

SPARTACIST

CANADA

June 1987 No. 68 25¢

Defend the Soviet Union Through World Revolution!

Gorbachev's Pipedream: Peace With Imperialism

Ever since the Iran/Contragate scandal broke last year Reagan and his gang of "covert" warriors have been exposed as the greedy, war-crazed liars that they are. Despite attempts by the Democratic Party-controlled Congressional "investigation" committees in Washington to control the damage, the U.S. "imperial presidency" is in its biggest crisis since Watergate. And it is reverberating in the NATO capitals of Europe as Reagan's anti-Soviet allies worry whether the "Contra in Chief" is still capable of governing. Meanwhile, Reagan's loyal junior partners in Ottawa are faring even worse than the U.S. president in the popularity polls. The scandal-ridden Mulroney government is trailing behind the despised Liberals and even the traditionally last-place Cold War social democrats of the NDP. Making their own fat profits arming death squad regimes and counterrevolutionary terrorists around the globe, the Canadian rulers have gone after labor, minorities, the poor, the aged and damn near everyone else in this country. It will take some hard class struggle to turn things around. And, now is the time to strike back across North America, not only against the crippled Reagan government and its hated Tory allies in Ottawa but the whole racist capitalist system.

Instead, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev holds out his hand to the rabid warmonger Reagan as a partner in securing "world peace." *Business Week* (16 March) breathed a sigh of relief: "Just as the Iran-*contra* scandal was laying waste to the Reagan



As imperialists' first-strike missiles target USSR, Reagan and Gorbachev meet at Reykjavik last October.

Taylor/Sygma

Turner/Newsweek

Presidency, the leader of the 'evil empire' held out the promise of an arms-control breakthrough on medium-range weapons in Europe." Administration hardliner Kenneth Adelman crowed that the latest Soviet offer "shows that the Russians have not given up on President Reagan." Not only has Gorbachev not given up on Reagan, he has given in to him. The latest Soviet "arms control" proposal is the very same one Reagan made in 1981 when NATO was about to deploy the Pershing 2 missiles in West Germany, a first-strike weapon eight minutes flying time from Moscow.

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United-Front Action in Rouen

French Trotskyists Lead Fight Against Racist Ban

In Rouen, France our comrades of the Ligue Trotskyiste de France (LTF) have initiated a boycott protesting the Flunch Cafeteria's racist policy of systematically barring admittance to North Africans and blacks. During late May and into June a hundred people every night have been picketing the downtown restaurant in response to the LTF's call. As fascist attacks on immigrant neighborhoods continue to mount and the government maintains its racist "nationalities" bill (threatening to deport "trainloads" of "foreigners"), the urgency of this anti-racist boycott is dramatically heightened.

In mid-April, after receiving numerous complaints, a local radio station asked a notary public to be an official witness accompanying five young North Africans as they attempted to enter the cafeteria. The notary reported that the security guard at the door barred their way, explaining: "Management has given orders and I am not allowed to let in anyone who looks like an Arab or who is black." Youth from Rouen's working-class/immigrant suburbs have long been victims of such racist practices in the provincial city's "chic" nightspots. Now the blatant segregation by the cafeteria's manager Robinet has become a symbol and must be stopped!

The LTF, section of the international Spartacist tendency, is known in the region for having initiated a united-front mobilization of more than 400 people in December 1981 to stop the fascists. An LTF leaflet distributed May 23 at markets in the working-class suburbs of Rouen called for protest demonstrations at the Flunch: "In the context of the rise of Le Pen, whose meetings are regularly followed by pogroms (as at Marseille and Lyon), we must act now against this scandalous racial

discrimination. What's needed to definitively crush the fascist scum is a massive mobilization by the working class organized by the trade unions and immigrant organizations."

On the evening of May 25, some 100 persons representing numerous political organizations, immigrant associations and trade unions participated in a militant picket chanting, "Boycott the Flunch!",



Le Bolchévik

Protesters picket Rouen cafeteria for refusing to serve blacks and North African Arabs.

"Down with racist segregation!" and "Full citizenship rights for immigrants!" Demonstrators applauded as a sizable number of the restaurant's clientèle walked out after having read the leaflet condemning the racist ban. The nightly pickets have turned away about half the prospective customers.

The mobilization broadened during the week with the arrival of a number of *beurs* (second generation North African youth) from the immigrant ghettos where the bourgeoisie tries to keep them isolated. Speakers at the pickets included two trade unionists from the Renault/Cléon auto factory. And on May 27, the branch of the CGT union federation at the plant sent a telegram to the Flunch's Paris head office:

"In the name of the 7,000 employees of the enterprise: the Renault/Cléon CGT trade union energetically protests against racist measures and violation of human rights by Flunch management against workers and immigrant employees. Demand immediate halt to all racist

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Faces Death Penalty for Exposing Israeli Nuclear Arsenal

Free Mordechai Vanunu!

Mordechai Vanunu is the 32-year-old Israeli nuclear technician whose spectacular revelations exposing the Zionist state's nuclear force of 100-200 bombs were published in the London *Sunday Times* last October. For his courageous act, all humanity owes Vanunu a tremendous debt of gratitude. Instead this heroic man now languishes in solitary confinement in an Israeli prison, heavily guarded by Shin Beth, the sinister Zionist secret police. Vanunu is charged with disclosing state secrets, "aggravated espionage" and aiding the enemy in wartime, a charge which carries the *death sentence*.

Kidnapped from Rome last September by the Mossad (the Israeli CIA) Vanunu was spirited to Israel where he was held *incommunicado*. Only a protest by his family and friends saved him from possibly being "disappeared" in the Shin Beth dungeons. Even after a 33-day hunger strike Vanunu is still deprived of even the modicum of rights ordinarily granted prisoners. He was not even allowed to *speak* to his close American friend and defender, Judy Zimmet. And the legal proceedings against him are conducted behind closed doors under Israel's draconian security regulations.

The extent of the Israeli nuclear strike force, exposed by Vanunu, means the Zionist madmen have more than the Arab capitals in their sights. They—along with their North American imperialist quartermasters—have a much bigger target in mind: the Soviet Union. As Judy Zimmet, who has almost singlehandedly campaigned in the U.S. for Vanunu's freedom, commented in an exclusive interview with *Workers Vanguard* (No. 429, 29 May):

"What I found by talking to people, when it comes to certain countries, here in the United States anti-nuclear groups are afraid to say anything about Israel. They look the other way. Which is also the way the United States is behaving.... America, I believe, is considering Israel's arsenal as part of their own. I feel that if there's a surplus that these bombs will be aimed at other places other than in the immediate area.... So Israel is not just taking care of her own immediate needs, but helping the United States. Also I would agree that it would be pointed against Russia, because if people look deep enough they will find that the war, or war anywhere, is really a war between the United States and the Soviet Union, and not really necessarily a war in the particular place where it's being waged."

In the intensely chauvinist Zionist fortress, governed by the "Labor"-Likud alliance which includes the entire Zionist spectrum and is presently headed by notorious terrorist and murderer Yitzhak Shamir,



Jerusalem, December 1986: Courageous Israeli nuclear technician Mordechai Vanunu flashes message to reporters from police van saying he was hijacked in Rome by Israeli agents.

the government has orchestrated a campaign to vilify Vanunu. But Israeli society is deeply polarized. The brutally oppressed Palestinian Arabs make up 20 percent of the population inside Israel and another 1.2 million live under the Zionist jackboot in the Occupied Territories. And even within the Hebrew-speaking majority there are deep divisions between the relatively privileged Ashkenazi (European) Jews and the Sephardic or "Oriental" Jews who, like the Moroccan-born Vanunu, come from North Africa and the Near East. While Sephardic Jews make up the mass base of the right-wing and religious parties, the discrimination they suffer can also produce a Vanunu. This polarization profoundly deepened after the Zionist blitzkrieg in Lebanon and hideous massacre of thousands of defenseless Palestinians at Shatila and Sabra.

In a foreword to a recent collection of materials translated from the Israeli press on Vanunu, the distinguished Israeli civil libertarian Israel Shahak notes that Vanunu not only revealed the extent of the Zionist nuclear arsenal but "the *changed mentality* among an important part of the younger Jewish generation.... Not only in the better part of the press, but also among the wider public, *including the Oriental Jews*, one can hear a lot of sympathy and understanding to Vanunu, his motives, his courage and even his act!" (emphasis in original). At the University of Ben-Gurion in Beersheba Vanunu was

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Bust Sacred Union-Busters!

One-Day Strike Shuts Down B.C.

On Monday, June 1, over 300,000 B.C. unionists shut down the province for 24 hours. The one-day strike was called by the B.C. Federation of Labour against the ultra-right Social Credit government's vicious union-busting offensive. The mines, the mills, the lumber camps and the ports were closed down. There were no newspapers, the schools were closed and rail and ferry workers effectively shut down transportation in the province.

The British Columbia labor movement, historically the most militant and class-conscious working class in English-speaking North America, has the muscle to galvanize powerful class struggle not only in B.C. but across Canada and up and down the West Coast. The June 1 strike expressed the anger and determination of the ranks locked in a life-and-death battle for the very existence of their unions. But it was also a measure of the cowardice and treachery of the labor misleaders. As B.C. Fed president Ken Georgetti said, "We did not call a general strike today," but only "asked our members to demonstrate their opposition to these bills." Facing the legislated decimation of their dues base from above and explosive rank-and-file demands for union action from below, the labor tops called the action as a "stayaway" strike to prevent any mass rallies or pickets which could be a springboard for some hard class struggle.

In April the Socreds announced their "Industrial Relations Reform Act" (Bill 19) under which, as one striker commented, "workers will virtually be slaves." Any strike deemed, by the government, "not in the public interest" would be outlawed. A provincial labor czar would be appointed with sweeping powers to take over the union movement—imposing and overseeing mandatory "secret ballot" votes on any "final" management contract offer, for example. Bill 19 would outlaw secondary picketing, regiment open shop working conditions and empower employers to give the PATCO treatment to any union which refuses to comply with the government's *diktats*. The practice of "double breasting" where employers set up dummy companies to circumvent union contracts is officially sanctioned. And it's open season for scabs as Bill 19 decrees that unions have no right to expel or discipline in any way strikebreakers, company finks and agents provocateurs.

The fanatical Sacred union-busters have targeted the B.C. Federation of Teachers for particular vengeance. A companion piece, Bill 20, would effectively smash the teachers union. Teachers will be forced to join a "professional" association to be set up by the government. The union will have to launch an organizing drive to sign up its own

members. If this reregistration is not complete by the end of the year the government will declare that there is no union. This is the Socreds' revenge against the teachers for their militant 1983 strike which almost sparked a province-wide general strike.

At a B.C. labor rally Roy Gautier, president of the B.C. and Yukon Building Trades Council, won



Vancouver, June 1: Unionists picket government offices. 300,000 workers stayed off the job to protest government union-busting.

a standing ovation when he compared the Socreds to Mussolini. Indeed these anti-labor bills read like a page torn from the annals of the Italian fascists' blackshirt corporatism which made the trade unions an appendage of Mussolini's bonapartist "strong state" apparatus. The Social Credit party got its start as a prairie populist "funny money" party, appealing to backward rural bigotry and anti-Semitism in railing against "Eastern bankers." In power the far-right Socreds are enforcers of the untrammled rule of big business—slashing welfare, seizing Native Indians' lands and busting the unions.

In response to the June 1 strike B.C. attorney general Brian Smith ran to the courts seeking an injunction to ban *all* protest against the government by labor or anyone else. The government wanted to outlaw even the advocacy of any measures which could have as their aim "a governmental change

in the province" or "pointing out errors in the government of the Province"! This was too much even for the bourgeois courts which denied the injunction. Jim Matkin, head of the B.C. Business Council, also thinks that B.C. premier William Vander Zalm (a fundamentalist bigot who is even wackier than now-dead Socred "Wacky" Bennett who ruled the province for 20 years) has gone too far. What has Matkin worried is that these far-right union-busters might provoke a real labor explosion.

Speaking from his plush parliamentary offices, just down the hall from the all-new prayer room he had installed, Vander Zalm paused between mouthfuls of honey-dipped croissant to declare that "the suffering everyone is going through at this time, if you can call it that, is going to pay good dividends." The official unemployment rate in B.C. stands at 14 percent. Soup lines are growing and in Vancouver alone over 200,000 are forced to rely on food subsidies. During last year's Expo extravaganza hundreds of poor and aged were thrown out of slum hotels and left to die on the streets.

Along with attacks on labor, Vander Zalm, a fanatical anti-abortionist, has vowed to stop any attempt to set up abortion clinics in B.C. And ominously, Vancouver's East Indian community, the largest in North America, is the target of escalating racist terror, as their homes are firebombed. Emboldened by the climate of rampant social reaction and lack of any labor response against racist terror, the KKK has marched hooded and robed in broad daylight in the streets of Vancouver.

The current anti-labor onslaught is the product of years of betrayal by the trade-union bureaucrats. In 1983, when all of B.C. labor was on the verge of joining militant teachers on the picket lines in a general strike against Socred austerity and union-busting, then-B.C. Fed president Art Kube burst into tears and called the whole thing off. Then labor strongman Jack Munro, known as "stab in the back Jack," sealed a sellout deal with the Socreds. Longshoremen in B.C. are now saddled with a government-imposed contract because the cowardly bureaucrats kept the ranks chained to the job despite a 94 percent vote. Last summer lumber, pulp and paper workers were on strike for almost five months only to have their major demands left in the hands of a government arbitrator.

B.C. NDP leader Mike Harcourt, who scabbed on a 1981 municipal workers strike, has declared that all "illegal" strike activity "has to stop" (*Toronto Star*, 13 April). In 1975 when the NDP, which also has its origins in prairie populism, was in power it imposed the most massive strikebreaking law in B.C. history, ordering 60,000 pulp and paper work-

ers, rail workers, supermarket employees and truck drivers back to work. In 1981, the NDP social dems rediscovered the picket line—in defense of counter-revolutionary Polish Solidarność, calling on Polish sailors in Vancouver harbor to jump ship.

The Socreds won't be stopped in the courts or the halls of the legislature but on the picket lines. The only "illegal" strike is one that loses. A powerful flexing of labor's muscle would reverberate across the country. In 1981, B.C. phone workers electrified the labor movement when they occupied every key



B.C. bourgeois press hysteria backs Socred war on labor.

B.C. Telephone Co. center in the province. The company ran to the courts and the bureaucrats caved in. Today everybody is paying for the repeated sellouts of the labor tops. As Leon Trotsky, leader together with Lenin of the victorious 1917 Russian Revolution, said:

"Monopoly capitalism is less and less willing to reconcile itself to the independence of trade unions. It demands of the reformist bureaucrats and the labor aristocracy, who pick up the crumbs from its banquet table, that they become transformed into its political police before the eyes of the working class. If that is not achieved, the labor bureaucracy is driven away and replaced by the fascists."

—"Trade Unions in the Epoch of Imperialist Decay" (August 1940)

There's more than a whiff of fascistic bonapartism about the Socreds who are out to break the back of organized labor in the province. Key to unchaining the power of B.C. labor is breaking the stranglehold of the bosses' labor lieutenants. This especially means putting labor in the forefront of the fight against racial oppression and racist terror. Labor must break with the Cold War strikebreakers of the NDP to build a revolutionary workers party which can link up and lead the struggle of all the oppressed in a powerful assault on the whole system of capitalist exploitation. ■

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Deschênes Commission Cover-up

Canada Protects Nazi Butchers

Nazi SS butcher Klaus Barbie has finally been brought to trial in France. The judicial proceedings have become a grotesque mockery of justice: while witnesses relive the horror of Barbie's bestial crimes, the criminal himself is absent. Barbie should have been killed long ago. But for over 40 years this sadistic killer—responsible for the murder of over 10,000 Jews, Communists, Gypsies and others as head of the Gestapo in Lyon, France—lived comfortably in South America where he continued his fascist activities. Why? Because Barbie was one of the thousands of Nazi war criminals enlisted as "freedom fighters" in the service of the imperialist bourgeoisie's anti-Soviet crusade. After the war the "Butcher of Lyon" was recruited as a Cold War spy for the U.S. and then sent down the "Rat Line" to Bolivia.

In Canada the government shielded and protected Barbie's second-in-command Count Jacques de Bernonville. From 1946 to 1951 de Bernonville lived in Quebec under the personal protection of then-Canadian prime minister, Louis St. Laurent. In response to repeated demands that this heinous butcher be extradited to France where he had been sentenced to death for torture and murder, the government passed a special order-in-council to stop his deportation. At the same time the Liberal St. Laurent government deported Jews charged with "falsifying" information to get into Canada after the war. When the heat was turned up and the government could no longer protect Barbie's lieutenant, St. Laurent warned de Bernonville to flee the country.

Canada's reputation for protecting and providing a safe haven for Hitler's butchers is notorious. As Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Wiesenthal Center, commented, Canada became a "dumping ground" for a number of Nazis who could no longer be sheltered in Europe even with official aid. In 1984 Littman estimated that there were over 3,000 Nazis and their bloody collaborators living in Canada. He provided the government with mountains of evidence, including names and addresses. When Littman's charge (based on U.S. government documents obtained under the Freedom

of Information Act) that the Nazis' infamous doctor of death Josef Mengele may have tried to enter Canada made the *New York Times* in January 1985 the Canadian Tory government decided it was time to "address" (read: cover up) the question.

In 1985 they set up a "Commission of Inquiry on War Criminals." The character of this "inquiry" is embodied in the man they chose to run it, Quebec Superior Court judge Jules Deschênes. Deschênes authored a book entitled *The Sword and the Scales* (Toronto, 1976) where he writes, in sympathy with Gestapo chief Hermann Göring, that the Nuremberg



Jim Merrithew/Maclean's

Judge Jules Deschênes (left), head of war criminals "investigation," exonerates SS mass murderers, spits on Holocaust victims.



No Credit

Trials were unfair because no Nazis were allowed to be part of the tribunal! The judge also found fault with the trial of Marshal Philippe Pétain, the head of the French Vichy regime of Nazi collaborators, because his jury included members of the Resistance! But when it comes to the trial and execution of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, who were framed up and sent to the electric chair in an act of Cold War murder by the U.S. government, Deschênes' verdict is that they were "treated most fairly!"

In March, Judge Deschênes' Commission came out with its final report. From a "master list" of some 800 Nazi war criminals living in Canada the commission declared that there were only 20 cases which required that any action be taken. The Tory government's phony war criminals "inquiry" completely exonerated 600 members of the Waffen SS Ukrainian "Galicia Division" still living in Canada. An estimated 1,000-2,000 members of the infamous

Galicja Division were welcomed to this country in 1950. Survivors recall these black-shirted Nazi collaborators as guards at the Bunzlau death camp in Poland, who beat prisoners with two-by-fours. In their ranks were members of the Ukrainian Gestapo auxiliary police death squad which rounded up and slaughtered Jews and Communists. Over 1,000 members of the Galicja Division were mobilized for the bloody suppression of the 1944 Warsaw Ghetto uprising.

Canada was above all the "free world" refuge for SS Einsatzkommandos and their administrative collaborators who were picked to do jobs even too dirty for the likes of the SS Death's Head Battalion. Like the Galicja Division these local East European butchers were more feared by their victims than the German Nazis. According to John Loftus, a former investigator for the U.S. government's Nazi-hunting Office of Special Investigations, former leaders of the Nazi puppet government in Byelorussia held several meetings in Toronto between 1952 and 1978. These blood-thirsty murderers killed three quarters of a million Jews, virtually the entire Jewish population of the country. There were countless others, like Hermine Braunsteiner Ryan, the commander of the Maidanek death camp in Poland, known as the "Stomping Mare of Maidanek" for her "preferred" method of killing women prisoners. Braunsteiner lived in Canada until 1963. Haralds Puntulis, sentenced to death in Latvia for the murder of 15,000 people, including every Jew in the Rezekne district, lived in a Toronto suburb until his natural death in 1982.

The Canadian government has denied repeated requests by the Soviet Union to extradite these fascist killers, claiming that Communist courts do not mete out "fair justice." Only in the Soviet Union, where 20 million people died in liberating all of Europe from the scourge of Nazism, did survivors of Hitler's genocide have the grim satisfaction of avenging their dead. Nazi mass murderers who fell into Soviet hands were hanged. In Canada the doors were closed to desperate Jews trying to flee Hitler's death camps. Fewer Jewish refugees (5,000 in total) were allowed into Canada than any of the imperialist so-called "democracies." After the war their murderers were welcomed. In over 40 years Canada has extradited only one Nazi war criminal, Helmut Rauca, the murderer of 11,584 Lithuanian Jews, who was deported to West Germany in 1983 (where he died in jail before ever going to trial).

The ink had barely dried on the Deschênes Commission's whitewash "investigation" of Nazi war criminals when Tory Justice Minister Ramon Hnatyshyn promised that there would be no extraditions. This includes Dutch Nazi Jacob Luitjens, who for years was a botany instructor at the University

of British Columbia! The Canadian government has refused several requests by the Dutch government to extradite Luitjens to Holland where he is among the 15 most wanted war criminals. Now, the Tory government plans to amend the Criminal Code to allow for "made-in-Canada" trials. The government has demanded that names of even those who made it on to the Deschênes Commission's "wanted list"



Soviet Red Army liberates Central Europe, World War II. Defeated Nazis found safe haven in Canada.

be suppressed. In the unlikely event that any Nazis are brought to trial the government is considering giving them *legal aid* for their defense! And, the RCMP has been assigned to "track down" Nazi war criminals. The only Nazi the "Mounties" (who are supposed to "always get their man") have ever found is Rauca who lived for 20 years in a Toronto suburb under his real name. And, in the midst of their "investigation" of Nazis living in Canada the RCMP destroyed 180,000 immigration files from the post-war period. This was alibied by the Deschênes Commission as an innocent coincidence.

Canada: Haven for Nazis

The name of the game is to protect the guilty, especially the rulers of this country. The government has refused to release a 550-page document prepared for the Deschênes Commission which details the role of leading politicians, immigration officials and other government agencies in the active recruitment of defeated Nazis who managed to keep one step ahead of the Red Army. According to Alti Rodal, a university historian who prepared the document: "After 1955 and the Cold War paranoia, the entire purpose of immigration screening seems to have been to keep out Communists. If you could prove you were a Nazi, you had proved you were not a threat" (*Globe and Mail*, 18 March).

The Canadian government imported Nazi war criminals as a matter of policy. Britain, whose

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Deschênes Cover-up ...

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"royal family" was quite open in its support of the Third Reich, acted as a clearinghouse for shipping Nazis out of Europe. Through the British Secret Service's Section Nine, Canada was supplied with these murderous Hitlerites. Under Operation Matchbox, a covert program to save scientists of Hitler's Third Reich, especially those who had served its military machine, from falling into Soviet hands, Canada got some 71 Nazi scientists and technicians. The thwarted nationalist ambitions and virulent anti-Communism of these sadistic killers were put into the service of the imperialists' Cold War drive to reconquer the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe for capitalist exploitation. For example, the U.S. rocket program was based on Nazi scientists such as Wernher von Braun who designed and built the German V-2 missile with slave labor.

Anti-Sovietism and Fascist Terror

In 1948 the Canadian government received a telegram from British Labour Prime Minister Clement Atlee with the instructions that there were to be no prosecutions of Nazi war criminals. According to Irving Abella, co-author of *None is Too Many* (named after a comment made by a high-ranking Canadian government official against Jewish immigration during WWII), "This was the price demanded by West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer from the Western allies for his agreement to re-arm his nation and turn it into an anti-Soviet bastion" (*Toronto Star*, 23 May). The imperialists' anti-Communist crusade is a continuation of Adolf Hitler's war to root out the "Bolshevik menace." In May 1985 Reagan saluted Nazi SS graves at the military cemetery at Bitburg, an act of "reconciliation" with the former enemy as part of the preparation for thermonuclear World War III against the Soviet Union.

Like Reagan's sinister attorney general Edwin Meese, who tried desperately and unsuccessfully to "save" Estonian Nazi mass murderer Karl Linna from Soviet justice, the Canadian government defends its Nazis. Just as the Deschênes Commission released its whitewash report, the Ontario Liberal government announced that a new trial would be held for Ernst Zundel, a notorious Nazi hatemonger and one of the largest purveyors of anti-Semitic filth in the world. His 1985 trial was an obscene "debate" on the Nazi Holocaust. Nazis and their apologists were called as "expert" witnesses. Concentration camp survivors forced to relive the unspeakable horror of Hitler's death camps on the stand were denounced as "liars." And Zundel's lawyer demanded autopsy reports as "proof" of the existence of gas chambers. Now the same courts which provided a platform for fascist genocide have ruled that Zundel's rights were "violated." Ominously, in the early morning hours of June 5, the Toronto home of Jonathan Richler, a lawyer who did historical research on Nazi war criminals in Canada for the Deschênes Commission, was firebombed.

The "captive nations" cesspool is now demanding that the Canadian government prosecute "Soviet war criminals"! *It was the Soviet Red Army that smashed Hitler's Reich* and disposed of the Nazis' bloody East European collaborators and butchers. Were it not for their imperialist protectors and recruiters the hideous Nazi mass murderers would have and should have been killed a long time ago.

We demand vengeance for the victims of the Nazi genocide! In the 1930s and 40s when the anti-Semitic rulers of this country shut out desperate Jewish refugees, it was the Canadian Trotskyists who raised the call for militant labor action to break the government's murderous policies against Jews and strike a blow against fascist terror:

"The only hope of the Jew is the labor movement of the world and particularly of the new world. The Canadian, along with the American working class should demonstrate in the streets, by a half-day stoppage of work, their hatred of the Nazi regime, and their sympathy with the terrorized Jews....

"SOLIDARITY WITH THOSE WHO SUFFER AT THE HANDS OF FASCISM IS ONE OF THE BEST WAYS OF ESTABLISHING, IN THIS COUNTRY, AN UNBREAKABLE WALL AGAINST THE ADVANCE OF CANADIAN FASCISM."

—*Socialist Action*, 28 November 1938

Today the imperialists are preparing a new holocaust using the services of the technicians and executioners of the last one, and at home they have their own, increasingly active, fascist terrorists in reserve. Only victorious workers revolution will sweep the fascist murderers, and the decrepit imperialist system which spawns and protects them, from the face of the earth. ■

WORKERS VANGUARD 25c Blood and Oil and Imperialist War Drive U.S. Up the Persian Gulf? Avenge the Victims of SS Butcher of Lyon! Kill Nazi Barbie!	SPARTACIST CANADA January 1987 No. 67 25c Iran/Contraspas: The "Canada Connection" Merchants of Death The Nazi Legacy of 68 Slaves
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French Trotskyists ...

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measures barring access to eating facilities. Will take necessary steps to inform employees and population if this revolting decision stands."

Certainly a thousand Renault workers in front of the Flunch would convince local café owners that racist segregation is bad for business.

The LTF initiative has received a broad response. Members of the Communist Party and Lutte Ouvrière have participated in the picket. Protest letters have begun arriving at the chain's central office sent by, among others, the CGT postal workers local at Tours, a CGT and a CFDT local at two Paris post offices, and other unions; and by a branch of the CP at Lyon and one of the main anti-racist organizations in Lyon, SIMADE.

On June 4, after ten days of militant picketing organized by the LTF, one of France's main anti-racist organizations, the MRAP, called a demonstration in Rouen. The Communist Party threw its weight behind this demonstration, and some 1,000 demonstrators including a number of trade-union contingents gave a taste of the kind of massive working-class mobilization urgently needed to beat back and ultimately crush the wave of racist terror. A 100-strong LTF contingent (including many *beurs* who had come out during the week) was accorded a prominent place in the demonstration and a supporter of the LTF at Renault/Cléon addressed the protesters. As the demonstration broke up, another LTF spokesman addressed the crowd. Many CPers listened attentively as she stressed how the Mitterrand popular front's racist repression paved the way for the reactionaries.

In the course of the Flunch pickets, several racist provocateurs attempting to create incidents were swiftly ejected by the demonstrators' security team. On June 4, when several hundred participants in the demonstration moved toward the cafeteria, a scout returned to report that a police/fascist ambush was lying in wait. The relationship of forces was such that a picket was impossible. This sinister mobilization by the cops and dozens of fascist thugs was repeated the following day. But the LTF opened up another front to put pressure on the national chain. A united-front demonstration was held June 5 at a Parisian branch of the Flunch called by the LTF in conjunction with two groups of "anti-opportunist" members or former members of the CP, Tribune Communiste and the Union Communiste de France. Some 70 people participated in a spirited picket line.

The escalating confrontation around the racist segregation in Rouen is a crystallization of the current political situation in France today. Le Pen's National Front openly parades defending the Nazi-collaborationist Vichy dictatorship as the trial of the SS "Butcher of Lyon" Klaus Barbie continues its grisly testimony. While Le Pen pursues his rabid attempts to whip up anti-AIDS hysteria, the reactionary ruling coalition of Jacques Chirac has openly

declared that it needs the support of these fascist gangsters to stay in power and to win the presidential elections of 1988. The reformist misleaders and their "far left" hangers-on are attempting to channel popular revulsion to Chirac into a new Mitterrand popular front. (During the last presidential campaign, the CP even joined in the chauvinist backlash when the Communist mayor of Vitry, a Paris suburb, bulldozed an immigrant workers' hostel.)

But last winter's student strikes, mass protests against racist cop murder, and the powerful railway workers strike are still fresh in the memory. The power of the working class must be brought to bear to stop the fascists in their tracks with massive united-front demonstrations and political strikes. The racist Flunch flunkey and his fascist/cop protectors have upped the ante: the workers movement and the oppressed must mobilize their forces now to overwhelm this dangerous offensive of rightist reaction.

--Adapted from Workers Vanguard, No. 430, 12 June

Vanunu ...

(continued from page 3)

known for championing equal rights for Palestinians and Bedouins. After leaving Israel in January 1986 Vanunu converted to Anglicanism.

In a rare demonstration of Jewish-Arab unity, defying the anti-Palestinian racism and terror of the Israeli state, 100 leftists in Israel, half of them Arabs, signed a petition in defense of Vanunu and denouncing the "Israeli nuclear threat." And, this May, thousands of Arab and Hebrew-speaking students marched together against the Shamir government's announcement of a 50 percent tuition hike for Arab students to subsidize a cut for Jews. This was the largest binational protest in Israel's history. The students demanded: "Down with a racist society!" and "Stop the apartheid policies!" Vanunu's courageous stand has no doubt inspired this small but nevertheless significant Hebrew-speaking minority to question the growing militarism and racism of the Zionist state.

Vanunu acted in the cause of humanity. Now the international working class must champion his cause. In a telegram of protest to the Israeli Embassy, the Partisan Defense Committee charged, "Death penalty threat recalls anti-Semitic McCarthyite murder of Rosenbergs." But much more is urgently needed. With the aim of broadening this fight into an international campaign of protest centered on the power of the organized workers movement we call on our readership to raise this issue in their unions, civil rights and civil liberties organizations, demanding that charges be dropped and Vanunu freed. Hail Mordechai Vanunu—Make his freedom your fight! Donations can be sent to: Mordechai Vanunu Legal Defense Fund, P.O. Box 45005, Somerville, MA 02145.

--Adapted from Workers Vanguard, No. 429, 29 May

Gorbachev...

(continued from page 1)

Washington's so-called "zero option" was so one-sidedly advantageous to NATO forces, it was designed to be rejected by Moscow. And the Russians did reject it, then. They pointed out the "zero option," while calling for the removal of almost 500 Soviet missiles in exchange for a promise not to deploy U.S. Pershing and cruise missiles, did not touch the British and French missiles targeted at their cities, nor did it affect U.S. submarine-launched missiles in European waters. At the Reykjavik summit the Soviets insisted that a "Euromissile" deal depended on limiting Reagan's "Star Wars" scheme; now they have dropped even that condition. One of the U.S. negotiators who first proposed the "zero option," Spurgeon Keeny, says the latest Soviet offer "is a far better deal than anyone would have prophesied" (*New York Times*, 4 March).

But all these negotiating moves, the endless offers and counteroffers at Geneva or Reykjavik, in no way reduce the threat of nuclear war hanging over mankind. "Arms control" is a hoax which in fact serves to stimulate the development of new weapons systems. The NATO powers will not give up or limit any weapons unless they can be replaced by comparable or more effective ones. The Soviet Union should build and acquire whatever weapons it considers necessary without being encumbered by "arms control" agreements with its implacable imperialist enemy.

Look at the 1972 SALT I treaty, which the Kremlin bureaucracy holds up as a model "arms control" agreement. Visiting the U.S. not long after this treaty was signed, Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev declared: "The quarter-century period of the Cold War is now giving way to relations of peace, mutual respect and cooperation between the states of the East and West." Superficially, the SALT agreement froze the number of missiles on both sides. However, Nixon/Kissinger insisted on exempting the number of warheads which could be placed on a missile. In the decade following the SALT I treaty, the Pentagon simply multiplied the number of warheads per missile, increasing its nuclear arsenal to the tune of three a day! So much for arms control and détente.

America's Main Export: Counterrevolution

Rabid warmonger Richard Pipes, formerly Soviet "expert" for Reagan's National Security Council, recently wrote: "Even a good [missile] deal would be a mistake, for the root of the problem is not nuclear weapons" (*New York Times*, 10 October 1986). No, the root of the matter is revolution and counterrevolution. Pipes makes no secret of his goal to overthrow the collectivized economy of the Soviet Union—the product of the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution—and restore "free market" capitalism. However, the Soviet Union is too strong militarily and the loyalty of its people too deep

for Western imperialism to risk a direct assault. Instead the strategy is to attack on the periphery of Soviet power. In the 1950s John Foster Dulles called this "rollback." Today it's called the "Reagan doctrine" for exporting counterrevolution.

But the imperialist war drive against the Soviet Union is bipartisan, including the Democrats as well as the Republicans. "Arms control" honcho Adelman summed up the immediate aims of the "Reagan doctrine": force Moscow to end "the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, the continuation of military support of regimes in Angola, Cambodia and Nicaragua" (*Washington Post*, 13 November 1986). In other words, the arms race is being used as a means of pressure on Russia to surrender Afghanistan to the CIA-armed Islamic fanatics, abandon the heroic Vietnamese people who inflicted upon American imperialism the greatest defeat in its history, let the racist butchers in South Africa take over Angola, and cut off support to Sandinista Nicaragua against Reagan's contras.



Imperialists' "freedom fighters": Islamic cutthroats in Afghanistan shoot schoolteachers for teaching young girls to read.

For the imperialists, a key test of Gorbachev's "desire for peace" is his willingness to abandon Afghanistan, on the southern border of the USSR, to "freedom fighters" who shoot schoolteachers for teaching young girls to read. Gorbachev has called the war in Afghanistan a "bleeding wound" and repeatedly declared his intention to withdraw all Soviet troops in a relatively short time. Perhaps the Afghan army—trained by the Russians and bolstered by popular support for land to the tiller and other democratic measures—can mop up the *mujahedin* scum by itself. But there appears to be an increasing danger that the new Soviet leadership will sell out Afghanistan for the illusion of "peaceful coexistence" with Washington. After a meeting with Gorbachev last month, Henry Kissinger wrote:

"I had arrived in Moscow persuaded that the Soviet Union would never permit the overthrow of a regime established by Soviet power.... I am no longer so sure. Our Soviet hosts emphasized their desire for total withdrawal. They also affirmed the goal of a government of national reconciliation that would include represen-

tatives of the guerrilla groups."

—*Newsweek*, 2 March

We Trotskyists say: Hail Red Army in Afghanistan—
Extend the gains of the Bolshevik Revolution to
Afghan peoples!

Gorbachev, Sakharov and the Glitterati

The Kremlin bureaucracy has preached and tried to practice "peaceful coexistence" with imperialism ever since Stalin, with his reactionary, nationalist theory of "socialism in one country." And the Gorbachev regime has played this theme over and over. Addressing the assembled celebrities at the "no nuke" extravaganza in Moscow last month, the new Soviet leader declared:

"Before my people, before you and before the whole world, I state with full responsibility that our international policy is more than ever determined by domestic policy, by our interest in concentrating on constructive endeavors to improve our country."

—*Moscow News*, 1 March

For the last decade, U.S. imperialism has tried to browbeat, threaten or trick the Soviet Union into retreating from the international scene. No wonder this statement was greeted by Washington.

While Gorbachev certainly hasn't given up on Reagan, he is also appealing to out-of-office Western politicians, capitalists and media stars (the "glitterati"). His effort to sponsor a global popular front for "peace" was launched in mid-February with a "Forum for a Nuclear-Free World and the Survival of Humanity." There were 250 businessmen, 215 clergymen, hundreds of scientists and a slew of retired NATO generals. For a few days this winter Moscow was the "in" place to be for the jet set. Former Canadian prime minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau, leading West German Social Democrat Egon Bahr, liberal American economist John Kenneth Galbraith rubbed elbows with Norman Mailer, Claudia Cardinale and Yoko Ono. Actor Kris Kristofferson, fresh from starring in the vile anti-Soviet soap opera *Amerika*, was there, too.

Aside from Gorbachev, the other superstar at this "peace" confab was Sakharov, a man who had urged the U.S. to deploy the MX missile (an acknowledged first-strike weapon) and to economically blackmail the Soviet Union into withdrawing from Afghanistan. Before releasing Sakharov from comfortable internal exile in Gorky last December, Gorbachev may have managed to turn him from his patrons in Washington. At the Moscow conference Sakharov spoke out against Reagan's "Star Wars" and applauded the new Soviet leader. However, he also spoke for Soviet collaboration with imperialism to maintain the global status quo:

"There must be a settlement of regional conflicts on the basis of compromise and restoration of stability wherever it has been disrupted. Support for destabilizing and extremist forces and all terrorist groups should be ended."

—*Time*, 16 March

"Terrorist groups" are what Reagan and his racist allies call national liberation movements around the world. The white supremacist rulers of South Africa label the African National Congress a "terrorist group"; the Zionists say the same of the Palestine Liberation Organization. To its credit, the Soviet Union has provided arms for the ANC and PLO. Sakharov's talk of "regional stability" means abandoning South African blacks and Palestinian Arabs in order to restore the stability of two of the most murderous, racist states on earth.

Sakharov's latest pronouncements wouldn't be all that important except they converge with Gorbachev's line. In his biography of the new Soviet leader, liberal Soviet dissident Zhores Medvedev notes that the Brezhnev regime played up its international successes, from the U.S. defeat in Vietnam to aiding nationalist regimes in Africa and revolutionary movements in Latin America. By contrast, Medvedev writes approvingly: "if Gorbachev's foreign policy intentions are to be judged by the new Party programme, there will be less ideological expansion of the USSR in future, compared to what was promised in previous programmes.... The programme promises solidarity and cooperation with the 'Newly-Free Countries,' but no new substantive help" (*Gorbachev* [1986]).

Not all Soviet actions abroad in the name of "socialist solidarity" serve the cause of social progress and national justice. In particular, we strongly condemn the Kremlin's support to Ethiopia's Haile Miriam Mengistu, a left-talking Idi Amin who has crushed the nascent workers movement, exterminated an entire generation of radical intellectuals and committed genocidal terror against the Eritreans and other national minorities. But the NATO capitals are not much concerned about the Moscow-Addis Ababa connection. The imperialists are concerned about stopping the limited Soviet support to revolutionary and national liberation struggles from Southeast Asia to Central America.

The Spectre of Trotskyism

Gorbachev's "peace offensive" is not a cynical ploy to gain the favor of Western public opinion, nor is it motivated simply by a desire to free up economic resources now expended on the arms race. The Soviet bureaucracy is genuinely frightened of nuclear war, and rightly so. They also reflect the mass sentiment of the people of the Soviet Union in a deep-seated, desperate desire for peace. But there is also a sense among elements in the Soviet officialdom, intelligentsia and working people that appeasement, capitulating to the "Reagan doctrine," or allowing U.S. imperialism to isolate and starve heroic Vietnam and take over Afghanistan are *not* the road to peace. In a broadcast from Moscow last month, TV talk-show host Phil Donahue had a wide-ranging discussion with scores of Soviet youth on god, Communism, nuclear war—and couldn't get a single one to condemn Soviet intervention in Afghanistan as unjust.

Gorbachev sees Trotskyism behind any opposition
(continued on page 12)

Gorbachev...

(continued from page 11)

to his headlong drive for "peaceful coexistence" with Reagan. At the Communist Party congress in February 1986, he denounced "revolutionary wars" as a "Trotskyite" heresy and went on: "Today, too, we are firmly convinced that pushing revolutions from outside, and doubly so by military means, is futile and inadmissible" (*New Times*, 10 March 1986). The wars now being fought by the Vietnamese in Kampuchea, the Soviet army in Afghanistan, the Cubans in Angola and the Sandinistas in Nicaragua are resistance to the export of *counterrevolution*. There probably are people in the Soviet hierarchy who are less willing than Gorbachev to sell out Vietnam or Afghanistan for the sake of better relations with Washington. However, the answer to Gorbachev's version of "peaceful coexistence" is not support to more hardline elements in the Kremlin, who will betray and weaken the defense of the Soviet Union in other ways.

The answer is the organization of the workers of the world by an international revolutionary party to overthrow the war-driven capitalist system. And here the spectre of Trotskyism really does haunt the Soviet bureaucracy. Witness a revealing article by one Nikolai Vasetski in the Moscow-based *América Latina* (No. 3, 1986) which polemicizes against an article in *Workers Vanguard* ("Carter/Reagan Nuclear War Fever," *WV* No. 264, 19 September 1980):

"On the cardinal question of the day—defense of the USSR against imperialist aggression—the Trotskyists of the United States consider that Trotskyism is distinguished both from petty-bourgeois pacifism as well as reformism and centrism, because it recognizes the fact that the 'Euromissiles' are aimed at the Soviet Union. "But after recognizing this obvious fact, they draw the following conclusion: in order to defend the USSR it is necessary to carry out a permanent world revolution. The American Trotskyists are against all disarmament that isn't undertaken by the workers themselves. In their press organ they say that 'the possible destruction of the world by the missiles and other components of the imperialist war machine can only be averted by the worldwide victory of the working class'.... "Disarmament' Trotskyist-style is a fig leaf to cover very different objectives for the Trotskyist leaders: to present Trotskyism as the far left pole of the antiwar movement (opposed to the supposedly reformist program of the Communists) in order to attract those workers whose class consciousness doesn't suffice to quickly understand the Trotskyist ideology."

It is perhaps no accident that a Stalinist polemic which admits that Trotskyism can attract revolutionary-minded workers appears in a publication directed at Latin America. For in this part of the world hatred for Yankee imperialism runs very deep and is near universal. "Peaceful coexis-

tence" with Washington means Pinochet's torture chambers, Central American death squads and Citibank sucking the lifeblood of the workers and peasants. At the same time, a victory for U.S. imperialism in its "backyard" would spur on the war drive against the Soviet Union. Truly, as we have proclaimed, "Defense of Cuba/USSR Begins in Central America!" And a socialist revolution in Latin America would send massive shock waves to the imperialist colossus to the North, panicking Wall Street and electrifying the millions of Hispanic workers in America's factories and farms.

Defend the Gains of October!

While Reagan is on the rocks, the thermonuclear-armed ruling class he represents is still in the saddle. The fate of the homeland of the October Revolution, the emancipation of the oppressed and toiling masses, and the very survival of humanity are inseparably bound to working-class revolution in the dominant imperialist countries, above all the United States. World revolution is no utopia but the only reality which can disarm the Pentagon. Lenin himself authored the plank of the 1919 program of the Russian Communist Party (Bolsheviks) which denounced "disarmament under capitalism" as a "reactionary philistine illusion of the petty-bourgeois democrats," calling instead for "arming the proletariat and disarming the bourgeoisie" and achieving victory over the capitalists "both in civil wars at home and in international revolutionary wars."

What Trotsky wrote in 1940, when Stalin was trying to appease Nazi Germany, retains its full force today as imperialism is preparing a nuclear Operation Barbarossa against the Soviet Union:

"The Fourth International can defend the USSR only by the methods of revolutionary class struggle.... We flatly reject the theory of socialism in one country, that brainchild of ignorant and reactionary Stalinism. Only the world revolution can save the USSR for socialism. But the world revolution carries with it the inescapable blotting out of the Kremlin oligarchy."

Return to the road of Lenin and Trotsky!

--Adapted from *Workers Vanguard*, No. 424, 20 March

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Women and Revolution

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International Women's Day 1987

Immigration...

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who asks for *permission* to appeal the board's ruling will be deported anyway, to await the outcome of the appeal. Just over a year ago a Guatemalan woman who had already been granted refugee status in Canada was forced to wait in Guatemala while her application was being "processed." Her mutilated corpse was found the night before she was due to leave for Canada!

Under the new law, one immigration official estimated that 40 to 50 percent of all those seeking refugee status (over 25,000 people) will be directly turned back. Unofficial estimates put the overall rejection figure as high as 90 percent. *All defenders of labor, minorities and democratic rights must take up the fight to smash Bill C-55 and all anti-immigrant laws! Asylum for refugees from death squad terror--Stop the deportations! Full citizenship rights for all foreign-born workers!*

Speaking on a CBC radio program Tory immigration minister Benoit Bouchard boasted about the "demographic purity" of his electoral constituency. The "official" racism coming from Ottawa has fueled the terror of the most deadly enemies of labor and minorities. Last summer, a former member of the now-defunct white supremacist Western Guard mobilized a sinister racist demonstration against Tamil refugees. Now the government's Senate Committee on Terrorism is targeting entire immigrant communities for racist cop terror. Aimed at promoting "team work" between the Cold War witchhunters of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service and immigration officials, the Senate committee has named Sikhs and Muslims as "susceptible" to "terrorism." The deadly intent of this designation was demonstrated in 1985 when the RCMP was sent out in gestapo-style raids against the Sikh community in Vancouver. The homes, temples and businesses of these people (many

of whom have been citizens of this country for years) were ransacked in a supposed search for "terrorists." Now the government is raising the bogey of "national security" to deport Victor Regalado, a Salvadoran leftist living in Montreal.

The racism and anti-communism at the heart of the government's "illegal aliens" scare was driven home last February when immigration cops ransacked a number of Tamil homes in Toronto, warning that "As refugees you should not read communist



Sri Lankan army rounds up Tamil youth in Jaffna Peninsula. Canadian rulers threaten to deport desperate Tamils to torture and death.

books" (*Canadian Tribune*, 2 March). Early this month the RCMP and the Immigration Department raided the homes and workplaces of immigrants claiming they were searching for a supposed refugee smuggling ring. Of the 35 arrested, all were black, 30 from Trinidad and five from Africa.

A recent study of Canada's immigration record shows that "over 75 percent of all refugees accepted in Canada since the second world war have been from communist states" (*NOW Magazine*, 2-8 April). While Tamil and Latin American refugees are being scapegoated as "terrorists" and drug dealers to deny them asylum, the Canadian government welcomed South Vietnamese general Dang Van Quang, a notorious heroin pusher and the murderer of thousands of Vietnamese workers and peasants. And, last November the Tory government's minister of external affairs, Joe Clark, enlisted the services of the British spy agency MI6 together with various anti-communist outfits in Canada to "rescue" five deserters from the Soviet Red Army in Afghanistan.

The so-called "deserters" championed by imperialism are generally Red Army soldiers who have been captured by the reactionary CIA-backed Afghan mullahs. If they are not killed, they are forcibly addicted to heroin by these "freedom fighters," who are the biggest suppliers of opium in the world. All security and medical clearance was waived by

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Immigration ...

(continued from page 13)

Immigration for the five defectors who came to Canada. They were given a heroes' welcome for statements in defense of the Islamic cutthroat guerrillas in Afghanistan who shoot schoolteachers for the "crime" of teaching young girls to read and write.

From Afghanistan to Nicaragua the Canadian rulers are the loyal backers of the Reaganauts' drive to "roll back Communism." Fear of revolution in



Montreal, March: Chilean refugees on desperate hunger strike to demand entry to Canada for their families. Racist Canadian government had defenseless women and children dragged off planes and stranded on the streets of Argentina.

America's "backyard," especially given the failure of imperialist policy in Central America, is a major factor in the campaign against immigrants. Reagan has tried to sell his Central American war policies by raising the bogus spectre of brown-skinned hordes invading the U.S., alternately described as a "tidal wave of refugees from Communism" or as the "Communist menace" itself. U.S. imperialism's junior partners in Ottawa have always been committed to the white "ethnic purity" of this country. It's not for nothing that KKK terrorist David Duke called Canada the "last bastion of white supremacy." Today, in Cold War II the Canadian rulers' racist immigration laws are also integrally linked to the drive to war against the Soviet Union. Counter-revo-

lutionary Poles and Vietnamese are given the red carpet treatment. Chileans and Salvadorans are deported to death and their executioners are supplied with made-in-Canada military hardware, a source of fat profits for the "peacekeeping" Canadian imperialists.

Labor: Smash Bill C-55!

The government's racist banning of Latin American refugees did not go down well with the public. Demonstrations in defense of the refugees were held at the Fort Erie "Peace Bridge" in February. In March over 700 people came out to a pro-asylum rally in Toronto. At the same time Tory prime minister Mulroney hit an all-time low of 22 points in the Gallup Poll, putting him behind even his big brother Ronald Reagan. (And according to U.S. polls more people trust their auto mechanic than the demented, war-crazed liar in the White House.)

On March 25, a Trotskyist League-initiated demonstration demanded: "Political Asylum for Refugees from Death Squad Terror! Full Citizenship Rights for All Foreign-Born Workers!" Endorsers of the demonstration included union officials from the Canadian Union of Postal Workers in Toronto and Vancouver; Herman Stewart, manager of the Toronto District Council of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union (which represents hundreds of minority workers), as well as prominent civil liberties lawyer Clayton Ruby. Dr. Henry Morgentaler, a courageous fighter for women's abortion rights and a survivor of Hitler's Auschwitz death camp, also supported the demand for political asylum.

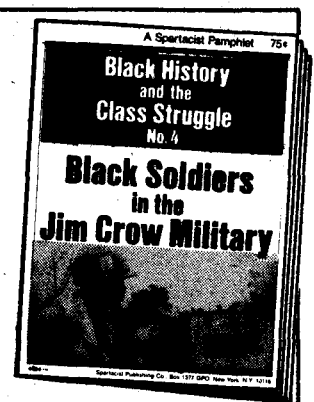
From the coal fields of South Wales, National Union of Mineworkers member Howard Hopkins telegraphed the following message of solidarity: "We in the trade union movement stand alongside Tamils who are now suffering the same victimization as we suffer." In their bitter year-long strike the British miners demonstrated the power of hard class struggle to unite workers across racial and national lines. Blacks, East Indians and other minorities were among their foremost supporters.

In Canada the job-trusting labor misleaders have fueled anti-immigrant hysteria with their "Made in Canada" racist protectionism. In response to the desperate plight of the Tamil refugees NDP leader Ed Broadbent obscenely called for a "tougher look

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at all our immigration procedures" to prevent "abuse" by "quick buck artists."

All the talk about "abuse" of refugee status and "illegal aliens" supposedly "stealing Canadian jobs" is complete hogwash. Refugees and immigrant workers are overwhelmingly concentrated in the lowest paid and dirtiest jobs that no one else will do. As a series of articles in the *Montreal Gazette* reported, they work in the sweatshops of garment, textile



Salvadoran refugees in California concentration camps face deportation to death. Canada says U.S. is "safe."

and plastic manufacturing industries. In many cases they start with *no pay*, waiting to be hired on at grueling piecework rates. Nor do refugees "sponge" off social services: on the contrary they pay taxes like everybody else and usually *underutilize* social services for fear of being turned over to immigration officials.

The railroads of this country were laid by Chinese laborers who were denied any political rights, not allowed to buy property, cruelly separated from their wives and families who were barred from coming to Canada, and literally worked to death. Sikhs who were also brought in as a reservoir of cheap labor were the victims of the same savage prejudice and persecution. And the chauvinist labor tops were among the worst of the racist lot. Japanese, Chinese and Sikh workers were *excluded* from union membership. In powerful contrast William "Big Bill" Haywood, then the leader of the Western Federation of Miners and later a supporter of the Russian Revolution, telegraphed during the 1903 Vancouver Island miners strike: "We approve of calling out any or all men necessary to win at Ladysmith. Organize the Japanese and Chinese if possible." Today, class-conscious workers must fight to organize their foreign-born class brothers and sisters and demand that all those who have made it into Canada get to stay here with the same rights as everybody else.

As Marxists we are the foremost opponents of all bourgeois immigration laws which are necessarily racist. Full citizenship rights for all foreign-born workers will be one of the first laws of a revolutionary workers state, as it was in Russia under Lenin and Trotsky. We also understand that the destruction of national borders will only be achieved under socialism, when material scarcity has been eliminated. Some pseudo-leftists like the anti-Soviet reformists

of the International Socialists have responded to the racist immigration laws by calling to "open the borders." This demand, like calling for a "fair" or "non-racist" immigration policy, is utopian under capitalism. And, in fact, an open border ultimately threatens the democratic right to self-determination of the weaker power. The creation of the state of Israel is a case in point: Palestinians were driven out of their homeland through forced population transfers and genocide. Moreover it is an open invitation for imperialist plunder of weaker nations, i.e., with an "open border" American moneybags could simply buy up Mexico.

Proletarian internationalists greet the fact that a massive infusion of immigrant workers into the North American imperialist heartland can serve as a bridge to class struggle throughout the Americas and throughout the former colonies of the British Empire. Among Hispan-

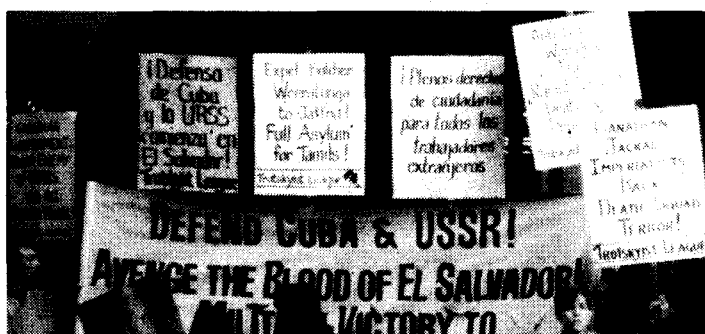
nic, Tamil and other refugees from right-wing terror are many who will be receptive to a program of international proletarian revolution. Historically immigrant workers have played a vanguard role in class struggle in Canada. The 1919 Winnipeg General Strike owed much to the influence of pro-Bolshevik East European emigrés, many of whom had fled Tsarist reaction following the defeated 1905 Revolution in Russia (these working-class fighters are a far cry from the counterrevolutionary scum of Eastern Europe who fled to Canada after the victorious Bolshevik Revolution and after the defeat of Hitler's Third Reich). The necessary instrument in the struggle for international socialist revolution is a Leninist vanguard party which, like the Bolshevik Party of Lenin and Trotsky, will be the tribune of all the oppressed and can link the struggles of working people against imperialist reaction and war around the globe. As TL spokesman Jane Clancy concluded in her remarks to participants and supporters of our Toronto demonstration in defense of desperate refugees from death squad terror: "The question of immigration and getting rid of racist immigration policies will finally be solved when the working people take power under the leadership of a party like the Bolshevik Party in Russia.... Under socialism, all they will call you is not 'deportee' but comrade." ■

Asylum for Refugees from Death Squad Terror!

Labor Must Smash Racist Immigration Laws!

Thousands of desperate Latin Americans and other refugees fleeing imperialist-sponsored death squad terror around the world will be permanently barred from Canada under the government's draconian new immigration legislation (Bill C-55). In February the government slammed the door on hundreds of Salvadorans and Guatemalans trying to escape deportation to death in their homelands under a vicious racist crackdown on "illegal aliens" in the U.S. On May 5, the same day that its senior partners in Washington put their "Immigration Reform and Control Act" into effect, the Canadian government introduced its new racist immigration law which is aimed at closing the border to these terror-stricken refugees. Arrogantly referred to as the "bus people," the thousands who are now being held in detention camps and hostels in U.S. border towns have little if any hope of ever finding refuge in the Canadian *el norte*.

Under the new law it will be left in the hands of immigration officials to determine whether a refugee can even apply for entry, based on the "human rights" status of his country and the official "record" of previous refugees from that country. Unless applicants can prove that they did not come to Canada via a "safe" country, they will be deported within 72 hours. This is a direct throwback to the racist hysteria against the 155 desperate Tamil refugees who sought asylum in Canada last summer. Refugees from anti-Tamil pogroms in Sri Lanka these men, women and children were decried for "abusing" Canada's "humanitarian" immigration policy because their nightmare voyage to Canada



Toronto: TL contingent at pro-asylum demonstration, March 8 (left); TL-initiated demo protests racist immigration crackdown, March 25 (below).

SC Photos



began in West Germany. West Germany, where brown-skinned refugees from the "Third World" are held in virtual concentration camp conditions and subject to terror bombings by Nazi skinhead punks, is considered a "safe country." So is the United States where 97 percent of Salvadoran and 99 percent of Guatemalan refugee claims are rejected and close to 500 Central Americans are deported every month. Now, the "Immigration Reform and Control Act" in the U.S. is expected to result in upwards of *two million* deportations.

In Canada, refugees who make it through the first screening inquisition will be shunted off to a "non-adversarial" Refugee Board. Those rejected will be deported within a week's time. Any refugee
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