of the most important network of political police presently operating on behalf of imperialism.

All the actions taken by the Carter administration since June establish that Hansen is considered an indispensable operative whose exposure would cause "incalculable

harm to the nation's ability to protect itself."

At a top-secret conference at Camp David last June, Attorney General Griffin Bell was instructed by President Carter to defy a court order that he turn over the files of the 18 informers.

At its recent educational conference in Oberlin, the SWP admitted that it had been involved in negotiations with Government lawyers to discuss settling the case with money.

Now the Government is prepared to pay whatever financial damages are assessed by the courts rather than hand over the files.

The official reason being given by the Government for its actions — that the recruitment of informers would be made more difficult if the 18 files were given to SWP lawyers — is ludicrous.

Why should the Government be less concerned about the fate of its Attorney General, who it is willing to consign to prison if necessary, than a group of informers?

The decision to save Hansen and the network of his co-agents which controls the Socialist Workers Party is the desperate response of U.S. imperialism to the enormous intensification of the world economic and political crisis over the last six months.

Faced with an impending economic collapse and the outbreak of a devastating social crisis in the United States, combined with the enormous upsurge of revolutionary struggles internationally, as shown most recently in Iran, the Carter administration has concluded that the greatest threat facing imperialism is the growing power and influence of the world Trotskyist movement.

The sole representative of Trotskyism today is the International Committee of the Fourth International, which is supported politically in the United States by the Workers League (though it is barred from membership by the reactionary Voorhis Act).

The implications of the Carter Administration's decision are extremely

## DRAFT...

(Continued from page 1)

and constantly menaces the gains of the Cuban revolution from the huge U.S. Navy base at Guantanamo.

Jones refused to comment on the Cuban spy flights, or on reports about U.S. plans for military intervention in Iran, saying "We don't discuss contingency plans."

But he did say that the military "wants more influence" in Carter administration policy, and that "we've got a lot of economic interests overseas to protect."

The choice of this open imperialistic language is quite deliberate, as the Carter government prepares for desperate military actions against the revolutionary movements of workers and peasants in Iran, southern Africa, the Middle East, and Nicaragua.

Even more ominous is the buildup of weapons of mass destruction and the forces of NATO aimed against the Soviet Union and the workers' states of Eastern Europe.

Carter's new budget will include a three percent increase in real military spending (a ten percent increase before inflation) while spending on social services will be slashed by \$15 billion.

This huge military buildup is a necessary outcome of the world-wide capitalist economic crisis. Regardless of the pleas of Stalinists, reformists and pacifists of all description, the capitalist class knows no way out of the contradictions of its own system except through the launching of new wars of imperialist aggression.

The only answer to the threat of war and the threat to workers' democratic rights, is for the labor movement to go on the political offensive against the Carter administration.

This means smashing the political alliance between the labor bureaucrats and Carter through calling a Congress of Labor, breaking with the Democratic Party, and establishing a Labor Party to fight for socialist policies.

## \$10,000 NOVEMBER FUND

TOTAL NOW \$5716.29

We received \$2511.85 over the weekend which pushed our total over the halfway mark! This is a big achievement but we have no time to rest.

Let's raise our total to three-quarters by the end of the weekend. Holidays are coming up and we must ensure the success of our fund. Raise all you can and mail it to: Workers League, 540 West 29th St., New York, N.Y. 10001.

ominous.

The International Committee and the Workers League have fought relentlessly to expose Hansen and the network of agents whom the ruling class frankly admit are of "incalculable" importance to the defense of imperialism.

Since the ruling class will stop at nothing to protect whatever it considers to be of "incalculable" importance to its survival, it is absolutely clear that U.S. imperialism will go to whatever lengths necessary to stop the International Committee from exposing Hansen and smashing the FBI outpost he has built up inside the international socialist movement.

The money which the Government is willing to pay represents nothing less than a \$40 million contract against the International Committee, the Workers League and Trotskyism.

If the Government should ever wind up paying damages to the SWP, it will be entered in the official account ledgers not as a legal expense for "damages" but rather as a disbursement of funds from one FBI bank account into another.

Hansen is receiving this unprecedented backing from the Government because of his undisputed position as the number one agent of the counter-revolution. If he has any challengers to this title at all, it comes from Ramon Mercader, the assassin of

Trotsky and Hansen's ex-colleague, whose whereabouts are presently unknown.

The specific purpose of the backing now being given to Hansen is to assist him in the organization of a new violent provocation against the International Committee and the Workers League.

The assassination of Tom Henehan, a Political Committee member of the Workers League, on October 16, 1977, just two months after the International Committee initially exposed Hansen's links to the FBI, is an explicit warning of the attacks that are now being prepared.

The SWP never reported, let alone condemned, the murder of Tom Henehan. This silence, dictated by Hansen and the agents who control the SWP, was tantamount to an open statement of support for the killing.

In the 13 months that have passed since this brutal assassination, the police have made no arrests. Since October 16, 1977, the police have carried out no investigation at all into this political killing, which took place in Brooklyn, New York.

The refusal of the police to investigate Comrade Henehan's assassination becomes particularly ominous in light of a new development.

A group of District Attorneys have entered the SWP suit as "friends of the court" on behalf of Griffin Bell.

They are supporting his

## Workers League Emergency Meeting

# Support the WRP!

The Workers League calls on all workers, students and youth to rally to the defense of the Workers Revolutionary Party, British section of the International Committee of the Fourth International.

The WRP has been ordered by a British High Court to pay \$140,000 in damages following a three-week trial which heard a libel suit against "The Observer," a London newspaper.

The jury found that an "Observer" article slandering the WRP as "violent" and alleging that "arms caches" were hidden on the grounds of the WRP's educational center was "substantially untrue," and that the six WRP plaintiffs had been defamed. Documents produced at the trial proved that "The Observer" knew its allegations were false. The allegations were the basis for a massive police raid on the educational center on the night of September 27, 1975.

In other words, the WRP proved its case, but it has to pay the costs!

We urge all readers and supporters of the "Bulletin" to attend our meeting and to contribute everything you can to the WRP's Emergency Fund to pay the costs. For further details on the case, see pages 4-5.

Wednesday, Nov. 29 7:30PM

George Washington Hotel  
Pine Room  
Lexington & 23rd St.  
New York City

refusal to name the agents inside the SWP, arguing that the exposure of agents would damage their ability to prosecute cases.

The oral arguments in support of Bell will be given by Eugene Gold, the District Attorney from Brooklyn who is ostensibly in charge of the investigation into the assassination of Henehan!

Never in history has there been such a massive conspiracy against the Trotskyist movement.

The present plot to save Hansen in order to destroy Trotskyism dwarfs in dimension even the Moscow Trials of 1936 to 1938.

The dimensions of the conspiracy increase exponentially in proportion to the deepening of the crisis of world imperialism and its bureaucratic Stalinist agencies.

The Workers League calls on the politically-honest members of the SWP to put aside their factional differences with the International Committee and rouse themselves into action against the criminal agents operating within their Party.

As long as Hansen and his sinister associates maintain their positions within the SWP, grave dangers of provocations and further assassinations face the world Trotskyist movement and the entire workers movement.

We say to SWP members: Demand the expulsion of Hansen, launch a full investigation of the FBI operations within the SWP and expel all those who are covering up for them.

The entire labor movement must be on guard against the

SWP, whose every action and intervention must be considered suspect as long as Hansen and his associates control this organization.

The dangers facing the Trotskyist movement in the United States and internationally are very real and very immediate. In all likelihood, Hansen already has plans for a new provocation in an advanced stage of preparation.

It is very possible that the signal for the execution of this provocation may be a new campaign organized by Hansen to label the Workers League and the International Committee as "violent" organizations.

Hansen orchestrated such a campaign in the months leading up to the assassination of Tom Henehan.

The Workers League is absolutely confident that it can meet these dangers and overcome them.

We shall strengthen the security of our movement and campaign for our policies among ever-broader layers of workers and youth.

We shall press ahead for a full investigation into the assassination of Tom Henehan.

Finally, the Workers League will indefatigably support the struggle of the International Committee to expose Hansen and his co-agents within the SWP before a rapidly growing international audience of workers, students, intellectuals and youth who are carefully following the results of our investigation into the FBI spy ring inside the SWP.

November 20, 1978