

Camp David Summit: Peace in Middle East—or extension of U.S. imperialism?

(Because of the urgency of the ramifications of the Camp David summit, we are holding our column this issue and turning our space over to the following analysis by Raya Dunayevskaya.—Peter Mallory and Ron Brokmeyer)

They—Sadat and Begin—were summoned. They came. They saw. They did not conquer. He, the summoner—U.S. imperialism in the person of President Carter—did conquer. But even he did not do it till the 13th day at the "Summit" which convened on Sept. 5 and had the 17th as the deadline.

Whether the deadline was orchestrated from the start, or came about "spontaneously," the more important fact is that, on the one hand, the U.S. had promised to build—at a cost of between \$300 million and \$1 billion—two airfields "for Israel," "to replace" those in the Sinai Israel ceded, with conditions, to Egyptian sovereignty. And, on the other hand, Carter, having become the "full partner" Sadat had called for, could also show the U.S.'s full imperial clout to the global enemy, Russia; he will visit Egypt in 1979. It is the U.S.'s presence in the Middle East that the Camp David Summit was designed to achieve.

BEGIN AND SADAT, SEPARATELY AND TOGETHER

Begin may not have buckled under as totally as Sadat. He certainly made this all too obvious, both in the substance of the written "Agreement," and orally, beginning at the very first appearance, in the midst of addressing the American, indeed, a world TV audience,

by suddenly switching to Hebrew, acting exactly like the mother lapsing into pig-Latin to make sure the children do not understand adult problems.* No doubt that reactionary terrorist of war days has a whole host of other cards up his sleeve to cause the facade of

*"Peace has come to our people and our land" may have sounded as if it were meant for all—the Middle East and the world—but the fact that it was spoken in Hebrew, and it was in Hebrew the day before at Camp David, and that he told the Israeli press that the Agreement "did not block further Israeli West Bank settlements or military deployment," surely was a coded message for his cohorts in the Likud.

peace to crumble into dust, or, more precisely the sands of Sinai. But Begin, too, had not only to acknowledge Egyptian sovereignty over Sinai, but pay lip service also to the "legitimate rights of the Palestinians." That he has no such intention, having first reduced the right to self-determination to an allegedly "self-governing unity" under Israeli guns "in enclaves," cannot totally undo what he did give, to which we will get later.

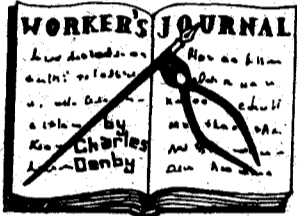
Above all, there will be a direct U.S. threat in the Middle East. These two airfields are being built only "for Israel," but can any one doubt the purpose of Defense Secretary Brown's scheduled visit to the Sinai?

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NEWS LETTERS

'Human Power is its own end'



Strikes show new stage of labor's revolt

by Charles Denby, Editor

There are strikes going on all over the United States, and more threatened strikes, that most people do not hear about. They never get reported except in local newspapers. I have been reading in letters and periodicals that come across my desk about strikes in all layers of the workforce.

I have just received a letter from Cesar Chavez, asking for some financial support to help him and the United Farm Workers. One of the migrant workers in Arizona asked him to come there to help them in their effort to organize a union. He and his wife were put in jail, and any support would be helpful for them.

But farmworkers' strikes and organizing are widespread, not just confined to the Western states and not only where the UFW is. Over 2,000 migrant workers walked out on the tomato growers and canneries in northwestern Ohio, in late August at the height of the harvest season, protesting their conditions.

They are organized by the Farm Labor Organizing Committee, a predominantly-Chicano labor force. They are demanding better working conditions, wages and recognition of their union.

What they are asking is, 35 cents a hamper (33 pounds of tomatoes) in peak season, where they now get only 20 to 25 cents; \$3.25 an hour in early season when the picking is lighter; guaranteed wage for at least 28 hours every two weeks, a paid medical program including health insurance, and travel expenses from their homes in Florida or Texas. They are insisting on negotiation with the two largest canneries in the area, Campbell and Libby, which raked in \$309 million profits in 1977.

Three months after the end of the national coal miners' strike, the picket lines are still up at the Jericol mine in Harlan, Kentucky. The mine owners have refused to sign the contract that other companies signed at the end of the 110-day strike by the UMW. The owners have other non-union mines in the area, and want the workers in this coal mine to return to work under the same non-union conditions, even though they have had a union contract with the company since 1947.

Here in Detroit, there is a strike of clerical workers at Wayne State University, and a threatened teachers' strike there (see story, p. 2). The UAW that represents the clerical workers claim they are supporting the strike 100 percent, but you can bet they will not do anything like call any workers from the shops to join them on their picket lines. The UAW may give them money, but the real struggle to win a strike will be left up to the clerical workers and teachers themselves.

Strikes today are often different from what they were in the '40s when I was in the shops. Workers from all over the place would go to the striking workers' defense and take an active part in it, as though it was their own strike. It was because if one company could get away with it, it would sure come down to you.

We knew what solidarity with workers meant, but

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Nicaraguan revolt deepens Latin American freedom movements

by Eugene Walker

The mass movement of the Nicaraguan people against the hated Somoza regime, which erupted on the world stage with a general strike last January, has become, by mid-September, an actual civil war.

The population again is on general strike, and large sectors have moved to open armed rebellion. The Sandinista Front for National Liberation has conducted a coordinated attack on police positions in five major cities, and, as we go to press, Leon has fallen to the hands of the rebel forces. This civil war could have within it the fullness of social revolution.

The unfolding of this latest, most developed stage

of Nicaraguan revolt began with the Aug. 22 seizing of the National Palace by Sandinista rebels. That this was no isolated terrorist act was shown by the thousands who lined the streets and converged on the airport to cheer both the rebels and the political prisoners whose release from Somoza's jails the rebels had just won.

This became prologue to a national general strike, and to the seizure of almost the entire city of Matagalpa by teenage freedom fighters. The Sept. 2 murder of those young rebels by Somoza's National Guard failed to crush the movement of the people, which first then deepened into nationwide civil war.

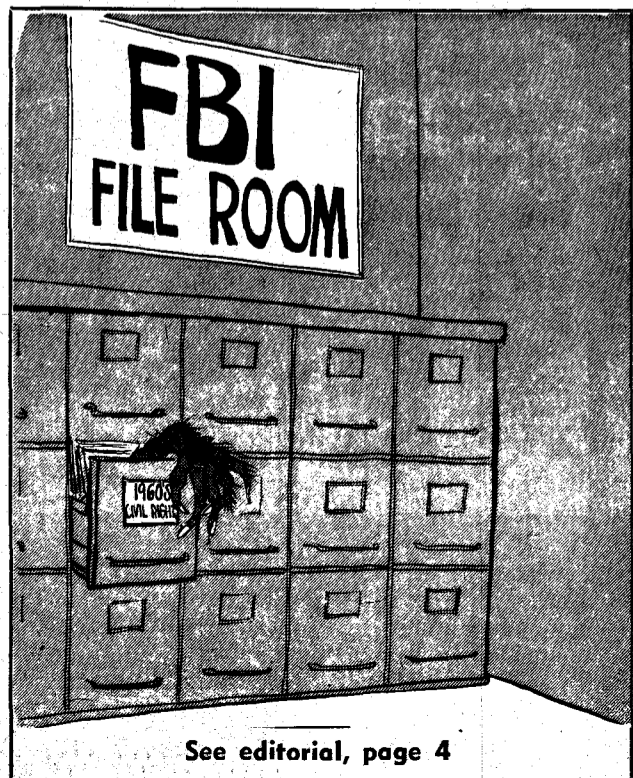
The hypocrisy of American proclamations of neutrality and for "human rights" is revealed in the fact that it is U.S.-supplied planes, bombs, arms, that are being used to attack the people in revolt. Indeed, it was U.S. military presence in Nicaragua in the 1920s that stopped a drive for national self-determination, and it is U.S. military aid that has been propping up the dictatorship of the Somozas for decades as a "bulwark against Communism."

Today, in 1978, the Somoza regime maintains the largest army in Central America, and its armaments and training have come from the United States.

The absolute opposite of those U.S. arms is the human passion for freedom. Listen to the expression of a 22-year-old woman revolutionary, Dora Maria Tellez Arguello, who was "No. 2" in the group of rebels who occupied the National Palace and prominent in the negotiations. Two years back, when she gave up her studies in medical school to join the revolutionary movement, she wrote a letter to her parents and brother. She had just helped a woman give birth to a baby:

"Have I completed my work helping this human being to be born? I have to reply, no. This work will be complete when the world not only has been given a new man, but when man has been given a new world, a different world. I take off my gloves and wash my hands. But I do not intend to wash my hands of cooperating in the birth of this new world which, as in almost every birth, will be painful and at the same time joyful."

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ON THE INSIDE

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Wayne State clericals strike to upgrade jobs

Detroit, Mich.—“Two percent won't pay the rent”, and that's one reason why 1,200 of us in the Wayne State University Staff Association (SA), technical and clerical workers, went on strike Sept. 18. We were joined by members of the Professional and Administrative Association, and by half the WSU faculty four days later when fall classes were supposed to begin.

We struck over many grievances, beginning with pitifully low wages that start around \$3.50 an hour; penalties for taking sick days over the standard (six) set unilaterally by the administration; a totally inadequate cost-of-living; and a pension program that pays men retirees more than women, just to name a few.

The SA membership is mostly women, and the administration has a very paternalistic attitude towards us. They say we should not work for the University if we expect a decently-paid job because there are so many “intangible” benefits. Yet they turn around and refuse to upgrade clerical jobs, saying there is too high a turnover of young women workers. In fact, there are many SA members with high seniority who do very specialized work, yet who can't go any higher than the dead-end top of their classification.

The administration's sexist and racist attitude really came out during bargaining, when they refused to shorten probation from six months to three, claiming they were

an “employer of last resort.” That means they see the minority and women employees as a mentally inferior species who need 180 days to learn their job, while all along the University wants to be allowed to dismiss anyone, for any reason, anytime within a half-year.

But I think we taught the University a thing or two. The great part about the strike was the spirit of so many of the workers. That spirit carried the strike. It certainly was not supported by the UAW, with whom we affiliated a month ago. I was shocked to see that the Walter P. Reuther Labor History Library on the WSU campus—which is financed in large part by the UAW—remained open throughout the strike!

So much time was spent on affiliation campaigning this summer by the SA leadership that little time was spent thinking about the strike, in particular, how to win needed student support. The University kept the campus open the first day of classes, and even though staff and faculty were out picketing, many students came down to the campus. We were not fully prepared to continue their education on the sidewalks as to how better working conditions for us have a direct relationship to the quality of time they spend on the WSU campus. The strike underlined the need for a dialogue to begin between staff and students, many of whom are workers themselves. We can learn from each other.

—WSU clerical worker

Cassandra Peten speaks for herself

(Cassandra Peten, the young Black shipyard worker and mother who must face trial on charges of assault with intent to commit murder for defending herself against a husband who abused her (See N&L, Aug.-Sept. 1978), told the following story of her struggle and her thoughts to Women's Liberation-N&L.—Ed.)

Oakland, Cal.—I'd like to tell you about my struggles. It's a very frustrating thing going through a court trial, because you don't know what's going to happen to you in the end. As far as I'm concerned, I'm already serving their time.

Any time I have to go to court and get permission to take a vacation, I am already in jail. Any time that I have to go to court and ask if I can move out on my own—and I'm 25 years old and have been working since I was 14—I'm already serving time. Any time the thought is in the back of my mind that I might not only not be with my child for 10 years, but lose him altogether, I am already serving my time.

I worked seven days a week, 12 hours a day. I clean fuel oil tanks, like on Texaco and Arco ships. I went to church every Sunday. I didn't have a jail record. I was living what I thought was the good life. If I'm living according to their rules, and that doesn't do any good when one incident happens, something's got to be changed.

And if the society hadn't been so screwed up in the first place, my husband wouldn't have been so emotionally insecure to feel that he had to treat me like he did, in order to feel like somebody. So there you

need another change.

The people on my job spoke up for me. They gave me my job back. The people at the church spoke up for me. My record was so good I am out on my own recognizance. But I still have to go to court. You start thinking . . .

When you come from what I say is that side of the fence, to this side of the fence, you come like a baby. The first thing a baby learns to do is lift its head up. And then you can turn it around. Then eventually you start turning over, then crawling, then walking.

When you come from there to here, it's the same thing. You learn one thing first of all—a woman has the right to defend herself against mental and physical abuse. That's lifting your head up. Then you go back, and as you're out there, you find out something else—that other people have other rights.

At work, we found out this year that asbestos causes cancer. We've been breathing it in for two years. You find out about that and say something needs to be done about that. Now you're turning over. It's just like I'm growing. I feel that now at least I know and can see in sure sight the things that I am working towards.

Before, I wanted a house, two cars, a nice bank account, diamond rings. But when you get that, you're empty. The people's struggle is a world struggle. I know that the struggle is going to last throughout my lifetime, so now I know that I have something to do with the rest of my life. It changes you.

A lot of good people have come to my support. The happy part about it is working together, and the unhappy part about it is we still need finances. We have posters, buttons, leaflets, a newsletter, and letters that you can send to your friends. Any support is most appreciated. You can contact me through the Cassandra Peten Defense Committee, 1600 Woolsey St., Berkeley, Cal. 94703.

—Cassandra Peten



**women-
worldwide**

Women in England have raised the issue of the sexist treatment of women at two separate anti-fascist, anti-racist concerts. At a Rock Against Racism concert in Brighton and at a performance at London's City University, male performers sang sexist songs and then heckled or turned their backs to women who protested.

The Michigan Welfare Rights Organization and the Underground Railroad shelter for battered wives have filed a class action suit against a law which forces the Dept. of Social Services to release the name and address of a woman receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children to anyone who requests it—including the man who has abused her or her children.

Thousands of women in cities across Holland participated in the first Reclaim the Night demonstrations there on May 19. In the U.S., 3,000 women in Boston marched to a rally organized by the Take Back the Night Coalition on Aug. 26, demanding that women be free to walk wherever and whenever they want without fear of violence by men.

Native American activists announced the founding conference of a new organization, Women of All Red Nations (WARN) in Rapid City, S.D., on Sept. 18-22. They hope to form an international organization of indigenous Indian women of South and Central America and Canada, as well as the U.S.

Ten Chicana women who were sterilized at California's U.S.C. Medical Center announced July 8 that they will appeal the dismissal of their class action suit by a judge who ruled that consent forms signed while the women were in active labor “appeared to be unequivocal

WOMAN AS REASON

Academics narrow herstory

The Fourth Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, in August, saw 1,200 academics, students and feminists exploring herstory, from African women fighting colonialism, to Spanish-American women in the U.S. Unfortunately, many of the papers isolated women's history not only from today, but even from the historic period being studied, so that women were not projected as shapers of history, but as an object of an academic's specialty.

At one session, a paper and commentaries on the women's movement of the German Social Democracy failed to even mention either Rosa Luxemburg, a leading theoretician of that party, or Clara Zetkin, who organized thousands of working women into the movement and was a close colleague of Luxemburg!

We had hoped to meet women at that session who wanted to discuss Raya Dunayevskaya's work-in-progress on Rosa Luxemburg, Today's Women's Liberation Movement, and Marx's Philosophy of Revolution. When we talked about Luxemburg and Zetkin in the discussion, others in the audience immediately asked about their relationship to the women's movement, but unfortunately that session, like many others, ended exactly where it should have begun.

The conference became explicitly political in a panel entitled “Does Socialism Liberate Women?” At that session, each speaker—for Russia, for China, Cuba, Vietnam, or Mozambique—argued that the country of her “specialty” was well on the way to eliminating sexism.

These academic prizefighters for state powers were questioned sharply by women in the audience, who asked about rape and rape laws—including rape within marriage—about the treatment of homosexuals, and questioned the assumption of several speakers that Women's Liberation can be measured by the percentage of women in professional jobs. One young Black woman who had just returned from the Communist World Youth Festival in Cuba dramatically exposed the anti-homosexual attitudes of both Cuba and the American delegation, and added that she has seen racism in that “model” country.

Unfortunately, the session never turned to what is socialism, or what is the Marxism of Marx, which speaks very clearly about the freedom of women being the measure of freedom of all, in every society, and also warns against the very sort of “vulgar communism” we see today—particularly in the states for which many of the panelists spoke. Instead, the false opposition between Marxism and feminism went unchallenged by either the “socialist feminist” academics, or the feminist audience.

In sessions where we got to speak, and related the Southern women workers of the 1930s to Essex, Uniroyal, and women auto workers of today, and the Spanish-American women's movement struggles to the U.S. miners' wives and the Guatemalan miners' strike, we were greeted with interest by the audience, who wanted to know more about News & Letters. Over 60 women signed our mailing list, and many were interested in our contribution to oral history, where people tell their own stories of struggle without an intellectual writing the conclusion.

The todayness of women's history was brought home to the conference when we were asked to protest Mt. Holyoke's appointment of a man to a new position in women's studies, and the college clerical workers leafletted us about their low pay, dead-end jobs, and lack of rights and respect. As their statement said, “history needs to be changed.”

—Women's Liberation, N&L Committees

WORKER'S JOURNAL

(Continued from page 1)

labor leaders today do not want workers to feel this. Even in dealing with their own company, union leaders just tell workers to leave it to them—then they always come back to the workers saying, this is all the company would give. If workers strike at all today, it usually means they have said “No” to the union as well as the company.

Conditions of workers continue to worsen. Unemployment is still high. Workers are on strike because of those conditions, even when capitalists threaten them with the army of the unemployed. The New York daily papers have been on strike for nearly two months now, with no end in sight. So the publishers are resorting to smaller papers, and not negotiating at all over the daily papers that the union is bargaining for.

All over the country you hear about different strikes, but all the strikers are battling the whole capitalist system. The capitalists are just refusing to bargain with workers. The class lines are always being drawn more and more sharply.

The capitalists have had to learn what Marx foresaw about the decline in the rate of profit. But they don't know what to do about it. Even if the economy does pick up, all they hope to save from workers' wages will go into dead labor, more technology and automation, which will magnify the pressure for production from the remaining workers. All these strikes show how broad the dissatisfaction remains, and one day it can explode

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Workers are organizing, in spite of unions

by Felix Martin, West Coast Editor

During the past few weeks I have traveled through several states in the West and Midwest and have seen many signs of labor unrest.

There were strikes, often wildcats, from California through Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and to Indiana. No matter where I pulled off the freeway for gas, it seemed like I came across a picket line, or saw a newspaper headline about a local strike, or caught it on the local news on TV. Truckers, pulp mill and paper workers, clerks, warehousemen, teachers, firemen and even policemen were out or threatening to go out.

In Southern Indiana, where over the last 20 years many factories have moved in on account of cheap labor and anti-union attitudes, I was invited to a union organizing meeting of workers of the Beta Shoe Company. This company has factories in something like 37 foreign countries and has strongly resisted unionization at the Indiana plant.

This is the third time in the last five years that workers have tried to get a union there. The Retail Store Employees Union, Local 550, is the union trying this time. The Steel Workers Union had tried and failed, as had the United Mine Workers. The election is set for early in October, and many workers were reporting on the multitude of ways that the company was trying to defeat the union.

NEW MILITANCY

I don't know whether the workers will this time succeed in winning union representation. But I do think that a new pattern is emerging in labor today, with all the strikes and activities. It is a pattern in which the workers are showing, especially beginning with the coal strike, that they are not afraid to push ahead, even when their union leaders are much more timid and trying to stop this new militancy. One sees it again in the postal

workers who rejected their contract in defiance of their union leadership who wanted to push it down their throats.

The workers don't have a great deal of confidence in the unions, but they are not letting that stop their action. You saw this with the shoe workers in Indiana when one of the workers didn't have much enthusiasm for the union, especially as it is now, but felt that the union is certainly better than nothing at all and was working to organize it.

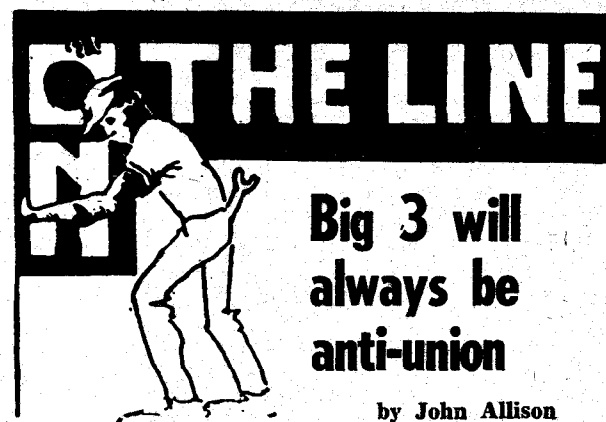
I see this new militancy around me in all these strikes, and threats of strikes. But what I also see is that organized labor today is lagging far behind the workers' thoughts and actions. They are holding back, and often preventing the workers from acting.

UNIONS CHANGED

We saw this in my own industry, auto, last year, when GM and the UAW jointly decided to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the sitdown strikes that had occurred in Flint. What has happened in 40 years when the company we had fought so hard against is ready to celebrate the fact of our unionization? I don't think GM has changed much in 40 years. Can it be that something has happened to our union over that period?

And now I have just read that GM and the union have signed an agreement which will allow for easier unionization of GM's Southern plants. Naturally I am for bringing in the union. But why does GM give in so easily? Does GM see the union as it is now constituted, with its top-heavy bureaucracy, not as its opponent, but as its ally in making sure there is labor peace? In making sure there is no new spirit of labor emerging in the late 1970s?

But I do see a new spirit coming forth in these strikes. The question now is how can we help it to grow and flourish?



Big 3 will always be anti-union

by John Allison

UAW President Doug Fraser resigned from the Labor and Management Club and declared war on the enemy. However, the war was over before the enemy was engaged in battle.

The UAW and GM reached a memorandum of understanding about the plants in the South. This will be just as effective as the last exchange of letters between GM and the UAW about GM's "Southern Strategy." That is, GM was "supposed" to refrain from trying to unduly influence the southern workers where it came to joining the union.

Restraining the Big Three, and especially GM, from being anti-union is like restraining the sun from coming up tomorrow morning. It just can't be done. Management—every management—knows its enemy to be the workers who are forced to fight against them every day, just as the workers know management to be the enemy that has to be fought every minute of every day.

What is new is that police, school teachers and municipal workers are striking all over the place for a living wage. A few short years ago the police were known for their strike breaking... which they still do... and the school teachers and others were supposed to be too "professional" to go out on strike.

When big business put on the big squeeze on Congress this year, the legislators voted down every important program labor was trying to get passed. Now some so-called labor leaders who had condemned strikes in the past are calling for strikes themselves. Some people are just slow learners where it comes to knowing who the real enemy is.

The UAW urged Congress to pass legislation that would stop the injustices of making workers and communities the victims of economic dislocations resulting from plant run-aways and shutdowns. Reports that there was an increase in the death rate in this country when there was a one percent rise in unemployment lead you to think that job loss could be a very real occupational disease.

Uniroyal walkout a lockout

Detroit, Mich. — I like the Uniroyal story about the pressroom last month in News & Letters, but I would like to correct or add something to it. The whole story has been kept quiet even from the other employees, and the union even helped cover it up. We didn't really walk off the job, we were sent home, or locked out if you want to say it that way, because we refused to work 13 presses and went back to doing 10.

We had to leave only after they told us to do 13 or go home. Then they called it a walkout, which gives them a discipline card to play and also keeps anyone else affected from getting any unemployment compensation for the time off.

The union wasn't any help at all. Pete Swider, who is a company man if I ever saw one, agreed with the company and kept claiming we didn't want to work. But if it had been a real out-and-out walkout, they would have come down a lot harder on us. But they didn't dare, since it was really a return to a more tolerable work pace, which we had a right to do. Then they shut us out.

Since then, production has been lower during the late August and early September heat wave, but management won't let up the pressure. You just can't work the same way when it's so hot. They've forced radial builders to keep up the speed, and now they're complaining about wide splices. They expect impossible things and don't care at all about the employees.

— Pressroom worker, Uniroyal

FROM THE AUTO STOPS

Fleetwood

Detroit, Mich.—Production is off only four jobs an hour since changeover, down to 67 jobs, but if before one man unloaded a boxcar in eight hours, now the company expects two boxcars unloaded. There were three hi-lo drivers feeding doors and deck lids to the line, and now it is down to two. On each of the floors there were seven stockhandlers, but now they have cut down to four on average.

Unlike the last big layoff in 1973, they didn't cut any supervisors back this time. That means no real drop in production. The supervisors are needed to ride the remaining workers. But as far as committeemen, there are 1,000 more union members in the plant than 15 years ago, and no more representation now than then.

—Dept. 21 worker

If we had any kind of a union, they could really hurt the company by going on strike the first few weeks of production. Instead, the union is talking about possibly calling for a strike in October, or maybe later, which means actually striking in November or even closer to the holidays, when the company would encourage a walkout.

Again management is walking all over us by threatening to put us on the street if we don't keep up the job. And again the union is blowing a lot of hot air at us and sounding more like politicians than representatives of the workers. They have their nerve calling us brothers and sisters.

—A Fleetwood worker

Ford Mahwah

Mahwah, N.J.—About these new militant statements from Douglas Fraser and how he stepped off that board with the company and the government—we never heard anything about it in the plant. That's just talk.

We have no union. They have meetings but I never go. "Take it easy, don't jump, you don't have a grievance," that's their attitude. We used to have a union paper every month, but now we don't get anything. The only paper we get is from the company.

—Day shift worker

GM South Gate

South Gate, Cal.—On the door line in Body Shop the foreman and the company safety person jumped on a young Black worker about not wearing safety shoes and glasses, the foreman saying "I'm gonna throw you out!"

Another worker pointed out all the loose lead solder left on the car bodies. "You people worry about protecting our eyes and toes—something that GM would have to pay for—but when that solder kills us through heart attacks we're just dead."

The Chairman of the Shop Committee accompanied the plant manager on a trip to Detroit to accept a challenge from Cadillac there. The bet was that the losing plant buys dinner for all workers in the winning plant.

Since when has a high UAW official participated in production contests wherein workers are pitted against each other?

Body Shop inspection supervision, in their special "pep" talk to the inspectors, said, "If you have any problems, we have a good committeeman in Body, take them up with him and your foreman, and they will solve them." Since when does a union committeeman solve workers' problems with the boss without the voice of the worker who has the problem?

One worker pointed out that the Body Shop supervisor's speech devoted to "quality" production showed with the concluding line—"We'll have to have 327 jobs out on a shift"—that quality went out the window in favor of quantity. That shows why safety is not actually the concern of management or, because of its increasingly good relationship with company, the union either.

—South Gate worker

Dodge Truck

Warren, Mich.—Three hundred Dodge Truck workers attended the Local 140 Truck Plant meeting on Sept. 19. They made it clear that conditions inside every building have deteriorated drastically since changeover in August. In the middle of September Local 140 gave Chrysler a 30-day strike notice. The most recent of the 400 grievances bottled up in procedure are over new job standards; many groups have lost six people under the new standards, without losing any operations.

At the meeting workers from Dept. 9170 demanded action on a grievance they submitted in November to repair a dangerous crane. One Black worker demanded action from the local on the matter of plant security accosting him out on Mound Road. A Black woman worker from Compact building summed it up best when she stated that the contract is for machines, that all you hear from the union reps is "first step, second step, third step," and that after we report about the crisis inside the shop and demand immediate action by Local 140, we have to return to work on the next shift to the same speed-up and harassment.

—Main Building worker

Ford Rouge

Dearborn, Mich.—I was talking to an inspector the other day who said that inspectors and metal finishers are often told by their foremen to approve stock that's defective. In other words, they will be signing their ID numbers and be held responsible for stock that's no good should it be sent back, because the foreman doesn't sign anything.

The inspectors and metal finishers can and have been written up for letting bad stock pass—but they also can and have been written up for "refusing to follow instructions" if they don't sign. All the Bargaining Committee Chairman could do was sympathize with the harassed parties and tell them that he will be meeting with the directors to discuss the matter.

—Stamping Plant worker

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EDITORIAL**FBI: a mad dog, not a watch dog**

A growing body of evidence pried loose from FBI files under the Freedom of Information Act, passed following the revelations of President Nixon's efforts to create a secret, totalitarian intelligence network to crush all opponents to his administration, reveals that the FBI, far from being the government's "watchdog against crime", has been a mad dog on a viciously illegal rampage dedicated to the destruction of every progressive movement that arises in the U.S.

At the same time, and what is often simply glossed over, comes added disclosure of the links between the terrorist Ku Klux Klan and the "law enforcement" agencies in the South, where leading law officers and Klan members were one and the same. Far from this being a phenomenon of the 1960s, a recent Klan rally in Tupelo, Miss., to which media had been invited, revealed that the Klan leader was none other than the local police chief!

FBI documents conclusively reveal that a major object of their counter civil rights activity was to prevent, by whatever means necessary, the rise of a Black leader who could unify the Black population in its struggle to achieve human rights. Among the prime targets of this FBI activity were Martin Luther King and Malcolm X—both of whom were assassinated, and whose murders have raised many questions still unanswered.

Former FBI head J. Edgar Hoover's monumental efforts to try to destroy Rev. King included hate letters planted in the press, illegal wire taps and recordings in King's motels to obtain blackmail evidence against him. In 1964, the FBI sent a tape recording "proving" King's immoral behavior to his wife, Coretta, and sent a letter to King threatening to publicly "expose" his immorality and declaring that he had only one way out—and that was to commit suicide! King's supporters, however, far from abandoning him, drew more firmly around him.

Among the key questions demanding answers today is: Why did the FBI withdraw King's bodyguards on the day he was assassinated in Memphis, Tenn.?

New evidence also links the FBI to the murder of Viola Liuzzo, Detroit civil rights worker killed in her car in Alabama in 1965 while riding with a Black youth following the historic Selma to Montgomery march; to

the 1963 bombing of the Birmingham church in which four Black children were killed; and to the vicious beating of Freedom Riders in 1961 in Birmingham.

The direct FBI involvement came to light during the testimony of former FBI informant Gary Thomas Rowe in 1975, and again last year when he admitted murdering a Black man in Birmingham in the early 1960s while on the FBI's payroll. Rowe said he told a local police sergeant, who was also a FBI agent, about the murder, and was instructed to keep quiet about it.

The Liuzzo family is suing the FBI for \$2 million for failing to prevent the murder of Ms. Liuzzo, and, in fact, contends that Rowe himself took part in the murder. Questions are also being raised about Rowe's participation in the Birmingham church bombing, at the same time that new FBI information reveals Rowe to have been among those beating Freedom Riders in 1961.

Dr. Walter Bergman, a former Wayne State University professor in Detroit who was on that freedom ride, was so severely beaten that he was paralyzed and has been confined to a wheelchair for the past 17 years. FBI files disclose the FBI actually kept Birmingham police officers, known Klan members, informed of the Freedom Riders' schedule, and knew the Birmingham police had agreed to give the Klan members 15 minutes to attack the Freedom Riders. Rowe was among those who beat Freedom Riders with bars, chains and bats.

Bergman is suing the FBI for \$1 million for its complicity in that atrocity.

In another long-standing case, the Socialist Workers Party is suing the FBI for \$5 million for repeated illegal break-ins and theft of the party's offices.

Former FBI informants have recently disclosed their participation as provocateurs during the 1968 Democratic convention in Chicago, when police viciously attacked peaceful anti-war demonstrators.

All of the mass movements of the 1960s — civil rights, student free speech, anti-war and women's liberation—were targets of illegal surveillance, search and arrest by the FBI working with local police. These actions resulted not only in the death of many, but also in the imprisonment of thousands more.

UN Ambassador Andrew Young was forced by the Carter administration to recant his statement that there were "hundreds, maybe even thousands" of political prisoners in the U.S., but the truth is that Young's was an understatement. There are many thousands of political prisoners in local, state and federal prisons. Their only crime is that they were freedom fighters, and were often railroaded to prison on trumped up charges, charges the FBI played a key role in fabricating.

These are just a few examples of the consistent and massive violations of the law carried out with contemptuous impunity by J. Edgar Hoover, his FBI and local police during the 1960s. Will we have to wait until the 1980s to find out the truth of the violations in the 1970s — about the many lives ruined because the names of protesters are put on computerized lists that blacklist them from employment? About the zealous protection the police give to Nazis in Chicago, Detroit and San Francisco, but bust the heads and arrest peaceful striking pickets or marching protesters?

It is long past time for the American people to learn the truth about our so-called law enforcement agencies.

News & Letters

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BLACK LIBERATION—U.S.A. AND AFRICA

Over 2,000 Blacks converged at City Hall here and marched eight blocks to the U. S. courthouse on Aug. 18 and it wasn't the 92-degree heat they were talking about when they chanted, "We're all fired up and we ain't going to take it no more!" They were especially angry about the vicious beating of a MOVE member after police finally raided their headquarters—but the protest was about a lot of things. People were angry about Community Development funds not being spent in Black areas and about blatant police violence everywhere. It is so bad that Attorney General Bell has finally been forced to form a federal task force to investigate it, and he admitted that the number of complaints of police brutality in Philadelphia is among the highest in the whole country.

The crowd at the protest was not organized by any single group. It was mostly spontaneous. Hundreds just joined in from the sidewalks. There were a lot of speeches from a lot of different groups, of course, but the one point everybody agreed on was: Get rid of Mayor Rizzo!

Reader
Philadelphia

This summer 20 bat-wielding white youths attacked five Blacks in Gravesend Park in Brooklyn. Four were youths working in the park on the summer jobs project, the other was a Black postman. One of the young women who was beaten appeared on TV with her face covered with bruises. She said the city should not have sent them into that neighborhood, that white youth were unemployed and should sweep up their own neighborhood, that Black and Spanish neighborhoods needed cleaner streets, too.

But she was coming from a different place than Mayor Koch who took all minority summer workers out of white neighborhoods to quiet summer tensions, or from the Black community leaders who wanted cops to go with the workers to protect them. I have no confidence that the cops would protect their civil

rights or their lives. It was the cops who recently killed Arthur Miller, a prominent Brooklyn community worker.

Your Black Thought pamphlet is absolutely right that ten years after the Kerner Report, the conditions of Black Americans have actually worsened.

White Mother
New York

About 150 students attended a memorial meeting for Steve Biko Sept. 12 at Columbia University and marched through campus afterwards chanting "Divest Now" in the first action of the term to force Columbia to sever its South African connection. We were joined by pickets from District 65 of Barnard, who are on strike over a wage dispute. Columbia has responded to their demands by hiring scabs and refusing to negotiate with the union.

Several students emphasized the connection between Columbia's attitudes towards its workers (who average \$140 a week) and their implicit support for apartheid. "What they are doing to us by hiring scabs," one striker said, "is putting an obstacle against us that the South African people also face in those corporative investments. If we make the link between that and campus issues clearer, more will get involved in the movement." Amen.

Student Activist
New York

The Golden Harvest, Operation Namibia's ship, laden with books banned by South Africa, will be arriving at long last in Walvis Bay in early December. Since the port of Walvis Bay has been annexed by South Africa that very action may dramatize the situation there. South Africa is playing a cool game right now. They have everybody running around like headless chickens, and though things aren't going exactly as they would wish, they have many cards in their hands, and the talk of "independence" for Namibia before the end of 1978 appears all words.

The Golden Harvest has had just about everything go wrong with it since it left for Namibia so many months ago. There is very little left of the boat which has

not been overhauled or repaired. But we should make good speed from here on. We have a transnational cargo, are not associated with nations or governments, and we have a wide range of international and ideological support. We are determined to set up the Freedom Library.

Operation Namibia Supporters
London

WOMEN'S LIBERATION

The Agency for International Development (U.S. AID) has deliberately ignored health needs of women in Somalia. Every girl, without exception, aged four to eight, is infibulated (pharaonic circumcision)—and nothing is being done to prevent these mutilating operations from being done at facilities funded by AID. The AID report on health conditions in Somalia lists all major health hazards but does not even mention infibulation. We are asking help in protesting this and demanding not only that women in developing countries be included as participants in planning assistance programs, but that teams sent by AID overseas be half women. It is especially important that women are sent to Somalia to plan and implement proposed health plans, as it is a Moslem country. Letters should be sent to AID, Dept. of State, Washington, D.C. 20523 with copies to appropriate Senators and Congressmen.

Women's International Network
187 Grant Street
Lexington, Mass. 02173

The Women's Trade Union League, which is mentioned in your new pamphlet, Revolutionary Feminism, seems to be one of the few places in history where middle class women worked out a real relationship to working class women. Apparently, many supposedly Marxist women criticize the WTUL because it was more than just an organizing tool and felt that working women should be able to enjoy cultural things as well. The League offered classes in

Reader

writing, put on plays, and felt that women were human beings full of potential that was never allowed to be realized. Those kind of Marxists remind me of the Leftists Tommie Hope wrote about who thought workers were backward because when you ask a worker what he is, he will tell you everything but a worker. It just goes to show that those kind of "Marxists" don't want workers to be anything but workers.

Revolutionary Feminist
Chicago

WORKERS AND STUDENTS

Poland '68 is a time I remember vividly because there was a student revolt at the University of Warsaw protesting the lack of free speech that the Russian government had imposed. The strike was stifled and it was all blamed on Jews who had perverted our youth into thinking not everything was peachy and fine. But it was very exhilarating to see students in revolt and workers supporting them. There is no question that the people agreed with the students' demands, and wanted to include some of their own. It was one of these events that made your position very clear — either you wanted to keep the party in power or you wanted freedom for the people.

Ursula Wislanka
Chicago

Last month in Managua, during a lull in the firing between students and National Guard, the students started to call out to the soldiers to join them, to stop killing their own brothers and sisters. Hearing them, one guardsman tore off his uniform, stripping right down to his shorts, and ran across the street to join the students.

The people of Nicaragua will win.

Association for Human Rights in
Nicaragua of N.Y. and N.J.

TWO WORLDS

by Raya Dunayevskaya
Author of **PHILOSOPHY AND REVOLUTION**
and **Marxism and Freedom**

Editor's Note: Raya Dunayevskaya is giving over her column this issue to a letter received from a colleague following the News and Letters Convention over Labor Day weekend. Copies of her three discussion articles which are taken up in the letter can be obtained from News & Letters for \$1 the set, postage included.

Dear Raya:

The question of the relationship of philosophy to organization, which you have long posed, became meaningful to me in a very new way during our recent News and Letters Convention. Those brief two and a half days showed a tremendous releasing of revolutionary passion and Reason—of the "revolutionary spirit", to use the expression of the eloquent Black woman worker who spoke so creatively of her desire for a new way of life.

Look at the richness of experience of those who joined News and Letters Committees at the Convention. Almost all are deeply proletarian, with roots in different sections of the working class—in auto and chemical, as Vietnam veterans, in working for the liberation of Black prisoners—all striving to find a wholeness of expression through Marxist-Humanist philosophy.

CAN IT BE ANY accident that these "lower and deeper" layers of our society not only spoke with us, but joined News and Letters Committees, in the very year of the most explicit introduction of our philosophic origins and development both into our preconvention discussion, and into the Convention itself?

And this year also brought us the Black intellectual who has been in every facet of the Black movement. He has known Black as revolutionary Subject, but makes a leap to a new comprehension of revolution when he sees Black as revolutionary Subject united with Marx's new continent of thought. His leap is not separate from the highpoints of our theoretic development this year; he came to us not only through our

N&L Convention: philosophy and organization

work on Frantz Fanon, Soweto and American Black Thought, but most precisely through the classes we held on Marx's Capital and Today's Global Crisis this spring.

The quality of these newest members—of worker and intellectual, of Black women, of Black and white men who have a deep sensitivity to the Women's Liberation Movement—portends a very new period for us, and in trying to understand how we could have this kind of achievement at this particular period, I looked again at the three contributions you had made to the Preconvention Discussion Bulletins.

YOU DISCUSS THERE what is crucial as a world stage in the revolutionary movement, Hegel's Absolute Idea as New Beginning, its origins and development by Marxist-Humanists from 1949 to the period of our current Convention. Indeed, Chapter One of **Philosophy and Revolution**, "Absolute Negativity as New Beginning" was brought directly into this year's Perspectives Report to the Convention.

Your article "Lenin's Philosophic Notebooks and the State-Capitalist Tendency" takes up the 1949-50 correspondence between yourself, CLR James and Grace Lee Boggs, as you translated into English for the first time Lenin's **Philosophic Notebooks**. From your article I could grasp how crucial it is, if one is to develop what is new for one's age, to not miss a single link of what has been worked out historically, philosophically, before you. If you don't follow carefully someone else's revolutionary philosophic contribution arising out of their specific historic moment, then you cannot develop the needed revolutionary thought for your era.

James' and Lee's attitude to Lenin's Notebooks was quite different from yours. They were so anxious to get to their own contribution that they skipped over Lenin's contribution and ended up being unable to make a leap in revolutionary thought. They saw Lenin's contribution as within Hegel's Doctrine of Essence and not within the Doctrine of the Notion. They would do Notion. But in reality it was they who, because they did not labor through Lenin comprehensively, became stuck

in Essence and could not see Lenin's contribution in Notion as their point of departure.

DIDN'T THEY TAKE Lenin's Notebooks for granted, thus leaving them partly as an abstraction? In contrast, a true comprehension of Lenin's philosophic Great Divide in Marxism could not be separated from seeing the historical and political ramifications of that philosophic leap.

(Continued on page 7)

WHO WE ARE

News & Letters was founded in 1955, the year of the Detroit wildcats against Automation and the Montgomery, Ala. Bus Boycott against segregation—activities which signalled new movements from practice, which were themselves a form of theory. **News & Letters** was created so that the voices from below could be heard, and the unity of worker and intellectual, philosophy and revolution, could be worked out for our age. A Black production worker, **Charles Denby**, is the editor.

The paper is the monthly publication of News and Letters Committees, an organization of Marxist-Humanists that stands for the abolition of capitalism, whether in its private form as in the U.S., or in its state form calling itself Communist, as in Russia and China. The National Chairwoman, **Raya Dunayevskaya**, is the author of **Philosophy and Revolution and Marxism and Freedom** which spell out the philosophic ground of Marx's Humanism for our age internationally, as **American Civilization on Trial** concretizes it on the American scene. In opposing this capitalistic, exploitative, racist, sexist society, we participate in all freedom struggles and do not separate the mass activities of workers, Blacks, women and youth from the activity of thinking. We invite you to join with us both in the freedom struggles and in working out a theory of liberation for our age.

Views

LANDLORDS AND TENANTS

With winter approaching, what a bad time for a group of Detroit landlords (H.O.U.S.E.) to refuse to rent to any more ADC tenants! Why isn't there a movement against this? Those same landlords can tell you that it is the Department of Social Services which makes them wait 6-8 months for back rent from destructive or non-paying tenants, and they should have gone to Lansing along with representatives of the many tenants who do pay. I know that it is hard, especially if you rent just one house, to make repairs. But you can get Social Services to pay for those kinds of repairs, if they want to do it.

Shainape Shcapwe
Detroit

POSTAL UNION TALK

The Postal Union used to be a good strong union, but now it's all talk, ever since the 1971 strike. That's when Moe Biller came in as N.Y. president, talking all that radical stuff. He's still good at talking loud, but he won't do anything. He was supposed to be the young reformer, out to change everything. Well, after he came in, lots of us lost our jobs.

Management can do anything they want with you now. You can't be sick—all the doctors' letters won't help. I lost my job because they brought up absenteeism from my past record, from before the union had changed, and they got away with it.

Former Postal Worker
New York

THE BRITISH SCENE

Regrettably, only 200 people—Labour Party members, Trotskyists, Euro-Communists and Libertarians—answered the call, made by the Committee to Defend Czechoslovak Socialists and the East European Solidarity Campaign, to remember the tenth anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia and to demonstrate solidarity with the vic-

timized supporters of the Charter 77 human rights manifesto. The Socialist Workers' Party denounced the demonstration as a diversion from the Anti-Nazi League demonstration to be held five hours later.

And there was a counter demonstration by the New Communist Party, a fanatically pro-Soviet Stalinist sect. It demonstrates the gulf which separates those who realize the inseparability of socialism and freedom, and those who have been duped by state-capitalism which masks itself with revolutionary phrases while murdering and imprisoning revolutionaries.

Terry Liddle
London

A few news notes for you about workers' battles here: The engines for Chile are still in the factory at East Kilbride. The government has decided not to use the military to remove them.

The strike at the Polaris base ended Aug. 15. The workers will get higher wages but not enough. The military came to do the work. The workers put a picket up for several days. They showed little respect for the Establishment.

Correspondent
Scotland

The situation in the Newcastle area is heating up. At one shop a man was sent home for refusing to operate a blacked machine and the whole lot walked out. The main interest, however, is that the men are demanding a 35 hour week because of new automation. This has led to a lot of support within the rank and file of other unions for the same deal. The employers in answer have come up with the hoary old chestnut of profit being made in the last five hours! The argument smacks of stupidity or desperation.

Meanwhile the National Front have been boy-mugging everything above grass height, but the growing anti-fascist movement has contained the spread of the attacks for the moment. The Left seems a little abashed at this movement;

the local pub here has a neat dividing line between the old Lefties (25 years old, uniform levis and university T-shirts) and the punk rockers, skin heads and other devotees of the new wave. Sham 69 have even got a record in the top twenty called "the kids united will never be defeated". This mob of new Lefties is pretty large and growing.

Not-so-old Leftist
Newcastle, England

THE LAWS OF CAPITALISM

The article by Peter Mallory on the Bonn Summit was important in helping to understand the true nature of the ongoing crisis of accumulation that characterizes the international system of capitalism. I have been studying the objective laws of capitalist development. Marx's theory of the decline in the rate

of profit is completely verified by data I found in the 1977 Economic Report to the President. Also, their figures on "Spensible Average Weekly Earnings for Workers with Three Dependents" (which is given in terms of 1967 dollars and not the inflated ones everybody gets now) give the lie to the claim that "unreasonable" wage demands are "causing the crisis." Real wages haven't increased a single dollar from 1965 all the way to 1977! The tables on Foreign Investment reveal how the capitalists are trying to deal with the decline in the rate of profit by runaway shops and export of capital.

I am considered a "criminal" because I refused to starve when I was out of work and "expropriated" some living money. But capitalism is organized crime!

Prisoner
Oklahoma

TWO APPEALS FOR IMPRISONED CITIZENS

Relatives of the prisoner incarcerated in Pontiac State Penitentiary in Illinois called for a protest on Sept. 17 to bring attention to the terrible conditions there. The entire prison was put on "deadlock" after a prison rebellion a few months ago. For two months nobody has been allowed out of his cell, even for a shower. They are living worse than animals.

The 150 people, mostly relatives, who came to protest, got a taste of the prison treatment themselves. Our bus and cars were stopped at the town limit and everyone was body-searched. We had a special sticker put on our cars, were not allowed any closer than a block from the prison, and then were body-searched again. We were taken under guard to a restroom and to one place that sold coffee and doughnuts. Those were the only places we were allowed to stop. It only made all of us more determined than ever to stop the brutality that passes for "law and order" in this country. Any readers who are interested in learning more or in helping us, should contact Pontiac Brothers Defense Committee, 366 E. 47th St., 2nd floor, Chicago, Illinois 60653.

Determined Supporter
Chicago

The Control Unit, a Behavior Modification program at the U.S. Penitentiary at Marion, Ill. which has already cost the lives of ten men in the last few years—three deaths in 1977 alone—and driven countless others insane or to self-mutilation, is waiting to claim yet another victim.

On Sept. 1, Paul Neal, a five-year CU inmate, was viciously beaten by six correctional officers for refusing to go back into his cell after his shower. He was then denied adequate treatment for his injuries and charged with "assault on an officer" and "refusing to obey an order"! Others who tried to help him were also given disciplinary reports. On Sept. 5, Neal was transferred to the Federal Prison Hospital in Springfield, Mo., where other CU inmates have been taken and have later turned up dead.

The men in the Control Unit are asking for help in getting an investigation started into Neal's beating. Please write: Norman Carlson, Director, Federal Bureau of Prisons, 320 1st St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20534 to demand an investigation be started.

Audrey A. Myers
National Committee to
Support the Marion Brothers
St. Louis, Mo.

Nicaraguan revolt deepens Latin American freedom movements

(Continued from page 1)

It is the depth of this passion for freedom, and thus the ongoing nature of the struggle, that is so feared by the Somoza government, other Latin American dictators, and U.S. imperialism. A Nicaraguan civil war could have a powerful effect throughout Latin America.

FROM BOLIVIA TO PERU

Already 1978 has witnessed social upheaval in several other Latin American countries. ● Bolivia, though still military-run, has had an upsurge in the struggle in recent months. Beginning in January, a hunger strike by wives of miners led to strikes and a popular movement which so transformed the political situation that the military was unable to rig the recent election to its own satisfaction. Once again it resorted to a coup.

● At Chile's largest copper mine, Chuquibambilla, workers continue their demonstrations for higher wages, even though 50 workers have been arrested and the government has imposed a state of siege. Demonstrations spread in September to the state-owned steel company near Concepcion, and students at Santiago's two main universities recently held three demonstrations. ● The Dominican Republic has partially emerged from the shadow of the U.S. Marine-backed counter-revolution of 1965, with the recent election that finally threw out the Balaguer regime. ● But it is in Peru that the ongoing nature and depth of the struggle within Latin America can be seen most dramatically.

Under the impact of a miners' general strike, the class struggle has reached sharp new levels. On Sept. 5 the military regime imposed a dusk-to-dawn curfew in the area of the Marcona iron mine and surrounding region. Early the following morning troops evicted thousands of miners and their families from a university campus in Lima. The striking miners were herded into trucks and trains bound for Andean mining towns. In the eviction several persons were killed and wounded.

The strike had begun on Aug. 4 and had gathered such support from the miners and other sectors of the

Hostos students speak out

The following statement is from students on the Steering Committee of Hostos Community College who visited the offices of *EL DIARIO*, a Spanish language newspaper in New York City, to denounce the broad-cast claims of South Bronx politicians of having "saved" Hostos (See N&L, May and June, 1978).—Ed.

New York, N.Y. — The reason for our visit is to give the lie to many politicians, especially from the South Bronx, who are using our college for their own political ends. This has been done because today is primary election day, and they all want to get a seat.

Specifically we want to denounce Assemblyman Luis Nine and his colleagues, because they have said over the radio that Luis Nine saved Hostos College, when in reality the little that has been saved of Hostos was thanks to the untiring struggle of students, teachers and the community.

Examples of this are the two occupations of 475 Grand Concourse; the occupation of the 500 building; the hunger strike, and the countless demonstrations for the college. Personally, we have yet to see Mr. Luis Nine or any of his colleagues around Hostos.

An action of great importance for the student struggle was the May 8 occupation of the 475 building. This was motivated by politicians such as Mayor Koch, Gov. Carey and Deputy Mayor Badillo, together with many other politicians, making themselves blind to the need to keep Hostos open.

population, that the government declared martial law in five mining districts. On Aug. 24, 40,000 demonstrated in Lima against this imposition of martial law.

On Aug. 29, the National Federation of Miners and Metalworkers of Peru rejected the settlement offer of the government company, Hierro-Peru. The government responded by an ultimatum to return to work or be fired, and by extending martial law. Constitutional guarantees were suspended.

On Aug. 30 the mineworkers rejected the government ultimatum and ignored yet another command to return to work or be fired. It was then that the dusk-to-dawn curfew was imposed.

As the government tried to reopen the mines, other workers were preparing to take to the streets. Over 450,000 government employees announced a 48-hour general strike, protesting austerity plans that could cost 100,000 jobs over the next three years. Bank employees who had been staging wildcat strikes for two months, threatened to walk out.

These latest developments are but a continuation of the growing opposition to Peru's ten-year-old military government. July 1977 saw a miners' general strike, and one of the major demands of the miners now is the reinstatement of 311 union leaders fired at that time.

UNFINISHED REVOLUTIONS

January of this year brought massive demonstrations against an abrupt rise in the price of basic commodities. This was followed by a Constituent Assembly election which gave the Left a stunning percentage of the vote. Putting, among others, the Trotskyist peasant leader, Hugo Blanco, into the assembly. Worker deputies in the Constituent Assembly have called for action against the government's attacks on the miners.

It is these new movements from below which make us ask: Where To Now For Latin America's Unfinished Revolutions? The Latin American masses by their action and thought are in open opposition to their own regimes and U.S. imperialism. They are as well posing new questions for the Latin American revolutionary Left.

Hugo Blanco recognized this the day he returned to Peru, when he stated openly and correctly: "We Trotskyists . . . have been taught a lesson by the Peruvian people . . . We started educating the masses

(in the election campaign) but it was the masses who completed our education." Blanco recognized "that there are only a few hundred organized members of the FOCEP (his election slate) and a half million who voted for the slate . . . A few hundred cannot make decisions for a half a million. It is this half million people who must decide on the future steps to be taken . . ."

What his worker-completed education demands is that he begin anew to look at the relationship between the masses' self-activity and a philosophy of revolution as a pathway out of the Latin American unfinished revolutions. Instead he makes an immediate call for unity with the Communist Party: "We also appeal to the companeros of the CP to unite with us because we aren't sectarian." Such a call for popular frontism in the name of "not being sectarian" is precisely the same type of thinking which led to retrogression in Bolivia in the early 1950s.

Now, when there is a new rising of revolutionary activity, the possibility of full social revolution cannot be endangered by linking it once again to popular frontism. As we wrote recently, what has not been faced by Trotskyism is "the crucial determinant—the class nature, the capitalist class nature, of Stalinism, which is, after all, but the Russian name for the world phenomenon of our age: state-capitalism. And it is the blindness to this reality which assures continued Trotskyist tailing of Communism."*

The movement for freedom in Latin America, and the responsibility for its completion, is not alone a task for Latin Americans. For it is the United States which extracts the riches, mineral and agricultural, from the Latin American continent. It is the United States which extracts the very life of the Latin American people. It is the United States which time and again has tried to crush the drive for freedom within Latin America.

Latin America's open rebellions are challenging a U.S. imperialism which doesn't think it has to be interested in Latin America as it busies itself with stifling the revolutionary movement in the Middle East. But what the facts show is that the crises are so numerous throughout the world, whether we take Nicaragua or Rhodesia, Peru or Iran, that no one can tell where all the myriad tension points will explode.

*See *The Latin American Unfinished Revolutions*, a Political-Philosophic Letter of Raya Dunayevskaya, May 1978. News & Letters, Detroit, Michigan.

Rallies to free Rudolf Bahro

Following the sentencing June 30 of East German Marxist thinker and "system-critic" Rudolf Bahro to eight years in prison, new protests demanding his freedom have broken out across Europe, and especially in West Germany. In West Berlin, over 2,000 rallied, with trade unionists and students participating together. Speakers pointed out that East Germany had not dared to try Bahro in an open court, holding instead a closed session, with no observers, and convicting him of the fantastic charge of "espionage" for publishing his now-famous book, *The Alternative: A Critique of Actually Existing Socialism*, in West Germany.

In Frankfurt, a wide range of Left groups demonstrated August 21 on the tenth anniversary of the "actually existing invasion" of Czechoslovakia by the Warsaw Pact troops. The call for the demonstration, co-sponsored by the Czech exile newspaper, *Listy-Blatter*, declared that "since the invasion of Czechoslovakia ten years ago, the opposition has spread in all actually existing 'socialist' states. The chain of show-trials has not come to an end. From Rudolf Bahro, Nico Hubner and the Russian dissidents, to the Czech rock group 'Plastic People', all forms of opposition were gagged, persecuted and tortured. Whoever is silent about the permanent injury to human rights in the East, loses credibility in his struggle against Berufsverbot (black-listing) and the destruction of democratic rights in West Germany. And the opposite. Whoever looks away blindly from developments in West Germany should kindly shut up about the East. For us, freedom is, and remains, indivisible."

Throughout West Germany, the rallies included large numbers of refugees, like singer-poet Wolf Biermann, whose forced exile in November, 1976 set off the wave of protests inside East Germany. Their discussions of the ideas of genuine Marxism have sparked re-thinking on many questions, in both Germanys, and sales of Bahro's book have been astounding.

Among the exiles are young workers from Jena, arrested after 50 of them had signed a petition on behalf of Biermann, charged with "anti-state" activity, held incommunicado for nine months, and then deported to West Germany. While they were in jail, they somehow heard of the arrest of Bahro. One of them wrote later: "We are afraid for him when we think how he is sitting in a cell like that, faced with the kind of interrogators we know. They see Bahro and communists like him as their arch-enemies. And rightly so."

(Thanks to Informations Dienst, Hamburger Allee 45 6000 Frankfurt 90, West Germany, for information in this article.—Ed.)

Saldrá publicado en noviembre

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Anti-Shah demonstrators clubbed by LA cops

(As we go to press, a new demonstration of over 600 Iranian students and their supporters has taken place in Los Angeles on Sept. 23. The demonstrators were protesting both the police brutality of the Sept. 1 demonstration and the continued support of the Shah by U.S. imperialism.—Ed.)

Los Angeles, Cal.—The Sept. 1 attack of Los Angeles police on a demonstration of 400 Iranian students and their supporters ended in the arrest of 165 and injuries to more than 60 people.

From the beginning it was obvious to those of us who participated that the police had planned to make massive arrests and to brutally beat up the demonstrators. We started the demonstration in front of the Federal building and marched toward the offices of the Los Angeles Times. At first there were only a few police escorting us, but as soon as we passed police headquarters, we could see about 100 police with billyclubs and riot gear, smiling at us, waiting to receive their orders.

The demonstration in front of the Los Angeles Times was to protest the misleading information that it and other newspapers had given their readers on the murderous action of the Shah's government in burning down a movie house in Abadan, Iran, which resulted in the death of more than 400 innocent people. The papers here had repeated the Shah's accusation that it was the work of "terrorists in an attempt to placate the religious conservatives."

The demonstration was peaceful until the police started to arrest a few of the people who were monitors at the march. I heard a young man telling his mother that she should stay out of the crowd. She smiled and replied, "I have been in Tabriz demonstrations where hundreds of people were machine-gunned. You better

take care of yourself." Later she was beaten and arrested by the police of Los Angeles.

They wanted to arrest everybody. First they blocked the streets, then they announced through loudspeakers that those who were not in the demonstration should stay away from the crowd. And later they attacked. In a few minutes dozens of people were pushed to the ground and handcuffed. Hands were broken, faces were full of blood.

When President Carter was informed about massive demonstrations also going on in Iran and the killing of hundreds of people by the Shah's troops, he took time from his Mideast Summit to call the Shah and give him his "personal support." So did Egyptian President Sadat.

Carter actually put his words into action. While opponents of the Shah are being killed in Iran, U.S. newspapers are in full support of the Shah, and the students' voices here are being shut off by police. That is the only way to keep the U.S. corporate interests safe in Iran. That is the only way to assure the flow of oil from the Persian Gulf to the West, and the selling of billions of dollars of arms to the Shah. Dictatorship, torture, murder, racism and even fascism are permitted to assure the multiplication of benefits.

But at the other pole stands the misery combined with lack of political freedom. And that is the driving force of the Iranian people today. The "religious leaders" did not bring the masses into the streets. They were forced out by their material conditions. "Religious leaders" are not the only ones who call for the downfall of the Shah. The reason that they are being supported and respected by the majority is because they too represent opposition to the misery present in Iran today. They are far more progressive than the Shah and his Western and

Eastern supporters.

Masses of people are the determinant of history. The leaders can only carry on the struggle to a certain point, but the working class and other oppressed forces will continue the battle until a human society is built.

—Demonstrator

Youth in Revolt

Frankfurt, West Germany—Latin American students in Europe, including Nicaraguan students, have been trying to mobilize public opinion in Europe against the Somoza regime. They have held a hunger strike in Dusseldorf near Bonn where most of the foreign embassies are located. They are demanding that West Germany break off diplomatic relations with Somoza.

Because of the civil war in Nicaragua, the big bourgeois media could not overlook these protests and were compelled to publish some of what the students were saying. There is also much support work in Portugal, while in Spain no less than five solidarity committees have already been set up to support the Nicaraguan rebels.

One thousand students at Korea University in Seoul battled riot police as they protested, on Sept. 15, against the regime of South Korean President Park Chung-hee.

In the fourth illegal protest following renewed construction of the Seabrook nuclear power facility, 11 anti-nuclear power protesters entered the site on Sept. 12 and were arrested.

Despite the massing of 12,000 riot police and private security personnel, 7,000 demonstrators joined farmers in Sanrizuka, Japan on Sept. 17 to oppose the recently opened Tokyo International Airport located next to the village.

Anti-nuke and Black revolts

by Peter Wermuth

(I am pleased to turn my column over this month to Lou Turner, the co-author of *Frantz Fanon, Soweto and American Black Thought*, who wrote to me about his participation in the anti-nuclear movement on the West Coast.—PW)

Dear Peter,

About 10,000 anti-nuclear demonstrators, mostly white and young, came together Aug. 6 at the Diablo Canyon nuclear power facility being constructed on the California coast. The thrust of the demonstration was a non-violent assault on the facility by 500 activists scaling the fence around the installation.

However, I found that the most interesting and serious things happening were the discussions we got into. Introducing people to the pamphlet *Frantz Fanon, Soweto, and American Black Thought* became a way of eliciting the disappointment so many feel with the limited vision of much of the anti-nuclear movement.

At first sight, a Black Thought pamphlet and anti-nuclear activity appear worlds apart. But we met many student youth at Diablo Canyon active on their campuses in anti-Bakke protests and in support of the Black struggle in Southern Africa, who were willing to discuss the isolation of the anti-nuclear movement from these struggles.

It is Marx's philosophy which underscores the connections between Frantz Fanon, Soweto and American Black Thought, and the concerns of the anti-nuclear movement. The anti-nuclear movement is raising the most fundamental question of all, one which Marx spent his whole adult life deciphering: the relationship of human beings to their material environment and how they transform it.

However, that question will remain abstract and stagnate the movement if it deals solely with how nuclear proliferation deteriorates natural resources and our general living environment—which it certainly does. But what about a worker who labors in the unsafe and exploitative environment of a factory or mine? What about poor and Black and other minority people forced to relate to the alienating environment of slums and ghettos in this country?

Anti-nuclear activism in Europe, especially West Germany, in contrast to the American anti-nuclear movement, is also anti-Nazi and relates to Women's Liberation. And because in Europe the movement tries to expand to other issues, it exposes the depth of the economic crisis as well.

Many speakers at the demonstration talked about getting a new conception of the earth, preserving the earth, "getting back to the earth," paying homage to the earth, etc. Frantz Fanon on the other hand had a very different conception of the earth—the wretched of the earth—where the focus is not on earth as nature but earth as the oppressed mass of humanity in motion, transforming their exploitative, alienating environment. It was Marx's conception that the two conceptions are not opposites, but form a unity which he called a "thoroughgoing Naturalism or Humanism."

TWO WORLDS

(Continued from page 5)

Didn't your grappling with Lenin's break with his own philosophic past impel you to look historically at the dialectics in the structure of Capital, and to study Lenin pre- and post-1914? And wasn't it this methodology, learned from Lenin's philosophic-political journey from 1914 onward, that enabled you to not just stop at the analysis of the objective situation of our period—state-capitalism as a world stage, which all the state-capitalist tendency, including James and Lee had caught—but look further at the philosophic ramifications of the economic reality?

In other words, you saw not alone state-capitalism, but the new human forces of revolution against that—specifically, in '49-'50, the miners who were on general strike against automation at the very time you were translating those Notebooks.

Wasn't it thus the objective situation, the subjectivity of the specific forces of revolution of that period, together with your working through the philosophic labor of the preceding revolutionary generation, which made possible your leap in cognition when you returned to Hegel in 1953, in the chapter on the Absolute Idea in the Doctrine of Notion, seeing in Hegel's Absolute Idea a movement from practice to theory, bringing forth Absolute Idea as New Beginning?

Such a philosophic breakthrough created a whole new vantage point to view the objective world and the subjectivity of forces of revolution. That philosophy is not separate from organization can be seen in the fact that soon enough you broke with James and Lee, and in 1955 News and Letters Committees was founded, with labor, Black, youth and women spelled out in our very Constitution as the forces of the American revolution. At our founding, you were assigned the organizational task of completing *Marxism and Freedom*.

AND ABSOLUTE IDEA as New Beginning doesn't stop; it becomes more concrete and more enriched over a 25-year period. Your second contribution to the Discussion Bulletins, the Letter to Harry McShane, the Scottish Marxist-Humanist, pinpoints the re-concretization of Absolute Idea as New Beginning from *Marxism and Freedom* to *Philosophy and Revolution*.

In *Marxism and Freedom* you had shown Absolute Idea as the unity of theory and practice, with a movement from practice that is so mature in its action and idea that it, itself, has become a form of theory and movement toward a new society.

But if Absolute Idea as New Beginning is the breakthrough in both philosophy and reality for our age, it is so as its own development. *Marxism and Freedom* was published in 1958. The 1960s certainly showed the truth of a movement from practice being one of tremendous maturity, as with the Black movement in the United States and internationally.

But 1968, while certainly a high point of opposition to the powers-that-be, worldwide, revealed in its incompleteness that Absolute Idea as New Beginning did not stop as a unity of the movement from practice and the movement from theory. New beginnings as forces of revolution could no longer remain only new beginnings, or the movement would abort.

There had to be, as well, a reorganization of thought as a new beginning, a totality of view, a new continent

as a new beginning, then it would mean a pathway whereby the new forces of liberation could become the fullness of revolution.

For when philosophy itself is grasped as a New Beginning by the revolutionary individual, by the masses as integral to their movement toward freedom, when philosophy becomes the very basis of revolutionary organization, then Absolute Idea as New Beginnings is not alone the unity of theory and practice, but becomes the totality of both, as the movement of liberation constantly being renewed. This I believe is what becomes spelled out much more comprehensively in your *Philosophy and Revolution*, published in 1973.

YOUR THIRD CONTRIBUTION to the Discussion Bulletins, the Dear Sisters Letter of August 1978, traces the process by which you are constantly re-concretizing Absolute Idea as New Beginning, here as the specificity for one of the forces of revolution, Women's Liberation, for the period since the publication of *Philosophy and Revolution*. In that letter you develop your methodology of thinking about a work which had begun with a title on Women as Force and Reason, to one which encompasses Rosa Luxemburg, Today's Women's Liberation Movement and Marx's Philosophy of Revolution.

This dialectical movement towards totality as new beginnings is, I believe, the same method which was within our Convention, allowing so many expressions of the leap toward freedom to come forth. The recognition of self within Marxist-Humanist philosophy, felt by all who became members of our organization, flowed from the philosophic ground of Absolute Idea as New Beginning.

IN RETURNING TO OUR Convention I want to conclude on our Executive Session, where you gave a new vantage point for looking at revolutionary leadership in our age. It is not based on the history of party or program of the Marxist movement, the vantage point of the old Marxist organizations and of the so-called Marxist organizations today. In looking at only party and program, they have distorted so much of both, and have totally departed from revolutionary leadership as theoretic preparation for actual revolution as well as for "the day after" victory when bureaucracy emerges all over again to stifle the new creativity from below, fully released.

Our vantage point is the historic mirror of revolutionary philosophy not separate from organization. Otherwise, Lassalleism, the organizer of mass organizations, will taint us as it has tainted all revolutionaries. Lenin included. That was the most shocking point and also the most sobering.

The responsibility in the revolutionary movement becomes so much greater: the working out of the revolutionary philosophic contribution for our age is not only integral to the self-activity of masses as Reason, but cannot be separated from organization, if we are not to fall into the old quagmire of vanguardism. All the more imperative, it seems to me, is the working out of a new form of organization which we began with committees rather than party-form of organization. Don't you think that is what Rudolf Bahro is trying to do though he sits in jail in East Germany?

Eugene Walker

Camp David Summit: Peace in Middle East—or extension of U.S. imperialism?

(Continued from page 1)

For that matter Sadat didn't completely buckle under either, though what he got, and what he demanded publicly—a homeland for the Palestinians—are total opposites. His dramatic trip to Jerusalem, which aroused so much mass support both in Israel and in Egypt for genuine peace, was, in truth, a gesture for a separate peace. And that not only because Egypt is in such deep economic crisis and there is mass discontent, but because as rulers, both he and Begin understood better than did Carter, the globalist, how totally "ominous" was the Oct. 1, 1977 joint statement of the U.S. and Russia for a return to Geneva to "cool down" the Middle East cauldron.

Let us not forget that the PLO was the only one to greet that joint statement, with Arafat saying he "could live with it." And what, above all, we must keep in mind is that that way to peace so scared the Middle East potentates that Sadat's spectacular journey to Israel followed within a month, and within another month a trip by Begin to Ismailia.

That there also unraveled the beginning of the end of the new orientation—Egypt-Israel as unit—is exactly what must be kept in the front of our minds if we are to understand Camp David and its ramifications today. That is to say, at one and the same time, the Egypt-Israel "unit" can blow up and spur on the U.S.-Russia global conflagration.

PAX AMERICANA

1978, for the Middle East, opened with such vilification on the side of both Egypt and Israel, that, by March, Carter had to tell the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee that the "diplomatic process has come to a halt." Indeed, it was this stalemate that got the U.S. Senate to approve the sale of combat planes to Saudi Arabia and Egypt as well as to Israel. But even this did not prod Egypt and Israel back to "negotiations," as was clear from the collapse of their foreign ministers meeting, this time in the setting of England. And July 18 was followed, on July 24, by Kamel's recall to Egypt and his announcement that no further negotiations would be held.

It was this total impasse which brought about Vance's trip to both Jerusalem and Cairo with but a single "handwritten invitation" to Camp David, which both promptly accepted as they really had nowhere else to go other than war, and Israel was already in one war—in Lebanon! That, technically, its army was out of southern Lebanon, far from closing that chapter, is the open wound that bleeds "heavenward"; surely none on this earth is paying any attention to fragmented Lebanon that keeps being bled, though the civil war has supposedly ended and "peace returned."

When, on Sept. 18, Carter addressed a joint session of Congress, he let it be known that Lebanon, though not included in the Agreement, had caused "heated discussion." As if that is not still another of the

serious problems not "solved" at the "Summit" "on" the Middle East, Carter also let it be known that France may be involved. Having been the first to carve Lebanon out of Syria at the end of the First World War, France no doubt has great "experience," not to aid the Lebanese or Palestinian people, but to steer imperialist rule in that volatile region. For the present moment, it sheds yet another light on why the convening of the Summit conference was delayed one day: to allow Sadat to stop off in France. So much for no secrets at the Summit!

What was put down on paper and grandiosely called "Framework for Peace"—but which all others just call "Framework"—far from being anything "comprehensive," limited itself to one near-accomplishment in returning the Sinai to Egyptian sovereignty, provided that, within two weeks, the Knesset votes to dismantle the Israeli settlements there; and one questionable promise that, after three months of negotiations during which no Israeli settlements would be built there, the Palestinians would supposedly get "self-governing rule," provided (1) they close their eyes to the massive army—and even reduced in half, as promised, the Israeli occupying army numbers 15,000 "in enclaves"—and (2) they can "elect" that governing body, provided they understand that what they are choosing is Israel and Jordan, not any homeland for themselves.

If even we were willing, for the moment, to forget that this can hardly pass for a "comprehensive Middle East framework when even such "moderate" Arabs as King Hussein and King Khalid are not included, how can we forget who at this very moment is meeting in Damascus? Assad is presiding there over a so-called "steadfastness front"—of Syria, Libya, Algeria, South Yemen and, of course, the PLO—this time united solidly against the U.S.-engineered Egypt-Israel accord for a projected bilateral "peace treaty."

The fact that Syria is, at the same time, trying not to close all doors to U.S. imperialism by agreeing to hear Secretary of State Vance's "briefing" on what happened in Camp David is hardly to be taken as a sign of any siding with "the West."

Assad's Syria is not only still occupying Lebanon, and not only is being threatened by Israel, both directly on the occupied Golan Heights, and indirectly via the neo-fascist "Christian" Army who are surrogates for Israel throughout Lebanon; but also is threatened from within the rejection front by the Ba'ath regime of Iraq, while Syria itself is in deep economic-political crisis. It is true Sadat is not using the language of Arafat, who is under the greatest illusion of all that 1978 is 1948 and Israel's very right to exist is questioned. But Sadat's Egypt is a crucial country in the volatile Middle East which abounds in crises, from the civil war in Iran to the two Yemens, one "representing" Saudi Arabia, the other Russia, to . . .

It is impossible to go into all the crises besetting

the region, and its strategic as well as oil importance for the industrialized world, as the two nuclear Goliaths—U.S. and Russia—fight for mastery over it. If one can call it "new," the one thing new that has been set off by Camp David is such total fragmentation of the very concept of an "Arab nation," that all one can now see is the heavy tilting toward U.S. capitalist-imperialism until IT sets the timing for global conflagration!

No answer can come from either the imperialistic or narrow nationalistic double-crosses. Only the masses taking destiny into their own hands can possibly put an end to the capitalistic-imperialistic, racist, alienating world headed for the holocaust. One good sign came when 100,000 Israelis marched against Begin, demanding peace. Another sign came from Egypt, where the mass discontent has forced Sadat not to put all the burden of inflation on the backs of the working people.

Each country's rulers must contend with the mass opposition in its land and it is those masses in motion that can nullify Camp David summitry as well as all other contenders who act as "spokesmen" for the Palestinian people, or any other masses struggling for freedom. These masses in motion have not had their last say.

Raya Dunayevskaya
Sept. 20, 1978

BLACK-RED VIEW

Open letter to Dr. Nathan Hare

by John Alan

Dear Dr. Hare:

My letter is rather late, but I think it has to be written, because many of the ideas that you have expounded on in your article, "Revolution Without Revolution: The Psychology of Sex and Race," (The Black Scholar, April, 1978) have been kicked around for some time by various reactionary elements and have gained a crude acceptance by people who don't ordinarily write as social psychologists.

When everything is boiled down in your article, the essential points are: (1) The Women's Liberation Movement isn't a valid revolt against the patriarchal domination of women in a capitalist society, but an "unconscious adaptation to the demands of a post-industrial society" that is anti-revolutionary. (2) In this situation, the white female liberationist, not the capitalist system, becomes the deadly enemy of the Black male and threatens the entire Black liberation movement in this country. (3) Under these circumstances, it is the duty of the Black woman to become a complement to her man and refrain herself from becoming a part of the separate divisive women's movement.

You completely ignore why, at this time in history, women are emerging the world over as a subject of revolution and are ceasing to be a complement for men.

In seeing the women's movement as a middle-class revolt shrouded in a biological and psychological mist, you have turned your back on the hundreds of thousands of women, both white and Black, who are forced to toil at menial jobs, to work in the offices, factories and fields of this country at less than the wages given to men—not to mention those women who have been reduced, in many cases, to a marginal existence.

It has been these women, in their daily, sometimes unnoticed fight to remain human, to control some aspect of their lives, who have made the liberation of women a historical necessity. Without these women the women's movement would be bereft of its revolutionary content. But it isn't "white" women's liberation that is destroying the Black family, it is automation and now unimation of capitalist production that has made the employment of Black men unnecessary in the scheme of capitalist production, and the subsequent reduction of the Black family to penury and the welfare rolls that has caused the instability of the Black family.

Finally, Dr. Hare, you have sought to support your claim to the "divisiveness" of Women's Liberation by alluding both to Lenin and Fanon on the necessity to submerge the women's movement into the general struggle for socialism.

But Fanon saw in the Algerian Revolution the concrete possibility of transforming all men/women relationships, that would break down all the old traditions between husband and wife, daughter and father, sister and brother. The woman would emerge as a personality on her own . . . "The freedom of the Algerian people from then on became identified with women's liberation, with her entry into history" (quote from Frantz Fanon's A Dying Colonialism).

And Lenin never tired of urging upon his party the truth that the mere legal emancipation of women, without women, even non-party women, fully participating in large numbers in the administration of the Soviet State, would be meaningless. For Lenin, there could be no workers' freedom without the freedom of women.

Dr. Hare, Women's Liberation is here to stay. It is valid both before and after the revolution!

Yours,
John Alan

Detroit neighborhood rallies together to get Nazis out

(Over 700 people, in a march and rally on Sept. 10 sponsored by the Michigan Avenue Community Organization, demonstrated their commitment to get Nazis out of their neighborhood where Black, white, Chicano, and Polish families live. The neo-fascists opened their new "headquarters" there on Sept. 3, after unabated community pressure forced their evictions from two previous locations. In the following story, residents of the Michigan Avenue neighborhood speak for themselves.—Ed.)

Detroit, Mich.—We've seen the neighborhood pulled together by this Nazi threat. And the neighborhood is the important part of the effort to get them out, not only out of our neighborhood but out of Detroit and out of the world.

There are many different groups participating in the picket lines, and we are hoping that they can help us keep a daily line going until we are rid of the Nazis. When only a handful are on the line, the Nazis come out and try to provoke someone to take a swing at them. Once they even started to march with us and taunt us.

We called for reinforcements, and as soon as they came, the Nazis went inside and locked their door. Later they went up on the roof and began dropping plate glass down on the pickets. One police officer saw it and took the complaint, but the police did nothing about it.

Some of the police protecting the Nazis have seemed sympathetic to us, but others have harassed us as much as the Nazis have. They have locked up people who were picketing. One young woman was arrested for allegedly spitting on the police, when it was the Nazi who was doing the spitting. They threaten the people on the line with arrest if you dare stop walking for a minute, and it doesn't matter whether you are young or old. They even threatened to arrest one girl in a wheelchair.

The Nazis have been harassing second and third graders at the elementary school, and tried to knock down the door of one neighborhood woman who had let the picketers come to rest in her house.

We come to picket every single day at 5 p.m. as soon as we get off work. We want the whole neighbor-



—N&L photo

More than 700 Detroiters march to get Nazis out of their community.

hood to come out. And we want to take our picket line to Mayor Young, as well. It seems clear that he doesn't want our opposition to this new Nazi headquarters publicized. This is the third place they have opened up in less than a year, and the Mayor has not done or said one thing about it yet. Even when 700 people marched, TV and newspapers ignored it almost completely.

The strength of the community support for what we're doing has been tremendous. One elderly man said he could only make two turns on the line, which he did. The kids around here are more than willing to do their share. A local corner store sent the picketers soft drinks one day. A regular on the line said his mother promised to post bail if any in his family were arrested fighting Nazis. And a group of Black veterans from the past three wars formed a picket line the day after the hatequarters opened.