MOSCOW TRIALS AND REVISIONISM

LBJ THREATENS TRADE UNIONS

EDITORIAL - LBJ PLANS ANTI-STRIKE LEGISLATION

DOLLAR CRISIS - PRELUDE TO ANTI-LABOR DRIVE

vietnam--prepare invasion page 6

TULP Intervenes In SSEU, 1199 page 2
Transit Sell-out page 3
Cincinnati Union Strikes Formica page 3
Eshkol and LBJ page 6
Greece Plays Two-act farce page 8
UNIONISTS TO FIGHT IN 1199 AND SSEU

by Lucy St. John

NEW YORK—Trade unionists for a Labor Party is moving forward in the struggle to build a political alternative to the bosses' parties, to build a labor party. The task facing TULP is to take the fight for the Labor Party, contained in the motion passed at the March 1st meeting on January 7th TULP outlined its work for the coming period. A discussion was begun on perspectives for work in the SSEU (welfare workers) and 1199 (hospital workers).

A report on the situation in the SSEU was given by Denie Cribbin, a grievance chairman in the SSEU. The SSEU, he said, is facing a critical juncture. The union suffered a major defeat this summer in a 7 week strike, in which, due over the past 2 years were raised back. Welfare workers are bearing the brunt of Lindsey's crackdown on city labor. The 60 caseworker limit is completely violated, in fact, in some centers caseloads are almost double that. Workers are facing departmental reorganization which means more speed-up, job freezes and the threat of replacement of higher paid workers with low paid workers.

The defeat of the SSEU this summer has made it quite clear that the independent SSEU is no longer a viable force to protect the workers. The strike leadership, as a result, has been forced to take up the fight for the entry of the SSEU into DC 37. The Mage leadership under heavy fire from the ranks looks to entry as a way to get the blame for the move of the union to fight the rapidly deteriorating working conditions transfered from it to the Colburn bureaucracy.

COUNCIL

The perspective of TULP is to build a caucus in the SSEU with a program, the only program, which will bring victory to city workers. This means uniting the workers in the Department of Social Services in DC 37 in order to wage a political strike. Only a political strike, threatening Lindsey's job, can turn back the offensive. The existence of the Tate and the idea of Henry makes this all the more necessary.

TULP will be launching a campaign in the SSEU April elections. A major demand will be that the SSEU take the lead in the fight for the city labor movement to run its own independent candidates against Lindsey. Entry into DC 37 is meaningful only within the context of this program, the only program which can bring victory.

hospital

Fred Meyers, delegate in 1199 (hospital workers) reported that the citywide contract covering about 20 hospitals comes up in July. This contract is crucial as it will set the pattern for future hospital contracts in the city. Workers in 1199 are faced with poverty wages and the lack of benefits such as pension. A major demand in this contract will be for a minimum salary for all workers of $100 (the average wage is now about $70/week). A second important demand will be for a pension. These demands take on increased meaning aside of 1199, because if won they could establish a precedent for other low paid workers in this city.

TULP will launch an uncompromising fight for these demands, that not one inch be given. This requires a real struggle against the SSEU bureaucracy which has no program or intention of waging the kind of fight necessary to win these demands. The bureaucracy shows its colors when it ships prison to some of those enemies of all workers, Lindsey and Rockefeller. Lindsey and Rockefeller will fight tooth and nail the demand for the $100 wage for they represent the moneyed interests, the bosses, in this city. TULP must wage a struggle in 1199 against these bosses politicians and for a labor party to run candidates who will institute in the interest of the workers. TULP must fight the bureaucrats who collaborate with these anti-labor bosses. TULP will be launching a campaign around the elections in April in 1199.

The meeting on January 1st was well-attended in District 65, Taxi Union, IUF, TFW, and other unions. TULP will begin publishing a monthly newsletter beginning in February dealing with the struggles in New York City.

TULP is hosting meetings next month in Minneapolis, Cincinnati, and San Francisco. TULP has the only alternative for other workers. JOIN TULP IN THE FIGHT BACK AGAINST THE UNIONS. JOIN TULP. TO BUILD THE LABOR PARTY: A PARTY OF THE WORKERS!

TRADE UNIONISTS FOR A LABOR PARTY MEETINGS

new york

FUTURE OF THE SSEU
SUN. JAN. 21 8:00PM
243 E. 10th St. ROOM 7
473-9438
tulp meets every saturday at above time and address
subscribe to the tulp newsletter, write above address.
TWU LEADERS SELL OUT RANKS

by Fred Mueller

NEW YORK - A strike on New Year’s Day was av-
verted this year. Among all the usual congratulations among media-
transporter and transit-union officials, there was no be-
bothered to check on what the transit workers them-
sewes might do. The Transport Workers Union of New York City officials still deny their members were in any way in-
volved in that contract renegotiation in open meetings. Of course the mail ballot had been mail-
antea ratification. It takes place some time after settle-
ment is proposed, when rank and file militancy is bound to have ebbed. Any opposition elements have no chance to convince the rest of the work-
ers to try to back the leader-
ship.

This year the bureaucrats are probably happier than ever to fail back on the mail ballot. Thousands of transit workers know that practically all of their demands were denied in exchange for a compromise pension provision that doesn’t even cover 5,000 drivers who are employed by the TA subsidiary, the Manhattan and Bronx Surface Transit Operat-
ing Authority.

dissatisfaction

Several bus drivers ques-
tioned by this reporter didn’t 
wait words in expressing their dissatisfactions with their new contract. It was almost as hard to find any subway conductors or motormen who appreciated their new contract. Demands were exchanged for a much weaker pension 
provision, and no back time.

The bulk of the workers (not counting the 5,000 bus drivers) got the pension at half pay, but only at age 50. In exchange for this improve-
ment, they have been delayed the city about 1 1/3 as much as the straight pension at half pay for 20 years. While the workers were asking for, bureaucrats gave up practi-
cially every other dam-
and. Working conditions are bound to continue to deterio-
rate.

As usual, the shorter work week demand was dropped im-
mediately by the transit-union negotiators. This demand is always treated as a little window on the unions’ me-
rang and file. Yet, 15,000 jobs have been eliminated in last November alone by the TA, and some progress on the shorter work week demand could reverse this trend.

well

As for the gains workers will have to content with 5% for the next 18 months, a number of workers which will be held back until July 1969. This really means a pay cut for transit workers at least over the next year and a half. Even if inflation stays at its present rate it will add up to more than the meager 5% the workers have been given. The new demands for state and fed-
eral taxes are still an uncertain year, it is ob-
vious that the workers face a definite cut in living stan-
dards now.

The pension improvement doesn’t cost more than $10 million by the city’s own esti-
mates. The really expensive items would have been a sizable wage increase and a shorter work week. This is just what the bureaucrats agree with the very beginning not to fight for. To top it all off, the new contract provides for setting up a so-called Human Relations Committee, composed of the TA and TWU officials, which will meet periodically to discuss "problems relating to working con-
ditions.” Transit workers had better not look for anything but trouble from this cozy little arrangement.

worst

The Transport Committee for a Labor Party warned transit workers in a leaflet issued after the recent deadline that the union bureaucrats would try to settle for a two bit compromise. This would set their living standards back to where they were before the strike.

At present, there is no over-
time pay on Saturdays and Sundays unless at least 40 hours have been worked on the preceding weekend. And the grievance list is nothing more. How many grievances are there? The general reaction of IUE members interviewed on this point was "at least count a long time ago.”

Can the electrical workers win this strike? Not just "wink" in the sense of getting a contract which keeps the workers with the winning scale of cost of living, but inflicting a solid defeat on the bosses. All the mistakes and errors that have been made in this job on the part of the TA. The bosses are making far more profit from the Cincinnati workers than were previously unexpected. Fringe benefits and overtime pay are also at stake.

At present, there is no over-
time pay on Saturdays and Sundays unless at least 40 hours have been worked on the preceding weekend. And the grievance list is nothing more. How many grievances are there? The general reaction of IUE members interviewed on this point was "at least count a long time ago.”

Can the electrical workers win this strike? Not just "wink" in the sense of getting a contract which keeps the workers with the winning scale of cost of living, but inflicting a solid defeat on the bosses. All the mistakes and errors that have been made in this job on the part of the TA. The bosses are making far more profit from the Cincinnati workers than were previously unexpected. Fringe benefits and overtime pay are also at stake.

Lindsay & quinn collaborate

Dear workers and their friends in government and industry work to-
gether. On Wednesday, December 27th, at the very same time as the transit workers were taking their strike vote, the strategy for the transit settle-
ment was being discussed and agreed upon at a "gourmet" dinner at the Union Pacific Restau-
rant on East 57th Street.

dinner

It seems that Theodore Khee, one of the key media-
sions who had been appointed in defeat of transit workers.

Menny and others to the dinner.

While the transit workers met at the other side of town to express their determina-
tion to fight for decent wages and working conditions, these bosses, their political repre-
sentatives and their highly paid agents in the labor move-
ment and industrial workers of as much or more than a transit worker’s daily pay. Lindsay, Khee, and the bureaucrats agreed that another transit strike would not be a "disaster." It might even suit the bosses to scrap their expensive dinners for some cheaper eats. They all agreed to meet again and to move into the American Hotel where the bargaining was going on, to get a "seat and provide sup-
port in the final push for a settlement.”

"Ordre this kind of pressure to the transit settlement has already arrived at, after a post-
ponement of several hours in the strike deadline.

rough

The bosses and bureaucrats will not be laughing long, however. The way in which the settlement was achieved shows how rough things are getting. And Lindsay and the bankers who directly dictate TA policy didn’t get every-
thing they wanted. The city’s financial crisis is so great that even a shaky settlement for the transit workers won’t do more than the bosses and their government can afford to show off.

Thus, while the settlement represents a real defeat for transit workers, neither the TA nor the rest of the city work-
ers have been routed yet. The transit contract fits into the pattern of the teachers’ settlement in New York and many others as well. Without new weapons, without a politi-
cal struggle, the workers are pushed back or at the very best, buy the bosses off. The capitalists are not yet able to solve their crisis on their own terms. They are buying more time at a high price. When the time comes they will try to make the workers pay as much as possible and the workers will fight back. But the times to deepen and the stage is set for much more explo-
itary battles in the future.

This fight requires the building of a political alterna-
tive to the bosses. And a new order of labor must win these battles. Transit workers must begin to fight for a labor party which can make the bosses pay by decisive on their demands. This is the most basic element of the trans-
it settlement.

by Mike Ross

CINCINNATI — A rotten wage scale, pitiful fringe benefits, combined with a long, long grievance list, have brought 1400 members of the International Brotherhood of Electricians, Radio and Machine Workers (IUE) Local 757 on to the picket line at Formica’s Cincinnati plant.

Since December 10, 1967, the 1400 electricians have picketed Formica’s parent Spring Grove plant and its Evanston, Ill., affiliate. So far, no strike on the strikers are those unor-

dised: seamen, office workers, and a young woman who research and development work-
ers; heading the list is General Manager Colin Fender, now known as "squeak." 

Just what is going on inside the struck plants is unknown, but unconfirmed reports have filtered out of "supervisors" hopping fingers, breaking arms and one have a heart attack while trying to operate the plant’s machinery.

As things stand presently, the bosses have set to negotiate a decent contract some 20 times. The pre-
temimarurana were not extended for a week by the Federal Process. 

What are the issues? The issues are the workers demand part-

new pact is definitely higher than those in Cincinnati, but without a union. This in-

What is the bottom line? The line is "victory," which is financial cost of living, but inflicting a solid defeat on the bosses. All the mistakes and errors that have been made in this job on the part of the TA. The bosses are making far more profit from the Cincinnati workers than were previously unexpected. Fringe benefits and overtime pay are also at stake.

What are the electrical workers need to do is to raise certain demands which will shock the bosses. And the bosses, parties, but the crea-

Lindsay and Khee are part of the management team. But one has been appointed in defeat of transit workers.

Menny and others to the dinner.

While the transit workers met at the other side of town to express their determination to fight for decent wages and working conditions, these bosses, their political representa-


demos

The bosses present counter-
tact all political life and hold all political power. The decisions of the council to the White House. No matter how much they promise the workers’ "right to work," when the moment of truth comes, these capital-
militant politicians always show up on the side of the boss. Workers have to begin to organise in the form of a labor party which will win the support of all instruments of repression away from the bosses.

Does the new TA labor party? George Meaney? Walter Reuther? Joseph Cur-
am? For once, only when all workers, in transit, hospita-

dentification of the "labor party" is to win a labor party be built. And the only organization which fights for building a Labor Party is the Workers’
The historical roots

by Jeff Sebastian

The deepening crisis of imperialism threatens the world with barbarism. Only Leninist parties capable of smashing the capitalist state and leading the working class to power can provide an alternative to this. The fundamental crisis of our epoch is one of revolutionary leadership. This central idea of the 'Transitional Program', main document of the founding conference of the Fourth International, is as true today as when it was written in 1938. The major obstacle to this task is Stalinism which fights to prevent the working class from achieving consciousness of its historic tasks.

'Peaceful co-existence' is the policy the Kremlin bureaucracy employs in its desperate efforts to defend its privileges and political power from the Russian working class. To carry out this policy of international class collaboration and counter-revolution, the Kremlin depends on its vast apparatus of loyal Communist Parties. In every country of the world the CP's fight to tie the working class to alien class interests and to destroy the attempts to build independent expressions of working class political power. Everywhere the story is the same. Workers are used as pawns to pressure the imperialists to come to an agreement with the Russian bureaucracy.

In England the CP supports uncritically the Labor 'lefts' while these same lefts give Wilson the go ahead to destroy the trade unions. In France the CP contains millions of unionists with policies designed not to threaten French Capitalists or embarrass Russian diplomacy. In Vietnam the Russian bureaucrats cynically bargain over the interests of the Vietnamese while taking steps to insure that the revolution remains isolated. In China they call for the ouster of Mao. In Greece the workers are handed over to the military junta by the failure of the CP to provide any alternative to the capitalist policies of the Center Union. Millions of Arabs have had their eyes opened to the real politics of Stalinism as it acted to deliver them bound hand and foot to imperialism.

In the U.S. the role of the CP is identical to that it plays in other countries. We should not be fooled into thinking that because of its small size it is unimportant. In a period of rising class militancy its potential for misleadership and betrayal is enormous. The CP presents in organized form the politics of the Russian bureaucracy and for American workers that can mean the end of living standards, of democracy and of their government. It should be remembered that the present union bureaucracy which so conveniently offered its support to Johnson at the recent AFL-CIO convention was built and strengthened through the policies of the Stalinists in the '30's and during the war. Today the CP looks to the left wing if the Democratic Party for its alternative. Their fight to keep the working class tied to this party by creating tertiary alternatives such as McCarthy. They will fight just as hard to keep the workers tied to the friends of the Democratic Party in the labor bureaucracy. That this is their policy can be seen in the support that they offer to the labor bureaucrats who met recently in Chicago to disguise their failure to wage the class struggle by assuming a somewhat left posture on the war. Precisely the same role is played by the lefts in England who deliver Wilson a rebuff on his Vietnam policy and at the same time fight to keep him in power. Wherever workers are being betrayed the CP will be found providing a left cover to the betrayers.

It could not be otherwise. The present CP is not the CP of Lenin. The rotten deformed policies of the present CP and traitors who lead it are the politics of Stalinism. The CP is the end product of Stalin’s successful struggle to destroy the Bolshevik Party. And therefore everything it stood for.

The party that Stalin built was constructed on the ruins of the civil war and the exhaustion of the Russian working class. Every setback, every international defeat strengthened Stalin’s politics of isolation and ‘Socialism in One Country’. Stalin was the political head of all conservative, isolationist, non-revolutionary, nationalistic tendencies in the country. He spoke for the bureaucracy, the managers, the technocrats, the intelligentsia—all those alien to the regime. By 1932-33 of the staffs of local government offices in Leningrad were former ‘Tsarist officials’. Tsarist officials contributed 37% of the Commissariat of Finance and 27% of the Commissariat of Labor and the 50% of the Commissariat of Trade. These were the people Stalin represented. The party that Stalin led consisted of less than 2% people who had been Bolsheviks before the revolution. This was the party that expelled Trotsky and the Left Opposition.

destroy

Not even this was enough for Stalin. To consolidate his power he had to completely destroy the Bolshevik Party. And he had to do it in the name of the Bolshevik Party. In 1935 he banned the Society of Old Bolsheviks and in 1934-1935 he unleashed a series of purges to destroy most of the living history of Bolshevism and cut the Russian working class off from its entire revolutionary history. Of Lenin’s 1917 Central Committee Trotsky was murdered in 1940, Izofe (ambassador to China) and Shpyshiv (party leader in the Ukraine) were driven to suicide. Those who were executed or died in prison were Kamenev (Moscow party head), Zinoviev (leader of the Comintern), Bukharin (editor of Pravda), Sokolnikov (commissar of finance), Rykov (chairman of the Council of People’s Commissars), Smigla (economist), Preobrazhensky (economist), Krestinsky (ambassador to Germany), and Radek (leader of the Comintern Internacional). Others simply disappeared and nothing is known of their fate. While the Purge trials went on thousands of militants were jailed, executed or simply disappeared.

Stalin even used the enemies of Bolshevism to destroy the Bolsheviks. The Chief prosecutor at the Moscow ‘Trial was Stalin, a former White Guard. In 1937 Marshal Tukhachevsky and the Red Army General Staff were framed and executed. This so weakened the army that
It was still weak and demoralized when Hitler invaded the USSR. The frame-ups in these trials were so gross that today, particularly after the
Khrushchev revelations no one can believe them to be true.

Not one shred of evidence was ever unearthed linking
Trotsky's activities to the
fascists. Every piece of evidence submitted by the prosecution was exposed by Trotsky to have been a lie. Men destroyed by Stalin had devoted their lives to the revolution. They were "confessed" after having been broken by Stalin. Those who refused to confess simply never came to trial.

The history of the CP of the Soviet
union was rewritten many times as each time it became necessary to deal with some leading personage who had been shot or even some author of an earlier history who had been done away with.

The White Guard press wrote poems to Stalin thanking him for the executions. The bourgeois
breathed a sigh of relief. Here indeed was concrete proof that Stalin had no dreams of social revolution.

Was he not destroying everyone who had ever fought for such a thing? Throughout all of this only the Trotskyists fought to maintain the traditions of the Bolshevik Party and the heritage of October.

As for the CP in the U.S., it staunchly followed every twist and turn of its Kremlin masters. It supported the Moscow trials. It supported each and every execution of an old Bolshevik. It printed and republished every lie and slander put out in these trials. At the same time as it did this it obediently carried out the line of the Kremlin masters. Stalin's policy before the Hitler-Stalin Pact was to gain the support of the U.S., Britain and France against the Nazis. The CP here was only too glad to do its bit by supporting Roosevelt and even intervening where it had the strength to set out strikers to show the government just what a loyal ally it could be. All this hand in hand with the Popular Front policy carried on in France and Spain as part of Stalin's international policy.

Except for a brief interlude during the Hitler-Stalin Pact when the CP became anti-Roosevelt and even fought around with supporting Wilkie they were loyal indeed. During the War they were the best strike-breakers. William Z. Foster looked the confessors trying to get striking coal miners back to work and singling John L. Lewis a fascist agent. Their supporters in the labor bureaucracy fought hardest for the no-strike pledges. Harry Bridges even went so far as to call for a continuation of this pledge after the war. The Stalinists were men whose politics were based not on that of the USSR but, on the defense of the bureaucracy. They helped to weaken the October Revolution by destroying its main defense, the international communist movement.

A history of lies, slander and cover-up for murder.

This is the history of the Communist Party-a party which bases its history on the decapitation of the Bolshevik Party can lead the working class nowhere but under the knives of the capitalists.

The Progressive Labor Party was built after a split from the CP. Although its leaders were able to see the class collaborationists politics of the CP they could not see this as the logical development of Stalinist degeneration. Thus they seek to disguise their own history from their membership. They inform us in their document 'Road to Revolution' that Stalin made some mistakes, he was too centralist and not democratic enough and he may have killed a few innocent people, but he was a great Marxist. Which few innocent people? Surely the leadership must be aware that those innocent people they refer to were the entire leadership of the Bolshevik Party. They treat the CP as though its mistakes were due entirely to a revisionism which developed only in the U.S. and was totally unrelated to Stalin. Thus they start out with essentially the same world view as that of the CP, defense of the Stalinist bureaucracy.

By starting out with a defense of Stalinism rather than a re-examination of their entire history these people are doomed to one inexorable blunder after another. Thus, the PLP could organize trips to Cuba and claim that Fidel was a model Marxist-Leninist and are today second to none in their attacks against Fidel's bureaucracy when it is forced to break from the Chinese for its own tactical purposes. This moral failure to deal with Stalinism leaves them totally incapable of doing anything else but, adapting to the national bourgeois in the imperialist countries. How else explain their support of Saudie the Algerian hangman or their support to Sukarno and the PKI under whose brilliant leadership a half million communists were slaughtered.

Essentially PL has taken over that narrow nationalism that so characterizes Stalinism. In breaking from the Kremlin bureaucracy and attaching themselves to the Maoist bureaucracy they maintain the old convenient relationship. China frees them from having to do any independent international study and frees them for work at home. All that is necessary is an occasional reprint of Chinese analysts. Nothing could be farther from their politics than any conception of an international party. This conception was so much a part of Leninism that Lenin launched the struggle for the International in the middle of the civil war. So far have the descendants of Stalinism come from Leninism.

In their party work these people have learned absolutely nothing from the CP. Their model for working class struggle remains William Z. Foster, a good organizer and a toady follower of the Kremlin bureaucracy. They therefore can offer the working class nothing more than a program of militant rank and file struggle around bread and butter issues. They remain absolutely incapable of raising the question of power to the working class. In practice they can only join with their opponents in the CP in adapting to the trade union bureaucracy because they can offer no political alternative to the oficialization of those bureaucrats with the Democratic Party. So deeply imbued with Stalinist politics, they are incapable of understanding the transitional program as struggled for in the first four congresses of the Communist Internationa1 and as outlined in the 'Transitional Program' of the Fourth International. Thus they are doomed to either the third period kind of politics developed by Stalin in the thirties of robbing the masses of revolt by ceaseless demonstrations and party activity, or they pursue a Stalinist type popular front reformist approach by liquidating the masses into organizations like RAMAS as they are presently pursuing.

The PLP will go through many twists and turns as it tries to adapt to the reality it sees through its Stalinist lens. Until the PLP liquidates its own history it can lead nothing but confusion and defeat.

Only the Trotskyists have struggled continuously and from the beginning to expose the dangers of Stalinist degeneration. The fight launched by the Left Opposition for Leninist Internationalism and continued to the present day in the struggle for the Fourth International has preserved the working class the precious heritage of Bolshevism. Only the Fourth International has (continued) the struggle to build a Leninist international and the theory necessary to give leadership to the class. Only the F.I. has been able through this struggle to develop the program and perspective to lead the working class to power. The Bolshevik Party is our party. The revolutionaries are our comrades. Our fight to build the working class with a program and program is identical with the fight to build Lenin's party. In the process of building this party we will clear the name of every scoundrel Bolshevik. We are the mortal enemy of those who seek to build a party on the corpses of Stalin's victims.
INTERNATIONAL VIETNAM

U.S. Prepares North Invasion

by Lucy St. John

What is becoming clearer each day is that US imperialism cannot win the Vietnam war by gradual escalation. What it is preparing now is a full scale invasion of North Vietnam. This is the logic of its inner crisis. The capitalists cannot afford to lose this one for with it is tied the survival of the world capitalist system.

Johnson's strategy over the past two years has been one of gradual escalation. Johnson is "cautious" and very adept at speaking out of both sides of his mouth as he increases the onslaught. One day he talks of "peace" and visits the Pope; the next day he gives his henchmen, Westmoreland, a "further hard" to escalate the war.

Their logic is as follows. There are now a half million US troops in Vietnam and Westmoreland is asking for more. He cannot be forced to admit that a quarter million more men "talked about going to war under control, much less guarantee victory." The "war of attrition" breaks the fighting spirit of the Vietcong. They are now on the defensive and their leaders are being killed by the US-backed South Vietnamese army.

The situation has forced Johnson to try to claim a "victory" and negotiate--one he knows he can win. He knows that negotiations mean an end to the kind of settlement imperialism requires to hold its power over them. At this point US imperialism cannot set up a coalition government in the MLD sections of which are tied with North Vietnam and China.

"Shalom," said President Johnson in his Texan drawl as Premier Eshkol stepped off the plane in San Antonio for a visit at the LBJ ranch. "Shalom," responded Eshkol and Shimon, believing it to mean "peace." Then the butcher of the Vietnamese masses warmly shook the hand of the butcher of the Arab masses.

It should be noted that Eshkol came to the United States to get more arms to defend his people from any possible renewed attack on the Arabs. Johnson willingly agreed to give the Israelis what they needed. So much for Johnson's pious statements on peace in the Middle East.

Back home the US left the Nguyen diem's "oara" rule over the conquered peoples as once the Nazis did. The US and its lackeys in the UN made this clear by saying a few kind words to cover Johnson's genocidal Vietnam war. After all oppressors must stick together--even senior with senior partner.

The International Committee of the Fourth International stands for the return of the conquered territories to the Arab nations. The Fourth International stands for the immediate withdrawal of all US forces from Vietnam. It is the duty of the Italian and Armenian working class to rise up and fight US imperialism and its lackeys in their midst.

The crisis of US imperialism requires that Johnson fight the war in Vietnam to victory, stepping up the attrition on the Vietnamese people as well as North Vietnamese and China, and at the same time launch a full scale attack on the wages and working conditions of American workers. These struggles are the same struggle; the enemy is the same.

Johnson tries to keep these struggles separate to divide the world working class through his talk of patriotism and his anti-communist demagogy. Those who oppose the war, such as the Communist Party and the Kick-out Workers Party, collaborate with Johnson by separating the struggle against the war from the struggles of the working class in the US. Johnson and his allies have been unsuccessful; it has been found that 45% of the trade unionists are in the kick-out party.

The task now is to unite the struggles of the Vietnamese people against US imperialism with the struggles of American workers against the attack on their living standards and trade unions by the bosses and their government.

We must begin this struggle here, now, by building a political alternative to the bosses and their parties, the Republicans and Democrats.

The Workers League has begun this fight. Join us now to build the labor party! Victory for the Vietnamese! Defend China!
by Dennis O'Casey

Johnson's New Year's Day decision to impose massive new tax increases on the investment and trade sector, following closely on the heels of the devaluation of the British pound add up to a crushing defeat for the US dollar. Suddenly the weakness of the dollar has come to such a head that not only is it unable to prop up a major currency, but it will not be able to even prop up the pound for the first time in 20 years it can no longer stand up as the supreme world currency that can be used when and as desired, with no international restrictions on its use. It can no longer even withstand foreign trade by US citizens except for the most urgent and necessary transactions.

Johnson's controls are stop gap panic measures dictated by the threat that in their absence the absence of massive infusion of foreign capital. The problem announced in February would have been so serious as to spur renewed speculative attack on the dollar. It brought in the drive and revalued the whole world capitalist system into a virtual collapse on the order of 1929.

**Workforce**

The working class must be warned that such stop gap measures, useful as they may be to the capitalists in cushioning the shock of a sudden deepening of the liquidity crisis, provide no over-sight or long term solution. For the US and world capitalism the only alternative to bankruptcy is the smashing of the trade union and the rolling back of all the gains made by the working class through decades of struggle.

Though by Jan. 1 these speculative attacks had subsided it had become clear to the Johnson Administration that the stabilization in the dollar payment situation for the quarter had occurred, and that the '67 deficit would now hit 35 billion dollars. For Johnson this is 'a virtual invasion of the US economic life.'

This worsening is attributable to massive increases in military spending; increases in foreign travel and tourism; increases in dollar outflows for corporate direct investment and dismemberment of dollar incomes from past investment, less than expected growth in the balance of trade surplus, and sales by Britain of her US stocks and bonds. If the dollar falls 7 and 8 billion annually, the highest in history. This was announced in February in the absence of controls would bring a disaster to the US in a major way. Such a massive speculative attack against the dollar as to threaten its collapse on the spot. It was this that forced Johnson's New Year's Day panic measures.

At the present time the next stop gap line of defense for the dollar may well be the Congressional sitting of the spring to consider legislation requiring for $42.5 billion a Federal reserve notes now in circulation.

The key thing to be understood is that none of these stop gap dollar control measures can in anyway solve the liquidity crisis. Johnson's measures will not cut the '68 deficit by 5 billion as he so optimistically forecasts - nor does Johnson himself believe that they can. Most bourgeois economists would agree (many bankers and Congressmen are already demanding) that there is only one way Johnson can stop the dollar drain is with a strong dose of domestic deflation. Only by controlling both the dollar and the current dollar through strict taxes, speed up in the factories, expanded unemployment and by adopting a wage freezing plan, and a stringent anti-inflationary policy, can Johnson lower the cost of US labor. Only by lighting up the depression depressing the wages of US workers and increasing their productivity can Johnson achieve what US capitalism really requires: the Federal deficit that is the inflation which by lowering the dollar of US exports can expand their volume and repatriate the billions of dollars lost through other channels.

**Fight**

Fight is in fact the fighting capacity of US workers, fighting desperately to maintain a standard of living won through bitter struggle, in the context of an otherwise declining, stagnating US economy that accounts for almost as much as Federal deficit war, spending for the inflationary rampagne now underway in this country.

Like striking British workers refusing to subside, they, American workers have not been as bad as Federal deficit war, spending for the inflationary rampagne now underway in this country, the workers who have been struck for reducing their pay and the strike is just the beginning. The strike is underway in 1968 in the copper strike will fight in 1968 in steel, in cans, in aluminum, in aerospace, rail, telephone coal mining and longshore making no concessions to a gangrous US capitalism - no matter how close to collapse it may be testing.

It is the recognition of this fact in the Congress and industrial circles that is producing a growing outcry, that the US is not the only victim of Keynesian economics. In particular, what is feared is that reflation is the inflationary economy that will force the next new taxes, the next new taxes will be the taxation of real growth and squeeze on profits experienced in '67. What is demanded is that Johnson get down to the main issue and stop backing the working class with further cutbacks in non-defense spending programs and legislation against the unions. Whether that can be done or not depends on the results of the coming elections. This is the reason why the US government is so anxious to maintain a strong dollar in the hope that the cost of the coming election may include a major victory for the US government.

**International**

Internationalization, the US New Year's Day measures together with further US efforts to cut its deficit will cut like a two edged sword.

The industry that is the problem internationally lies in the fact that whatever gains the US achieves in righting its deficit and defending the world economy from sudden collapse will be achieved at the expense of further economic expansion abroad. The tendency for the US to shift off its aid dollar to the colonial world and the specific crisis this engendered is now clearly the peripheral of the overall crisis. Nor will Johnson's measures substantially hasten direct investment dollars to new world market.

At the center is the impact of the American measures on Europe. In the past it has been the burden of payments deficits of Britain and the US that have provided the dollar and gold reserves upon which economic expansion in the US and the world. The collapse of the issue and now American investment cuts will have the effect of shifting off the two major reserve-creating, generating economic expansion. The end to US investments will also have the effect by reducing foreign surpluses, of putting the burden of expansion on the countries, creating new conflicts over competing for the surviving balance of payments surpluses. Even as De Gaulle chides US on her balance of payments position, the US, in particular the US, is already weakening the franc and raising the likelihood of a French payments deficit in the next period. Higher interest rates will be a blow to French industry whose narrow profit margins will not permit borrowing at higher rates. The gains of the British devaluation are threatened. In every country the trade unions are hard hit. In every country balance of payments difficulties as they rear their heads will force foreign governments to take deflationary measures chiefly in the form of deepening attacks on native working classes like those already underway in Britain, France, Spain, Israel and Greece.

Capitalist imperialism in Europe is the best hit. The fact that 70% of Spain's external financing originates in the US has led dissatisfied Spanish officials to predict that the projected increased growth rate for Spain will have to be revised downward from 6% to a stagnant 2.5%. Though the ruling financial circles in each country approach the US measures in a spirit of cooperation this is only because they view the fight to wage a battle as the standard tactic of the existing working classes as preferable to a sudden collapse in the word monetary system.

**Choice**

What is clear is that a serious campaign by the US to correct its payments deficit can transform the liquidity crisis from a mere US dollar drain into a chain of recessions on the pattern of the '50s. What is clear is the US is not the only country facing the problem of the recent tendency towards economic nationalism as one country after another adopts protectionist and devaluationary economic policies to build up its reserves from a dwindling world supply. We see the move towards protectionism already underway in the US. Super- ficial adjustments like the Kennedy Round tariff negotiations or the IMF paper gold scheme will not reverse the deeper logic of the developing crisis in the world economy.

For the working class the choice will be between fascist dictatorships - which alone can defend a decadent capitalism on the brink of disaster or preparation for socialist revolution which alone can defend a decadent capitalism by adopting a progressive fashion. Just as the US 'sliba" at the center of this crisis so the US working class and its vanguard must play a central role in its resolution.
These are the faces of re-action in the South today. While the capitalist and racy- cal press alike ignore the struggle in the South, the re- actionary forces in the South prepare to invade the North with their poison in the form of the Wallace campaign. Let there be no question about it. Little has changed in the South for all the strug- gles and civil rights legiti- mation. A huge reservoir of reactionary racism reigns in the region. Shootings of black militiates continue to be every- day events. The Klan marches openly through the streets of 'progressive' Southern cities like Montgomery, Alabama, (shown here) home of the bus boycott, the first stage of the contemporary Southern Negro struggle.

The racist demogogues like Wallace and Madsen are well aware of the crisis in this country and of the dangers to them and the bosses in general of a real political fight back by the working class. So they spew forth their racist demogogy at the more back- ward elements of the class seeking to pit white against black. Their aim is to keep the South as a low wage shop area for super profits for the bosses. The white as well as black workers are forced to pay for racism with a lower standard of living than the rest of the nation. Now they want to use racism to extend these conditions to workers in the rest of the land at a time when the bosses are in crisis.

Labor must go on the offen- sive to break the reactionary threat. Every plant in the South must be organized. Every vestige of prejudice and discrimination must be wiped away. Labor, North and South, black and white, young and old must be welded into a mighty political army of its own-a labor party to put out the bosses' agents from Madsen and Wallace to Johnson and Romney.

The fight within the trade union movement for a labor party cannot be separated for a moment from the fight to eradicate all forms of dis- crimination within the unions, open or hidden. The fight within the unions must drive a struggle to organize the unorganized, wipe out poverty wages North and South, and fight for the creation of new jobs for all. Unemploy- ment and low wages threaten all-organized as well as un- organized. Only such a pro- gram can offer a real alterna- tive to the reactionary fas- cist demogogy of the Wallaces, the Madsones and their Klan friends.

East Mediterranean - but an objective appraisal of the two- act comedy shows cogently why such an agreement is impo- ssible.

Act one began with the tragedy of Ales Theodorou in Cyprus last November when a number of Turks were shot down by General Grivas sup- porters.

Within hours a war situation was created and the Turkish government began preparing an even more grim prospect of losing altogether its vital strategic bases at Dhokelia and Akrotiri in Cyprus, if Turkey went to war.

A compromise was arranged by Cyprus Vance, Johnson's personal representative, and the Greek junta climbed down in the face of Turkish threats and accepted without cavi all the Turkish demands-incuding the withdrawal of the 7,000 Greek troops stationed in Cyprus. The effect of this appease- ment was too much for the pro-British King who saw the peace agreement as an at- tempt to weaken the British in Cyprus and install a more reactionary regime than that of Archbishop Makarios which would carry out Enosis and bring the Cypriots under the heel of Patakos.

So long as Greece had a pseudo-parliamentary system it was necessary as a counter- weight but the seizure of power by Osma made parliament and monarchy superfluous.

The King's moves and machina- tions in the past had paved the way for the colones and only two options: either to lead a counter coup, with the support of sections of the armed forces, or flee.

The second act began on Wednesday, December 13, when Constantine made a purely token gesture of de- fence to the Athens regime and then freshened out with the royal entourage. Not a single peasant, worker or soldier responded to the King's call to arms. This wasn't because of apathy but because the people knew in- stinctively that they had no- thing to gain by replacing gangsters with parasites.

The Greek capitalists and landowners supported the co- lones because they had little confidence that the crowned nuncumpound could hold down the working class and opposi- tion parties as effectively as the military dictatorship. It is only interest so far has been to exploit the Greco- Turkish quarrel to try and get Greece out of NATO, while preserving Turkey of its support.

The colones' junta will con- tinue until a Legislative party in Greece is built which will oppose the crimes and combat the misleadership and treachery of Stalinism.